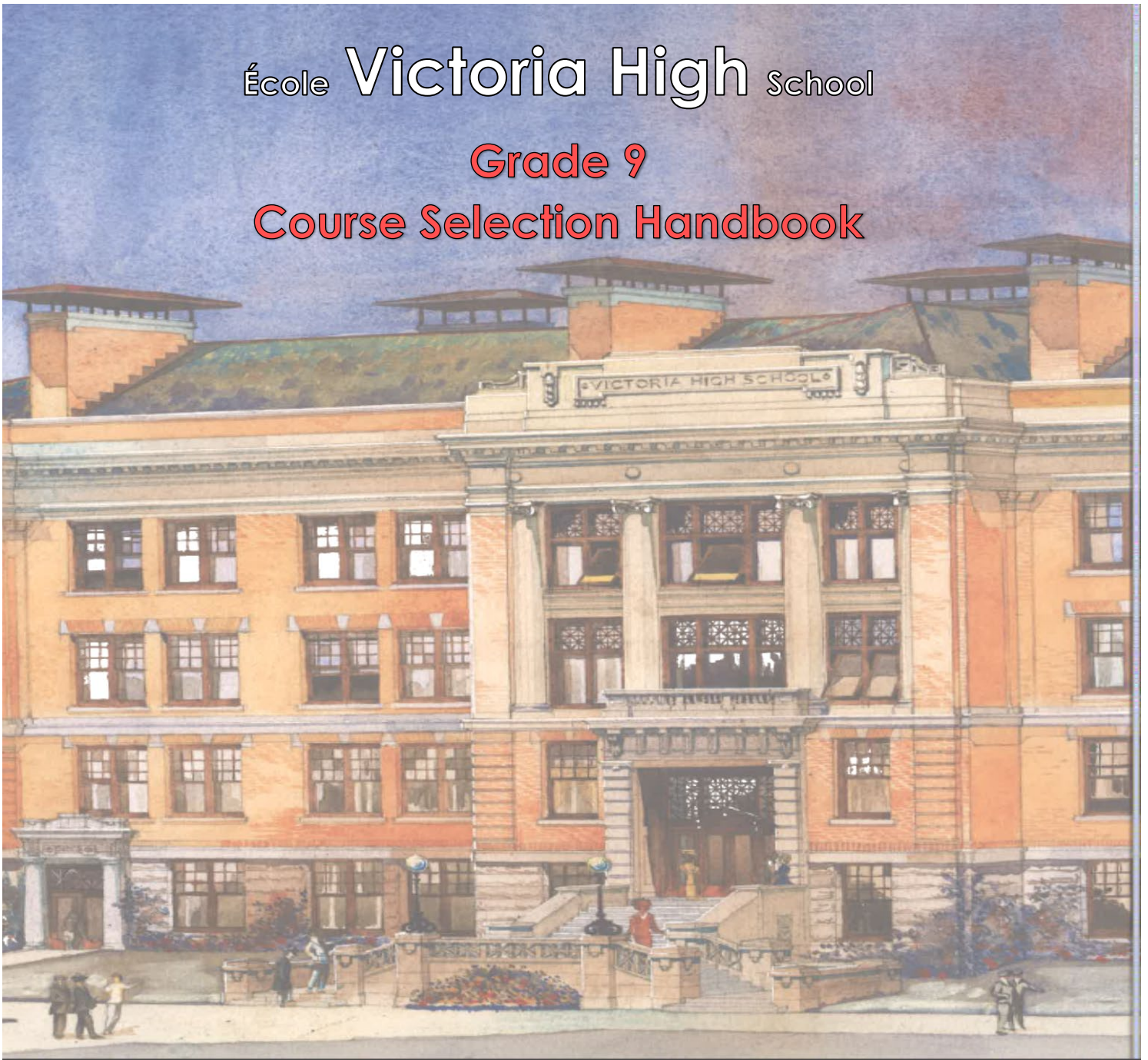


École **Victoria High** School

Grade 9

Course Selection Handbook



Find your passion at Vic High!



1260 Grant Street
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More information on our website: 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.
- ❑ **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). Support staff are available to assist students during Learning Over Lunch.

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.

Applied Design, Skills and Technologies

Home Economics

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.

TEXTILES 10

This textiles 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.

Information & Communications Technology

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY 9

Information Technology 9 is a survey course that is intended for students at all levels of experience and ability with computers. Students will learn many valuable skills that will help them in many of their other courses. Students will become proficient in using Google Apps, word processing, spreadsheets and presentation software. They will understand basic web page design and create animations and images for the web. They will be introduced to basic computer programming and prepare some fun simple video games. They will also be introduced to computer hardware, and understand how computers work.

Technology Education

POWER TECHNOLOGY 10

This class introduces you to the world of mechanics - bike, small engine, and automotive. You will learn about the maintenance and repair of bicycles through learning to tear down and rebuild a bike. Then on to small engines, where you will use a single cylinder Briggs and Stratton engine to learn all about how engines run and how all the parts work together to bring the engine alive with power. Finally, you will be introduced to the maintenance of automobiles.

INTRODUCTORY ELECTRONICS AND ELECTRICAL 10

This course is open to students in the Grade 9 or 10 level. You will learn about electronics and electrical in a fun and creative way. Besides learning about electrical safety and components (resistors, LED's, capacitors, SCR's) as well as building electronic prototypes and projects, you will learn to use tools and equipment to install electrical components (switches, receptacles, smoke alarms and lamps) as found in a home. This course will give you the experience and knowledge on how electronic and electrical things work in the preparation for taking further courses in Vic High's electrical apprentice program.

WOODWORK 10

In this course you will make a variety of projects from wood. These include a display table, a box of your choice, a wood turned bowl and, if time permits, another project of your choice. Students will learn the safe operation of tools and equipment, as well as wood characteristics, processes and finishing. There is a \$10 material cost to students who take this course to partially cover the cost of the material of projects they will take home.

SKILLED TRADES EXPLORATION 10

This is a project based course that introduces grade 9 and 10 students to the variety of trade program options available at Victoria High School. You will have fun while you explore the areas of electrical, carpentry, metal fabrication, welding, joinery and automotive repair. You will start to develop the knowledge and skills required to obtain and maintain a job in a trade. This course also provides an awareness of career and apprenticeship opportunities. Students who successfully complete this course will have the opportunity to take Victoria High's Career Preparation and ACT IT apprenticeship courses.

AUTO BODY 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. Skills and activities that are introduced include: gas welding, M.I.G. welding, panel and dent repair, surface preparation, painting, auto detailing and personal projects. This course is a great introduction to the Auto Body 11 and 12 courses, which are part of Vic High's renowned Career Preparation 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 school. Safety supplies will be supplied for student use. If students would like to purchase their own to keep, a cost of \$30 will be charged. This includes: 3M respirator, particle and organic filter cartridges, spreader and spreader boards.

METALWORK 10

This course is open to students in Grade 9 and 10, and is designed for students to learn metalwork techniques on the fabrication of projects such as: Sheet metal license plate box, C Clamp, balancing man aluminum casting and CNC plasma cutting projects. Emphasis will be on the creativity and design prior to building. Students will learn to use lathes, milling machines, grinders, drill presses and welding equipment, along with sheet metal and hand tools throughout the semester. There is a course fee that covers partial coverage for the costs of materials of \$10 that students take home.

ART METAL / JEWELLERY 10

This course is open to students in Grade 9 and 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!

There is a small cost to students who take this course to partially cover the cost of the material of projects they will take home.

Arts Education

Dance

BEGINNER DANCE FOUNDATIONS 9

Instruction in the fundamentals of dance technique in Jazz, Hip Hop, Modern, Tap, Contemporary, Ethnic, Street Jazz and Modern Stage with an emphasis on body alignment, injury prevention, movement vocabulary, performance skills and artistic expression. Performance and backstage experience are mandatory components

of Dance Foundations. Performance Opportunities: Festival Competition, Evening of Dance, VHS school events and VHS Give Back Program.

INTERMEDIATE DANCE FOUNDATIONS 9

A further development of dance techniques and skills in Jazz, Hip Hop, Contemporary, Modern, Tap, Contemporary Street Jazz, Modern Stage, Ethnic and Ballet with an emphasis on performance skills and artistic expression. This course includes a brief survey of Dance History and an Independent Study Project of student's choice. Performance and backstage experience are mandatory components of Dance Foundations.

Performance Opportunities: Festival Competition, Evening of Dance, VHS School Events and VHS Give Back Program.

ADVANCE DANCE FOUNDATIONS 9

This course offers a comprehensive and intensive study of dance that focuses on cross-training that includes Ballet, Modern, Jazz, Hip Hop, Contemporary, Tap, Ethnic, Modern Stage with an emphasis on the development of the individual dancer and technical skill level. Students will explore the relationship between body conditioning and somatic approaches, and how both affect technical refinement and expression in dance. By audition only.

DANCE COMPANY 9

This performance-focused course offers instruction in advance skill-sets within a diverse selection of dance genres with an emphasis on technique and performance skills, artistic expression and musicality. This class meets outside the timetable and is a linear course. Rehearsals are scheduled to accommodate guest artists and choreographers. Our Victoria High performance troupe, known as "Platform 61" focuses on building a diverse repertory of theatrical works, and performs for out-reach community presentations, dance competitions, festivals and Victoria High School events.

Drama

DRAMA 9

Drama 9 is open to grade nines and tens who are looking for 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

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.

CHORAL MUSIC10 : CONCERT CHOIR

Concert Choir is open to any student. No 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.

INSTRUMENTAL 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.)

Visual Arts

Visual Art Supplies - All materials will be provided for your Visual Arts course except the following items which are yours to keep. You may already have these supplies, you may wish to purchase from local vendors or as a convenience to you, purchase from the Art Department. If the purchase presents financial difficulty please see your teacher for alternate arrangements.

Drawing Pencil	\$1.00
White Eraser	\$1.50
Sketchbook (hard cover)	\$10.00
OR	
Sketchbook (soft cover)	\$5.00
#2 Paintbrush	\$4.00
18 x 24 canvas	\$10.00

VISUAL 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.

Career Education and Personal Development

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, human anatomy and physiology.

This is an inclusive class that is open to all grades, genders and ability levels. No yoga experience is required.

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP 9

If you want to get out and get involved in your school and community, this is the class for you. Students will have the opportunity to participate in planning activities such as school-wide breakfasts, special assemblies, a talent show, school dance and large school spirit events. Students can expect to be involved in fundraising and volunteering for various charities and social causes at both the school level and the community level. Students will have the opportunity to join tens of thousands of like-minded students who are seeking to "Be the change they want to see in the world" at WE Day in Vancouver. Along the way we will also have a lot of fun and develop meaningful and lasting friendships!

This course is designed to give students the opportunity to develop their individual and collective sense of social responsibility through the acquisition and application of leadership skills and theory. Students will develop lifelong skills in the areas of self-image, goal setting, time management, communication, marketing, school and community service, public relations, decision making, team building, collaboration and an increased understanding of various leadership styles.

Evaluation for all sections is largely based on attendance, participation, attitude and effort. All sections are available to students who have not previously enrolled in Leadership classes.

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.

English Language Arts

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 9

Writing 9 is for students who love to write. Students 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.

Français langue seconde - immersion

FRANÇAIS LANGUE 9

This is a course that is required for the completion of the French Immersion program in British Columbia. This course helps students to refine their French language skills and encourages the use of French in everyday activities. Students will continue their study of French language and culture with a focus on:

- Improving communication skills in French to define and affirm ideas.
- Understanding the cultural implications of language.
- Studying a variety of texts at different levels and bringing different meanings to light.
- Improving writing skills to enrich text
- Understanding the use of past tenses and pronouns.
- Examining narrative structure and descriptive sequences.

SCIENCES HUMAINES 9

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 ET SANTÉ 9

The goal of this course is to encourage students to engage in daily physical and health education in a French-speaking environment. Students will develop their physical literacy, healthy living, and mental well-being skills while exploring:

- The benefits of lifelong physical activity on the development of a healthy lifestyle.
- How healthy choices influence physical, emotional and mental well-being.
- How healthy relationships can contribute to rewarding and fulfilling lives.
- How advocating for the health and well-being of others connects us to our community.
- Understanding the factors that influence health and how to affect healthy changes in lifestyle choices.

Mathematics

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: 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 below.

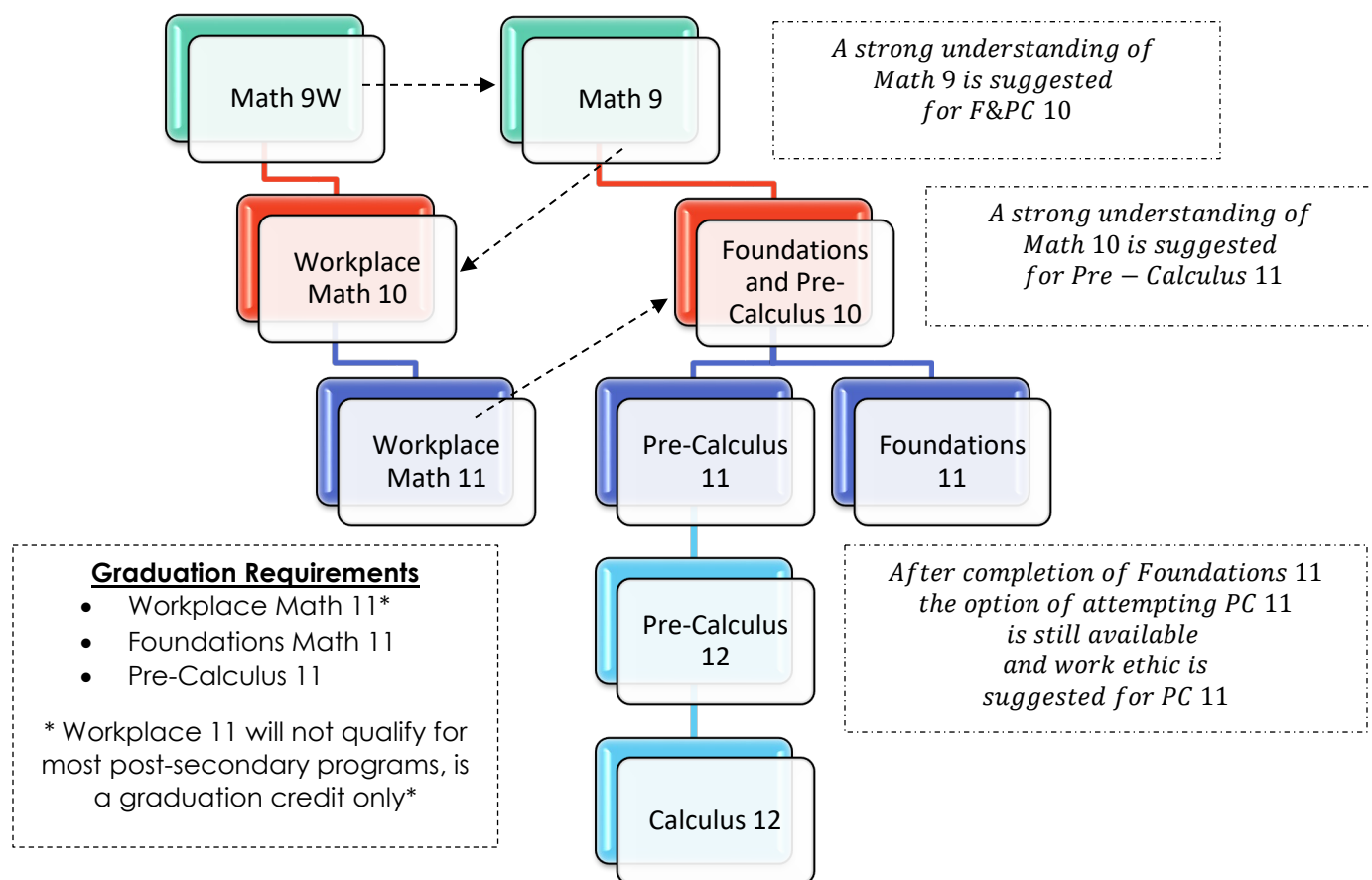
MATH 9 HONOURS

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.

WORKPLACE 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 or Workplace Math 10. 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.



- ❖ The Pre-Requisite courses listed above require only a passing grade to enroll in the next level
- ❖ However it is strongly encourage that students demonstrate a strong level of **understanding** in their previous years courses in order to facilitate and promote success in the later years.

Physical and Health Education

PHYSICAL AND HEALTH 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.

FIT FOR LIFE 9

This course is geared to the interests of the students and designed to foster a positive attitude towards physical activity throughout one's life. In addition to various games and dance, this course will expose students to a variety of activities such as yoga, skating, weight training, Zumba, water aerobics, rock climbing, golf, curling, gymnastics and hiking. Other topics we may explore are nutrition and first aid. The goal of this course is to encourage students to develop a personal life long plan for a balanced healthy lifestyle including nutrition, exercise, work and rest.

Science

SCIENCE 9

This course functions as an introduction to science at the secondary level and is necessary for scientific literacy, developing critical thinking skills, and engaging with scientific concepts and topics that are essential for citizenship. Major topics include lab safety, the chemical nature of elements and matter, electricity and electric current, sexual and asexual reproduction, ecology, sustainability, and energy cycles. Students will also have the opportunity to explore the 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.

Second Languages

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 embark on their journey to Spanish fluency through storytelling. TPRS (Teaching Proficiency through Reading and Storytelling) is a teaching method that creates a fun immersion-like environment through stories, songs and videos. This course is for beginner Spanish students.

Social Studies

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.

Student Support

SUPPORT BLOCKS / LEARNING STRATEGIES 9

Support blocks/Learning Strategies 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.

HOMEROOM AND GRADE 9 COLLABORATION TIME

Students are grouped together with a Homeroom teacher and meet regularly for a variety of activities aimed at increasing school connectedness, broadening curricular competencies and improving social and emotional wellbeing.

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!



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 aaparker@sd61.bc.ca
Vice Principal: Chris Koutougos ckoutougos@sd61.bc.ca
Vice Principal: Alissa Moore amoore@sd61.bc.ca
School Counsellors:
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