

# COURSE DESCRIPTIONS



GRADE 9  
2022–2023

YALE SECONDARY SCHOOL



This is a Course Description Guide only.

**For specific information on Yale and starting Grade 9 please go onto the Yale website under “Course Planning > Entering Grade 9 > Information for Grade 9”.**

Learn more about Yale by looking at the information under “Related Course Selection Information.”

Counsellors by Last Name:

Susanna Perry – A-G

Cameron Smith – H-N

Jennifer Wickman – O-Z



# GRADE 9 PROGRAM:

Grade 9 students must take 8 classes during the regular day. There are 5 required courses and 3 elective courses. For some students, 1 of the 3 elective courses will be a language or an approved support block. Students will also need to choose a Fine Art Elective AND an Applied Skill Elective as well.

The required courses in the grade 9 program are:

- English 9
- Social Studies 9
- Mathematics 9
- Science 9
- Physical and Health Education 9

**Career Education 9**

This course is a required course. You will not choose this course as one of your requests, it will be assigned to you. It will show on grade 9 timetables as outside of the ordinary day but will not need to be attended during out of school hours. Career Education will be incorporated into the regular school day and is not offered as a separate course.

**Required Courses:**

English Language Arts 9 .....	4
Social Studies 9.....	4
Math 9 or Workplace Math 9.....	5
Science 9 .....	5
Physical Education 9.....	5

**Applied Skills:**

Food Studies 9 .....	7
Introduction to Computers 9 .....	7
Metalwork 9 .....	8
Student Leadership 9 .....	8
Textiles 9 .....	7
Woodwork 9.....	8
Women in Tech 9 .....	8

**Languages:**

French 9 .....	6
Introductory Halq’eméylem 11.....	6
Spanish 9 .....	7

**Fine Arts:**

Art 9 .....	9
Concert Band 9.....	10
Drama 9.....	9
Guitar 9 .....	10
Musical Theatre 9 .....	9
(extended day)	
Jazz Ensemble 9.....	10
Concert Choir 9.....	10

# ENGLISH *Language Arts*

## English 9

Language is fundamental to thinking, learning, and communicating in all cultures. As students come to understand and use language more fully, they are able to enjoy the benefits and pleasures of language in all its forms. The English (Language Arts) program (9-12) provides students with opportunities for personal and intellectual growth through speaking, listening, reading, viewing, writing, and representing to make meaning of the world and to prepare them to participate effectively in all aspects of society. Students will experience the power of language by dealing with a range of texts. As they progress through the levels of English, students will encounter more complex texts, and should become more critical, creative and articulate in their own use of language.

*\*\*\*At the end of the semester, English 9 students complete a school-based final assessment as well as a District Writing Assessment.*

# SOCIAL STUDIES

## Social Studies 9

(1750 to 1900)

The goal of Social Studies is to give students the knowledge and skills to be active, informed citizens who are able to think critically and communicate ideas effectively. Through their study of history, geography, economics, and culture, students will gain an understanding of the people, issues, and events that shape our world. The Social Studies curriculum also provides opportunities for students to learn about Canadian society, our democratic institutions, and the rights and responsibilities of Canadian citizens.

### Specifics in Social Studies 9

- political, social, economic, and technological revolutions
- the continuing effects of imperialism and colonialism on indigenous peoples in Canada and around the world
- global demographic shifts, including patterns of migration and population growth
- nationalism and the development of modern nation-states, including Canada
- local, regional, and global conflicts
- discriminatory policies, attitudes, and historical wrongs
- physiographic features of Canada and geological processes



# Mathematics

## Mathematics 9 Workplace

This course is designed for students who had significant challenge with Math at the grade 8 level. After successful completion of this course, students may enroll in Workplace Math 10 or Math 9 (by teacher recommendation).

## Mathematics 9

This is the first level in the high school math program. The approach is much more theoretical than in previous years, with increased emphasis on formal algebraic processes.

### Units of Study

- Number Skills
- Exponents
- Polynomials
- Equalities and Inequalities
- 2D Measurement
- Linear Equations
- Finance

# SCIENCE

## Science 9

Science 9 reinforces and extends the core concepts of Science 8. Chemistry 9 extends students' knowledge of the periodic table, chemical changes, and writing chemical formulas. Biology 9 focuses on the cell, including units on cell structure and processes, and reproduction. Physics 9 includes a laboratory study of electrical charge, current,

and circuitry. In addition, Earth Systems 9 focuses on how the biosphere, geosphere, hydrosphere and atmosphere are interconnected.

# PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Classes are held in the main gym, small gym, weight room and classroom. All students are expected to wear suitable clothing for all activities. Gym strip is available at nominal cost. All students are expected to participate on a regular basis, the only exceptions being those who have significant injuries and/or medical excuses provided by a physician. Assessment will be based upon attendance, effort, attitude, participation, fair play and leadership.

## Physical Education 9

Yale's Physical Education program utilizes carefully selected activities to provide students the opportunities to develop:

- a) knowledge and understanding of principles of movement, and the relationship of exercise to personal well-being
- b) physical skills
- c) physical fitness
- d) social skills
- e) attitudes and appreciation that will encourage participation and enjoyment of physical activity, fitness, quality performance and a positive self-concept and respect for others.

# MODERN LANGUAGES

**Career & Life Links for Languages:** Taking language classes helps develop effective communication skills and encourages an awareness of cultural differences, which is invaluable in our multicultural world. Also, for an advantage in the global job market, having learned any additional language is a benefit. In addition to English, the head of a company who knows French, or a salesperson who knows Spanish can work successfully with many more people and in many more places than someone who knows only one language.

## French 9

*Recommendation: "Proficient" in French 8*

French is a beautiful and romantic language as well as an official language of Canada. In French 9, we offer students the opportunity to begin learning the basic language skills (reading, writing, speaking, and listening), while being introduced to unique Francophone cultures across the globe. French is not just spoken in France and in Quebec, it is also a national language in many African countries as well as other locations in Europe and across the world. Students will be able to introduce and describe themselves, their family, their friends, and their preferences. They will be able to ask and answer various questions as well as simply support their answers. Students in this course will take an active role in learning the French language. Successful completion of French 9, 10 and 11 will meet the basic language requirement for university entrance in BC.

## Halq'eméylem

Students interested in a 4 year program with Halq'eméylem could take the Intro course in grade 9, then the grade 11 level course in their second year, the grade 12 level in their third year, then take Peer Tutoring 12 in their 4<sup>th</sup> year.

## Intro to Halq'eméylem 11

Open to anyone

Intro to Halq'eméylem 11 is an introductory course in the Halq'eméylem language, the language of the local Stó:lo people. Students will learn from an experienced teacher to do work on important aspects of pronunciation, vocabulary, greetings, common phrases, colors and counting. Students will use audiovisual techniques, patterns, interactive strategies, sign language, pictures and videos. The course will also include instruction in the Halq'eméylem alphabet. At the end of the course, students will have learned between 200 and 300 high-frequency words in the language. Join this exciting and interactive course. The course is designed for students with no previous experience with this First Peoples' language. All students in grades 9-12 are welcome, expectations will be adapted for each year of study. This is a BC Curriculum Language Course and successful completion of both Intro to Halq'eméylem and Halq'eméylem 11 meet the basic language requirements for university entrance in BC.



## Spanish 9

**Did you know that Spanish** is the second-most widely spoken language in the world with 400 million native speakers?

Spanish 9 is an exciting course for beginners looking to expand their language abilities and broaden their future career and travel opportunities. In this course, we offer students the opportunity to learn basic grammar and develop the four language skills of speaking, listening, basic reading and writing as well as an appreciation of Latino culture. Students in this course will take an active role in learning the Spanish language as it is a communicative course. Successful completion of Spanish 9, 10 and 11 will meet the basic language requirement for university entrance in British Columbia.

# HOME ECONOMICS

## Food Studies 9

Foods 9 is designed to spark an interest in food studies and develop the knowledge, skills and attitude necessary to prepare nutritious, tasty and attractive foods in a cost and time effective manner. The units covered include foundational cooking skills, baking basics, nutrition & health, additives & local eating, seasonal cooking and international cuisines.

## Textile Studies 9 - 12

If you are just learning to sew or already have a foundation in sewing this course is for you! This newly designed course is offered to those students interested in designing and making apparel and accessories. Students are encouraged to explore a variety of techniques, basic hemming to more advanced alterations, using a pattern and fabric choice. You will learn about design and how to make it work for you, then apply it as you create and sew your own design. You will have choice in all projects that will suit you, your lifestyle, and skill level.

**Career and Life Links:** Interested in a career in fashion or art? Consider this course!

# TECHNOLOGY

## Introduction to Computers 9

*Recommendation: None (Students do not need to have any previous experience with computers.)*

Students will be introduced to a variety of topics in fun and flexible course. The course will cover the following:

- basic web page design
- operating systems such as Windows and Linux
- installing software
- creating a virtual computer using open source software
- introduction to JavaScript
- basics in creating interactive websites

You should take this course if you are interested in careers that focus on computer and technology use, such as the information technology sector, or engineering. This course will also help develop your analytical skills which would be very helpful for Science and Math.



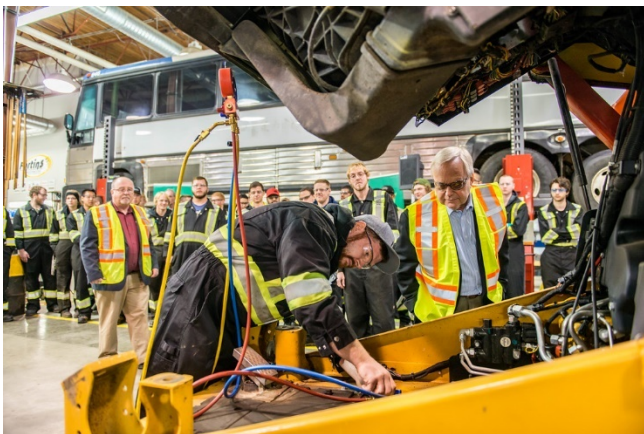
## Metalwork 9

This course covers basic metalwork skills. Students will use a wide variety of tools and machines to cut, weld, grind, braze, and form metal. Students will explore hand tools as well as ARC welding, MIG welding, gas welding, flame cutting, CNC plasma cutting, forging, abrasive cutting, sterling silver jewelry casting, drilling, and lathe work. Students will work toward the creation of a project of their own design.

## Women in Tech 9 - 12

This course is open to grade 9-12 students. This is an introductory course that will introduce female students to metal work, carpentry, electrical, plumbing, automotive maintenance and computer-controlled machines (CNC). Being a project centered course, students will get to make a variety of projects. Some project examples are jewelry, candle holders, picture frames, bowls, goblets, jewelry boxes, CNC made signs, vehicle oil change and basic maintenance.

**\*\*Students will learn about BC's apprenticeship system and trades related careers.**



## Woodwork 9

This course offers experience in the wood shop and is an introduction to wood product design and manufacturing. Skills will be developed in hand and machine tool operation. Students will complete assigned projects as well as an individually developed project. Projects may include wood turnings, cutting boards, mantle clock, side tables, jewelry boxes, and other student designed projects

# STUDENT LEADERSHIP

**Career and Life Links for Student Leadership:** The leadership program develops communication, problem solving, public speaking and team building skills. All are essential for the world of work and further study.

## Student Leadership 9

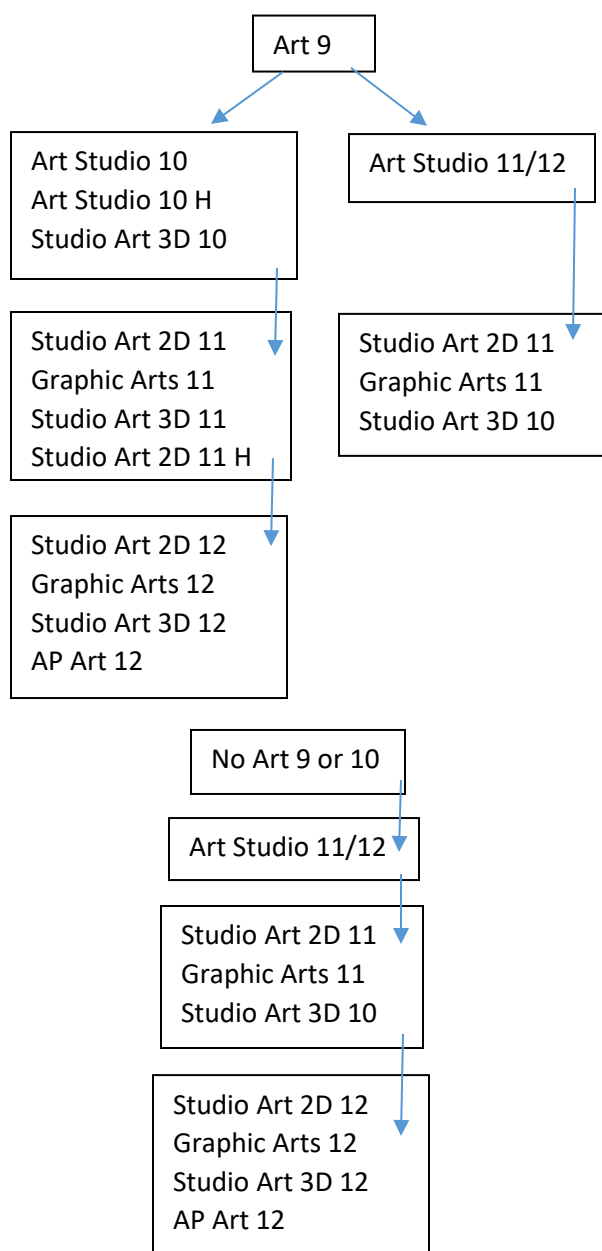
The purpose of this course is to introduce theories of leadership and practice leadership skills. Students will be involved in planning school wide events as well as becoming involved with community service. This course will focus on developing student's communication skills, organizational skills, critical thinking skills as well as becoming more socially and globally aware.



# ART

## (VISUAL & STUDIO)

**Career and Life Links for Art classes:** Art teaches the valuable skill of creative problem solving. Once students have learned this skill, they can use it to solve problems in their own lives, outside of school. More than ever, employers are looking for innovative thinkers. Students that are able to solve problems creatively have an edge in the job market. Art allows students to express themselves. As students gain independence and figure out who they are, being able to express themselves through art is a wonderful outlet.



## Art 9

Are you creative? Do you like to get your hands dirty? Do you like to have fun? Then Art 9 is for you. In Art 9, you will learn to express yourself using a wide variety of materials from drawing to painting, from graphic design to clay. If you are considering a career that involves any kind of creativity, then Art 9 is the place to start.

# DRAMA

**Career and Life Links for Drama:** You should take Drama and Theatre Performance if you are interested in any of the following careers – radio or TV announcing, acting and/or directing on film, stage or television, public speaking or politics, sales and marketing, video game voiceovers, teaching drama, storytelling and playwriting, audiobook narrator, theatre lighting or sound technician.

## Drama 9

This is a course that focuses on developing self-confidence, self-awareness, and the ability to work and communicate with others through a variety of acting techniques. Activities in this course will help to strengthen the student's powers of concentration and observation. Students will develop their skills in tableau, voice, physical comedy, improvisation, script work, and playwriting. Enthusiasm and self-discipline are necessary for success in this course. Evaluation is based on class participation, written assignments and performance. No prior acting experience is required.

## Musical Theatre 9 -12

Every year, Yale Musical Theatre puts on a show, and you can be a part of it! Our musicals are presented at the Abbotsford Arts Centre, and include acting, singing, dancing, and

professional level production elements such as sets, lighting, sound, and costumes. Members in this class will be a part of both the cast and crew. All lead roles will require auditions. The show will take place at the beginning of the second semester with a few extra rehearsals outside of the timetable at the Abbotsford Arts Centre.

# MUSIC

**Career and Life Links for Music:** Students wishing to pursue careers and higher education in music are encouraged to take these courses. Students learn to analyze complex ideas, work within a group cooperatively, and learn practice skills necessary for both academic and musical success. Careers related to music include, but are not limited to entertainment law, music education, performance, composition, music history, library studies, and recording arts.

## Guitar 9-11

For students with little or no previous guitar experience. This is a beginner guitar course designed for students who wish to learn to play guitar. The course content will include basic note reading, chord construction and chording patterns.

Students must bring their own acoustic or classical guitar.

\*\*\*\*\**Students may only take Guitar **once**.*

## Concert Band 9

Open to students who have completed Band 8 or contact Ms. Sargent. Band 9 further develops technical skills as they relate to more challenging music from the band repertoire. There will be many opportunities for performances at concerts, festivals and trips. Attendance at all rehearsals and performances is mandatory. Everyone choosing this class must choose an extra alternate.

## Concert Choir 9

(extended day)

Open to all students who wish to sing. Students do not need previous singing experience of any kind. Students will further their understanding of the vocal mechanism and basic music theory skills. The emphasis of this course is performance of music in a variety of styles. Attendance at all rehearsals and performances is mandatory.

## Chamber Choir 9 - 12

(extended day)

This is an advanced choir for **auditioned singers** performing as a select ensemble. Students will rehearse and perform regularly. There may be rehearsals outside of class time that, with prior notice, you may be required to attend. There will be mandatory performances (ex: Christmas Concert, Kiwanis Festival, Choral Day) and there may also be opportunities for travel and optional fundraising. Students must be enrolled in Yale Concert Choir. Chamber Choir is open to exceptionally strong singers **by audition**. The ability to read music and to part-sing is a prerequisite.

Auditions are approximately 10 minutes. You will be asked to sing "O Canada" in the key of your choice. You will also be asked to sing a series of vocal exercises and to sight-read an excerpt.

## Jazz Band 9

(extended day)

Co-requisite: Concert Band 9

Further development of technical skills in the area of Big Band Jazz. Instrumentation is the same as in Grade 8. This is an extended day class for which the student receives extra credit. Attendance at all rehearsals and performances is mandatory.