



# Windsor Secondary School

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Mission Statement "LEARNING FOR SUCCESS"



At Windsor Secondary School we strive to provide a secure and supportive environment for a diverse community of Individuals who actively pursue lifelong acquisition of knowledge, skills, and attitudes which equip each of us for a meaningful and productive future.

## COMPARATIVE CULTURES 12

### COURSE CONTENT:

The overall theme of Cult. 12 are the **“cultural texts” of Civilizations**. We will investigate this theme by studying the art, architecture, histories, mythologies, religions, and philosophies of selected civilizations throughout history including the Greco/Roman world, “Modern” Europe (Renaissance to present), and aspects of our current Civilization.

This course is meant to be wide ranging and broad in scope rather than having a narrow, specialized focus. As a result, course content may change depending on student interest and time constraints. The study of culture and civilization allows great leeway in our topics of study; anything from Botticelli to Batman can (and, in many cases, will) be studied in this course.

### THE BIG IDEAS:

The Big Ideas consist of generalizations, principles and key concepts important to Cult 12. They represent what students will understand at the completion of the curriculum for their grade. Embedded within the course content, they are intended to endure beyond a single grade and contribute to future understanding.

Understanding the diversity and complexity of cultural expressions in one culture enhances our understanding of other cultures.

Interactions between belief systems, social organization, and languages influences artistic expressions of culture.

Geographic and environmental factors influenced the development of agriculture, trade, and increasingly complex cultures.

Value systems and belief systems shape the structures of power and authority within a culture.

## **CURRICULAR COMPETENCIES:**

Students are expected to be able **to do** the following:

- Use Social Studies inquiry processes and skills to: ask questions; gather, interpret, and analyze ideas; and communicate findings and decisions
- Assess and compare the significance of cultural expressions at particular times and places (significance)
- Evaluate inferences about the content, origins, purposes, context, reliability, and usefulness of multiple sources from the past and present (evidence)
- Analyze continuities and changes in diverse cultures at different times and places (continuity and change)
- Assess the development and impact of the thought, artistic expressions, power and authority, and technological adaptations of diverse cultures (cause and consequence)
- Explain different perspectives on past and present cultures (perspective)
- Make ethical judgments about actions in the past and present, and assess appropriate ways to remember and respond (ethical judgement)

## **COURSE CONTENT:**

While the material of the course is flexible, the following headings should be used to organize your binder:

- I. **Civilization and Culture**
- II. **Archaeology**
- III. **Mythology**
- IV. **the Ancient World**
- V. **the Renaissance**
- VI. **Project work and Ideas Through Culture (Miscellaneous stuff. . .)**

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## **STUDENT LEARNING: ACTIVITIES AND STRATEGIES:**

You will participate in a variety of activities and produce a variety of work that will reflect your learning in this course.

This is a participation course and therefore your views are required on a daily basis. Furthermore, your opinions and ideas are respected and valid if expressed in a sincere manner.

The majority of the marks will be based on projects, assignments, and tests. We will have 2 major assignments this semester. **To be successful, these assignments require your honest and best efforts.** If you expect to expend anything less, then this is not the course for you.

## **ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION:**

The year has been divided into two semesters. Students will receive several formal reports including interims/incomplete forms. Marks throughout the semester will be calculated and reported as a cumulative mark. The following are the main assessment and evaluation strategies that may be used:

- Several Major assignments
- formal exams and unit tests
- oral discussion and presentations
- quizzes, homework, in class assignments

## **CLASSROOM POLICIES AND PROCEDURES: *Please Read Carefully***

**HATS OFF!:** Please remove all hats/toques/hoodies/head gear before entering the class.

**Electronics usage:** Students are **not** to use personal electronic devices in class. **Please turn them off and put them away before class begins. Earbuds away during class as well, please.** Unauthorized use of iPhones, cellphones, electronic devices, etc. during class may result in forfeiture of said item for the rest of the day. Please refrain from using them during lessons.

**Drinks OK, Food is not:** Drinks are permitted in the classroom, but food is not. Please eat before or after class, not during. Students may eat during scheduled break times. Please remove garbage, wrappers, drink cans, and bottles. **And. . . no gum please.**

**Leaving the class:** Students are expected to engage in all classroom activities at all times. Because the classes in a semester system are relatively short, leaving class during class will result in disruption of class and the missing of significant chunks of instruction. **Therefore, please endeavour to use the bathroom before or after class, not during.**

**Tardiness and missed work:** Arrive to class on time - at your desk and ready to learn before the second bell rings. If late, knock once, and wait quietly to be admitted.

**Students absent from class, whether excused or unexcused, are solely responsible for obtaining and/or completing any missed tests, assignments, or homework.** The school and teaching staff are not required to make special arrangements for unexcused absences. Family vacations do not qualify as excused absences.

Please see the Windsor Secondary Agenda for the full attendance policy.

All assignments must be satisfactorily completed to achieve a passing grade in this course. All incomplete/unsatisfactory assignments must be improved and resubmitted for a maximum achievable grade of 50%. Late assignments may be graded on a pass/fail basis.

**Marks sheet:** All students are asked to keep an up to date **marks sheet** in their Social Studies binder as part of their notebook. Students must **keep all marked assignments** in their notebook or a safe place as the occasional discrepancy may arise between a given and recorded mark. **Parents** are encouraged to monitor their son's/daughter's progress by examining the evaluation sheet and/or the agenda book and completed assignments.

**Student Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_