

WRPS Social Studies Diploma Preparation Course

Dear Grade 12 Students and Parents/Guardians,

As we continue to enjoy the tremendous fall weather, Christmas break and the end of the first semester is right around the corner. When Grade 12 students return from Christmas break, they will be writing diploma exams.

Alberta Education has once again increased the weighting of the Diploma back to 30% of our student's overall mark. As a school division, we want to make sure we are doing everything we can to put our students in a position to be successful. As a result, we are trying something new in WRPS with our Social Studies students and teachers. We are offering a WRPS Diploma Prep Course as a way to help students prepare for their January Social Studies Diploma Exam. There are two courses: one for SS 30-1 and one for SS 30-2.

Students in Grade 12 Social Studies are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity. Diploma prep courses have been proven to be a successful tool in preparing to write Diploma exams. Our Prep Course is being developed with PLRS and WCHS teachers and please note, there is NO FEE for WRPS students to enroll in this prep course!

A detailed outline of each course (30-1 and 30-2) is provided below as well as the steps to register for this course. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to talk to your Social Studies teacher or your School principal.

Social Students Diploma Prep Course

When: Sunday, January 7th

Where: Wetaskiwin Composite High School, in person or online

Please note we recommend in-person attendance but will be setting up a Google Meet for students who are not able to attend in person.

Time:

SS $30-2 \rightarrow 10:00 - 2:30$ SS $30-1 \rightarrow 3:00 - 7:30$

To Register please fill out this Form:

- Students Must Pre-register by Wednesday, December 20th.



Outline of the Course

WRPS's Social Studies Diploma Prep Courses will focus on a review of the main curricular concepts which are essential for success on both the written and multiple choice components of the Diploma Exam. Using the lens of previous Diploma Exams and scoring guides, students will be enabled to hone their skills and gain confidence through discussion and examination of course content.

Students will be able to leave the **Social 30-1 diploma prep** with:

- 1. Exposure to a variety of sources: including economic, political, and social, that have been used on past diploma exams.
- 2. Strategies they can use to find perspectives and links to liberalism within sources.
- 3. Multiple approaches to identifying and exploring relationships among sources.
- 4. Comprehensive and sophisticated guidelines to analyze a variety of sources
- 5. Clarity surrounding thesis development.
- 6. Understanding of how to build an argumentative essay that combines argumentation with evidence.
- 7. A targeted review of key concepts and case studies of the course as prioritized based on advanced polling of the students.
- 8. Refinement of skills and strategies associated with unpacking and responding to multiple choice.

Students will be able to leave the **Social 30-2 diploma prep** with:

- 1. Discussion of each Assignment I topic and strategies for success.
- 2. Interpretation of a variety of sources for Assignment II and how to enhance your writing through the integration of evidence.
- 3. How to approach Assignment III with a detailed look at formatting and the use of current events.
- 4. Exposure to a variety of sources, including economic, political, and social, that have been used in the past.
- 5. Strategies they can use to successfully navigate the three writing assessments on exam day.
- 6. A targeted review of key concepts and case studies of the course as prioritized based on advanced polling of the students.
- 7. Refinement of skills and strategies associated with unpacking and responding to multiple choice.