

# WC HISTORY DEPARTMENT



What Does WC Offer?

## THE BENEFITS OF HISTORY

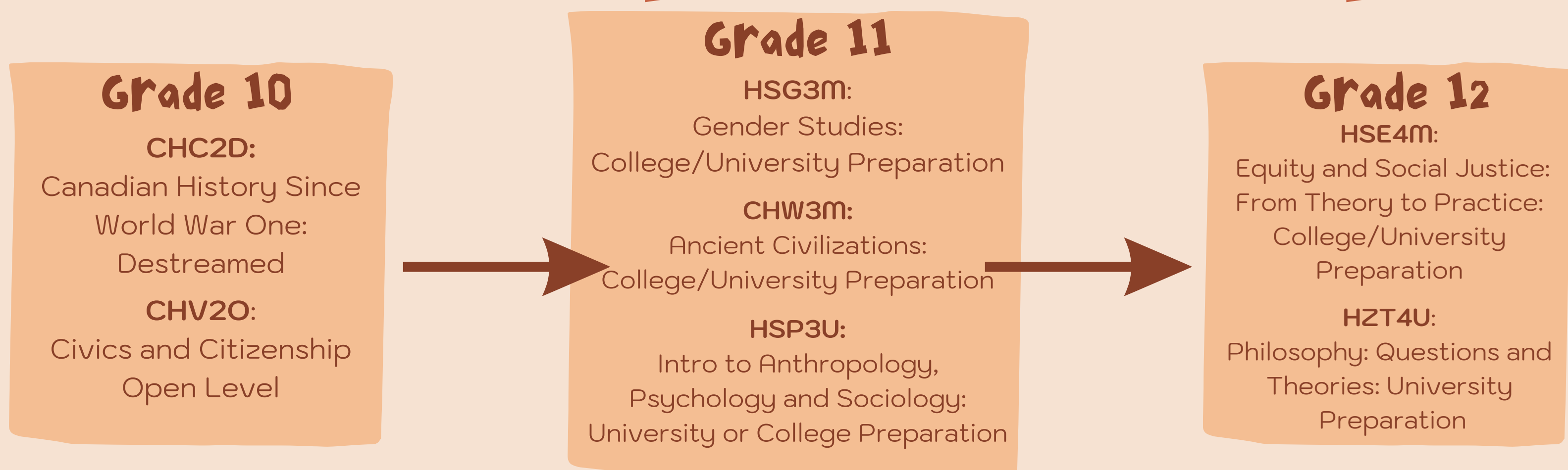
What are the benefits of taking history? This is a question that gets asked to all history teachers at some point. The reality is history is the catalyst for students to acquire the necessary skills for succeeding in the twenty first century.

In a history classroom students will learn: critical thinking, problem solving, active reading, energetic research, analytical writing and effective communication.

These transferable skills are assets to any history and social studies graduates as they are sought after by employers not only within this field, but within the field of business, politics, finance, and law.

At WC, passionate and engaging teachers use their courses to help students develop critical and creative thinking skills by having them question the world around them as they build a solid foundation to begin to take social action as global citizens in the modern age.

## Pathways in History



Best Thing About History: Only 1.5 Prerequisite Course: Grade 10 History & Grade 10 Civics!

## The Future at WC History:

Over the next few years we hope to continue to expand our history department and will be offering **Grade 11: Ancient Civilizations** next year with a focus on Africa and Asia. Over the next few years we hope to expand and offer **Indigenous History and World History Since the 15th Century** for Grade 12 students.

# GRADE 10 COURSES

What Does WC Offer in Grade 10?



## CANADIAN HISTORY SINCE WORLD WAR ONE

Canadian History is a full credit course that is a prerequisite for all courses in Grade 11/12. This course explores social, economic, and political developments and events and their impact on the lives of different individuals, groups, and communities including First Nations, Métis, and Inuit in Canada since 1914.



As students learn to critically examine the role of conflict and cooperation in Canadian society, students also explore Canada's evolving role within the global community and the impact it has had on the identities, citizenships, and heritage within Canada.

Students will have the opportunity to use the historical inquiries process as well as explore concepts and topics such as culture, technology, conflict, social justice, and reconciliation.

### What Do We Do in History?

As a department we are moving to look at history through a thematic lens, allowing students to explore common themes within history over a hundred years. Through this process we learn through:

- Debates
- Discussions
- Role Playing
- Simulations
- Podcasting

## CIVICS AND CITIZENSHIP

Civics and Citizenship is a half credit course that is run during the second or first term preceding or following the Guidance Careers course. A prerequisite course for all history courses at WC is the Civics and Citizenship course, which explores the rights and responsibilities associated with being an active citizen within Canadian society.

Students will explore issues such as community planning, environmental responsibility, and the influence of social media as they develop their understanding of civic engagement as well as political processes in the local, national and/or global community.

### What Do We Do in Civics?

In Civics we take part in a variety of activities and assignments.

Some of them include:

- Debates
- Discussions
- Social Action Plans
- Presentations

Students will apply their concepts of political thinking to investigate and express informed opinions about a range of political issues that are significant to them and the world around them.





# GRADE 11 COURSES

What Does WC Offer in Grade 11?



## HISTORY TO THE END OF THE 15TH CENTURY

Moving towards the East, History to the End of the 15th Century, or more commonly known as Ancient Civilizations, has students step into a world of excitement as they explore the history of various societies around the world from earliest times to around 1500 CE.



Students will investigate a range of factors that contributed to the rise, success, and decline of various ancient and pre-modern societies, and will examine life through the cultural and political legacies of these societies.

Focusing on our community, WC strives to provide students with the chance to learn not only about the civilizations of Ancient Greece and Rome, but to explore the civilizations within Africa, India, China and the regions of South East Asia with this course.

Students will expand on their learning of historical thinking concepts and inquiry processes through a variety of engaging and interactive activities and assignments.

### What Do We Do in Ancient Civilizations?

In Ancient Civilizations we take part in a variety of activities and assignments. Some of them include:

- Debates
- Discussions
- Role Playing
- Presentations



## GENDER STUDIES

A new course to the WC roster, Gender Studies is a University and College preparation course that enables students to explore the social construction of gender. Students will learn about the dynamic nature of gender roles and norms, sexism and power, and the impact of representation of men and women within media.

Students will also analyze the range of gender equality issues including, gender based violence and workplace inequality. Throughout these lessons, students are shown the social action movements that have been created to support or prevent an issue related to gender equity.

Through critical analysis and research skills students will begin to work towards designing and implementing a social action initiative related to gender equity.

### What Do We Do in Gender Studies?

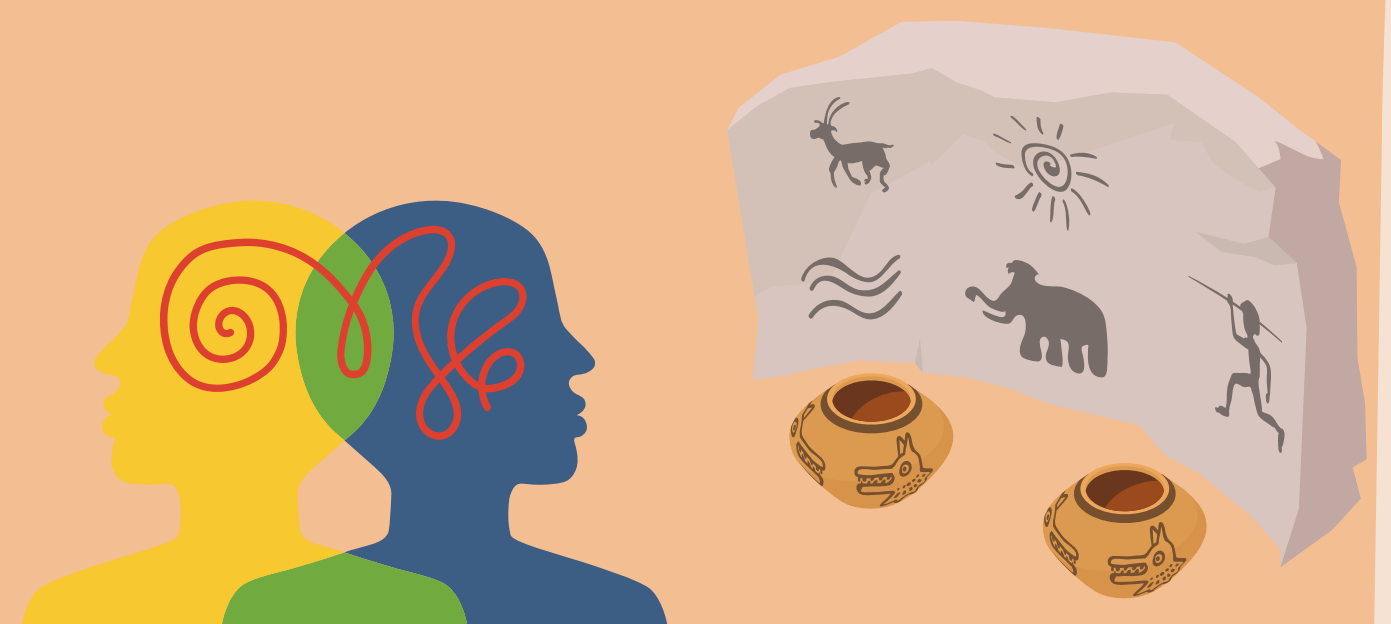
In Genders we take part in a variety of activities and assignments.

Some of them include:

- Discussions
- Role Playing
- Media Analysis
- Social Action Initiative with the School
- Creating of Personal Action Plans

## INTRO TO ANTHROPOLOGY, PSYCHOLOGY AND SOCIOLOGY

This course introduces the theories, questions, and issues that are the major concern of anthropology, psychology, and sociology. Students develop an understanding of the way social scientists approach the topics they study and the research methods they employ. Students are given opportunities to explore theories from a variety of perspectives and to become familiar with current theories on a range of issues researched by classical and contemporary social scientists in the three disciplines.





# GRADE 12 COURSES

What Does WC Offer in Grade 12?



## EQUITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE: FROM THEORY TO PRACTICE



A new course to the History Department this year, Social Justice and Equity has students develop an understanding of the theoretical, social, and historical underpinnings of various equity and social justice issues within Canada and around the world.

Within this course, students will not only analyze strategies for bringing about positive change, but will learn how they can use research skills and critical thinking skills to develop and implement their own social action to initiate within the school/community.

Topics within this course range from looking at social justice and equity issues surrounding media, popular culture, power relations, gender, and more. Moreover, throughout this course students will learn about the role of intersectionality in how we address and step up to promote social change.

### What Do We Do in Equity ?

In Equity we take part in a variety of activities and assignments.

Some of them include:

Discussions

Media Analysis

Social Action Initiative

Planning

Debate

## PHILOSOPHY: QUESTIONS AND THEORIES

This course focuses on having students acquire an understanding of the nature of philosophy and philosophical reasoning skills. The Grade 12 Philosophy: Questions and Theories course aims to have students develop and apply their knowledge while exploring the various branches of philosophy.

Focusing on at least three of the seven branches of philosophy, students can expect to develop critical thinking and philosophical reasoning skills, as they formulate and evaluate arguments related to a variety of philosophical questions and theories.

Regardless of the branches of philosophy students study, they will gain a deeper understanding of not only their own beliefs and opinions, but they will begin to delve into them as they explore a variety of different questions and theories.

### What Do We Do in Philosophy ?

In Philosophy we take part in a variety of activities and assignments.

Some of the include:

Discussions

Debate

Children Book Analysis

