

Course: Contemporary World 502

Level: Cycle 2, Secondary 5

Course Description and Objectives:

The Contemporary World course examines our society through the lens of various disciplines of the social sciences, including geography, history, economics and political science.

As stipulated by MELS, the **Contemporary World** program aims are to:

- *Help students grasp the complexity of the world today and be open to the diversity of the societies that make it up*
- *Help students develop their critical faculties by studying problems and issues of the contemporary world*
- *Prepare students to participate as responsible citizens in social debate*

Broad Areas of Learning:

The broad areas of learning are described on the course outline supplement.

Cross-Curricular Competencies:

The cross-curricular competencies are described on the course outline supplement,

Course Themes:

1. **Population:** The inhabitants of a place, country, etc. referred to collectively. The designated focus will be the **increase in migration**. Some of the concepts to be addressed include: demographic change, migration flow, urban organization, immigration policies, and more.
2. **Wealth:** The abundance of valuable material possessions and/or resources. The designated focus will be the **distribution of wealth**. Some of the concepts to be addressed include: economic development, disparity in wealth, resources, and more.
3. **Tensions and Conflicts:** The strained political, social, and/or economic relationships within a society or countries that may lead to a state of opposition, hostilities, struggles, and a clash of opposed principals. The designated focus will be **intervention**. Some of the concepts to be addressed include: international alliances, political autonomy, diplomacy, human rights, and more.

Assessment:

General information and attendance requirements for all courses are described on the course outline supplement. Assessment methods include quizzes, assignments, and tests. The table below describes the specific competencies for this subject. The term mark will reflect a blended grade incorporating the various competencies assessed during the term.

Competency	Description
1. Interprets a Contemporary World Problem	Key features are related to defining the problem, analyzing the problem, considering the problem as a whole, and critically assessing the process involved.
2. Takes a Position on a Contemporary World Issue	Examining some points of view on the issue, considering the media treatment of the issue, debating the issue, considering opportunities for social action, and critically assessing the process involved are the key features of the competency.

Term Weighting: Term 1 = 20%, Term 2 = 20%, Term 3 = 60%

Resources & Supplies:

Resources: Various articles from magazines, newspapers, texts and online resources. A textbook "Immediate" was issued to each student upon registration. If the textbook is lost or damaged, the student will be charged with the replacement cost. Additionally, notes, handouts, and various other resources will be issued by the teacher throughout the year.

Supplies: Students are required to have a binder, loose leaf/exercise book, and their textbook for class. Basic school supplies: pens, pencils, paper, and other material as indicated by the instructor are required.

Class and course expectations include coming on time, being ready to work, listening attentively to whoever is speaking, and taking responsibility for your own work. This promises to be an exciting course from which we all will learn from.