Grade 9
Course Descriptions

Core Courses

English 9

The major goal of English 9 is to provide learning strategies around the three core competencies of thinking, communicating, and personal/social learning. Through the integration of reading, writing, oral communication, viewing, and representing, English 9 is designed to develop students' language arts skills and to enhance their appreciation of literature and language, including First Peoples literature and First Peoples Principles of Learning. The activities and resources are selected to appeal to a range of interests and abilities and to foster inquiry, curiosity, and thoughtful reflection connected to the curricular competencies and 'Big Ideas' of the grade 9 curriculum:

- Language and literature help us find meaning and joy.
- Exploring stories and other texts helps us understand ourselves and make connections to others and to the world.
- People understand texts differently depending on their worldviews and perspectives.
- Texts are socially, culturally, and historically constructed.
- Questioning what we hear, read, and view contributes to our ability to be educated and engaged citizens.

Social Studies 9

Socials 9 is a course that focuses on several significant themes that are built upon the previously learnt Socials 8 Big Ideas.

This course will investigate disparities in power both locally and globally, collective identity, and the how the physical environment influences social, political and economic systems.

This course will look at several revolutions and study the causes and consequences of such large-scale change. Some other topics of study are Canadian confederation, discriminatory policies in Canada, and the Indian Act.

This course will continue to develop competency in historical thinking skills.









Core Courses ▪ Grade 9

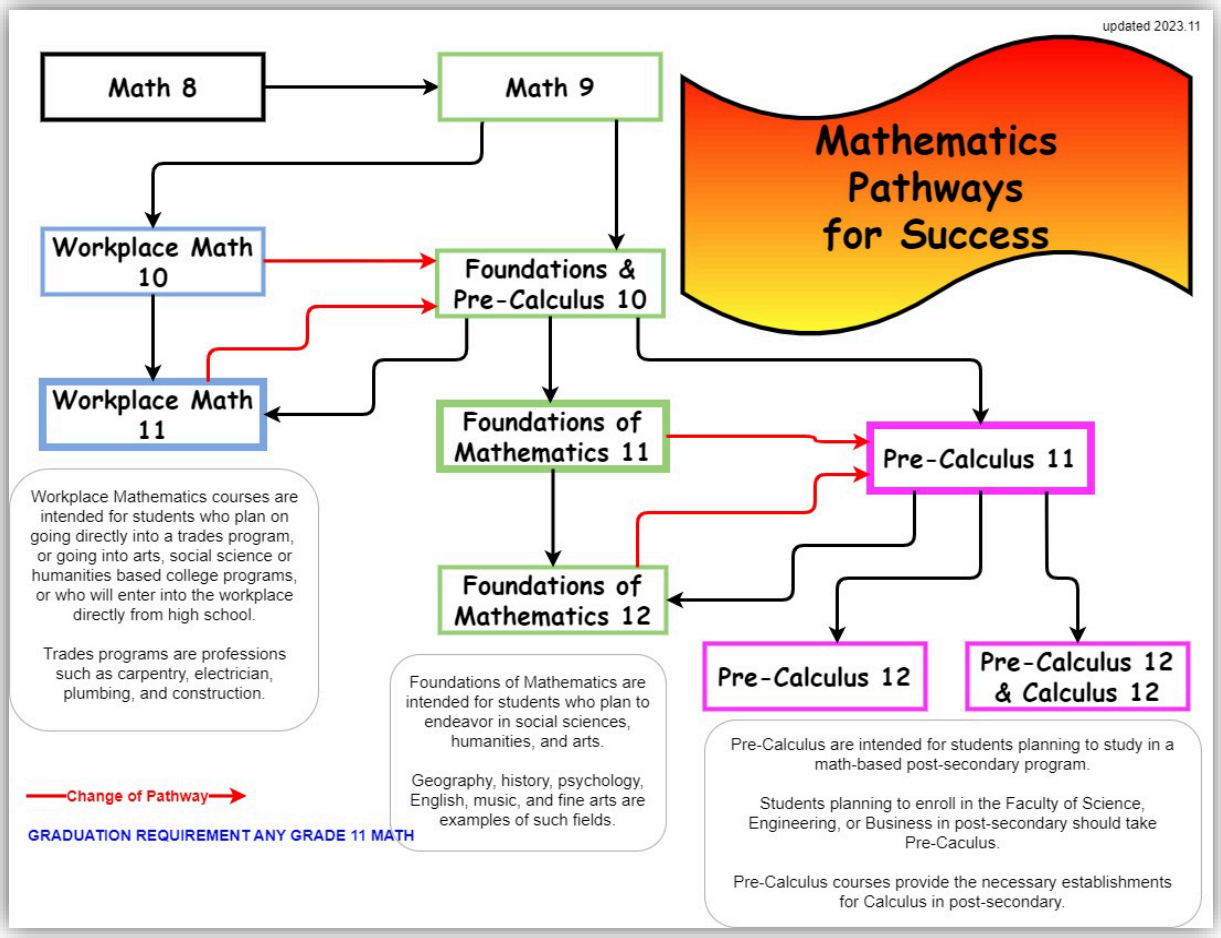
Mathematics 9

Mathematics 9 is a continuum of the skills from the mathematics 8 course. Students will continue to learn to communicate using spoken and written language to express mathematical ideas and develop visual representations to process information. Students will also solve problems by analysing and applying multiple math strategies, create connections amongst various mathematical ideas, and use reasoning and logic skills to make conclusions.

The topics include:

- mixed operations of decimals, fractions, and integers
- mixed operations with polynomials
- graphing two-variable linear relations
- multi-step one-variable linear equations, proportional reasoning
- probability and statistics, and spatial reasoning
- financial literacy

Mathematics 9 students are encouraged to participate in the *Pascal Mathematics Contest* which is held in February.



Core Courses ▪ Grade 9

Science 9



The key topics include Cell Reproduction, Structure of the Atom & Periodic Table, Electricity and Flow of Matter & Energy in Ecosystems.

While exploring these topics, students will have the opportunity to develop the skills, processes, attitudes, and scientific habits of mind that allow them to pursue their own inquiries. Students will also extend their understanding of the scientific method and skills through various activities and labs.



Careers 9

Career Education 9 helps students better understand themselves and explore future educational and career options. Students examine their interests, skills, and strengths while learning about career pathways, post-secondary opportunities, financial literacy, and goal setting. The course encourages students to make informed decisions about their future and develop the personal and social competencies needed for lifelong learning and career success.

Physical & Health Education 9

Through participation in a variety of activities, students will develop a positive attitude towards active living in the pursuit of lifelong health and well-being. Activities will be selected from various movement categories, physical activities and fundamental movement patterns. Emphasis is placed on developing positive personal and social behaviors, interpersonal relationships, decision making and overall health and nutrition through a variety of sports and activities.



Elective Courses ▪ Grade 9

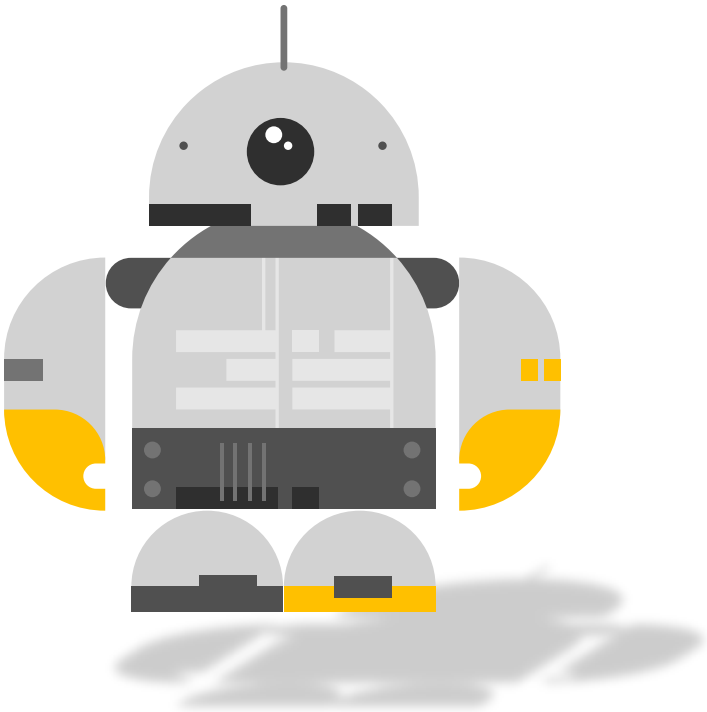
Applied Design Skills and Technology (ADST)

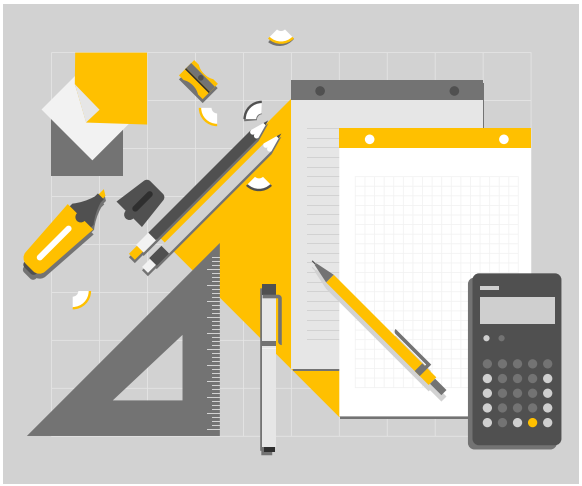
Electronics & Robotics 9 (Junior)

Ever wonder how circuits like a PlayStation controller or speaker work? Have you ever wanted to build and drive robots? Junior Electronics and Robotics is a level-based course that will provide students with the skills to recognize the function of basic electronic and robotic circuits through labs and hands on projects.

During projects, students will learn to use hand and power tools to prototype and create their projects. Students will learn how to construct printed circuit boards, how to solder, modify and build custom enclosures. Students in level 2 will also be introduced to Arduino programming.

Students will have the opportunity to design, build and drive robots during in-class competitions. The course is available to all students in grade 9 or 10 who are interested in electronics and robotics.





Technology & Engineering 9 (Junior)

Junior Technology is a course designed to learn, build, and understand many of the technologies around us every day by asking questions and discovering the answers.

Students will be given real-world challenges to work independently and collaboratively with others using the design cycle to understand how things work.

This is a project-based course based on problem solving skills and collaboration, while continuously assessing the impacts of technologies on the environment and society.

Elective Courses ▪ Grade 9

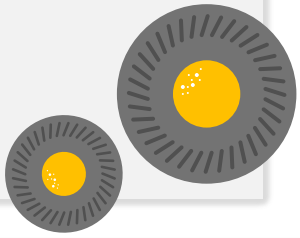
Applied Design Skills and Technology (ADST) cont.

Small Engines & Power Technology 9

This hands-on course covers the basics of power generation and transfer from combustion engines (2 stroke and 4 stroke), electric motors (power curves, torque, and horsepower) and other green and renewable energies (solar, wind, tidal and geothermal).

Students will learn to use basic hand and power tools to complete tasks within the course. building, Aviation and Rockets are all possible major projects visited in this course.

***Recommended for students interested in taking the Automotive Co-Op in Grade 11 or 12**



Media Design 9 (3D Animation & Computer Design)

***Only available in Grade 9 & 10**

Have you ever wanted to develop your own 3D characters/objects like the cars or buildings in a favourite video game or movie? Or wonder how companies like PIXAR add life to 3D objects. In junior animation, students can practice the skills and techniques used by the gaming and film industry to create digital animations using the industry leading Autodesk 3Ds Max program. The course covers character creation, giving character's life-like features such as jumping and moving.

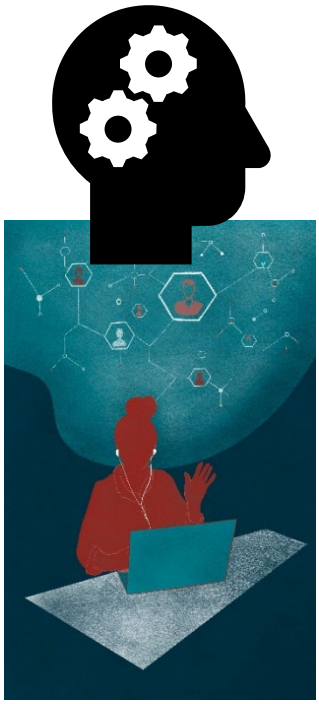
Students will create a 4-to-5-minute animated short video including a digital soundtrack as well as a 3D printed project of their own design! Students may also could 3D print final projects!

Information & Communications Technologies 9

This course presents students with fundamental business and computer skills required to be successful in the 21st century. Students will learn to develop good keyboarding habits through practice exercises and testing. They will use Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, Excel, and Google Docs with more advance techniques than previously learned.

Students will be introduced to topics in Entrepreneurship and Marketing as well as creating their own websites and blogs using Weebly and WordPress accounts.

Students will study communication skills required in society and technologies used in business. They will also examine various tools and programs for computer programming (coding). Upon finishing this course, students will be able to evaluate different applications and defend their use in solving problems, data retrieval, and editing.



Elective Courses ▪ Grade 9

Applied Design Skills and Technology (ADST) cont.

Woodwork 9 (Junior)

Level 1 students will receive hands-on introductions to woodworking processes with an emphasis on the developmental of practical skills, design work and problem-solving ability.

Students will read and interpret plans, calculate costs, follow written instructions, and fabricate projects using wood and wood composite materials and become familiar with the safe use of tools and machines.

Teacher-directed projects have been designed to encourage the learning development of students, but many aspects of design are left up to the students.



Metalwork 9 (Junior)

Junior metalwork is an introductory level course that is designed to provide students with safety, theory, associated hands-on skills, metal/tool identification and usage within metalwork.

Course objectives include measurement, layout, welding, fasteners, cutting and finishing. As students' skills and understanding of metalwork develop, they will have many options of projects to complete to demonstrate their knowledge.





Elective Courses ▪ Grade 9

Applied Design Skills and Technology (ADST) cont.



Food Studies 9

An introductory course to develop an interest in and enjoyment of food. Students will learn about ingredients, equipment, and food safe practices. Skills and abilities in food preparation will be developed, and students will complete the course being able to cook and bake independently.

Students will make recipes from a variety of cultures, and will learn about recipe design, nutrition, meal planning, ethical issues, and traditional Indigenous food practices.

Textile Studies 9

This course is designed for students who are interested in creating textile projects using commercial patterns. Students will become familiar with the proper use of the sewing machine, serger and other tools of the textile's trade.

Students will learn fitting and pattern adjustment practices, study design fundamentals and apply them to wardrobe planning and the garments they choose to create. Projects may include shorts, stuffed animals, bags, pull-over hoodies, shirts, pyjama pants, etc.



Elective Courses ▪ Grade 9

Fine Arts (FA)

Visual Art 9

Do you want to learn how to: Draw, Paint, or Sculpt? Do you want to make your posters and projects look great? Then this is the course for you. In Art 9, students will learn all the basics that go into producing great drawings, paintings, collages, prints, pottery and sculpture.

Students will learn the techniques of professional artists and be introduced to a variety of art materials. Students will have the opportunity to go on field trips, participate in art exhibitions, and create beautiful artwork that make our school look great.

***This course is recommended as a pre-requisite for all other art courses.**





Media Arts 9

This is an introductory course into the graphic arts. If you are interested in learning more about photography, digitally drawing, altering photos, and creating videos; these topics will begin to be explored. We will focus on:

- Digital Photography
- Stop motion animation
- Drawing digitally
- Photoshop
- Graphic Design
- And more

***This course is a good starting point for students who wish to take photography, yearbook or further Media Arts classes in the future. No experience necessary.**

Elective Courses ▪ Grade 9

Fine Arts (FA) cont.

Dance 9 (Beginner)

This is a beginner dance course. It is an excellent opportunity for students who have little to no experience in dance classes. This course is designed to give students foundational skills in hip-hop, jazz, cultural and contemporary projects and begin discovering their artistry through personal choreography.

Students get the opportunity to perform in a district dance festival and our semester end Kinesthetics dance show. Studies have shown that dance relieves stress and helps students express themselves through the body.



Drama 9

In this course the elements of drama are explored to communicate ideas, emotions and perspectives through movement, sound, imagery and language.

Correct theatre terminology is learned and practiced. Active participation creates personal and cultural connections and reveals insights into human experience. Drama also cultivates collaboration through critical reflection, creative cooperation and the exchange of ideas.



Guitar 9

This is an introductory course and is intended for students of all backgrounds, even if they have never played music before.

We start with what a guitar looks like, how to hold it, and how to get a sound but by the end of the semester you will be able to play melodies and strum chords to your favorite songs.



Elective Courses ▪ Grade 9

Fine Arts (FA) cont.

Band 9

Band 9 is a course that will build on skills learned in Band 8. It will allow students to continue exploration in an instrument of their choice.

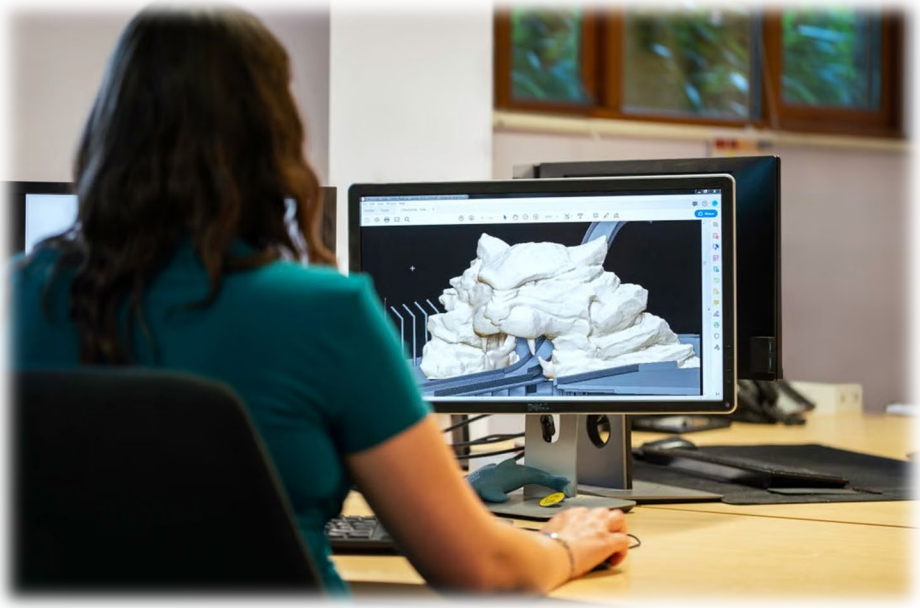
It will also be a course designed around opportunities to perform.



Media Design 9 (3D Animation and Computer Design)

Media Design 9 provides students with opportunities to explore creative and technical processes used in digital media, visual communication, and animation. Students develop knowledge and skills in 3D modeling, computer-aided design, digital imaging, animation, and multimedia production through the creation of a variety of design projects. Using industry-relevant software and technologies, students apply elements and principles of design to communicate ideas, solve problems, and create original digital works.

This course supports the development of technological literacy and creative competencies and introduces students to potential pathways in animation, graphic design, game development, digital media production, and related fields within the creative technology sector.



Modern Languages 9

Spanish 9

This is an introductory course of Spanish language and culture. This course is designed for students who have not studied any Spanish before and requires active participation.

Basic vocabulary and common structures of spoken and written Spanish are covered.

PLEASE NOTE: Introductory courses Spanish 9 are not intended for native speakers of the language.

French 9

Students will build upon skills learned and practiced in French 8 and continue to reap the rewards of learning one of Canada's official languages. Some of the benefits of learning French include being better prepared to compete for jobs in Canada, the ability to communicate abroad with numerous other French language speakers and enjoying another culture. Learning how to recount stories in French and the past tense are added at this level. Students will further develop speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills. Come join us!

***Recommended prerequisite: Successful completion of French 8 or equivalent.**