

Course Outline

CHV20 - Civics and Citizenship

Policy based on *The Ontario Curriculum, Grades 9 and 10, Canadian and World Studies Civics (Politics) and Growing Success*

Overall Goals

Grade 10 Civics (CHV20) explores rights and responsibilities associated with being an active citizen in a democratic society. Students will explore issues of civic importance such as anti-black racism, community planning, environmental responsibility, and the influence of social media, while developing their understanding of the role of civic engagement and of political processes in the local, national, and/or global community.

Students will apply the concepts of political thinking and the political inquiry process to investigate, and express informed opinions about, a range of political issues and developments that are both of significance in today's world and of personal interest to them.

NOTE: During this course students will be exposed to controversial and sensitive topics. These topics reflect the many historical and present-day events that some students may find disturbing. The materials selected are always appropriately connected to the curriculum and the teacher will always try to prepare students properly for the materials they are about to see. If you have any concerns or questions about the course curriculum, please feel free to contact the teacher.

Course Overview

In the 21st century, Canadians were already struggling with a range of challenging questions. 2020 changed everything, and we are still trying to regain our footing. Now, more than ever, Canadians need to understand the importance of the rights and responsibilities of citizenship and how our government operates.

In this course, students will be challenged to identify and clarify their own beliefs and values and to develop an appreciation of others' beliefs and values about questions of civic importance. They will also learn how to think critically about issues of local, national and global importance and how to take action to change things they think need to be changed.

Students will discover how an education in civics is an important part of the responsibilities of citizenship.

Course Dates

This Civics course runs from 30th September to 26th October.
All work completed for evaluation needs to be submitted within the scope of our course dates.

Achievement Categories

Units of study include all 4 categories. Activities include assessment for, as and of learning.

- **Knowledge and Understanding (K/U) (25%)**
- **Thinking and Inquiry (T/I) (25%)**

- **Communication (Comm) (25%)**
- **Application (App) (25%)**

Assessment and Evaluation

Term Work = 70%

This will be based on most consistent level of achievement on a variety of assignments.

Final Work = 30%

This will be based on a final test and a final assignment.

Learning Skills

Learning skills are observed throughout the course and will be rated excellent, good, satisfactory, or needs improvement on each report card: **responsibility, organization, independent work, collaboration, initiative and self-regulation.**

Units of Study

Pre-Learning Unit:

Students will learn about the study of Civics and look at citizenship and rights and responsibilities. This unit also introduces students to the Moodle.

A: Civic Institutions - Government Structure and Political Theory

Students examine structures and functions of all three levels of government in Canada. They analyze rights and responsibilities of Canadian citizenship and explore what it means to be a “global citizen”. They also learn about importance of voting and civic engagement.

B: Civic Awareness – The Political Spectrum and Civic Discussion

Students explore the political structures in Canada, framed through the Political Compass and the Party System. Students learn how to have informed, thoughtful opinions about issues that matter to them. Students will contrast their beliefs to that of the major Canadian Political parties and learn how to share ideas and opinions in a respectful and thoughtful manner.

C: The Judicial System – Justice Working (or not working) for Us All

Students will study the Canadian judicial system, learning about how our courts and procedures are designed as well as how they operate in reality. Students will learn about key components of the Legal System and research the ways in which Canadians navigate that system. Students will focus on the application of justice, especially to those wrongfully convicted.

D: Moments in Canadian Civic History – Rich Student Task

Students research focuses upon legacy, impact and need to mark the moment for the Canadian Public. Events could be positive or negative and suggested topics are provided. Students present deputation or Public Service announcement, create visual component and write a report.

Late and Missing Assignments

The teacher will establish clearly communicated deadlines to students. It is the student’s responsibility to submit all assignments on or before due dates.

Missing evaluations are recorded as 'incomplete' until such time as the teacher determines that the final due date has passed and the expectation cannot be met, at which time a zero (0) may be assigned as the grade for that assignment. A deduction of up to, but not exceeding, 10 percent may be applied to a late assignment.

Missed Test(s)

Students will not be penalized if they are absent for legitimate reasons on the day of a test. When this occurs, the student's parent/guardian should send an email to the teacher indicating that he/she is aware that a test was missed. The student may be permitted to either write the missed test, or a make-up test, or to do some other work in place of the test.

Attendance

Attendance at each class is mandatory. Students are responsible for class work and assignments completed and/or assigned in their absence. Students must contact their teacher immediately after returning from an absence. Notify the teacher in advance when possible so suitable arrangements can be made. Students are still responsible for missed work during an absence.

Academic Honesty

When plagiarism/cheating is detected, it will be investigated. If plagiarism or cheating is confirmed by the teacher, he/she will inform the principal/vice principal, the guidance counsellor, and the student of the specific details regarding the plagiarized assignment or the allegation of cheating and the resulting consequences. A consequence for cheating and plagiarism may be a mark of zero for the assignment/test/exam in question. A repeated pattern of academic dishonesty may result in an escalating severity of consequences.

Homework

A Civics course moves very quickly as it only runs half the length of a standard course. Do not hesitate to reach out if you need support.

As we return to classes, everyone has to relearn how we learn, so let's keep communication open. There are many resources available to you as a student.

I am here to help create conditions for your success. You are here to use those conditions to succeed.