**Ethics and Social Justice 2106~2015-2016
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**Course Overview:**

In this course students discuss the concepts of social justice and social activism and the role ethics may play in social justice issues. Students examine the roots and influences, including religious and spiritual, of social activism and responses to social justice

issues.

**Course Objectives:**

1.Students will be expected to examine the historical impact of religion on beliefs, cultures and traditions.

2.Students will be expected to develop an understanding of the beliefs, principles and practices of Christianity and other living belief systems.

3.Students will be expected to examine the meaning and relevance of sacred texts.

4.Students will be expected to demonstrate an appreciation for personal search, commitment and meaning in life.

5.Students will be expected to examine moral and ethical issues and teachings.

6.Students will be expected to develop an appreciation for the connectedness of all creation.

7.Students will be expected to demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between religion and science.

8.Students will be expected to examine the influence of religion on contemporary issues and events.

**Evaluation Scheme:**

Assignments: 70%

Journal: 30%

**Required Materials:**

A binder and loose leaf for note-taking, activities, handouts, questions, and journals.

**Required Texts:**

*Ethics & Social Justice: Selected Readings* (2010)

**Tentative Year Plan:**

Unit one-Perspectives-September

*-Harry Stottlemeier’s Discovery*

*-Rock of Hate*

*-Interfaith Shabbat*

*-Exploration of Key Terms*

*-What is a Social Activist?*

*-Turn your World Around*

*-Where do Ethics come from?*

*-Investigating voices of empathy*

*-Happy New year*

*-A star player goes offline*

Assignments

-Presentation on a social activist

-Movie-*American History X*

Unit Two-Connections-September and October

-*Diversity story*

*-Gender Roles*

*-Women in time*

*-Girl Interrupted*

*-Rich woman, poor woman*

*-Sexuality*

*-Speaking out about gay rights in Iran*

*-The Matthew Sheppard Story*

*-Rights*

*-Making his mark*

*-Family*

*-Designer Baby or problem child*

*-How do you spell family*

*-The pope calls on the media to promote ethics*

*-Going to church in second life*

*-Organ donation*

*-Not much new in Darfur*

Assignments

-Family Tree

-Movies-*My Sister’s Keeper* and *Boys Don’t Cry*

Unit three-Peace and Security-November

-*My Father’s Dream*

*-Our* *common ground*

*-Executive summary*

*-Giving hate a body check*

*-Uplifting music for the difficult night*

*-Social responsibility quiz*

*-Security and social action*

*-The evil one*

*-Politics on negotiating rights in Canada*

*-Feelings of a child*

*-Rajvi’s story*

*-Voices of Empathy*

*-Mikmaq in the news*

*-Dulce et Decorum est*

*-Reinhard Heydrich*

*-Never Again*

Assignment-Multicultural Day

-Ethical issue poster

-Movie-*Bowling for Columbine*

Unit Four-The Environment-December

-*The ultimate Christmas gift*

*-Plant for the planet*

*-Climate change*

*-Faith based views*

*-Green sacred spaces*

*-What is being said*

*--The consequence of choice*

*-Going natural*

*-Eat responsibly*

*-Media in background*

Unit Five-Value-December and January

-*The Solitary Fisherman*

*-The institutionalization of Poverty*

*-Behind every hungry child*

*-On seeing ability not disability*

*-Misel Joe*

*-Redemption song*

*-Faith based views*

*-On Holy Ground*

*-Going global*

*-Heroes not holidays*

*-Craig’s Spark*

*-Where is Hunga Munga*

Assignments: Essay, Values Auction, PSA video