

Communication Skills

- Connecting and engaging with others through discussion and group work
- Reflecting on your learning
- Sharing and presenting what you have learned
- Giving and receiving feedback

Critical Thinking Skills

- Examining evidence
- Assessing reliability of sources
- Questioning, investigating, analyzing
- Assessing the significance of peoples, places and events
- Explaining change and identifying key turning points in history
- Identifying and assessing cause and consequence
- Exploring and explaining different perspectives

Creative Thinking Skills

- Generating new ideas to solve problems or address issues
- Developing creative pieces of work
- Making ideas work within given constraints

Personal and Social Skills

- Identifying how your life experiences contribute to your identity
- Describing your personal values
- Taking ownership of your learning, and behaviour
- Identifying your strengths and abilities
- Considering others' views
- Initiating positive change
- Analyzing complex issues from multiple perspectives
- Making reasoned ethical judgments

Materials

- A binder for handouts and in-class assignments
- Lined paper
- Pencil/pen
- *Crossroads* textbook

Please come to each class prepared with all of your materials

Evaluation

A student's evaluation is ongoing and cumulative; there is no Term 1 and 2 mark. Marks can be added at any time for late or completed work. When the first report card is issued, it is a "snapshot" of where the student is at that particular time.

Students will be evaluated using the following scheme for their overall mark in this course:

Class Mark:	Content Knowledge	25%	Final mark:	Class Mark	80%
	Communication Skills	20%		ePortfolio Presentation	10%
	Critical Thinking Skills	20%		Culminating Questions	5%
	Creative Thinking Skills	20%			
	Personal & Social Responsibility	15%			

There will be no Final Exam for this course, but there is a written culminating "big picture" question that will assess the key understandings covered in this course. Instead of an exam, students will create an ePortfolio with their learning artifacts, which will present an overall picture of what they have accomplished and learned in the course.

Class Procedures

Attendance

Attendance is **mandatory** and **essential**, especially as this course is **interactive** and **activity-based**.

Lates: If you are late, you will receive one warning with no consequence. The second time late is a five minute DT, and the third is a 10 minute DT. Any other lates will be referred to the Vice-Principal.

Absence: if you are absent, it is **your responsibility** to ask me how you can make up the work missed.

Leaving Class

Check with the teacher **before** leaving the classroom; you must have the **hall pass** with you.

Cell Phones

Should not be used during class time unless they are part of the lesson.

LDSS cell phone policy:

At LDSS, we understand that a cell phone can be a useful tool in the context of student learning and as such we want to promote responsible use of this technology. Cell phone use that interferes with learning is prohibited and may result in the following:

- *be given a warning*
- *asked to give the phone to the teacher for the class*
- *have the cell phone removed until the end of the day*

Continued student offenses may result in the cell phone being kept until a parent meeting and/or suspension.

Expectations

*We are a community of learners who support and encourage one another to be our best selves. We show **commitment** to learning, **control** of our behavior, **respectful communication**, and **cooperation**.*

- ✓ You are here to **LEARN**, and that should be the focus of your activities and behaviour in class.
- ✓ You are required to participate in all learning activities – including discussions, group activities, direct teaching, and individual tasks.
- ✓ Listen and interact with others in a respectful manner. Show respect by using appropriate language at all times; help to create positive and collaborative relationships.
- ✓ Ensure that the class is **safe** place to be, for everyone, as well as a place where everyone can learn. Take care of your property as well as that of others.
- ✓ If you are feeling overwhelmed or concerned that you are getting behind, talk to me. I will do whatever I can to ensure that you are successful in this course!

Other Details

I think it is very important that parents are informed of and involved in the education of their child. With our busy schedules, it can sometimes be hard to stay updated. I use several tools to try to bridge the school/home gap, making communication, assignments/information, and student progress more easily accessible.

For copies of assignments, handouts, PowerPoints, etc:



I have created a class website for this course at: www.missbeckscsclass.weebly.com
I will use this website to post handouts, PowerPoints, project/assignment information, study guides, and anything else relevant to our class time together. This is a useful tool if you will be away, or if you would like to review any material we have covered in class.

For updates/reminders:



I have created a class account on Remind.com. Remind allows students and parents to sign up to receive reminders and updates via text message or email. With Remind, all personal information remains completely confidential; teachers will never see your phone number, nor will you ever see theirs. I will be using Remind for this class, and encourage you to sign up for it, as it will help keep you on track. See below for instructions about signing up.

**Everything posted on our website and Remind will be covered and discussed in class. Use of these is optional, but I find that they can be useful tools to stay connected.*

To receive messages via text, text @db62d to (250) 999-0408. You can opt-out of messages at anytime by replying, 'unsubscribe @db62d'.



Or to receive messages via email, send an email to db62d@mail.remind.com. To unsubscribe, reply with 'unsubscribe' in the subject line.



Students,

Please share this outline with your Parent/Guardian. Detach this last page, have your parent/guardian sign it, and return it back to me by **Friday February 5th, 2016.**

Parent /Guardian Information:

I am looking forward to working with your child in Social Studies 9 this semester. Please sign below to indicate that you have read the course outline. Please also include your preferred method of contact (e-mail or phone number).

Additionally, I have a class website that I regularly update with homework and resources pertaining to assignments and our course content. It can be found at: www.missbecksclass.weebly.com

If you would like to stay updated with what is going on in class, you can also sign up for "Remind" (details on previous page)

I look forward to working with you to provide the best possible learning experience for your child.

Student Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Email and/or phone: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Any other important information that you would like me to know:

If you have any questions or concerns at all, please do not hesitate to contact me by email at jbeck@sd91.bc.ca or 250-692-7733.

I hope that your son/daughter enjoys the course!

Cheers,

Janice Beck