



---

**Subject: Social Studies**  
**Room: 147**

**Grade:9**

**Teacher: Mr. Western**

**Teacher Contact: [mwestern@sd44.ca](mailto:mwestern@sd44.ca)**

Welcome to Social Studies! The objective of this course is to investigate, inquire, discuss, and interpret the following big ideas from the [New BC Curriculum](#):

Emerging ideas and ideologies profoundly influence societies and events.

The physical environment influences the nature of political, social, and economic change.

Disparities in power alter the balance of relationships between individuals and between societies.

Collective identity is constructed and can change over time.

**Course Content:** Revolutions such as the French Revolution, the Industrial Revolution, and the American Revolution. Early Canadian History to 1815 and 19th Century Canadian History (1815-1891)

We are operating in a semester system, so we will only be together until the end of June. The course is fast paced. Students are introduced to a wide range of ideas and concepts. We will discuss the revolutions that occurred in Europe, the migration of people to Canada and Canadian history up to the 20th Century. We will examine the significant social, economic, religious and political changes that occurred over that time. You will develop critical thinking skills, problem solving skills as well as improve your reading and writing skills.

**Course Topics:**

1. The Age of Revolution in Europe: The English Revolution; the Glorious Revolution; the Enlightenment; the French Revolution; the rise of the Napoleonic Era; the Industrial Revolution; and the American Revolution.
2. Early Canadian History to 1815: European settlement in North America; the importance of fish and fur; New France; British North America; the 13 Colonies; The Loyalists; and the War of 1812.
3. 19th Century Canadian History (1815-1891): Interaction with Indigenous people and Europeans; contributions of immigration; impact of the Rebellions; factors that lead to Confederation; impact of western expansion on Indigenous people; British North American Act and the division of powers

**Evaluation:** Students are evaluated on an ongoing basis. Student's marks are based on a combination of quizzes, projects, and classroom activities. All submitted work that is graded is combined and will be counted towards final marks. Each student has the ability to be successful in this course; in most cases, success is simply a choice and involves a sincere effort. For each major assessment, rubrics will be provided to help you understand how marks will be awarded. Students will have plenty of time to do homework in class. If the time is used efficiently, then there will seldom to be a need to do work outside of class.

**MS Teams** This class will use Microsoft Teams as a digital platform for communicating key information, assignments, and resources to students. It is important that students regular check MS teams to make sure they are up to date. MS teams is used to support in-person learning, not to replace it, and attendance in class remains crucial to success.

**Tutorial Times:** I will be offering Social Studies tutorials every **Monday-Thursday from 8:30-9:10AM**. I **HIGHLY RECOMMEND** that students get in the habit of attending these tutorials, as they can be used to receive extra help, work on projects with classmates, or complete homework.

**Policies and Procedures:** Cell phones should not be used during the lesson portion of classes. They may be used during in-class independent work, with permission. Students are expected to behave maturely, respecting themselves, others, and the learning environment, while abiding by Argyle's Code of Conduct at all times. Please do not damage the property of others or use it without prior permission. Much of what we learn comes from our experiences in the classroom, so it is important that students attend. **If a class is missed, it is up to the student to make up work and catch up with the rest of the class.** Classmates should be your first point of contact for catching up, followed by me if more help is required. The teacher's permission is needed to leave the classroom one at a time. It is important that the teacher knows exactly where everyone is in case of an emergency. Return to class promptly. **Cheating and plagiarism** (using words of others without proper citation) are serious offenses. At a minimum, you will have to redo the work in either case.

**Mr. Pearce's Expectations:**

- RESPECT. RESPECT. RESPECT.
- Always come prepared with all your materials! (Binder, pens, pencils. Etc.)
- Work to EXCEED the posted criteria
- Complete assignments and homework **ON TIME**
- Prepare/Review for quizzes and exams
- Keep your notes tidy
- Advocate for yourself! Ask questions and take ownership of your learning.
- Absent students are expected to catch up on any work that they have missed upon return. You need to schedule a time with me to go over any missed assignments and write any missed quizzes/tests.

**Assignment Criteria:**

Criteria is developed with students and explained prior to work beginning on any major assignment. This will allow for greater understanding, clarity and ownership of assignments resulting in higher achievement and embedded knowledge. Specific requirements for each project will be given upon its assignment. However, the general expectation for all work is as follows:

- First and last name written in the top right corner of your page
- Course and block written below your name
- Date written below your course and block
- Title centered and underlined
- Double space everything
- Write neatly or type using **12 font**
- Proofread assignments and hand them in **ON TIME**

---

**A NOTE TO PARENTS/ GUARDIANS:**

Please do not hesitate to contact me at school by email between the hours of 8:00 am and 5:00 pm (mwestern@sd44.ca) if you have any questions/concerns regarding the progress of your child. I look forward to working with you this school year!