**St. Boniface Diocesan High School**

**Global Issues 40S Semester 1**

**Course Outline and Classroom Expectations**

**Teacher**: Mr. Scott

**Emai**l: bcott@sbdhs.net

**Website**: www.scottsbdhs.weebly.com

Students will conduct inquiry into the social, political, environmental, and economic impact of a variety of contemporary and emerging social issues in the world. Through their inquiry they will focus on questions of quality of life locally, nationally, and globally. This course is based on the principals of active democratic citizenship, ecological literacy, critical media literacy, and ethical decision making. Global Issues will empower students as agents of change for a sustainable and equitable future. A component of the course is the planning and implementation of a community-based action-research project.

**Upon successful completion of the Global Issues course, students will have acquired the following enduring understandings:**

* Our ecological footprint is exceeding Earth’s capacity to sustain biodiversity and human life
* Our decisions and actions *matter*; they have social, environmental, economic, and political consequences
* Individuals, groups, governments, and corporations all have the power to effect change and have a responsibility to contribute to a sustainable future
* The media does not provide a neutral reflection of reality; the media affects our decisions, actions, and biases
* A global economic system that depends upon and perpetuates consumerism is unsustainable
* Indigenous knowledge and worldviews offer alternative to prevailing assumptions about how to cohabitate with each other and the environment
* Political systems distribute power, privilege, and wealth in different ways
* A just society respects human diversity and recognizes universal, equal, and inalienable rights
* There is no *them versus us*: we all belong to the human species, our concerns are independent, and we are part of the natural world

**Your term mark will consist of:**

 Assignments 40%

 Tests/Quizzes 20%

 Journal Responses 10%

 Take Action Inquiry 20%

 Participation 10%

**Your final exam mark is worth *30% of your Final Grade.***

**We will of course be following all of the provincial mandates regarding COVID-19. You will need to check out Mr. Scott’s amazing website scottsbdhs.weebly.com DAILY for assignments, due dates, workouts and much more! In the event of remote learning we will again be using TEAMS**

**Students will study the following areas of inquiry:**

* **Media:** economics, social and political forces, and role of media in the transmission of information
* **Consumerism:** consumer and capitalistic trends on the environment, global economics, and social development
* **Poverty, wealth, and power:** examining the effects of power and wealth structures on poverty nationally and globally
* **Indigenous peoples:** examining the history of colonialism and its effects on traditional cultures and peoples, as well as examining environmental worldviews and future concerns
* **Oppression and genocide:** examining historical and current genocides and forms of oppression, and considering the possible roles our institutions and citizens can take
* **Social justice and human rights:** explore the causes of inequalities and the approaches being pursued to create a more equitable world
* **Gender and identity:** examining issues of gender diversity and equality and the inclusiveness of all gender identities
* **Environment:** study the links between sustainable practices and the health of our environment

We live in an ever-changing world, therefore the curriculum may shift its focus to worldwide current events and discussions. Students are encouraged to approach Mr. Scott with topics and events they feel they would like to learn more about.

**This course is a project-based and inquiry learning approach:** while the teacher will lead discussion and knowledge on the investigative topics, students will be expected to complete inquiry-based projects and come prepared to class with additional sources on the pertaining topic and be ready for class discussions.

Please note that due to the sensitive nature of this course, Mr. Scott will absolutely not tolerate any behaviour or speech deemed to be homophobic, transphobic, racist, sexist, or otherwise. If you choose to use discriminatory language or actions you may be asked to leave the class. St. Boniface Diocesan has a zero tolerance policy for any form of abuse, harassment, or intimidation. Students must come to class with an open mind and be open to opinions that may contradict their own.

**Late Assignments**

It is the student’s responsibility to have all assignments completed to the best of their ability by the specified due date. Extensions may be granted on a case-to-case basis *prior* to the assignment’s due date. Late assignments will be deducted **10% of given grade for each day** it is late. *Do Not* email me the night before an assignment is due asking for an extension.

**If You Are Away or Sick**

If you are planning to be away from class for any amount of time for a vacation, school activity, or otherwise, you **must** speak to me about what you will be missing. I will do my best to provide you with the homework you will be missing.

*YOU* are responsible for:

* Contacting Mr. Scott when you will be away. If you are sick, you may email or speak to me the next time you are in class
* Asking Mr. Scott what you will or have missed and how you can make up any missed assignments, tests, quizzes, etc.
	+ You will have up to *one week* to write any missed tests or quizzes
	+ Homework due dates will remain unchanged unless otherwise stated
* If we have watched a video in class, you are responsible for renting, finding, Netflix-ing the video yourself
* Any missing or incomplete assignments, tests, and quizzes will receive a zero
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**Academic Integrity**

Students are expected to be rigorously honest in the pursuit of their education. A student is academically dishonest when s/he engages in an illegal or improper activity for the purpose of improving a grade or test score. As such, plagiarism and cheating are serious offenses.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating and/or plagiarizing the work of others or allowing one’s work to be plagiarized. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and will be dealt with severely on a case by case basis.

Any student found acting academically dishonest will be subject to the following:

* **First offence:** student receives a grade of zero (0) and is given the opportunity to re-do the assignment; parents/guardians are contacted
* **Second offence:** student receives a grade of zero (0); there is no opportunity to re-do the assignment; parents/guardians must meet with administration
* **Third offence:** student receives a three day out-of-school suspension and/or recommendation to the SBDHS Board of Directors for expulsion

**Additional Notes**

* Please write your name on the top of everything you hand in. I cannot mark an assignment if I do not know whom it belongs to.
* **Most importantly**: Enjoy learning every day. Come into class with an open mind, ask questions, and be excited!