

2025-26: Grade 9 Complementary Course Descriptions

The following courses are being proposed for the 2025-26 school year. The final decisions on which courses will be offered are based on student interest and staffing factors.

Students will make their course requests in the Spring. Best efforts will be made to honor student requests, but placement in a specific course is not guaranteed.

Please note that some courses have a slightly different name in PowerSchool.

Fee	Course Description
ART	
20.00	This art course will give students a chance to explore art methods and techniques at an increasingly complex and sophisticated level. Students will pursue projects in drawing and various other media. There will be several drawing projects to further these skills and develop creative thinking. Students will look at different artists as well as different art theory to inform their own works of art. You do not need to have taken art before as a pre-requisite.
BAND	
100.00 Rental 20.00 Supplies	Band 9 is a full year course that allows students to continue their musicianship on a Concert Band instrument, play as a part of an ensemble, and experience live performance. This course is an extension of Band 8 and requires the Band 8 prerequisite or extra musical experience outside of school. The Instrument Rental Fee covers the rental and use of an instrument. The supply fee covers student specific supplies such as cleaning tools, reeds, valve oil, etc. Students may waive the Instrument Rental Fee if they wish to rent their own instrument or if they own one. This course is essential for students wishing to continue studying music at the high school level.
COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES: FILM STUDIES	
	What do you like about the films you watch? Is it the action or the drama? Perhaps it's the things directors do to connect with you. We are a visual society and what we see can influence our lives. Students will be given an opportunity to challenge themselves by improving their ability to critique films as well as develop their aptitude for filmmaking. Film Studies allow students the opportunity to actively participate in viewing critiquing, directing, filming and editing. Students will use film as a means of understanding how moving images influence social, cultural and historical perspectives. Students may be asked to use notetaking, class discussions, internet and research as well as visual multi-

	media presentations. This course has the flexibility to adjust to student/class interests.
CONSTRUCTION	
35.00	Simon Fraser Construction is a hands-on project-based program intended to develop students' 3-dimensional problem-solving abilities, critical thinking skills, as well as mechanical and manual literacy. The Construction program is divided into beginner, intermediate and advanced project work. Students work independently and in small groups to complete projects. Students are marked, on the quality of completed projects, their ability to overcome the challenges and problems they encounter as they work through the projects, and their ability to evaluate or appraise their own work in order to take steps to improve it.
DANCE	
	Students will learn a variety of dance techniques such as jazz, modern, hip-hop, funk, lyrical, swing, African and tap. Most styles are to current, popular music. Besides learning the dance steps and combinations, students will also learn about the history of the different dances - where they came from and how they have developed through the years. Students will learn choreographed pieces and will also have the opportunity to choreograph their own. The goals of 9 Dance are to develop and improve dance technique, flexibility, rhythm, strength and general fitness as well as to develop an appreciation for different dance styles, to have fun with music and to have the opportunity to perform. The class is open to all students from beginner to experienced. You do not need studio experience for this option. All you need is a love of music and a need to move to the end.
DESIGN STUDIES: CARTOONING	
15.00	Cartooning is a course that allows you to explore, express, and demonstrate your ideas and emotions visually. To be successful, you must learn skills and practice techniques through a series of structured projects. This is a studio and project-based course that will introduce and expand on the basics of visual arts and cartooning skills; we will use a variety of 2- and 3-dimension mediums, concepts, and themes. We will be exploring various aspects of The Elements and Principles of Art and Design and Cartooning Elements in various projects.

	As you develop your abilities and confidence, you will find ways of expressing yourself that will give you satisfaction and allow you to understand and appreciate the many forms of artistic expression found around you.
DRAMA	
	In Drama 9, students explore the five disciplines; acting, movement, speech, theatre studies, and technical theatre. Drama specifically explores live performance through structured play, improvisation techniques, and analysis. Working in small and large groups, students participate in a variety of creative projects through the units of tableaux, public speaking, script writing, and character study. Throughout this course students will see an emphasis of interpersonal skills, self-confidence, and positive self-image.
ENVIRONMENTAL & OUTDOOR EDUCATION	
130.00	This course is perfect for those students who love being active and outdoors and want to learn about their impact and relationship with the environment. Some of the main topics to be covered include but are not limited to the following: individual and group development, service-learning, GPS & map skills, hiking & snowshoeing, kayaking, camping skills & meal planning. Come out for an exciting educational experience.
FOODS	
45.00	The grade 9 Foods program is a continuation of Foods 8, but you do not need to have taken any food classes before. The focus at this level is on meal planning and trying foods from different cultures. Students end the course by choosing a recipe to make and sharing a sample with their classmates.
FRENCH	
	French will be offered as a full year course. Grammar basics, sentence structure, verb conjugation, creating French projects and using technology, project-based learning and group work are the focus of this class. Themes covered are l'habitation (housing), les sports et l'exercice (sports and exercise) and la communauté (community).
GUITAR	
50.00	Guitar 9 is an introductory level guitar class, which allows students to learn basics of guitar technique and independent performance. This course requires no prior knowledge of music or guitar. Topics include playing by ear, reading chords and TAB, guitar technique, and ensemble playing. Various styles of music will be studied, including rock, blues, country, jazz, classical, and pop.

	Students will develop skills in <i>performing, writing, evaluating, and listening to music</i>. Students need to supply their own acoustic guitar or rent an acoustic guitar from the school. The school has a limited supply of acoustic guitars. Students with previous experience will be challenged at their level.
LEADERSHIP	
	In Grade 9 Leadership we will focus much of our energy on our school and community. How can we produce positive change right where we are? How can we make our school and our community a safe, caring, fun and exciting place to be? You will be involved in keeping up school spirit by helping with school events. You will not only be seen as leaders by your peers, other students, and teacher – you WILL be the leaders in the school. You will take lead roles in many of our in-school and out-of-school activities as well as planning and executing your own new ideas. This is your chance to shine! Make your grade 9 year what you want it to be!