

## Grade 8 & 9 Options Descriptions 2024

Grade 8 & 9 - options will be offered based on the most popular courses. Students might not get their first choice, but will be placed in something that they are interested in. Places will be decided based on first-come, first-served, but will also include reference to past behaviour and options choices (for example, someone who has never taken Foods will be prioritized, but a student with a history of safety issues might not be ready for the course).

- Mandatory: Planning for High School and University 8 &9
- Leadership 8 & 9
- Debate 8 & 9
- Foods 8 & 9
- Drama 8 & 9
- Film Studies 8 & 9
- Preparing for Medical Careers 9
- Art 8 & 9
- Photography 8 & 9
- STEM Engineering 8 & 9
- Coding 8 & 9
- Business 8 & 9
- Psychology 9
- Preparing for Legal Careers 9

<b>PLANNING FOR HIGH SCHOOL AND UNIVERSITY</b>	<b>NO FEE</b>
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All students will be enrolled in this option and will spend 2 months doing career exploration activities including surveys about their strengths and interests, research into job options, researching the path through post-secondary to careers, and setting personal goals for junior high and high school. Students will begin their MyBlueprint portfolio to gain an understanding of the requirements to enter grade 10, graduate with a diploma, and gain entrance into university.

<b>LEADERSHIP</b>	<b>NO FEE</b>
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This program is designed to allow students to develop their personal leadership style. Students will choose an area of the school, the community, or the wider world in which to create lasting positive change. All students in the leadership program will be involved in putting on many key activities in the school. These include: lunchtime activities, volunteer projects, school improvement, school spirit activities, staff and student recognition, and other student driven initiatives. This course will also explore different styles of leadership, and how famous leaders have modeled them. They will also be required to complete a minimum of 10 volunteer hours.

<b>DEBATE</b>	<b>NO FEE unless compete</b>
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Students use a variety of formats and structures for speech and debate to plan and execute effective presentations. Students have opportunities to build confidence in their public speaking abilities and refine and enhance their delivery and formal presentation skills. Students learn research skills on a variety of issues and develop their ability to synthesize complex information and think quickly. ALERT: Issues of a sensitive or controversial nature may be encountered or explored in this course. All curricular outcomes are intended to be achieved independent of any participation in speech and/or debate competitions, but students will have time in this class to prepare for competitions.

<b>FOODS: ALERT</b>	\$50 extra fee
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Students learn safe and sanitary food handling procedures, equipment care, comprehension of recipes and the importance of efficient work habits. Students focus on basic measuring techniques, preparation methods, role of ingredients and the proper use of equipment for baked goods. Students learn the importance of healthy eating habits by making nutritious, as well as delicious, snacks. Students learn about nutrients, what foods they are found in, how such foods affect performance and future health as they participate in healthy food preparation. ALERT: students must be able to handle all animal products using gloves and not have air-borne allergies. Students may have the opportunity to sample food, but this is not a snack program and students may not be able to eat all the products they make if they have food restrictions. Recipes will be nut-free.

<b>DRAMA</b>	NO FEE unless compete
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Drama fosters positive group interaction as students learn to make accommodations in order to pursue shared goals. Students will learn to communicate in various ways and work creatively with others as they discover dramatic expression. Through eight dramatic disciplines, they will develop both performance and technical skills, becoming more confident in themselves and their ability to work together. Students will have the opportunity to prepare for competitions if they wish.

<b>FILM STUDIES: ALERT</b>	NO FEE
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Viewing enables students to acquire information and to appreciate the ideas and experiences of others. Many of the comprehension processes involved in reading, such as previewing, predicting and making inferences, may also be used in viewing. This course gives students an experience in the viewing strand of English Language Arts while pursuing a personal interest. ALERT: films will be PG or PG-13 rated and may include references to violence or intimate relationships (such as Gremlins, E.T., Pleasantville, Super 8, The Goonies, or Batman Returns).

<b>ART</b>	NO FEE
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A variety of tools, materials, and media are used in the junior high art program. Your teen will express their feelings, think artistically, value the act of creating art, and value art forms. They will draw and create themselves, as well as explore the art that others have made.

<b>FIBRE ARTS</b>	NO FEE
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This option is for students to learn the basics of crocheting. Students will learn the cast on/off stitches as well as some basic crochet stitches. Students will learn about the different kinds of yarn, and the washing instructions. They will learn to read and follow a pattern to complete a simple project to donate to a community charity.

<b>PHOTOGRAPHY</b>	NO FEE
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Students develop essential skills in camera use with a focus on basic composition, set-up and an examination of exposure. Students operate a camera to capture images and produce final display proofs using basic photo editing software. Students use photographic prints or digital images to communicate a message or tell a story. Students will use both DSLR cameras and their cell phones (if they have one) to take pictures for the yearbook and school advertisements.

<b>STEM ENGINEERING</b>	NO FEE
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STEM 9 - 21st Century Learners need 4 skills to be successful in pursuing their passions - critical thinking, creative problem solving, communicating effectively and collaborating with others. Through the use of the Engineering Design Process we'll explore and develop each of these skills. Come and make connections with peers, take action to attempt to solve a variety of puzzles and building challenges and hold onto hope even through adversity. The grade 9 course will culminate in putting together all the skills at an Escape Room experience where you'll need to think outside of the box and depend on your team for success. Are you up to the challenge?

<b>COMPUTER SCIENCE DISCOVERIES</b>	NO FEE
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CS Discoveries is an introductory computer science course that empowers students to create authentic artifacts and engage with computer science as a medium for creativity, communication, problem solving, and fun. In the Interactive Animations and Games unit, students create programmatic images, animations, interactive art, and games. Starting off with simple, primitive shapes and building up to more sophisticated sprite-based games, students become familiar with the programming concepts and the design process computer scientists use daily. They then learn how these simpler constructs can be combined to create more complex programs. In the final project, students develop a personalized, interactive program.

<b>BUSINESS</b>	NO FEE
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Students will develop an understanding of the functions of business. The main focus will be on entrepreneurship but other subjects covered include: macro and micro economics, inventions, personal finance, accounting, marketing, information and communication technology, online and "tech" businesses, human resources, production, and the importance of ethics and social responsibility among others. Students identify characteristics and skills demonstrated by entrepreneurs, research a variety of entrepreneurs, and analyze their own entrepreneurial strengths and skills. Through community involvement, students develop an understanding of how opportunities are identified and ventures created.

<b>GRADE 9 ONLY: PREPARING FOR MEDICAL CAREERS (ALERT)</b>	NO FEE
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This course will explore the inner workings of the human body and focus on anatomical and medical terminology. This course will provide students the opportunity to expand their vocabulary, learn about the body's levels of organization, and how the levels interact. Students will develop a foundation for future pursuits in health related fields (ALERT: will include reference to reproductive organs and functions).

<b>GRADE 9 ONLY: INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY (ALERT)</b>	NO FEE
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Students will begin an examination of how mammals learn, think, feel, and behave. It will offer you a chance to learn what psychology is and what psychologists do. Students will begin an examination of the brain and the areas responsible for emotions and thinking. A specific area of focus will be resiliency strategies for topics that affect teens, such as anxiety and peer relationships. Students will be encouraged to use the course as a springboard for their Science Fair projects, and will have the opportunity to speak to university researchers about experimental design. (ALERT: will discuss subjects that cause anxiety, such as relationships)

**GRADE 9 ONLY: PREPARING FOR LEGAL CAREERS (ALERT)**

NO FEE

Students will learn about their rights and responsibilities under Canadian Law and research case studies to see how the law is applied and to debate how they think cases should have been dealt with. Students will take part in a mock trial (ALERT - will include references to violence). Students will learn about the many different careers available in law and how to plan their high school and university pathway.

**Information for Grade 10-12****High School Diploma Requirements:**

- 15 credits English (must have 30-1 or 30-2)
- 15 credits Social Studies (must have 30-1 or 30-2)
- 10 credits Mathematics (must have 20 level)
- 10 credits Science (must have 20 level)
- 6 credits of Phys Ed 10 and Calm 10
- 10 credits of Options
- 10 credits of any 30-level courses (other than English or Socials)
- Additional 24 credits from grade 10-12

**University of Alberta Entrance Courses: average of these 5 subjects:**

- Bachelor of Engineering: English 30, Math 30, Math 31, Physics 30, Chem 30
- Bachelor of Science: English 30; Math 30; only need 2 sciences, but some majors require 3; extra course from any group A/B/or C
- Bachelor of Arts: English 30; choose 4 courses (one can be Art or Drama)

Group A (Humanities)	Group B (Fine Arts)	Group C (Maths/Sciences)
Social Studies 30-1 Microeconomics/Macroeconomics 30 (must be presented together) 30-level Language other than English Aboriginal Studies 30	Art 30 Drama 30 Art 31 Applied Graphic Arts 35 Communication Technology Advanced Level-Career and Technology Studies (CTS) Dance 35 Music 30 Music 35 Musical Theatre 35 Performing Arts 35 A, B, or C	Biology 30 Chemistry 30 Mathematics 30-1 Mathematics 30-2 (see Note 3) Mathematics 31 (calculus) Physics 30 Science 30 Computing Science (CSE) Advanced Level-Career and Technology Studies (CTS)