

2025/2026
Grade 8 Social Studies Course Outline
Betts/Kerr/Meraw/Janzen/Fielder/Knuth

Timeline:

September

Discovery and discussion of Worldview: What is Worldview and how is it formed? This mini unit will provide the students with opportunities to develop their own individual perspective on how worldview affects each of them.

October to December

General Outcome: Origins of a Western Worldview: Renaissance Europe
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.

January to March

General Outcome: Worldviews in Conflict: The Spanish and the Aztecs
Through an examination of Spanish and Aztec societies, students will demonstrate an understanding and appreciation of how intercultural contact impacts the worldviews of societies.

April to June

General Outcome: From Isolation to Adaptation: Japan
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.

Throughout the Year

Current Events Assignment:

Students will be expected to do a current events assignment for each term. They will be responsible for locating an article from a newspaper/ internet that is local, national or international. Taking the article and identifying "who, where, what, when, and why" about the topic. They must present these articles to their classmates and teacher. They will discuss it with the class. They will be evaluated on meeting the expectation of the assignment and meeting the skills outcomes for current events.

It is our intention to integrate the Social Studies Curriculum with Language Arts throughout the year incorporating various activities.

Assessment for each Term:

A variety of assessment tools will be used for each individual unit such as: rubrics, checklists, scales, peer evaluation and anecdotal/ feedback. The students will be assessed on their ability to master the “I can” statements taken from the Alberta Curriculum for Learning in Social Studies. The objectives will be evaluated according to the outcomes that are met on a school based reporting system.

Excelling- Consistently

Proficient- Frequently

Satisfactory - Sometimes

Beginning- Developing

Limited- Insufficient Evidence

Term Exams:

There will be final exams at the end of the year in June that will cover material taught during each term.

Homework assignments are expected to be completed on time. You will be expected to stay in at lunch and/or after school to work on incomplete homework and assignments. Late assignments will be recorded on the Discipline Chart (as incomplete homework) until the assignment is handed in to the teacher. If the assignments are not handed in before the term reporting period an incomplete will be given for that assignment.

Resources:

Worldview Textbook

Internet

Various articles and documents

Short stories and historical literature

Differentiated Instruction resources

Alberta Learning skills objectives and knowledge objectives