

Contemporary Issues

Fall 2023

Brian Stewart

stewartb@cocke.k12.tn.us

Subject Description

Contemporary Issues make the students more adept in understanding history and connecting it to real time events, events that the students get to witness in their lifetime. It will become the platform for many possibilities in student engagement in the areas of society, politics, economics, and the environment that aim to develop students who are nationalistic, patriotic, and globalized citizens. It also engages them to look at issues and not be content with what is readily available to them. It is a subject for everyday life such that areas of environment and economics, politics, peace and human rights will be discussed.

This class will combine lecture, discussion, video clips, music, and individual outputs and assessments. Students are expected to visit the Google classroom from time to time to check the coursework and accomplish them before the specified due date.

Course Objectives

At the end of the course, the students would be able to:

1. Display knowledge of current issues and dig deeper into them with critical and analytical approaches
2. Examine issues that are not limited only to social, political, economic, religious, and cultural events, but also issues that are treated before as taboo
3. Broaden their understanding of multiple perspectives on current issues within the globalized world and community.

• Inquiry Skills

The student will develop proficiency in using the skills and tools of inquiry.

CI.1 Analyze the use of persuasion, argument, and dispute when discussing current issues. CI.2

Compare *reason* versus *rationalization*.

CI.3 Distinguish between facts and inferences, and evaluate the relevance of data.

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CI.4 Define *deduction*, *induction*, and *fallacy* and exhibit reasoning and comprehension of these terms.

CI.5 Define *amoral* reasoning and *immoral* reasoning.

CI.6 Identify and research, formulate a hypothesis, and propose solutions for a selected current event problem in an argumentative essay.

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The Impact of Individuals, Groups, and Organizations on Contemporary Events

The student will analyze the roles played by individuals, groups, and organizations on contemporary events and issues.

CI.7 Examine how groups and individuals influence solutions to society's problems. (C, P) CI.8 Analyze

the role of media in shaping world events and influencing public opinion. (C, P) CI.9 Analyze types,

patterns, and attitudes regarding discrimination. (C) CI.10 Identify various contemporary religious

perspectives on social issues. (C)

CI.11 Identify and explain current crucial issues and the relevant groups and individuals involved in these issues in the United States and globally, including the creation of a media presentation that integrates multiple sources of information on one such issue. (C, E, G, H, P)

The Impact of History, Geography, Economics, and Politics on Contemporary Events

The student will analyze the relationship between history, geography, and politics and contemporary events and issues.

CI.12 Distinguish between historical facts and historical interpretations. (H, P) CI.13

Trace and explain the historical development of a problem. (C, E, G, H, P)

CI.14 Recognize the impact of traumatic effects of destructive events on human society. (C, G, H)

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CI.15 Describe the relationships between historical events and contemporary issues. (C, E, G, H, P)

CI.16 Identify and explain the connection between geography and issues of culture, economics, and politics. (C, E, G, H, P)

CI.17 Cite specific textual evidence to analyze the impact of cultural differences in seeking solutions to current event situations. (C, H)

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- CI.18 Define sources of government revenues and types of expenditures. (E, P) CI.19 Identify popular perception of government revenues and expenditures. (E, P) CI.20 Compare and contrast the interests of investors versus corporate management. (E) CI.21 Assess the global impact of technology. (C, E, G)
- CI.22 Integrate information from diverse sources to write an expository piece that analyzes the rights and responsibilities of a citizen in the United States today. (C, P)
- CI.23 Analyze the roles of the individual and the government in promoting the general welfare of the community under the Constitution. (C, P)
- CI.24 Describe the protections offered by the First Amendment. (C, P)
- CI.25 Cite specific textual evidence to compare and contrast American civil liberties with those of citizens in other nations. (C, P)
- CI.26 Examine an election and analyze its results. (P)
- CI.27 Evaluate the various factors that affect a nation's economy. (E, P)
- CI.28 Explain and analyze the major implications of local, national, and international events. (E, G, P)
- CI.29 Describe the current relationship the United States has with certain nations, notably Iran, North Korea, Cuba, and Mexico. (C, E, G, H, P)

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Understanding and Solving Issues of the Contemporary World *The student will analyze selected contemporary events and issues.*

- CI.30 Evaluate the premises, claims, and evidence presented by various authors to compare and

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contrast points of view on a given current events situation. (C, E, G, H, P)

CI.31 Propose solutions to critical problems and evaluate the impact of their proposed solutions by integrating multiple sources of information from diverse formats and media. (C, E, G, H, P).

References:

- ✓ Scholarly journal articles and educational videos online

Course Requirements and Computation of Final Grade:

Class Standing (Worksheets, Attendance, Quizzes, etc.) 70%

Research Projects 15%

Final Exam 15%

Total 100%