Waterloo Region District School Board

FOREST HEIGHTS COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE

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**COURSE TITLE – Futures Forum: ENG2DU, GLC2OU, CHV2OU**

**Course Overview 2013 - 2014**

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**Course Type:** Futures Forum **Grade Level:** 10

**Teacher:** R. Waldeck **Department:** English

**Textbook:** (optional)

**Course Description:**

The Futures Forum is an inquiry-focused, project based, integrated approach to learning. It is focused on the development and implementation of an integrated grade 10 English, Careers and Civics course where students will earn credits in all 3 courses.

In this course, students will use communication skills (English) to promote themselves (Careers) as they make a difference in the world (Civics). The students in FFP will collaborate with one another and peers from other schools online through a variety of projects. While the students will follow the Ontario curriculum, there will be a focus on developing their 21st century skills through the use of technology to further prepare them for the future.

**Course Structure:**

• **Guided Inquiries-** These involve opportunities for students across participating schools to use technology to interact and work together.

• **Independent Inquiries-** These self-directed tasks provide students with opportunities to meet course expectations independently and shape learning based on their interests.

• **Portfolios-** Portfolios allow students to engage in learning of interest to them and supports sharing with an on-line digital community.

• **Culminating Project-** Students demonstrate mastery of Civics, Careers, and English expectations; independent inquiry, personally relevant learning and the use of technology as an effective collaboration tool.

**UNITS OF STUDY or BIG IDEAS**

**English** • News Report and Research Skills (Informal Essay)

• On-line Magazine

• Novel Study (Screenplay)

• Book Club (5 paragraph formal essay)

• Romeo & Juliet

• Creative Writing & Poetry

**Civics** • Non-Violent Civil Action

• Forms of Government

• Build Your Own Country and/ or Civic Mirror

**Careers** • Job Exploration

• Resumes, Interviews, and Cover Letters

• Digital Portfolio and Footprint

**ESSENTIAL COURSE COMPONENTS**

*To be successful in this course you must be able to demonstrate all of the following skills:*

* Listen in order to understand and respond appropriately, use speaking skills and strategies to effectively communicate, and reflect on and identify strengths as listeners and speakers.
* Read and demonstrate an understanding of a variety of texts, and recognize a variety of text forms and features.
* Generate, gather, and organize ideas and information to write for an intended audience, draft, revise and edit their writing.
* Demonstrate an understanding of a variety of media texts, identify media forms, and create a variety of media texts
* Demonstrate an understanding of the need for democracy, explain the rights and responsibilities associated with Canadian citizenship, describe the main structures of government, and explain what it means to be a “global citizen”.
* Use a self-assessment process to develop a personal profile for use in career development planning, use a research process to locate and select relevant career information, and use appropriate decision-making and planning processes to set goals and develop a career plan.

**ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION:**

A variety of assessment tasks will be used to evaluate student progress.

* **Late and Missed Assignments** – To achieve success in this course, all essential course components must be demonstrated. Incomplete work is **NOT** an option.
* **Cheating and Plagiarism** – It is important for students to do their own best work. If a student is suspected of cheating or plagiarizing, the teacher in consultation with administration, will determine the next steps and/or consequences.
* **Learning Skills and Work Habits** – The areas of Responsibility, Organization, Independent Work, Collaboration, Initiative, and Self-regulation are important and will be assessed and reflected on the provincial report card.
* **Attendance**– Attendance and punctuality in classes are important parts of learning and an expectation of student behaviour. Lates are to be avoided to benefit from full instructional time and not disrupt other’s learning time. When a student is absent, a parent/guardian must call the school’s attendance line on the date of absence, or provide a note explaining the absence for the student to submit the following day. Students are responsible for missed work during their absence.

The final mark will be determined as follows:

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| --- | --- |
| **CATEGORY**  **English:** | **WEIGHT** |
| Writing | 20% |
| Reading | 15% |
| Media | 20% |
| Oral | 15% |
| **Culminating Project**  **Civics:** | **30%** |
| Informed Citizenship | 25% |
| Purposeful Citizenship | 20% |
| Active Citizenship | 25% |
| **Culminating Project**  **Careers:** | **30%** |
| Personal Management | 25% |
| Exploration of Opportunities | 20% |
| Preparation for Transitions and Change | 25% |
| **Culminating Project** | **30%** |