

### **Social Studies 8 – Course Outline - 2019-2020**

This course involves the study of the development of Europe and the Middle East and introduces the exploration of North America and the development of New France (600-1750). In addition, the course reviews and develops geography skills introduced in elementary.

#### **Big Ideas:**

1. Contacts and conflicts between peoples stimulated significant cultural, social, political change.
2. Human and environmental factors shape changes in population and living standards.
3. Exploration, expansion, and colonization had varying consequences for different groups.
4. Changing ideas about the world created tension between people wanting to adopt new ideas and those wanting to preserve established traditions.

In addition, time will be spent on studying current events. Students are encouraged to watch TV news, read newspapers, or search for news online. We will discuss these stories in class!

#### **Core Competencies:**

Teaching and learning in this course will focus on the six Core Competencies according to the district and provincial curriculum guidelines. These 6 basic skills are:

1. **Communication** – How students exchange information, experiences, and ideas.
2. **Creative Thinking** – How students generate new ideas and take them from thought to reality.
3. **Critical Thinking** – How students make judgements based on reasoning and available information.
4. **Positive Personal & Cultural Identity** – How students create healthy personal and cultural awareness in a pluralistic society.
5. **Personal Awareness & Responsibility** – How students develop awareness of skills and strategies to stay healthy, both physically and mentally.
6. **Social Responsibility** – How students contribute positively to their families, community, society, and the environment.

### **Materials:**

Students must arrive each class prepared with the necessary materials (a three-ring binder with lined paper, a pencil and / or a pen, an eraser, and the assigned textbook ("Pathways to Civilization"))

It is very important to be organized! Students will receive a lot of handouts and they must be able to keep them and find them later! It is highly recommended that you have a three-ring binder in which to keep the handouts you receive!

### **Electronics:**

Electronics (specifically, cell phones) are NOT allowed in this class! Students are expected to use electronics (such as cell phones) in a responsible and learning-friendly manner. The phones must be out of sight (in a bag or pocket) for the duration of the class (silent mode). If the teacher sees a phone in the classroom, it will be taken from the student and put in a locked cupboard for the remainder of the class. Parents will be contacted if this is a persistent problem (if a cell phone has been confiscated 2 or more times).

### **My website:**

Please check my website ([www.sd41blogs.ca/winters/](http://www.sd41blogs.ca/winters/)) for updates on project due dates and test/quiz dates. It will be updated regularly with links to relevant documents. You will also find links to this course outline, the school website, the school calendar, and the bell schedule.

### **The school app:**

Students and parents are strongly encouraged to download the school's **Cariboo Hill 2 Go** app on their phones. It's a good way to stay current with school events and information.

### **Course evaluation:**

Homework/Class work	25%
Tests/Quizzes	25%
Oral/Presentations	20%
Projects	30%

Grade 8 and 9 students at Cariboo Hill School do not receive percentage marks on report cards, only **letter grades are given at the end of each term and as a final grade!**

### **Portfolios:**

All students will compile a portfolio of their work that will be included in their Term 2 mark. This will give students an opportunity to reflect on their work and work habits to date and to set goals for themselves for the rest of the school year. Portfolios will include a reflection piece on which students will be assessed. Students will be reminded about this and will receive a detailed explanation in Term 2. So, do not throw away the work that has been returned to you!

### **Absence and Missed Work:**

Attendance in class is very important! If a student misses a class, it is necessary for a parent/guardian to contact the teacher or school office. The secretary at the office can be contacted by phone at **(604) 296-6890**.

### **Missed evaluations:**

If a student misses an evaluation (test/quiz), he/she must complete this evaluation not more than **1 week later** or he/she will not receive the mark for this assessment. It is essential that you come to see me before a planned absence or immediately upon your return to school to make the arrangements to do the evaluation during lunch or after school.

### **Missing work:**

If a student is missing an assignment, it will not be accepted after being corrected and returned to the other students. After this time, the missing assignment will be noted as 0. If a student wants to receive credit for this assignment, he/she must complete an alternative (probably longer and/or more difficult) assignment.

### **Homework checks:**

Homework will be checked regularly. If a student misses a homework check and the absence is not excused, the student will miss the mark for this check. It is essential that absences/lateness be excused by a parent/guardian by calling the school or sending an email directly to the teacher! Also, if a student is late and is not excused and misses a homework check, he/she will not receive credit for the homework check.

I am available during lunch or after school (normally until at least 4:00) if you have any questions. I can be contacted at: **sarah.winter@burnabyschools.ca** or by calling the school at **604-296-6890 ext. 606302**.

Thank you and I hope we have a good year together!

Sincerely,  
Sarah Winter

Teacher: Ms. S. Winter (Rm. 302)  
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[www.sd41blogs.ca/winters/](http://www.sd41blogs.ca/winters/)

École Secondaire Cariboo Hill Secondary School