

# Course Expectations Planning Guide

## Social Studies

### 515 Exploring Global Issues

---

Please Note: All listed information is intended to provide a general guideline for students in planning their course load. All information provided will vary according to the individual study needs and academic motivation. Events and responsibilities may vary year-to-year.

#### **Time Commitment**

3-4 hours per week

#### **Standard Responsibilities**

The purpose of this course is to give select interested students the opportunity to examine some of the most significant global issues in today's world and connect them to similar issues on the local level. Integrally linked to this academic study is the required involvement of students in service-learning within their community with the goal of creating informed, active, and responsible citizens. In order to accomplish this two-pronged goal, the district's SERVE program (with its 100+ available outreach programs) will be utilized to provide students a rich set of options for the 25 mandated hours of service learning, combined with an academic program focusing on sustainability (especially relating to air, food, energy, and water), children and women's issues, and environmental issues. Guest speakers will present to combined North/South students twice a month on Thursday. Students should be self-motivated, independent thinkers and problem solvers, and have the desire to actively work on viable solutions. Although homework is necessary in any high school course, because of the service learning component, our goal is to keep homework to a very manageable level. To help meet the service hours' obligation, students will be able to leave early on multiple designated Thursdays throughout the semester to help them with travel time to their field placement.

#### **Significant Events**

Service Learning with student's selected local organization; group projects/presentations; Guest speakers; weekly reflections; "course country" global current event; short final exam reflection