



South Windsor High School
 161 Nevers Road
 South Windsor, CT 06074
 (860) 648-5000
 website: www.southwindsorschools.org/highschool

2023 - 2024 COURSE EXPECTATIONS

Course Name:	Examining Social Issues Through Alternate Voices
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Teacher Name(s)	Email	Phone
Ms. Katie Stodd Knapp (rm 148)	kknapp@swindsor.k12.ct.us	860-474-1839

Course Overview: This semester course is designed to strengthen students' understanding of social issues, injustices, and implications in our ever changing world. Through learning how to identify the “alternate voices,” an individual is strengthening their skills to more fully understand the complexity of conflict, the diversity of our culture, and building empathy and discussion skills.

Vision of the Successful Student And Core Competencies:
 Successful students will read and prepare outside of and during class several days a week. They will demonstrate respect, responsibility, self-advocacy, open-mindedness, and intellectual curiosity. Students will be challenged to work at a high level of independence and scholarship, which requires more thinking in the abstract and beyond their own personal experiences. Successful students will engage with an open mind in the reading and meet deadlines. Materials and expectations will be differentiated according to students’ needs.

Throughout the semester students will:

- Engage in reading fiction and non-fiction texts
- Reflect on readings through journal entries
- Connect and synthesize classroom terminology and ideas with texts and personal experiences

Students will adhere to the standards for behavior set forth in the student handbook (The Bobcat). Students should pay particular attention to the rules regarding plagiarism and academic integrity.

Materials and Resources to Support Student Learning:
 Students will be provided with various texts, including literature excerpts, news articles, films, and critical essays to examine throughout the course. Students are expected to bring a charged Chromebook, writing materials, and handouts to class everyday.

Evidence of Student Learning:		
Assessments	80%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Used to assess mastery and learning of taught standards and skills ● Can be administered at various points throughout a unit or as a long term project to assess learning of essential targets. ● Assessments of learning may include but are not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Performance tasks ○ Quizzes or Tests ○ Presentations or speeches ○ Student products including: websites, podcasts, slideshows, etc. ○ Writing tasks ○ Essays ○ Research tasks ○ Source analysis
Learner Tasks	20%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Used to provide feedback related to growth and progress towards taught standards and skills. ● Can be administered at various points throughout a unit. ● Learner tasks may include but are not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Reflections and learning logs ○ Homework ○ Class notebooks ○ Response to feedback ○ Other class specific tasks

Late Work/ Retake Policy: A late work policy will be determined and communicated by the classroom teacher. Students will be given certain opportunities to retake assessments/assignments. Teachers will provide more specific instruction for each class.

Cell Phone / Personal Technology Policy: The English Department policy prohibits cell phone use during class. Teachers will provide more specific instruction for each class.

- Cell phones and earbuds are put away
- 15 minute teacher detention for non-compliance
- Repeated offenses will result in disciplinary action by administration

Please refer to *Bobcat Handbook* for Academic Integrity violations.