

Social 8 - Examining Historical Worldviews

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This year's study will examine issues related to the contact between societies with differing worldviews. We will explore elements of worldviews and how these worldviews are expressed by people living in different times and in different places. You will have the opportunity to reflect on your own worldviews and assess the influence the past has on the present. You will learn how intercultural contact between societies leads to significant change and alters each society's worldview.

Program Rationale

Social studies provides opportunities for students to develop the attitudes, skills and knowledge that will enable them to become engaged, active informed and responsible citizens. Recognition and respect for individual and collective identity is essential in a pluralistic and democratic society. Social studies helps students develop their sense of self and community, encouraging them to affirm their place as citizens in an inclusive democratic society.

21st Century Competencies

Courses in RVS are designed to develop 21st Century competencies for our students:

Critical Thinking - Focuses thoughts and actions to secure responses that are supported by evidence

Problem-Solving - Identifies strategies and tools that help analyze, develop, and refine solutions

Innovation - Looks beyond the norm for solutions or opportunities that can overcome obstacles

Communication - Seeks to understand, interpret, and express thoughts, ideas, and emotions

Collaboration - Builds relationships and works in teams to achieve common goals

Self-Directed Learning - Takes ownership of learning

Civic Engagement - Commits to democratic governance, social participation, and advocacy

Information & Media Literacy - Uses technology to explore new knowledge in an ethical and responsible way

Financial & Economic Literacy - Understands and evaluates critical economic issues

General Outcome 8.1

From Isolation to Adaptation: Japan

Through an examination of Japan, students will demonstrate an understanding and appreciation of the ways in which beliefs, values and knowledge shape worldviews and contribute to a society's isolation or adaptation.

General Outcome 8.2

Origins of a Western Worldview: Renaissance Europe

Through an examination of Renaissance Europe, students will demonstrate an understanding and appreciation of how the exchange of ideas and knowledge contributed to shaping the worldview of the Western world.

General Outcome 8.3

Worldviews in Conflict: The Spanish and the Aztecs

Through an examination of Spanish and Aztec societies, students will demonstrate an understanding and appreciation of how intercultural contact affects the worldviews of societies.

Course Timeline

1. Introduction to Worldviews : September
2. Origins of a Western Worldview: Renaissance Europe: September - November
3. Worldviews in Conflict: The Spanish and the Aztecs: November - February
4. From Isolation to Adaptation: Japan : March - May
5. Conclusion and Culminating Activity: June
6. Review: June
7. Evaluation

Current Events 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.

Course Assessment

Individual assessment will involve a variety of tasks designed to monitor and improve student learning and will include both assessment *of*, and *for* learning. Assessment *for* learning includes all of the activities that we do to provide feedback in order to help students master the material and guide their learning. It is used by both the student and the teacher and might include project work, self and peer feedback, parent feedback, revision, practice work, group work, and other assignments. At times, students will have the opportunity to choose their 'best' work for submission. The report card grade will therefore be primarily based on assessments of learning. An assessment of learning is an evaluation of the student's mastery of the course outcomes at any given time and will include project work, written work, assignments, practical work, exams, and other evidence of mastery demonstrated by the student. Students and parents should also check PowerSchool on a regular basis. Grades will be updated at least every other week. More time will be required for written work and projects.

For the most part, each unit of study will be evaluated accordingly:

Assignments	50%
Performance Task/Culminating Activity	30%
Tests & Quizzes	20%
Total	100%

Your yearend mark will be determined accordingly:

Year's Work	90%
Final Exam	10%
Total	100%

This is an interesting course that focuses on events that have shaped the foundation of society. This course requires an inquiry approach from the students. Do Not be afraid to ask questions and voice your opinion. Knowledge is gained through effective communication and positive reinforcement!

