



Social Studies 7 Course Outline

Ms. T. Wells

Overview

“Grade 7 students will explore the origins, histories and movement of peoples who forged the foundations of Canadian Confederation. They will examine how the political, demographic, economic, and social changes that have occurred since Confederation have influenced ways in which contemporary Canada has evolved” (Alberta Education, 2006).

Social Studies develops the key values and attitudes, knowledge and understanding, and skills and processes necessary for students to become active and responsible citizens, engaged in the democratic process and aware of their capacity to effect change in their communities, society and world.

Through an examination of events preceding and following Confederation, Grade 7 students will acquire an understanding of how Canada has evolved into a multicultural, bilingual, pluralistic, and diverse society; and they will appreciate how these dimensions of Canada have affected citizenship and identity over time.

Resources

- **Textbook:** ‘Our Canada: Origins, Peoples, Perspectives’ and ‘Voices & Visions: The Story of Canada’
- Additional articles, movies, and media will be used as basic resources and as enrichment.
- www.dl.cssd.ab.ca

Curriculum Outcomes

General Outcome 7.1 Toward Confederation	General Outcome 7.2 Following Confederation: Canadian Expansions
Students will demonstrate an understanding and appreciation of the distinct roles of, and the relationships among, the Aboriginal, French and British peoples in forging the foundations of Canadian Confederation.	Students will demonstrate an understanding and appreciation of how the political, demographic, economic and social changes that have occurred since Confederation have presented challenges and opportunities for individuals and communities.
Local and Current Affairs	
In order to allow opportunities for students to engage in current affairs, issues and concerns of a local nature, the program of studies provides the flexibility to include these topics within the time allotted for social studies.	

Students will also develop critical, creative, and historical thinking skills through inquiry, text reading, group projects, class discussions and independent assignments. For the full program of studies please visit: <http://education.alberta.ca/media/457625/ss7.pdf>

Student Expectations

Students are expected to:

- Arrive to class on time
- Participate in all class activities and discussions
- Be responsible for missed classes and assignments
- Complete all class assignments on time
- Help create a positive classroom environment based on respect for yourself, each other, and personal and school property

Supplies Required

- 3-Ring Binder
- Paper
- Assigned Textbook
- Pens/Pencils, Coloring Utensils, Erasers, and Rulers

Evaluation and Grade Breakdown

Evaluation is **cumulative** and **outcome based**. Reporting periods will reflect student progress and work completed up to the reporting date. Evaluation is broken into units based on Alberta's Program of Studies curricular outcomes for Social Studies 7. Within each unit, assessments that are completed will add up to 100% of that Units weighting towards the final calculated grade in D2L. Assessments for this course will include a combination of formative and summative assessments, including research projects, written assignments, presentations, unit tests, and an individual interactive notebook. A detailed breakdown on the courses grading scheme can be found below.

Current events play a central role in learning and are integrated throughout the program. Investigating current affairs from multiple perspectives motivates students to engage in meaningful dialogue on relevant historical and contemporary issues, helping them to make informed and reasoned decisions on local, provincial, national, and global issues and will account for 10% of a student's overall Social Studies grade. Please see below for a complete breakdown of the courses grading scheme.

Unit Breakdown

1. Social Structures Pre-Confederation	17%
2. Pre-Confed Economic & Political Competition	17%
3. British Influence on Pre-Confederation	20%
4. Metis Influence on CND Development	13%
5. Impact of Societal Changes on CND Identity	13%
Current Events	5%
Final Exam	15%

Assessment Weightings Within Units

• Major Projects	35% - 60%*
• Minor Assignments	25% - 60%*
• Section Quizzes	15%
• Unit Exams	25% - 40%**

**Weighting for Minor Assignments will only be weighted at 60% if there are no major projects completed during the unit of study, and vice-versa.*

***Weighting for Unit Tests will only be at 40% if there are no section quizzes*

Class participation is **not** part of grade achievement; rather it is included in evaluation of the students work habits. Work habits are evaluated using the Junior High Work Habits Rubric from Calgary Catholic School District and will receive a numerical value each reporting period.

Late Policy

Any work submitted by a student past its initial due date will be considered late. Students will be given the opportunity to complete the assignment for an alternate due date, agreed upon by the student and teacher, with up to two extensions. Until the assignment has been submitted students are expected to show up for scheduled lunch tutorial to complete the assignment. Late work will be given a grade of zero until it has been submitted. Parent contact will be made via an email or phone call if the student has not submitted the assignment by the first extension and requires a second extension. If they assignment is not submitted by the second extension the grade of zero will be permanent.

Desire2Learn (D2L) and Pulse:

D2L stands for “Desire2Learn” – a web-based learning management system selected to provide students, teachers, and parents access to course content and resources, calendar events, and other online communication tools. Students and parents will have access to grades, view course work, have a storage locker for documents, submit assignments, and keep up with due dates and timelines. It can be accessed using a student’s ID and password via the following url: <https://dl.cssd.ab.ca>

Parents are also encouraged to download the D2L Brightspace app “Pulse”, which is available for Apple & Android devices. The app allows you to see important dates, receive latest grades, and view course content on your phone.

It is strongly recommended that you review D2L with your child once a week in order to stay informed with homework, assignments, projects, tests, and other important dates for Social Studies.

Wells of Knowledge Weebly Site:

Weebly is a web-hosting service and widget-based creation website which is used as a supplemental tool for students along with D2L. Students and parents can access course specific content, course work, and calendar events similar to D2L. Weebly also offers communication tools such as blog posts and form submission that are not found on D2L and has a more user-friendly format for following assignments and course content specific to Social Studies. You can access my specific Weebly site “Wells of Knowledge” by using the following url: <http://wellsofknowledge.weebly.com/>

Teacher Contact

If you have any questions regarding information about the course please feel free to email me at tracey.wells@cssd.ab.ca, or phone Our Lady of Grace School at 403-500-2124

It is important to remember that the first line of communication about student progress is with the teacher. If you have any questions or concerns, please seek clarification from the teacher.

