

GRIMSHAW PUBLIC SCHOOL

Social Studies 8 Course Outline
2024/2025



TEACHER: Mrs. Seerey

COURSE RATIONALE: Welcome to the Grade 8 Social Studies program. This program has been designed to allow you to learn and explore the historical concept of Worldviews. The focus of grade 8 Social Studies is to examine the issues related to contact between societies with different worldviews.

You will examine how these world views were expressed in different times and in different places and learn how intercultural contact between societies leads to change and alter each society's worldview.

SKILLS AND PROCESSES: Throughout this course, you will have the opportunity to build and strengthen the following skills: Dimensions of Thinking, Social Participation as a Democratic Practice, Research for Inquiry and Communication. You will develop these skills and be able to respond to issues emerging in an increasingly globalized world.

General Outcome 8.1 From Isolation to Adaption	General Outcome 8.2 Origins of the Western Worldview	General Outcome 8.3 Worldviews in Conflict
Through an examination of Japan, students will demonstrate: an understanding and appreciation of the ways in which beliefs, values and knowledge shape worldviews and contribute to a society's isolation or adaptation.	Through an examination of Renaissance Europe, students will demonstrate: an understanding and appreciation of how the exchange of ideas and knowledge contributed to shaping the Worldview of the Western world.	Through an examination of Spanish and Aztec societies, students will demonstrate: an understanding and appreciation of how intercultural contact affects the worldviews of societies.

*****Throughout the year, we will also examine current events*****

SUCCESS PLAN: Regular attendance and consistent work habits are essential to your success in this course. Handing in your homework, reviewing your work, studying for quizzes and exams will all contribute to a passing mark in this class. It is imperative for you to attend regularly and if absent, get caught up on the work that you have missed.

MISSED/LATE WORK POLICY:

Late work: Students are expected to hand in all their daily homework and major assignments and projects on the given due date. If you have outstanding

assignments, you may be required to use your PLT to get caught up on missed work.

Group Projects: members of your group, yourself and your teacher will evaluate your participation in the project, and the quality of the work you submit. Unexcused absences will be taken into account when evaluating your contribution to the group project.

Rewrite Policy: At times, I may give you the opportunity to rewrite a major assignment or daily assignment. In those instances, I will make individual arrangements with you concerning due dates and expectations.

COURSE EVALUATION:

Unit	Form of Assessment	Unit %	Course %
Middle Ages & Renaissance	Tests	40%	25%
	Assignments	50%	
	Major Projects	10%	
Aztecs	Tests	40%	30%
	Assignments	50%	
	Major Projects	10%	
Japan	Tests	40%	20%
	Assignments	50%	
	Major Projects	10%	
Final Exam			25%

UNITS AND TIMELINE:

Unit	Dates
Introduction to the Course: What is a Worldview? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Course Intro 2. Define Worldview, Perspective and Point of View 3. Intro to the Renaissance 	September 4 nd – 7 th
UNIT #1 Origins of a Western World View: Renaissance Europe <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Time of Change <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Expansion of Trade <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rise of International Trade: Crusades and Goods & Resources 2. Italian City-States: Why they are successful, Competition, Economy and Citizenship ● Humanism <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rebirth of Ideas 2. Philosophers in Deep Thought 3. The Arts ● The Exchange of Ideas <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Sciences and Math 2. Leadership 3. Spreading Ideas ● The Age of Exploration Nov <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why Explore? 2. How Are We Going to Get There? 	September 10 th - January

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Moving Day...."Are We There Yet?" ● The New World <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Imperialism: Our Way or the Highway! 2. Europe's New Worldview ● Review 	
<p>UNIT# 2 Worldviews in Conflict: The Spanish and the Aztecs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Aztec Geography <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Physical Landscape 2. The Sacred Land 3. We're Expanding the Empire Whether You Like It or Not! ● How the Aztec Society Worked <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Not Another Hierarchy 2. Aztec School 3. How to Be a Good Aztec Citizen ● Just When Everything was Going Good.....Here Come the Spanish <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Spain's Geography and Religion at the Time 2. A Christian Spain 3. The 3 G's (Gold, Glory and God) ● Why Can't We All Just Get Along <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introducing Cortes 2. An Unfair Fight 3. The Invasion ● Worldviews in Conflict <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A New Worldview 	<p>January - March</p>
<p>UNIT #3 From Isolation to Adaption: Japan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A Unique Worldview <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Land of the Rising Sun (Not the House of...) 2. Nature Shaping a Worldview 3. We Don't Need Help From Anybody! ● The Shogun's Japan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. With Great Power Comes Great Responsibility 2. Honour and Duty 3. Japan Meets the West ● 'Sorry We're Closed': the Edo Period <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Locking the Gates 2. Change Because of Isolation 3. Cracks in the System ● 'Someone's at the Door': Contact and Change in the Meiji Period <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Out of the Shadows 2. A Changing Order 3. 'It's Time We'd Better Catch Up': Industrializing Japan 4. Resisting Change 	<p>March – June 20th</p>

ASSESSMENT: A variety of assessment practices will be utilized in this course. Descriptive feedback will be given to you in a timely manner so that you can be sufficiently assessed on your achievement of the outcomes as outlined in the

Program of Studies. I will post your marks on Power School throughout the semester, please check your marks on a regular basis to track your progress.

TEACHING METHODOLOGY: Students will be taught through a variety of different instructional methods and strategies including but not limited to: direct teaching, cooperative learning, independent learning, brainstorming, small and large group discussions, inquiry based research assignments, reflections to literature, and the incorporation of technological devices.

FINAL EXAMS: In final exams, you will be responsible for the entire content of the course.