

École Secondaire **Victoria High** School

**Grade 9**  
**Course Selection Handbook**



**Find your passion at Vic High!**

See our extensive list of possibilities for electives and programs in Liberal Arts; Fine Arts, Design and Media; Trades and Technology; Sciences and Applied Sciences; Athletics; and so much more!



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More information on our website: [www.vichigh.sd61.bc.ca](http://www.vichigh.sd61.bc.ca)

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- ❑ **May I take grade 10 electives?** Yes! All of your elective options are listed in this handbook.
- ❑ **How do I apply for Honours classes?** Put them on your course request after discussing it with your parents and your current teacher. You should have a B or better in that course in Middle School.
- ❑ **Some courses are linear. What does that mean?** The course runs all year long. They can be inside or outside of the timetable
- ❑ **What are “outside of the timetable” courses?** These elective classes run before school, at lunch or after school. (See the back page for timetable examples.)
- ❑ **May a grade 9 student have a spare?** All grade 9 and 10 students must have a full timetable and may not have a spare. Talk to a counsellor or an administrator if there are extenuating circumstances.
- ❑ **How will I know what courses I have in grade 9?** Timetables will be delivered to the Middle Schools in June.
- ❑ **I need extra help.** Learning support blocks are available for designated students. The Vic High staff meets with the middle school teachers to determine those blocks. We also have tutorial help in room 207 for all students Monday through Thursday at lunch time called Learning Over Lunch (LOL). Learning Over Lunch is run by a teacher and support staff.

The following courses are those available for our grade 9 students. This guide is to help you choose courses you are interested in as well as fulfill the requirements towards your Vic High graduation.

## FRENCH IMMERSION

### FRANÇAIS LANGUE 9

Le cours Français Langue 9 a été conçu afin d’aider les élèves à développer leur connaissance de la langue et de la culture française. Le cours met l’accent non seulement sur l’apprentissage de la grammaire et de l’écriture, mais aussi sur les jeux, la musique et les films en français. La combinaison de ces éléments contribue au plaisir d’étudier en Immersion française!

Français Langue 9 has been designed to help develop students’ knowledge of French language and culture. The course focuses not only on grammar and writing skills, but also on games, music and movies to help make French language learning fun!

### SCIENCES HUMAINES 9

Le cours de Sciences Humaines 9 permet aux élèves de comprendre comment les problèmes et les événements locaux, régionaux et mondiaux ont façonné le monde dans lequel ils vivent. Les élèves étudieront la période allant de 1750 à 1919, ainsi que les régions physiographiques du Canada.

Socials 9 will allow students to gain an understanding of how local, regional and global issues and events have shaped the world in which they live. Students will study the period between 1750 and 1919, as well as the physiographic regions of Canada.

### ÉDUCATION PHYSIQUE 9

En Éducation Physique 9 les élèves de l’Immersion française pourront participer à des activités sportives tout en pratiquant le français parlé et en apprenant un nouveau vocabulaire. Les élèves participeront à une variété d’activités individuelles et de groupes, et étudieront les habitudes de santé personnelle de jeunes adultes. Le but du cours est de participer à une variété de sports et d’acquérir une attitude positive à l’égard de l’activité physique.

Education physique 9 allows French immersion students to participate in sport activities while continuing to develop their spoken French and French vocabulary. Students will participate in a number of different individual and team activities and will learn how to maintain a healthy lifestyle as young adults. The goal of this course is to participate in a variety of different activities and to develop positive attitudes around physical activity.

NOTE: Student choice plays a huge role in deciding the activities done in this course but here is a list of options students will have to choose from: yoga, pilates, volleyball, basketball, field hockey, aerobics, dance, gymnastics, flag football, badminton, tai chi, aerobic dance, and floor hockey.

# BUSINESS AND APPLIED BUSINESS

## COMPUTERS

### COMPUTER STUDIES 10

Video games are not just fun to play but fun to create. The video game industry is a booming area and is quickly becoming one of the largest markets of the entertainment industry. Students will learn to develop sprites (character animations) and apply these animations to have characters interact with keyboard and joystick controls. Programming using software called "game maker" will be developed and students will complete the course with an arcade style game. Students will also get a chance to explore industry standard animation and drawing software to further develop their multimedia abilities. Although this is an introductory course, a wide range of abilities will be accommodated due to the project style nature of the course.

## FINE ARTS & DESIGN

### VISUAL ART / DANCE / DRAMA / MUSIC / TEXTILES

#### ART 9

Discover your hidden talents. A foundation course for students with little formal art experience who wish to explore art concepts and build skills in drawing, painting, printmaking, pottery and sculpture. Material might include graphite, coloured pencil, charcoal, pastel, watercolour, acrylic, styrofoam, lino, clay... You will discover many approaches to expressing yourself visually. Students with extensive art experience should register in Visual Arts 10.

#### DANCE: BEGINNER 10

Instruction in the fundamentals of dance technique in Jazz, Hip Hop, Modern, Tap, Ballet and Ethnic, with an emphasis on body alignment, movement, vocabulary, performance skills and artistic expression. Performance and backstage experience are considered mandatory components of Beginner Dance. Dance classes are based on skill level and therefore multi-grade. Performance Opportunities: Festival Competition, Evening of Dance, VHS school events and VHS Give Back Program.

#### DANCE: INTERMEDIATE 10

A further development of dance techniques and skills in Jazz, Hip Hop, Contemporary, Modern, Tap, Ethnic and Ballet with an emphasis on performance skills and artistic expression. This course will include a brief survey of Dance History and an Independent Study Project of student's choice. Performance and backstage experience are considered mandatory components of Intermediate Dance. Dance classes are based on skill level and therefore multi-grade. Please speak to a school counsellor to see if you have enough dance skill for this level. Performance Opportunities: Festival Competition, Evening of Dance, VHS School Events and VHS Give Back Program.

#### DANCE PERFORMANCE 10

This course offers instruction in advanced technique within a diverse selection of dance genres with emphasis on performance skills, injury prevention, artistic expression and musicality. This course includes a brief introduction to Dance Criticism; Resume and Audition Preparation; and a Research Project of student's choice. Performance and backstage experience are considered mandatory components of Advanced Dance. Classes are based on skill level and therefore multi-grade. Please speak to a school counsellor to see if you have enough dance skills for this level. Performance Opportunities: Festival Competition, Evening of Dance, VHS School Events and VHS Give Back Program.

#### INTRODUCTORY DRAMA 10: THEATRE PERFORMANCE

Drama 10 is an introduction to secondary theatre. The focus of the course will be on team building and developing an understanding of drama. Students will study stage fighting, improvisation, role drama, characterization and play building.

#### MUSIC 9: CONCERT BAND

This program is designed for students who play an instrument. Students will be evaluated on participation/effort, attitude, behaviour, attendance and the development and improvement of technical skills and musicianship, as well as theory. Topics of study include ear training, music theory, development of listening skills, sight-reading and instrumental performance techniques.

#### MUSIC 10: CONCERT CHOIR

No choral experience is necessary! This is an opportunity to experience a variety of music styles from many periods, including madrigal, folk, popular and gospel/spiritual. Come and experience this delightful class. Units



in musicology, music history, theory, sight-reading and rudiments are taught and tested. This course is designed to enhance the choral skills of all participants and happens outside of the timetable.

### **MUSIC 10: JAZZ/RHYTHM & BLUES BAND**

Music 10: Jazz Band/Rhythm & Blues Band provides students with an opportunity to perform music in jazz, swing, rock and pop styles. Members of this band must also be members of Concert Band 10. (In special situations, the band instructor may waive this requirement.)

### **TEXTILES 10**

This course is designed for the BEGINNING sewing student who has little or no previous experience. Students will learn to safely use the tools and equipment needed to produce both clothing and craft items. Students will make a minimum of 2 pieces of clothing as well as craft and home décor items. Students will learn about fabrics and commercial patterns and the elements and principles of design and their application to textiles items and will also examine textile items from a variety of cultures. If you want to learn how to sew in a fun and creative environment then this is the class for you. A list of recommended supplies will be provided at the beginning of the course.

## **FITNESS & RECREATION**

*PHYSICAL EDUCATION / STRENGTH TRAINING / TEAMS*

### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION 9**

Students have the opportunity to develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes that contribute to living a healthy and active lifestyle. Student will participate in activities to help promote the benefits of lifelong physical activity including: individual activities, dual activities, as well as games and rhythmic movement activities such as volleyball, basketball, badminton, yoga, soccer, strength training, circuit training and active health

## **HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES**

### **YOGA FOR MINDFULNESS 9**

Yoga for mindfulness is a holistic pursuit of wellness. In this course, students will experience the health benefits of yoga and develop their well-being and personal management skills - skills which will help them to balance school, work and other life priorities. Students will use yoga, meditation, breathing techniques and mindfulness to learn more about themselves. They will learn to identify the precursors of stress and learn how to release them more easily. The course will also include an introduction to the history of yoga, yogic philosophy, anatomy and physiology.

### **LEADERSHIP 9**

Leadership 9 students have the opportunity to get out and involve themselves in numerous school, community and global events. Through participation in this course grade 9 students will have the opportunity to be mentored by older students who will model sound methods of goal setting, public engagement, team joining and team leadership practices. Students will also assist in the planning and implementation stages of school, community and globally based events.

### **ATHLETIC LEADERSHIP 10**

Athletic Leadership is designed to give students the opportunity to develop their individual and collective sense of social responsibility through the acquisition of leadership skills and theory specific to the field of athletics. Students will develop practical skills relating to event management, officiating and team managing. Students will have opportunities to practice and improve these skills through a strong involvement in their own school as well as exploring community athletics.

## **LIBERAL ARTS**

*ENGLISH / MODERN LANGUAGES / SOCIAL STUDIES*

### **ENGLISH 9**

Working individually and collaboratively, students will explore a variety of oral, visual, digital and written texts, including First Peoples and Canadian perspectives, and reflect on their different purposes, audiences and messages. Students will synthesize an understanding of the social, cultural and personal connections of the texts by extending their critical thinking skills through inquiry and other creative avenues. The writing process and conventions of language in a multi-paragraph format, and other presentation techniques, will be applied by students to explain their understanding of the various texts.

**All students should complete English classes in the recommended pre-requisite order.**

## ENGLISH 9 HONOURS

In English 9 Honours, students are exposed to a wider variety of more advanced thematically based literature, in addition to some of the regular curriculum texts. The craft of academic paragraph and essay writing is emphasized as well as some creative writing. The course affords students the opportunity to develop inquiry based thinking skills and extended critical thinking skills. This course is appropriate for students who have an ability to read fluently, a willingness to participate in discussion using critical thinking skills, and enjoy a challenge in English.

**Placement in English Honours is based upon student choice and recommendation from teachers.**

## CREATIVE WRITING 10

Writing 10 is for students who love to write. It is also open to Grade 9 students who have a flair for writing. They will explore, and experiment with several forms of creative writing in order to improve their own style. Professional writers will be brought in to give workshops to the students. At the end of the course, each student will create a magazine about their particular passion.

## FRENCH 9

Build your knowledge of the French language and culture. This is a course for those with little experience with French. It will continue the introduction to spoken and written work. Students will learn basic vocabulary, pronunciation, sentence structure, reading and writing. Theme-based projects on food, music, sports, travel and film will be included.

## JAPANESE 10

Japanese 10 is open to students in Grade 9 and 10, and is an introductory level course which covers speaking, listening, reading and writing. Students will be learning hiragana, katakana and approximately 50 kanji (Chinese characters). Students will also look at cultural topics such as sumo, anime, karaoke and traditional arts. No prior knowledge of Japanese language is required.

## SPANISH 9

Did you know that almost half of the population in the Western Hemisphere speaks Spanish? Why not prepare yourself for future travel? In Spanish 9, students learn basic vocabulary, pronunciation, sentence structure, reading and writing. Students enjoy films, music and discussions about Spanish and Latin American culture. This course is geared towards students who have never taken Spanish before.

## SOCIAL STUDIES 9

Social Studies 9 considers a wide range of thematic topics that not only explain Canada's development as a nation from 1750 to 1919, but also provides a foundation for deeper exploration of places, people, and history beyond our borders.

Thematic topics of study include:

- political, social, economic and technological revolutions
- the continuing effects of imperialism and colonialism
- patterns of migration and population growth
- the development of nationalism
- local, regional, and global conflicts
- discriminatory policies, attitudes, and historical wrongdoings

There are also opportunities for discussion of current Canadian political and social issues.

## SOCIAL STUDIES 9 HONOURS

Social Studies 9 Honours explores the same thematic and historical content as SS9 while providing highly motivated students an opportunity to explore the driving concepts of the course in greater depth and with increased independence.

As a result of a willingness to engage with course content beyond the classroom, students will have more time to connect historical content to current political and social issues and to complete more self-directed studies.

## SCIENCE and APPLIED SCIENCE

MATHEMATICS / SCIENCES

### SCIENCE 9

This course will be divided into four units. The chemistry unit deals with atoms, elements and compounds. The biology unit covers cell division and reproduction. The physics unit consists of an investigation of electricity. The fourth unit is a study of astronomy. Students will also work on scientific method and experimental design.

### SCIENCE 9 HONOURS

A Science 9 Honours class will be offered to highly motivated student with an A or a high B in Science 8 and Mathematics 8.

### MATH 9

This course completes the grade 7 to 9 module of the Western Canada Protocol Mathematics Curriculum. Course content includes operations with rational numbers, similarity, polynomials, equations and inequalities, linear functions, circle geometry, and statistics. Upon completion of this course students must choose which Mathematics stream to continue on with: Apprenticeship and Workplace Mathematics 10 or Common Grade 10 course (Foundations of Mathematics and Pre-calculus 10). In order to ensure success in mathematics, the mathematics department recommends that students wishing to proceed to Foundations of Mathematics and Pre-calculus 10 achieve at least 73% in Mathematics 9. For more information, see the Math Pathways chart on the back page.

### MATH 9 HONOURS

The curriculum is the same as Mathematics 9. This is a rigorous course designed to expand on the theories and problem-solving skills as prescribed in the Mathematics 9 curriculum. Students should have earned a B grade or higher in grade 8 math.

### NUMERACY 9

This course is designed for students who struggle with mathematics and need to review a number of concepts from earlier grades. At the conclusion of this course it is expected that students will be able to perform basic operations, demonstrate application and problem-solving skills and be ready to take regular Mathematics 9. Topics covered include: whole and decimal numbers, integers, fractions, decimals, percent, measurement, perimeter, circumference, surface area, volume, exponents, solving equations, ratio, rate, unit cost, geometry, trigonometry, graphing and data analysis and probability.

**Students concerned about their math course selection should check with their grade 8 math teacher.**

## TOURISM, HOSPITALITY AND FOODS

### FOOD STUDIES 10

You will start with breakfasts and baking, move into lunch and dinner menus and finish the course with desserts. You will have lots of hands on learning as you make a wide variety of delicious foods.

## TRADES & TECHNOLOGY

SHOP COURSES and HAIRDRESSING

### ART METAL/ JEWELLERY 10

Students will create jewellery and unique personal projects for themselves and their homes. Techniques include enamel bead making, rings, soldering, chain making, two and three dimensional wirework and much more!

**NOTE:** students will be supplied with the materials to complete the requirements of the course.

### INTRODUCTORY ELECTRONICS 10

Learn about electronics in a fun and creative environment. Gain the knowledge of how electrical and electronic things work. You will learn about components such as resistors, capacitors, transistors and flashing LEDs. Besides being able to build a project such as an electronic shocker, you'll build your own robot to battle against the rest of the class in our arena.

### INTRODUCTORY MECHANICS 10 (POWER MECHANICS)

This course is designed to give students valuable knowledge about the realm of the internal combustion engine as it is used extensively in modern societies. Students will learn about the theoretical and practical aspects of these engines, and they will develop valuable skills through the hands-on small engine disassembly and

reassembly lab work. As time and skill development permits, students may be able to provide their own small engine projects for repair in our shop facility.

### **INTRODUCTORY METALWORK 10**

Students will learn metalwork techniques on the construction of decorative projects. Emphasis will be on the creativity and design prior to building. Students will learn to use lathes, milling machines, grinders, drill pressers and welding equipment, along with sheet metal and hand tools throughout the semester.

### **INTRODUCTORY WOODWORK 10**

Students will make a variety of projects from wood. They will make a display table, a box, a bowl, and other projects. Students will learn the safe operation of the wood shop tools, as well as finishing of their projects. There is no cost for standard materials (alder, soft wood etc.) however, if students wish to use the more expensive woods (oak, black walnut, padauk etc.) they will be charged for these supplies.

### **INTRODUCTORY AUTOBODY 10**

The Auto body 10 Exploration course gives students the opportunity to participate in a hands-on experience working on and repairing a vehicle's fender and bumper. Skills and activities that are introduced include: welding, panel and dent repair, surface preparation, painting and auto detailing. This course is a great introduction to the Auto body 11 and 12 courses, which are part of Vic High's renowned Career Preparation Auto body Program. Students who excel in the program have the opportunity to participate in Vic High's ACE IT program where it is possible to finish the first year of an apprenticeship in Auto Collision Repair while still attending high school.

### **SKILLED TRADES EXPLORATION 10**

Through project based learning, students will be introduced to a variety of trades. Carpentry, electrical, plumbing and joinery trades will be explored through hands-on projects which include: building your own toolbox, small house framing, residential wiring and plumbing. Students will start to develop the knowledge and skills required to obtain and maintain a job in a related trade area. Various aspects of the construction industry will be discussed as well as job site expectations. Students who demonstrate the appropriate knowledge, attitude and skills during the course will have the opportunity to participate in a job shadow or work experience placement in a trade they are interested in.

### **HAIRDRESSING PROGRAM**

The Hairdressing Program not only enables you to get your Grade 12 graduation but also sets you on your way towards becoming a licensed hairdresser. With careful and early planning of course programs, students will have the opportunity to complete requirements for both university entrance and career preparation. Students receive their training in a state of the art, well-equipped salon. This program begins in the grade 11 year but there is an Introductory Hairdressing course students may explore in grade 10.

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## **STUDENT SUPPORT**

### **RESOURCE / LEARNING STRATEGIES**

#### **RESOURCE ROOM / SUPPORT BLOCKS**

Resource time is available for students of all grades who have an Individual Education Plan (IEP) and is considered to be an elective in grade 9. Students will receive assistance from a teacher and Educational Assistants. The Resource Room can support student learning in the following ways:

- Extra support in timetabled courses
- Improved organizational and time management skills
- Learning strategies and study skills
- Adapted and / or modified courses.

Our Student Support team will be in contact with the middle schools in the spring to coordinate the transition from Middle to High School. Parents concerned about placement in these courses should contact a School Counsellor.

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## **TEACHER ADVISORY GROUP**

**(TAG)**

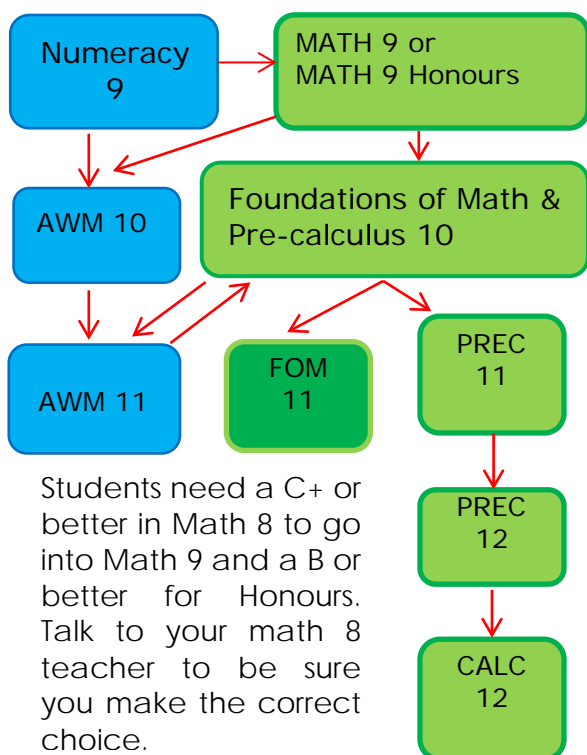
Students are grouped together with a Homeroom teacher and will stay with that group for all four years at Vic High. Many activities happen in TAG throughout the year such as getting reports cards. It also acts as an advisory regarding courses and preparation for graduation.



## REMINDERS

- Students must select 8 courses within the timetable.
- Other course options are available outside of the timetable (our regular school day). Clubs and teams are not considered courses.
- Choose your courses carefully keeping in mind your skill level and your interests.
- Try new things and find your passion!

## Math Pathways



### LEGEND

#### Apprenticeship & Workplace Math 11

Used for graduation, workforce and some college programs (upgrading is usually required)

#### Foundations of Math 11

Meets the criteria for some post-secondary courses not requiring theoretical calculus. (Trades)

#### Pre-calculus 11 & 12

Meets the criteria for almost all post-secondary programs that require theoretical calculus. (e.g. engineering, business, sciences)

**Calculus 12** is often optional for post-secondary requirements.

## EXAMPLES OF SOME EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

ATHLETICS	CLUBS
Badminton	Aquarium Club
Basketball	Bike Club
Curling	Computer Club
Rowing	Environmental Club
Rugby (girls & boys)	Improvisation Club
Soccer	Juggling Club
Track & field	Meditation Club
Volleyball	Top Shelf Book Club
Golf	Urban Gardeners
Tennis	Youth for Change & Inclusion
Intramural Sports (Lunch)	
Principal's Advisory Group	



## Contact Us

Parents with questions regarding course selections as well as extra academic or counselling support, please contact an administrator or one of the school counsellors.

**Principal:** Aaron Parker

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