

MERIVALE HIGH SCHOOL
 Canadian and World Studies Department
CPW 4U – Canadian & World Politics



Prerequisite: any university or university/college preparation course in Canadian and Studies, English, or social science and humanities.

Text: Canadian and World Politics	Replacement Cost: \$65
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Course Description:

This course examines national and international political issues from a wide variety of perspectives. Students will investigate the ways in which individuals, groups, and states work to influence domestic and world events, the role of political ideologies in national and international politics, and the dynamics of international cooperation and conflict resolution. Students will apply critical-thinking and communication skills to develop and support informed opinions about current political conflicts, events, and issues

The entire curriculum document is available from:
<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/document/curricul/seccurrlic.html>

UNITS OF STUDY & ESSENTIAL EXPECTATIONS:

Unit 1	<p>Concepts in Political Study & Ideologies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -explain and describe the historical and theoretical foundations of political thought and philosophies -explain the role and function of ideologies in national and international politics -describe the main characteristics of the world’s major political ideologies (e.g., fascism, conservatism, liberalism, socialism, communism); -explain the role of religious beliefs in national and international politics -use the political spectrum and political compass to juxtapose different political ideologies, political parties, and individual
Unit 2	<p>The Ideals of Democracy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -explain the dominant principles of democracy -debate key issues surrounding democratic issues. -understand the benefits and drawbacks of different party systems -consider the main features, as well as advantages and drawbacks of various electoral systems, especially the Canadian, American, and European models. -evaluate the role of pressure groups in formulating and implementing Canada’s foreign/domestic policy -relate the dominant themes of Canada’s political culture to current political issues
Unit 3	<p>International Politics – Nation – States</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -analyze the factors that determine the power and influence of a country by looking at power equation (e.g. historical forces, geopolitical considerations, internal/ external forces influencing policy). -describe some important factors shaping Canadian foreign policy -describe the types of influence exerted by other nations and groups on Canada and Canadians -evaluate the accuracy and usefulness of common classifications of states used in describing relationships among states

Unit 4	<p>International Politics – Non State Actors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -analyze how the United Nations are able to influence the actions of sovereign states. -discuss steps in settling diplomatic disputes between states. -analyze the rise and development of nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) as world powers -describe the structure and function of international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations -evaluate the nature and quality of Canada’s influence within selected world and regional organizations -explain the origins, functions, and objectives of selected international nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) -explain the origins, functions, and objectives of selected Inter Governmental Organizations (IGOs) -analyze the need for new international organizations as a result of globalization and the advent of new technologies -evaluate the extent to which key agreements and treaties signed by Canada
Unit 5	<p>Culminating/ Summative Task – Researching Important Issues at the Grassroots Level</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -consider important issues in the Canadian political landscape at the grassroots level -use data-gathering techniques such as interviews and surveys to determine popular sentiment on particular issues -learn how to manipulate raw data to analyze popular trends on issues -learn how to formulate an informed opinion on how policies are developed by considering raw data

EVALUATION:

Category	Weight
Knowledge/Understanding (K/U) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes knowledge of facts and terms; understanding of concepts, principles, and theories; understanding of relationships between concepts. Found regularly in tests and assignments. 	17.5%
Thinking/Inquiry (T/I) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes critical and creative thinking skills; inquiry skills. Found regularly in tests and assignments. 	17.5%
Application (App) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes application of concepts, skills, and procedures to new contexts; transfer of concepts, skills, and procedures to new contexts. Found regularly in tests and assignments. 	17.5%
Communication (Comm.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes communication of information and ideas; use of language, symbols, and visuals; communication for different audiences and purposes; use of various forms of communication. Found regularly in tests and assignments. 	17.5%
Summative (Summ.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Exam (20%) • Course Culminating Project (10%) 	30%

Missed tests: If a test is missed while you are absent for an **acceptable** reason, you must be prepared to write the missed test on the day you return to school. Consult with your teacher ***before the test is missed*** (if possible) or as soon as possible in other circumstances.

Late assignments: Unless there are extenuating circumstances (accepted at the teacher's discretion), any late assignments may receive a mark of zero. You must present an acceptable reason for the late assignment on the missed due date if a zero is to be avoided and a contract for an alternative assignment/due date may be drawn up. Where possible, ***present reasons to the teacher prior to the due date.***

Group work and oral presentations: These are time and/or team sensitive. A zero may be recorded if you do not participate at the specified times. If there are extenuating circumstances (subject to teacher's discretion), alternate arrangements may be made.