

Course Descriptions

Burnaby Central

SOCIAL STUDIES

Social Studies 8

The Social Studies 8 curriculum focuses on four major topics: the Middle Ages in Europe, the Renaissance/ Reformation in Europe, the Age of Exploration, and Comparing Civilizations. Each of these topics will be taught with an emphasis on developing critical thinking skills. In addition to the content, it is expected that students will be able to identify and clarify a problem, an issue, or an inquiry; gather and organize a body of information from primary and secondary print and non-print sources, including electronic sources; interpret and evaluate a variety of positions on controversial issues; plan, revise and deliver written and oral presentations; and cooperatively plan and implement a course of action that addresses an identified problem, issue, or inquiry.

Social Studies 8 Honours

Social Studies 8 Honours status will be designated to students who complete the course requirements for Social Studies 8 to a high degree of proficiency in the creative and critical thinking aspects of the course. Students need to demonstrate exemplary skills in all areas of communication: written, oral and digital as well as mastery of the key content areas of the course. Attributes of leadership are encouraged for all honours designated students. Teachers will advise students of the specific requirements to achieve this standing in the course and students will be expected to keep a portfolio of their work that will be applied to this designation. Students accepting the honours challenge will be integrated into the regular social studies courses.

Social Studies 9

In Social Studies you will study the rise of modern industrial society. Students will learn about Europe's rapid technological advances and the spread of its culture to the New World. Students will study the geography of the New World. Students will also learn about the competition to control newly claimed land and how it impacted indigenous people. The development of democratic concepts and the establishment of a new social order in Canada will also be studied.

Social Studies 10

In Social Studies 10 students will examine North America's struggle for survival to produce a democratic and responsible government in what was a very large and undeveloped area. Students will explore the events that led up to Confederation and study what events produced the Canada that exists in present day. You will also look at Canada's economy and British Columbia's industries. Current events are part of ongoing lively discussions in your social studies classroom

Social Studies 11 (The Provincial Examination, worth 20% of the course, is mandatory)

A study of contemporary Canada through the examination of government, politics, society and our relations with the rest of the world. Students will then make the transition to a global perspective by investigating concerns such as population growth, resource depletion, urbanization and technological advances.

History 12

A study of 20th Century world history from 1919 to 1991 with an examination of the developments that profoundly affected our civilization and way of life. Topics include World War II, the Cold War, revolution, superpower economics, and the collapse of the Soviet Union and its legacy.

Geography 12

A study of the forces that shape the earth's surface, the resulting features, and how they affect man. Students will study aspects of meteorology, oceanography, climatology, *plant* geography, geology and geomorphology, and examine the threats to our environment, resource depletion and the impact of technological development.

AP Psychology 12

This course will introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of behaviour and mental processes of human beings and other animals. Students will be exposed to psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the subfields in psychology. Students may write the Advanced Placement examination in May.

Economics 12

Economics 12 provides students with opportunities to analyze the effects of economic activity on their society, the nation, and the global community, and it gives them a deeper understanding of the principles behind government and social policies. Students study the principles underlying the exchange of goods and services for value both within the market system and in non-market-oriented sectors. Through the study of economics, students gain an understanding of the significant decisions regarding the allocation of resources that they will be required to make throughout their lives. The study of current economic developments, trends, and issues enables students to improve their educational and career choices. Students will be better able to take advantage of global career opportunities when they understand how the global marketplace functions.

B.C. First Nations 12

(The Provincial Examination, worth 20% of the course, is mandatory)

This course is primarily B.C.-focused, emphasizing the traditions and history of British Columbia's First Nations people. The learning outcomes broaden this scope somewhat by providing opportunities to look at topics such as differing forms of First Nation self-government across Canada and the literature produced by indigenous authors from other parts of the world. The course is suitable for all students.

Law 12

A survey course of Canadian law and legal issues. Emphasis is on statute law and case law, the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, and criminal and civil law as encountered by the average citizen. Topics include procedural law, human rights, contracts, torts, family law, consumer law, young offender's law, and emerging legal concerns.

Psychology 11

An introductory course on human behaviour and basic concepts in modern psychology.

Psychology 12

An advanced course on human behaviour and basic concepts in modern psychology. (Psychology 11 is highly recommended as a pre-requisite but not required)