

## WARREN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

### PLANNED INSTRUCTION

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

**Course Title:** Contemporary Domestic Issues

**Course Number:** 00176

**Course Prerequisites:** None

**Course Description:** This course is designed to explore major issues in American society today. This course will be built around debates, research projects, small and large group discussions that are designed to make students actively think about the issues in society. Students will confront alternative points of view on a broad spectrum of issues and will be encouraged to debate these issues and form their own opinions. Students taking this course must keep up with current events through the use of magazines, newscasts, radio shows, newspapers, and the Internet. This course is intended to provide students with the opportunity to develop knowledge and skills through the use of media to gain information and then to relate that information to help them make informed decisions on aspects of American society. The core themes for this course will focus on the Social, Political, Economic, and Cultural aspects of life in the US. Likely topics include, but are not limited to: poverty/wealth gap, abuse issues (drug, alcohol, domestic), race relations, immigration, human rights, and environmental issues. The course standards will be covered each month based on the news stories available at the moment.

**Suggested Grade Level:** Grades 10-12

**Length of Course:** One Semester

**Units of Credit:** .5

**PDE Certification and Staffing Policies and Guidelines (CSPG) Required Teacher Certifications:**

CSPG 59 Social Studies

To find the CSPG information, go to [CSPG](#)

**Certification verified by the WCSD Human Resources Department:** ☒ Yes ☐ No

#### **WCSD STUDENT DATA SYSTEM INFORMATION**

**Course Level:** Academic

**Mark Types:** Check all that apply.

☒ F – Final Average ☒ MP – Marking Period ☐ EXM – Final Exam

**GPA Type:** ☐ GPAEL-GPA Elementary ☐ GPAML-GPA for Middle Level ☒ NHS-National Honor Society

☒ UGPA-Non-Weighted Grade Point Average ☒ GPA-Weighted Grade Point Average

**State Course Code:** 04106

To find the State Course Code, go to [State Course Code](#), download the Excel file for SCED, click on SCED 6.0 tab, and choose the correct code that corresponds with the course.

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#### **TEXTBOOKS AND SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS**

##### **Board Approved Textbooks, Software, and Materials:**

**Title:** N/A  
**Publisher:** N/A  
**ISBN #:** N/A  
**Copyright Date:** N/A  
**WCSD Board Approval Date:** N/A

**Supplemental Materials:** Various resources such as (but not limited to): Local and National Newspapers; Opposing Viewpoints; YouTube; Internet sites – The Choices Program; AllSides, CNN10, Axios, The Week, PBS, NPR News; Podcasts; Newsela

#### **Curriculum Document**

##### **WCSD Board Approval:**

**Date Finalized:** 5/23/2022  
**Date Approved:** 6/13/2022  
**Implementation Year:** 2022/2023

#### **SPECIAL EDUCATION, 504, and GIFTED REQUIREMENTS**

The teacher shall make appropriate modifications to instruction and assessment based on a student's Individual Education Plan (IEP), Chapter 15 Section 504 Plan (504), and/or Gifted Individual Education Plan (GIEP).

**SCOPE AND SEQUENCE OF CONTENT AND CONCEPTS**

**Marking Period 1**

Investigating the Media

Current Events Issues:

- Social
- Economical
- Political
- Cultural

**Marking Period 2**

Current Events Issues:

- Social
- Economical
- Political
- Cultural

**Marking Period 3**

Investigating the Media

Current Events Issues:

- Social
- Economical
- Political
- Cultural

**Marking Period 4**

Current Events Issues:

- Social
- Economical
- Political
- Cultural

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**Standards/Eligible Content and Skills**

<b>Performance Indicator</b>	<b>PA Core Standard and/or Eligible Content</b>	<b>Marking Period Taught</b>
Analyze and assess the validity of news sources	RH.11-12.1-5,7 WHST.11-12.2	MP1 MP3
Investigate how the media can steer our view of current issues	RH.11-12.1-4,9 WHST.11-12.2	MP1 MP3
Analyze major social issues in the United States	8.1.12.B 8.3.12.A-D 7.4.12.B RH.11-12.1-4,6-9	MP1 MP2 MP3 MP4
Analyze major economic issues in the United States	8.1.12.B 6.1.12.A-D 6.2.12.A-G 6.3.12.A-D 6.4.12.A-D 6.5.12.A-H RH.11-12.1-4,6-9	MP1 MP2 MP3 MP4
Analyze major political issues in the United States	8.1.12.B 5.1.12.A,C,D 5.2.12.A-D 5.3.12.A-J 5.4.12.A-E RH.11-12.1-4,6-9	MP1 MP2 MP3 MP4
Analyze major cultural issues in the United States	8.1.12.B 7.3.12.A 7.4.12.B RH.11-12.1-4,6-9	MP1 MP2 MP3 MP4
Explain current events and the effect of the current event issue on the United States as a whole and on the various regions in the United States	8.1.12.A,B 7.1.12.A,B 7.2.12.A 7.3.12.A 7.4.12.A,B 6.1.12.A-D 6.2.12.A-G 6.3.12.A-D 6.4.12.A-D 6.5.12.A-H 5.1.12.A,C,D 5.2.12.A-D 5.3.12.A-J 5.4.12.A-E RH.11-12.2,4	MP1 MP2 MP3 MP4
Present opinions on current events issues	8.1.12.B,C WHST.11-12.1,2,6,10	MP1 MP2 MP3 MP4
Identify main ideas in print, audio, and visual media sources	RH.11-12.1,2,7,9 WHST.11-12.2	MP1 MP2 MP3 MP4
Write informative, explanatory, and/or persuasive texts based on a current event	8.1.12.B,C WHST.11-12.1,2,4-10	MP1 MP2 MP3 MP4
Employ analytical skills to evaluate primary and secondary sources related to current event issues	8.1.12.B RH.11-12.1-10	MP1 MP2 MP3 MP4

## **ASSESSMENTS**

**PDE Academic Standards, Assessment Anchors, and Eligible Content:** The teacher must be knowledgeable of the PDE Academic Standards, Assessment Anchors, and Eligible Content and incorporate them regularly into planned instruction.

**Formative Assessments:** The teacher will utilize a variety of assessment methods to conduct in-process evaluations of student learning.

**Effective formative assessments for this course include but are not limited to:**

- Journal Entry
- Entry/Exit Ticket
- Thinking Map
- Verbal Explanation
- Observation
- Artifacts
- Reflection/Summary
- Quiz

**Summative Assessments:** The teacher will utilize a variety of assessment methods to evaluate student learning at the end of an instructional task, lesson, and/or unit.

**Effective summative assessments for this course include but are not limited to:**

- Marking Period Assessment/Final Exam
- Writing a Paper/Essay
- Performance Tasks
- Project
- Tests
- Portfolio