

COWICHAN SECONDARY GRADE 9 ELECTIVE COURSE OUTLINE DESCRIPTIONS

CORE COURSES

All Grade 9 students are required to have the following Core Courses: Math 9, Science 9, English 9, Social Studies 9, PE 9 and HACE 9/Planning 10. In addition, Grade 9 students can choose two (2) elective courses.

ELECTIVE OPTIONS

Art 9 - This is a hands on course, and while drawing is an asset, "building and making" are the main focus. Assignments may include projects in wood, stone, metal, file, clay, paper-mache and other sculptural media.

Band 9 - This course enables students to improve their musicianship and achievement. Students develop greater technical proficiency in the playing of an instrument and musicianship skills including conducting and ear training. They gain greater competence in public performance and have the opportunity to participate in extra-curricular activities (tours, festivals and fund-raising). Students are required to provide their own instruments; however, some instruments may be rented from the school. Students with previous musical training are assigned to an instructional level that challenges their ability. A one-time folder fee of \$15.00 applies to all students taking Band (for those who have not paid in Grade 8).

Choir 9 - Choir 9 is a study of performance-based vocal music that will include a variety of musical genres such as folk, classical, contemporary and jazz. Students will participate in school and community events including festival performances may include travel opportunities. Evaluation will be based on performance in small and large ensembles as well as in basic theoretical knowledge

Dance 9 - This course is designed to incorporate a variety of levels and experience: from the beginner, to the advanced. By the end of the semester, students will be able to: understand and demonstrate a variety of styles of dance choreography. Students will finish the course with a performance in the "Electives Showcase". Units will include; Tap, Hip Hop, Jazz, Flamenco, African, Highland, Musical Theatre, and Warm-up

Drama 9 - This course provides students with opportunities to develop skills in Drama through interpretation of scripts, character development, original play-building, staging and directing. Development of cooperation, respect, trust, self-confidence and risk taking are emphasized in this course.

Foods & Nutrition 9 - This course involves the practical and theoretical study of food, food preparation and meal planning. The main focus of the course is learning how to cook. There is a wide range of topics covered, from yeast breads to foreign foods. Students master the skills of basic food preparation, learn to make good food choices and develop awareness of the career possibilities in the area of food preparation and importance of overall good health.

Guitar 9 - Guitar will focus on individual students learning how to play guitar in a large group setting. This course is for both those who have never held a guitar and those who have had some basic training in the past. Students learn basic chords, strumming, soloing, technique and theory.

Performing Arts 9/10 – This is a multi-credit course that runs all year. Students will develop skills in three performing arts areas: Choir, Dance and Theatre. This is a participation course and student will take part in a series of public performances throughout the year.

Information Technology/The New Media 9 - This course is for anyone who is thinking about Graphic Design or Publishing. The focus is on writing (journalism, script writing, blogging) and the basics of design for publishing. Students have the opportunity to pursue self-directed writing, photography, and computer graphics.

Leadership 9 - The goal of this course is for students to become active members of Cowichan Secondary and make a difference in their school and community. Through teamwork, organization and management skills, students will work towards developing goals to promote an active and positive school climate. This course will promote reflection and critical analysis of activities employing classroom discussions, presentations and directed writing. Students will often work independently within the school creating and establishing their "projects." The Leadership program also assists in organizing school wide functions such as dances, the yearbook, fundraisers and school spirit events. Students can indicate their interest in this course by checking off Leadership on the bottom of their course selection form. However, given the nature of the course students will be selected by the instructor through an application / interview process.

Metalwork 9 - This course enables students to experience the complete metal shop facility. Participants will receive instruction on hand tools and bench work, oxygen acetylene torch work, arc welding, cutting and grinding, forging, foundry, machining, sheet metal forming and lathe operation. Compulsory projects include a bar clamp, hose rack, toolbox, centre punch, strongbox and casting. Optional projects may include a basketball hoop, sundial, fishing gaff, halibut spear, moving dolly, reclining chair, fireside tool set, weathervane, BBQ tools and many others. Students may also create their own designs and choose any projects from the art metal program.

Woodcraft 9 - This course enables students to experience the complete wood shop facility. After completing a unit on shop and machine safety, participants will receive instruction on hand and power tools, advanced woodcraft processes, joinery and finishing. Compulsory projects include a birdhouse, vanity mirror, mantle clock, bowl, jewellery box, candle sconce and picture frame. Optional projects may include a turned candle stick or wooden pen set, serving tray, chess board, Christmas tree ornaments and coffee table; as well as projects of the student's own design. For more information, a detailed course outline is available.

LANGUAGE OPTIONS

French 9 - Bonjour et bienvenue à la classe de Français. Welcome to French 9. We will build on all that you learned in French 8 in terms of vocabulary, grammar and your general sense of comfort with the French language. You will learn to ask for help, give your opinion, and describe yourself. You will learn about different French-speaking cultures from around the world. You are going to taste, watch, and listen to French culture and language at their finest.

Hul'qumi'num 9 - This course is designed for all students who are interested in learning about Quw'utsun people, with emphasis on the Hul'qumi'num language – words, phrases, sentences and beginning conversations. Students will participate in a variety of hands-on activities such as harvesting local food, working with cedar, hosting guest speakers and field trips.

Spanish 9 - Spanish is a fun, interactive class that introduces students to the Spanish culture and language. This course is designed to develop listening, speaking, reading and writing competency at the beginning level through games, cultural activities and dialogue. During this course students will learn basic greetings and dialogue, weather, numbers, family, school, music and other cultural highlights.

ACADEMY OPTIONS

Climbing 9 - A specialized PE course that will introduce students to the sport of indoor rock climbing. This class will provide an avenue for students to develop climbing skills and learn basic techniques. It is hoped with these skills students will pursue competitive climbing through the Cowichan climbing academy. **Note that this class will have a fee to cover costs of the program (\$175).**

Field Hockey 9 - A specialized PE course in Field Hockey is being offered that focuses on strategy, skill development and fitness. The class will have on-field sessions at the Cowichan Sports-plex field. Depending upon weather and scheduling, the on field sessions may be spread throughout the duration of the course. **Note that this class will have a fee to cover costs of the program (\$200).**

Ice Hockey 9 - Ice hockey is a PE based course that focuses on skill development and activity. Depending upon ice availability and scheduling, the class may run at different times during the day. Further, depending upon numbers of students who sign up we may run multi grade classes. Ideally we would have separate classes based on skill and experience, as we would like all those interested to sign up. **Note that this class will have a fee to cover costs of the program (\$300).**

PE 9 OPTIONS – STUDENTS MAY TAKE THIS AS THEIR PE OPTION OR AS AN ADDITON TO THEIR REGULAR PE COURSE -

Basketball 9/10 – This is an activity based PE course (no fees) designed to give students the opportunity to grow as a basketball player, a coach and an official. The students will also benefit from the exposure to skills training and fitness as aspects of the course.

Rugby 9/10 – This s an activity based PE course (no fees) where students will play and study the sport of rugby. Skills development, modified games, off-field training and video analysis will the focus of the class. Non-contact games and drills make this course suitable for all students. It is not necessary for students to be part of the school team or play community rugby.