

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS - Grade 9

(NOTE: Copies of all outlines of courses of study are available in the school office for parental perusal. Curriculum documents can be accessed on the Ministry of Education website.)

Grade 9

All Grade 9 courses are compulsory with the exception of BTT1O Information and Communication Technology in Business. Students will select one of three courses for their compulsory arts credit: Dramatic Arts, Instrumental Music, or Visual Arts. Students who are enrolled in our ESL program will be required to take Learning Strategies 1 (GLS1O) instead of French (FSF1D or FSF1O).

ADA1O – Dramatic Arts (open)

This course provides opportunities for students to explore dramatic forms and techniques, using material from a wide range of sources and cultures. Students will use the elements of drama to examine situations and issues that are relevant to their lives. Students will create, perform, discuss, and analyze drama, and then reflect on the experiences to develop an understanding of themselves, the art form, and the world around them. *Prerequisite: None* *Text: Everything About Theatre* (Meriwether Publishing)

AMU1O - Instrumental Music (open)

This course emphasizes the creation and performance of music at a level consistent with previous experience and is aimed at developing technique, sensitivity, and imagination. Students will develop musical literacy skills by using the creative and critical analysis processes in composition, performance, and a range of reflective and analytical activities. Students will develop an understanding of the conventions and elements of music and of safe practices related to music, and will develop a variety of skills transferable to other areas of their life.

Pre-requisite: None *Text: None*

AMU3O - Performance Music (open)

This course develops students' musical literacy through performance and the preparation and presentation of music productions. Students will perform works at a level consistent with previous experience. Independently and collaboratively, students will use current technology and the creative and critical analysis processes to plan, produce, present, and market musical productions. Students will respond to, reflect on, and analyze music from various genres and periods, and they will develop skills transferable to other aspects of their life and their careers.

Pre-requisite: None *Text: None*

AVI1O - Visual Arts (open)

This course is exploratory in nature, offering an overview of visual arts as a foundation for further study. Students will become familiar with the elements and principles of design and the expressive qualities of various materials by using a range of media, processes, techniques, and styles. Students will use the creative and critical analysis processes and will interpret art within a personal, contemporary, and historical context.

Pre-requisite: None *Text: None*

BTT1O – Information and Communication Technology in Business (open)

This course introduces students to information and communication technology in a business environment and builds a foundation of digital literacy skills necessary for success in a technologically driven society. Students will develop word processing, spreadsheet, database, desktop publishing, presentation software, and website design skills. Throughout the course, there is an emphasis on digital literacy, effective electronic research and communication skills, and current issues related to the impact of information and communication technology.

Pre-requisite: None *Text: None*

CGC1D – Issues in Canadian Geography (compulsory, academic)

This course examines interrelationships within and between Canada's natural and human systems and how these systems interconnect with those in other parts of the world. Students will explore environmental, economic, and social geographic issues relating to topics such as transportation options, energy choices, and urban development. Students will apply the concepts of geographic thinking and the geographic inquiry process, including spatial technologies, to investigate various geographic issues and to develop possible approaches for making Canada a more sustainable place in which to live.

Pre-requisite: None *Text:* *Making Connections* (Pearson), *Canadian Oxford School Atlas 9th ed.* (Oxford)

ENG1D - English (compulsory, academic)

This course is designed to develop the oral communication, reading, writing, and media literacy skills that students need for success in their secondary school academic programs and in their daily lives. Students will analyze literary texts from contemporary and historical periods, interpret informational and graphic texts, and create oral, written, and media texts in a variety of forms. An important focus will be on the use of strategies that contribute to effective communication. The course is intended to prepare students for the Grade 10 academic English course which leads to university or college preparation courses in Grades 11 and 12.

Pre-requisite: None *Texts:* *The Pearl* (Penguin), *Romeo and Juliet* (Oxford), *Animal Farm* (Penguin), *Bible (NIV)*

FSF1D - French (compulsory, academic)

This course provides opportunities for students to communicate and interact in French with increasing independence, with a focus on familiar topics related to their daily lives. Students will develop their skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing by using language learning strategies introduced in the elementary Core French program, and will apply creative and critical thinking skills in various ways. They will also enhance their understanding and appreciation of diverse French-speaking communities, and will develop skills necessary for lifelong language learning.

Pre-requisite: Minimum of 600 hours of French instruction, or equivalent

Text: *Discovering French (Blanc)* (Heath), *English/French Dictionary* (Larousse)

FSF1O - French (compulsory, open)

This is an introductory course for students who have little or no knowledge of French or who have not accumulated the minimum of 600 hours of elementary Core French instruction. Students will begin to understand and speak French in guided and structured interactive settings, and will develop fundamental skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing through discussing issues and situations that are relevant to their daily lives. Throughout the course, students will develop their awareness of diverse French-speaking communities in Canada and acquire an understanding and appreciation of these communities. They will also develop a variety of skills necessary for lifelong language learning.

Pre-requisite: None *Text:* *Discovering French (Blanc)* (Heath), *English/French Dictionary* (Larousse)

GLS1O – Learning Strategies 1: Skills for Success in Secondary School

This course teaches students how to develop and achieve personal goals for future learning, work, and community involvement. Students will assess their interests, skills, and characteristics and investigate current economic and workplace trends, work opportunities, and ways to search for work. The course explores postsecondary learning and career options, prepares students for managing work and life transitions, and helps students focus on their goals through the development of a career plan.

Pre-requisite: None *Text:* *Learn Smart: Strategies to Succeed in School and Life* (Emond Montgomery)

MPM1D - Mathematics (compulsory, academic)

This course enables students to develop an understanding of mathematical concepts related to algebra, analytic geometry, and measurement and geometry through investigation, the effective use of technology, and abstract reasoning. Students will investigate relationships, which they will then generalize as equations of lines, and will determine the connections between different representations of a linear relation. They will also explore relationships that emerge from the measurement of three-dimensional figures and two-dimensional shapes. Students will reason mathematically and communicate their thinking as they solve multi-step problems.

Pre-requisite: None *Text:* *Principles of Mathematics 9* (McGraw-Hill Ryerson)

PPL1O - Healthy Active Living Education (compulsory, open)

This course equips students with the knowledge and skills they need to make healthy choices now and lead healthy, active lives in the future. Through participation in a wide range of physical activities, students develop knowledge and skills related to movement competence and personal fitness that provide a foundation for active living. Students also acquire an understanding of the factors and skills that contribute to healthy development and learn how their well-being is affected by, and affects, the world around them. Students build their sense of self, learn to interact positively with others, and develop their ability to think critically and creatively.

Pre-requisite: None *Text:* None

SNC1D - Science (compulsory, academic)

This course enables students to develop their understanding of basic concepts in biology, chemistry, earth and space science, and physics, and to relate science to technology, society, and the environment. Throughout the course, students will develop their skills in the processes of scientific investigation. Students will acquire an understanding of scientific theories and conduct investigations related to sustainable ecosystems; atomic and molecular structures and the properties of elements and compounds; the study of the universe and its properties and components; and the principles of electricity.

Pre-requisite: None *Text:* *Investigating Science 9* (Pearson)