Ms. Ferris

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Social Justice 12

## Goals of Social Justice 12

This course aims to highlight and examine the inequities that exist in our society and encourage students to work towards a more just society.

Students will be able to:

* Recognize and understand the causes of injustice
* Apply critical thinking and ethical reasoning skills to social justice issues
* Understand how to act in a socially just manner
* Become responsible agents of change

**We will be covering the following topics in class:**

* *Introduction to Social Justice*: setting ground rules, building empathy, defining terms and concepts, examining ethics
* *Social Justice Beliefs and Values*: examining belief systems
* *Research Skills*: devising key questions, locating resources, assessing reliability and bias in resources, note-taking, citations.
* *Racism and Ableism:* examining how specific examples have had an impact on the lives of the individuals
* *Poverty*: examining a situation or reality of injustice, including power imbalance, exclusion, marginalization, etc.
* *Aboriginal Peoples and the Law*: uses law as a lens to show students how government sometimes uses its power to commit acts of injustice.
* *Examining LGBTQ Issues*: challenging homophobia, myths and facts, legal rights.
* *Women and Social Justice*: looking at women's history, understanding feminist movement, and oppression of women internationally.
* *Genocide*: comprehend the historical significance of genocide.
* *Globalization*: understanding social justice as it relates to globalization.
* *Shopping for Justice*: understanding how we can use our consumer power as a tool for change.
* *Current Events*: understanding social justice and human rights issues as they emerge on the world stage.
* *Social Justice Action Plan*: major inquiry project that consists of several integrated activities and extends over the duration of the semester.  It provides students with an opportunity to demonstrate skills such as leadership, organization, and presentation.  This will incorporate the concepts learned over the semester, demonstrate and understanding of the personal and organizational skills required to effect real change, and raise student awareness.

**Evaluation**

Class discussions 40%

Assignments

Social justice action plan 30%

Research assignments

Personal journals/reflections 30%

Self-evaluations

**Student Expectations**

 Students are expected to arrive to class on time each day prepared with the necessary tools needed to work. Students are expected to treat others in the class with respect using language that is appropriate for class and cooperating with others as needed. Students are expected to come to class prepared to be an active learner (well rested, phones away, homework completed etc.)