



GRADE 9

2025 – 2026 COURSE PLANNING INFORMATION

This information sheet is not to be submitted; it is for your information only. Students will be attending Grade 9 Course Planning Information Assembly on February 18, 2025. Students will enter their elective course requests during class time at MEI using the myEducation BC portal under the supervision of the School Counsellors between February 24 – 28, 2025. Please consult the link below which includes the 2025-2026 Course Calendar, Grade 9 Course Planning presentation, and additional information. <https://www.meischools.com/resources/course-planning-for-mei-secondary-students/>.

Grade 9 Required Courses

A Bible and Career Education Course

- Bible 9 – Exploring the Biblical Story
- Career Education 9

A Language Arts 9 Course

- English Language Arts 9 or
- English Language Arts 9 Honours (Note 1)

A Physical and Health Education Course

- Physical and Health Education 9 Boys or
- Physical and Health Education 9 Girls

A Science 9 Course

- Science 9 or
- Science 9 Honours (Note 1)

A Social Studies 9 Course

- Social Studies 9

A Mathematics Course

- Mathematics 9 or
- Workplace Math 9 (Note 2)

Grade 9 Elective Course Options

Students select electives for a total course value of **8**

Applied, Design Skills and Technologies (ADST)

(must select at least one in this section) (Course Value)

- Entrepreneurship and Marketing 9 (2)
- Food Studies 9 (2)
- Information and Communications Technologies 9 (2)
- Textiles 9 (2)
- Woodwork 9 (2)

Art Education (AE) (must select at least one in this section)

- Drama 9 (2)
- Music 9 (Band) (4)
- Music 9 (Choral music) (2)
- Visual Arts 9 (2)

An Optional Modern Language Course (Note 3)

- Core French 9 (2)
- Spanish 9 (2)

Two Alternates: _____

Extended Day Course – Optional

Optional courses offered outside of the regular timetable (early morning or after school). To apply for these classes students need to submit an **application form** through Microsoft Forms by **March 7, 2025**. Links for these applications can be found on the MEI Course Planning Resources website and in the MYED BC course request portal.



APEX: Student Leadership 9



Junior Worship Leadership 9



Junior Chamber Singers 9

Drumline 9: audition in September. No Application Form required

Important Notes – Please read carefully

Note 1. Apply through the Application Form by March 7, 2025. Use QR codes below.



English Language Arts 9 Honours



Science 9 Honours

Application forms are also found in the MyEd course request portal and the website above.

Note 2. This course is designed for students who need additional preparation for Math 9 or who prefer the Workplace Math path.

Note 3. Please read the BC Second Language Information on the back of this sheet.

Note 4. Learning Support Blocks are for designated students only. Each LS block takes the space of 4 elective credits. For more information about support blocks please contact our school counsellors.

BC SECOND LANGUAGE INFORMATION

As you are considering whether or not to carry on your education with a second language beyond grade 8, it is important to take into account the following information:

High School Graduation Requirement

A second language is **optional in grades 9 – 12** and is not required for high school graduation.

In order to take French or Spanish 10, 11 or 12 at MEI, students must have successfully completed French 9 or Spanish 9. Students can switch from French 8 and move on to Spanish 9 without prior Spanish knowledge.

University Admission Requirements

At this time a second language is **not** required for general admission to:

- ✓ British Columbia Institute of Technology
- ✓ Kwantlen Polytechnic University
- ✓ Simon Fraser University
- ✓ Trinity Western University
- ✓ University of the Fraser Valley
- ✓ University of British Columbia
- ✓ University of Northern British Columbia
- ✓ University of Victoria
- ✓ Most other BC Colleges and Bible Schools.

University admission and program requirements can change year to year. While school counsellors provide as much guidance and general information as they can regarding second language entrance requirements, it is the responsibility of students and families to become familiar with post-secondary requirements and plan courses accordingly.

Six Surprising Benefits of Learning Another Language

- 1. Learning a new language could improve your memory.** There's evidence that learning vocabulary boosts memory, but it's more than just simple repetition. Delving into another language can make you more mentally alert because you're also paying attention to body language cues.
- 2. Being bilingual can make you a better multitasker.** Science suggests that bilingual speakers demonstrate an increased capacity for problem-solving. Using cognitive muscles to navigate multiple languages can make you more adept at juggling tasks in other ways.
- 3. Knowing other languages may encourage cultural appreciation.** Learning a new language could contribute to greater tolerance because of the exposure to a variety of cultures. Some studies show there is a correlation between being bilingual and having a more positive outlook.
- 4. Speaking other languages can make you a better communicator.** It's not just about knowing how to express yourself. It's also about the ways other languages can help you understand your own.
- 5. Learning a language can encourage creativity.** One of the natural outcomes of being versed in another language is immersing yourself in that culture. The process can spark connections and shift paradigms within your own world.
- 6. Being bilingual may make your brain bigger.** Research suggests that being bilingual has noticeable benefits when it comes to the size of your brain, particularly growth in the cerebral cortex and hippocampus. Like the other muscles in your body, the brain can get bigger with exercise. One of the best ways to keep your mind active is to learn, speak, and read in other languages.