

Course Title: Exploring Social Change Through Circle Keeping

Teacher: Aaron Kaio

Hour 4 - Semester 1 - 2021/22

0.5 Social Studies Credit

COURSE INFORMATION:

Click [here](#) to hear Aaron talk about his class!

Essential Question: How does and might circle keeping be used to change the world?

Course Description:

In this course students will learn how to be circle keepers. This will include the study of philosophies related to circle keeping, the study of current local and national initiatives organized around circle keeping and social justice issues, and hearing from prominent circle keepers working in our community.

Also, students will adapt and/or create a system of circle keeping for the school. This would include student requested circles, teacher requested circles, circles for conflicts, and circles to discuss important topics in the community.

Furthermore, during the quarter, the class will pursue local groups to engage them in circle discussions.

At different times during the quarter students will engage with the community on a series of student and school created circles.

Prerequisites: None

Method of Instruction: Discussion

Course Objectives (standards):

Explore opportunities, informed by the knowledge and methods of the social sciences, for personal or collaborative civic engagement with community, school, state, tribal, national, and/or global implications.

Initiate and participate effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.

Work with peers to set rules for collegial discussions and decision-making (e.g., informal consensus, taking votes on key issues, presentation of alternate views), clear goals and deadlines, and individual roles as needed.

Propel conversations by posing and responding to questions that relate the current discussion to broader themes or larger ideas; actively incorporate others into the discussion; and clarify, verify, or challenge ideas and conclusions.

Respond thoughtfully to diverse perspectives, summarize points of agreement and disagreement, and, when warranted, qualify or justify their own views and understanding and make new connections in light of the evidence and reasoning presented.

***SEL Standard:* I can show respect for and identify multiple points of views or perspectives**

Graduate Vision Competencies: Effective Communicator