

Course Descriptor

Social Studies

September 2013

Level of Instruction

Intermediate Grade 9 - New Course September 2011

Curriculum Overview

The organizing concept for Social Studies 9 is Canadian Identity. Students explore this concept within the context of post-First World War Canada. The program builds on the skills and concepts of previous years and continues the chronology of social studies seven, wherein students examined Canada's history from the early 1800s to the First World War. It is firmly grounded in the Social Studies disciplines of geography, history, economics, sociology, and political science. In addition, it contains many cross-curricular opportunities, particularly in language arts, fine arts, music, and science, and contains myriad opportunities for the integration of technology.

Authorized Learning Resources

Foundation for the Atlantic Canada Social Studies Curriculum
Social Studies 9 Curriculum Guide(Interim Edition – September 2011)
Canadian Identity – Student Text and Teacher Resource

Themes

This new program focuses on the six integrated concepts and processes:

- Use Information
- Make Comparisons
- Identify Cause and Consequence
- Consider Perspective
- Determine Significance
- Make Value Judgements

The inquiry model is embedded throughout the course. Teachers should take particular notice of Specific Curriculum Outcome (i.0) which states that the student will be expected to demonstrate proficiency in utilizing concepts and processes from the social sciences by doing the following:

- *i.1 Use an inquiry model to explore and resolve significant questions*
- *i.2 Apply intellectual tools to analyze events, ideas, issues, patterns and trends*
- *i.3 Make reasoned assessments based on appropriate criteria*

The program is organized around seven (7) units as follows:

- Unit 1: Exploring Canadian Identity
- Unit 2: Geographic Influences on Identity
- Unit 3: Historical Influences on Identity I
- Unit 4: Historical Influences on Identity II
- Unit 5: Citizenship and Identity
- Unit 6: Canada's Changing Identity
- Unit 7: Reflections on Canadian Identity

Assessment:

Assessment in this course is governed by the Assessment and Evaluation Policy of the former Eastern School District.

http://www.esdnl.ca/about/policies/esd/IL_IL.pdf .

<http://www.esdnl.ca/aboutesd/policies/regulations.jsp?cat=l&code=IL>

Assessment and Evaluation Plan for Social Studies Grade 9:

Performance Assessment	60%
Tests/Quizzes	30%
Final Exam	10%

Note:

1. All evidence of learning shall be considered when determining a student's final grade. Averaging shall not be used as a sole indicator of a student's level of attainment of the course outcomes.
2. Homework and student behaviour (except where specified in Provincial documents) shall not be given a value for assessment
3. To ensure student achievement of the outcomes, teachers are expected to use a variety of assessments from the following internal data sources:

- Formal and informal observations (anecdotal records, checklists, etc.)
- Written Responses (learning logs, journals, blogs, etc.)
- Projects (Long and short term)
- Research (brochures, flyers, posters, essays, graphic organizers, etc.)
- Student presentations (seminars, speeches, debates, discussions, etc.)
- Self assessments (exit and entrance cards, learning inventories, yes/no activities, learning contracts, etc.)

Peer assessments
Conferencing (questioning, ongoing records, checklists, etc.)
Digital Evidence (web page, blog, PowerPoint, Prezi, interactive white board)
Portfolios
Individual and group participation (demonstrations, interviews, questioning, role play, drama)
Work samples (investigations, learning logs, journals, blogs, etc.)
Tests and quizzes

Resource Links:

Curriculum Guide

<http://www.ed.gov.nl.ca/edu/k12/curriculum/guides/socialstudies/gr9/grade-9-social-studies-curriculum-guide.pdf>

Foundation Document

<http://www.ed.gov.nl.ca/edu/k12/curriculum/documents/socialstudies/social.pdf>

Professional Learning Site

<http://www.k12pl.nl.ca/social-studies/grade9.html>