



Grade 9 Course Catalogue 2025/2026



ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – GRADE 9

FOR ALL ACADEMIES: *As per Board policy, no student will be excluded from an educational program due to financial need. If paying for an academy is a hardship, parents are asked to contact your student's Vice Principal for support with the academy fees.*

BASEBALL ACADEMY 9

Baseball experience

Program Cost: \$200.00/year

The Baseball Academy will be open to students who have played at least 2 years of organized baseball or fastball. It will run from September to the end of November and from March to the middle of June. Students will be able to pursue their passion for baseball by developing their offensive and defensive mechanics and overall skill levels. The course will include some inter-squad games to enhance teamwork and game experience. Players will also be doing physical training, weights and fitness and will learn about nutrition.

GOLF ACADEMY 9 (OTT)

Program Cost: \$465

Students will receive instruction from fully accredited C.P.G.A. professionals in order to elevate their golf skills. The course is designed in a holistic manner that emphasizes strong fundamentals and also includes instruction on course management strategies and the mental aspects of the game. Students must be able to arrange their own transportation to playing and practice locations. On-course playing and practice sessions occur in September, October, May, and June. Field studies and theory lessons occur through the winter months.

HOCKEY ACADEMY 9

Program Cost - \$1000.00 [Application required](#)

This program helps minor hockey players of all levels develop and improve their hockey skills. This academy is based on a number of principles: a.) It is strictly supplementary to minor hockey; b.) It is not game based, but is dedicated to improving skills; c.) the program is open to all skill levels, house league to rep, male and female; and d.) the program is committed to helping students achieve academically. All ice times take place at the Jim Lind and Royal Lepage arenas. Approximately 50 hours of on-ice instruction is provided by fully qualified hockey instructors. Students must be able to arrange transportation of equipment to school on scheduled ice days. Limited overnight storage may be available.

OUTDOOR EDUCATION ACADEMY 9 (10-week)

Program Cost - \$300.00

This class will run in term 1 or term 4. Students will be introduced to basic outdoor activities and processes. Activities will include menu planning and cooking, gear awareness, training for hike, multi night hiking trip, rock climbing, archery, discovery scuba (Term 1), intro sailing (Term 4). The course fee of \$300 includes all activities and transportation. Cost for food and individual gear is the responsibility of the student.

SOCCER ACADEMY 9

Program Cost - \$250.00

This program is open to players of all ability levels. Students wanting to take this program should have a strong interest in improving their individual and team soccer skills, and have a desire to increase their personal fitness level, confidence, and roles as leaders. Students will develop these aspects by focusing on the curricular competencies: technical and tactical development, personal growth, and healthy lifestyle. Students must be prepared to show strong work ethic and teamwork.

ACTING AND IMPROV 9

This course focuses on developing acting skills through theatre games, improvisation, and scripted plays. Through various drama projects, students will develop personal and social awareness and responsibility as well as foster positive personal and cultural identity. Stage etiquette and theatre terminology are also included. Cooperative learning skills are necessary.

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE EXPLORATIONS 9

Welcome to ASL Explorations, an exciting journey into the world of American Sign Language. This course is a unique opportunity for students to discover the beauty of visual communication, explore Deaf Culture, and develop a foundation in basic ASL skills. Throughout the class, students will engage in interactive activities, games, and cultural explorations to make the introduction to ASL both educational and fun.

ART STUDIO 9

Art Studio 9 is an introduction to the variety of mediums that are offered throughout the art program at MBSS. Students will explore drawing, painting, sculpture, pottery and printmaking while building foundations in art. This course will encourage students to reflect on art and the creative process for self-expression and communication. We welcome every student at every level.

BOUCHERIE THEATRE COMPANY: Acting, Directing & Management 9 (OTT)

Students in this course are part of the Boucherie Theatre Company. Students will work in the areas of stage acting, directing, theatre management, and applicable technical theatre work through the preparation and public performance of theatre productions. Students interested in performing in, or being part of the crew of a major school production, are strongly encouraged to take this course. Please note, this course meets after school on certain days of the week and additional days are added as we approach production dates. You must be eager, reliable, flexible and interested in all aspects of theatre to be successful.

BOUCHERIE THEATRE PRODUCTION – Stagecraft & Costume Design 9 (OTT)

Students in this course are part of the Boucherie Theatre Company. Students will work closely with the cast and crew in the areas of stagecraft and/or costume design. Costume design students will have the opportunity to develop hands-on skills such as designing, sewing, restyling, and crafting to create authentic costumes and accessories for the school's Major Production. Stagecraft students work in the areas of lighting, sound, and set construction and design. Please note: this course meets after school on certain days of the week and additional days are added as we approach production dates. Students must be eager, reliable, flexible, and interested in learning about aspects of theatre to be successful.

CHOIR 9

Students will have the opportunity to individually become better vocalists and learn a lot about vocal production usable for all musical styles. Students will learn various styles of music including jazz, pop, classical, gospel and folk. Students will enjoy being part of a choir and preparing for performances. The focus of this group is to enjoy music, become better musicians/singers, make new friends and have fun. This is a mixed grade level course of students from grades 9 through 12. Uniform: more information will be provided in the fall.

COMIC ARTS 9

"I really believe in the power of comic....., even ones as silly as mine, because they're a gateway to the actual thing. They're like an easy entrance." — Kate Beaton

Explore the dynamic world of visual storytelling in this introductory Comic Arts course! Delve into the fundamentals of digital illustration while honing your skills in character design, cartooning, and stylization. From crafting expressive characters to mastering the art of visual narratives, this class offers a creative playground for aspiring comic artists, graphic novel enthusiasts, and animation aficionados. Unleash your imagination, learn essential techniques, and bring your ideas to life through the captivating art of comics and illustration.

COMPUTER ANIMATION 9

This class emphasizes creation and creativity as you create and animate characters into their own story! This course is a basic introduction to the concepts and skills developed further in senior level animation courses. The course will focus on two areas: creating their own animated storyline using multiple characters and a plot of their own imagination, and introductory creation of 3D modeled animation characters using professional level software.

CONCERT BAND 9

A wide variety of music will be rehearsed and performed as part of the Grade 9 Concert Band. Instrumental technique, music listening, and various enrichment activities will be included. Students are expected to engage in regular practice of both their music and technical exercises in order to achieve mastery of this level of music. Some music theory, music listening, and skill-building exercises will be included in the course curriculum. Students who have never been a part of a regular school band class are welcome to join Concert Band 9, provided they have the ability to read music. Orchestral string players are welcome! Concert Band 9 is a linear course, and also includes an additional morning practice every second week. These morning rehearsals are a valuable opportunity to gain the skills necessary to be successful at the high school level, and are highly recommended.

CUSTOM LEATHER WORKS

Who is it for? Students who wish to become artisans capable of handling every stage of the design and fabrication of leather goods. Cutting, forming, dying and stitching will be explored when you create your own custom leather projects.

DANCE 9

Students will be exposed to different aspects of jazz, hip hop, musical theater and lyrical. Students will develop their skills and explore the various genres. Students will train and refine their techniques within combinations across the floor, center choreography, and strengthening exercises. Students will apply knowledge of choreography and showcase their number in our dance show at the end of the semester. All levels welcome- no experience necessary.

DRAWING AND PAINTING 9

This course is for students looking to develop, deepen and hone their art skills and experience. Students will engage in observational drawing and painting practices and learn about contemporary and historical artists that shape our understanding of the visual world today. Art materials that will be explored include acrylic and watercolour paint and a variety of drawing materials: ink, graphite, and charcoal. Be ready to fill your sketchbook, grow your ideas of what art can be and most importantly, build drawing and painting skills!

FOODS 9

This fun and interactive course allows students to explore the applied skills area of Foods. In Foods 9 students will have hands-on experiences where they apply their Creative and Critical Thinking to foods. Through discussion and practice creating balanced meals, students will develop a mindfulness of how Personal Awareness and Responsibility impact a healthy lifestyle. Students will be asked to reflect on their Positive Personal & Cultural Identity and Social Responsibility and how their consumer choices impact themselves and the world around them.

FOOTBALL 9

This course is designed to be an introduction to the game of American football, including football theory, strategy, techniques, and training, both in and off season. Students will learn the rules of the game, as well as offensive, defensive and special team strategies. In addition to contact drills, students will be expected to participate in non-contact drills and scrimmages. In the practical component of the course, students will learn technique in all aspects of the game including blocking, tackling, catching, kicking, and coaching. An emphasis will be placed on both individual contributions to a team as a community and the development of team skills. A significant portion of this course will be on the prevention and care of football-related injuries.

FRENCH 9

Bienvenue à la classe de français au lycée! Students will learn new vocabulary and grammatical concepts to help them communicate in French through purposeful language and comprehensible stories. This course develops students' skills in speaking, listening, reading, and writing with fun and engaging activities. Students will be exposed to French culture through film, festivals, creative works, and food. This course follows a comprehensible input (CI) method of teaching that allows students to acquire a natural approach to language learning.

INTRO OKANAGAN LANGUAGE 11

Students will enter the Nsyilxcən-speaking world through written, oral, cultural, and visual works. A fundamental aim of Okanagan language education is to enable students to communicate with others in Okanagan. This course embraces a variety of communication skills - listening, reading, speaking, writing, viewing, and representing - in order to reach students with a wide range of abilities, language traditions, and backgrounds. It emphasizes authentic language-learning experiences and the application of a range of language learning strategies. This is a mixed grade level course of students from grades 9 through 12. This course is part of the Academy of Indigenous Studies.

JAZZ BAND 9

All Grade 8 students who are interested in playing in Jazz Band, and are currently enrolled in Band 8 or have at least one years of playing experience, are encouraged to select this course (previous Jazz experience is an asset, but is not required). Students are expected to engage in regular practice of both their music and technical exercises in order to achieve mastery of this level of music. Swing, Funk, Ballad, Latin, and Contemporary Jazz charts will be studied and performed in Jazz Band 9. Some music theory (mostly related to improvisation), music listening, and skill-building exercises will be included in the course curriculum. Jazz Band 9 is a linear course, and also includes an additional morning practice every second week. These morning rehearsals are a valuable opportunity to gain the skills necessary to be successful at the high school level, and are highly recommended.

JAZZ STUDIES 9: (OTT)

PREREQUISITE: Students MUST be enrolled in the Jazz Band course

Jazz Studies, also known as Jazz Combo, is a small ensemble that usually consists of a rhythm section and one or more wind instruments or vocalists. The Jazz Combo ensemble was the dominant format for groups heard on major Jazz recordings from the 1950's and onward. Emphasis is on the further development of jazz improvisation theory, leadership skills, and ensemble playing skills. Rehearsals may be held before school, at lunchtime, or after school. Each combo must rehearse twice per week at times chosen by the band which are conducive to each member's schedule for the entire year. Jazz Combos are also asked to play gigs independent of the music department. Often, these gigs are played without pay, but as the experience level of the combo increases, opportunities for paid gigs do occur.

MACHINING/INTRO TO WELDING 9

Do you enjoy working with industrial tools? This course introduces students to a series of personalized projects with precision machine tools. Students will become confident and comfortable using hand tools, the lathe, drill press and milling machine. The Second module introduces students to the safe use of GMAW (MIG welding) through a student-centered project. *Machining/Intro to Welding 9* is different than *Sheet Metal/ Intro to Welding 9*. You can sign up for both.

MEDIA ARTS 9

"The moment you are making art, you are no longer an aspiring artist. You're just an artist, so do it. Make it right now." — Rebecca Sugar
Media Arts 9 is a gateway to the exciting world of digital art! This computer based art class is all about diving into the foundations of digital art creation. Together we will explore topics such as photo manipulation, graphic design, and print media. Get ready to explore the tools and techniques of Photoshop as we learn how to bring our ideas to life on the digital canvas. Whether you're a beginner or have some experience, this course will kickstart your journey into the realm of creative digital arts!

METAL ART AND JEWELRY 9

Need some bling? Create novelty Jewelry using various methods and materials. In this class students will explore creative expression through metal art. Students will learn about design aspects and then develop their own project throughout the course..

POTTERY AND SCULPTURE 9

Sculpture 9 is a hands-on course that will introduce students to a variety of 3D art methods. Students will receive an introduction to clay hand building techniques as well as explore sculptural materials like cardboard, wire, and found materials. We welcome every student at every level.

ROBOTICS 9

This course is a basic introduction to the concepts and skills developed further in senior level robotics courses. Based around a Design Thinking approach and self-directed learning, students inquire into and are exposed to the construction and programming of robotics. Students are given a series of mechanical and competitive challenges to try and deduce and implement the best possible solution.

SEWING 9

This introductory course will teach you the basics of how to make and design your own clothing. No previous sewing experience is needed. Projects in the past have included: a pencil case, a grocery bag, pj shorts and a raglan sleeve t-shirt. This hands-on course will apply your Creative and Critical Thinking. In Sewing 9 students will be asked to reflect on their Personal and Social Responsibility and how their consumer choices impact themselves and world around them. To see what is going on the Sewing room please check out our website: <https://sites.google.com/learn.sd23.bc.ca/mbss-fashion-sewing/home-economics-9>

SHEET METAL/INTRO TO WELDING 9

Do you enjoy working with your hands? This course introduces students to design, layout and forming sheet metal with specialized equipment. Students will become familiar and comfortable with design, layout and construction through a series of individualized projects. The Second module introduces students to the safe use of GMAW (MIG welding) through a student-centered project. *Sheet Metal/ Intro to Welding 9* is different than *Machining/Intro to Welding 9*. You can sign up for both.

SPANISH 9

¡Bienvenidos al mundo español! Welcome new and introductory language learners. Students will develop their language skills through stories, games and experiences. Discovering different regional variations of language and culture, students will engage with Spanish-speaking identity through a variety of creative works. This course follows a comprehensible input (CI) method of teaching that allows students to acquire a natural approach to language learning.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP 9

Help to make MBSS a fun and exciting place! In this course, students will learn how to plan, promote, & lead school events and activities, as they work with a team of leaders to build school spirit. Students will also develop individual character & leadership skills that will help make their school, community, and world a better place. In this class, students will learn more about what it means to be a responsible, kind, respectful, inclusive leader, committed to make a positive difference. They will also learn how to be more creative, how to find solutions to school wide issues, how to use their strengths to work with other people, how to organize, communicate, and promote events and causes, & how to create fun and excitement in our school. In order to make all of this learning possible, students will be expected to volunteer at lunch-time, after school, or during breaks to help with school events, and to be ready to have fun while you learn lifelong leadership skills..

TEXTILE ARTS AND CRAFTS 9

Textiles Arts and Crafts 9 is an opportunity to learn a variety of traditional and modern skills using different fiber mediums and crafting techniques. This project based learning opportunity will explore how textiles arts and crafts are used for traditions and culture. Units will be tailored to the interest of the class and could include cross-stitch, basic embroidery, macramé, paper crafts and many more. Students will be given the opportunity to individualize their projects to express their personal identity and creativity. No prior skills in art, textiles or crafting are needed. Come join us to learn a new hobby or expand your crafting skills.

WOODWORK 9

The main goal of this course is to give you understanding and application of woodworking procedures. Students will learn product design, layout, construction and safe machine/tool use. Use your own original designs - customization and creativity are highly encouraged. Students will become comfortable using processes such as carving and shaping wood using chisels, gouges, lathes and woodworking power tools such as mitresaw, jointer, planer, tablesaw, lathe. If you like to build stuff, this is the course for you!

YEARBOOK 9: (OTT)

*Note: This course is scheduled outside the regular timetable
"Design creates culture. Culture shapes values. Values determine the future." - Robert L. Peters

Students who are interested in photography, journalism, or design should take Yearbook! This course provides students with the opportunity to explore and expand their photography, communication, and design skills while documenting school events throughout the year. This is a fast-paced course that requires commitment, availability outside of school hours, independence, professionalism, flexibility, and creativity. Collaboratively, we will produce, design, and distribute this year's yearbook! Students who take all levels of this course will be expected to advance upon their skills and curricular competencies.