

Springbank Community High School Grade 9 Social Studies Course Outline



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Responsibility, Integrity, Strength, Excellence

Overview:

Grade 9 students will analyze the relationship between Canada's political and legislative processes and their impact on issues pertaining to governance, rights, citizenship and identity. Students will also explore issues pertaining to the economy and consumerism, examining how these twin forces impact on quality of life, citizenship, and identity in Canada and the United States.

Textbook:

Lychak et al., (2008), *Issues for Canadians*, Toronto: Nelson Education Ltd.

The course will be divided into two main topics:

Topic A: Governance and Rights

Students will demonstrate an understanding and appreciation of how Canada's political, legislative and legal processes impact citizenship and identity, and how these processes attempt to meet the needs of all Canadians.

- Immigration
- Structure of Federal Government and Justice System
- Charter of Rights and Freedoms and Collective Rights

Topic B: Economic Systems in Canada and the United States

Students will demonstrate an understanding and appreciation of how economic decision-making in Canada and the United States impacts quality of life, citizenship, and identity.

- Mixed and Market Economics
- Political Decision-Making and Economic Systems

Evaluation:

Your final grade will be calculated as follows:

Projects	50%
Assignments, Homework, Checkpoints	10%
Midterm Exam (Written and MC)	20%
Final Exam (Written and PAT)	20%

Academic Honesty

You will be working with information gained from the Internet as well as working collaboratively with others. Working collaboratively involves people sharing ideas and creating work together. This is a very different process than having one person do the work and “sharing” it with another person to copy or “put in their own words”. Sharing ideas is acceptable. Copying work is not.

Lates and Zeroes

Until you submit work it will be recorded as a (!) (missing/not handed in) which is the equivalent of a zero. However, you may hand assignments in late without penalty **up until a certain date** that will be made clear to you with each individual assignment. HOWEVER, it is important to note that time management is important and due dates are set in order to help you have enough time to do your work properly. That is, once something is due the class will be moving on to the next thing to be completed. As a result, if you do not stay on top of your work you will fall behind and it will probably have a negative impact on your mark.

General Information

If you are having difficulty with an assignment, concept, etc., you should see your teacher as soon as the difficulty arises. You may meet with your teacher during focus block or at a mutually convenient time.

How will we **RISE** in Social Studies 9?



Responsibility

- At all times, you are responsible for your own effort and attitude and how you interact with others. Always treat classmates, staff, and our learning space with respect.

Integrity

- Be someone who is worthy of trust and admiration.
- Work submitted as your own must be created entirely by you.
- Credit others where credit is due: this includes citing information used in your work and also crediting and thanking those who help you on your way.

Strength

- One of the best ways to learn is to fail. Embrace this, learn, and try again.
- This building is full of caring people. Seek help and support when you need it – from friends, teachers, and counsellors.
- Understand that we all experience stress and problems. How we deal with them and overcome them demonstrates strength in our character.

Excellence

- Excellence can never be achieved without a foundation of responsibility, integrity, and strength.

- Excellence is PERSONAL excellence. Your personal excellence may look very different than another person's. Set realistic goals and strive to meet them.