



2020 -2021 GRADE 9 COURSE INFORMATION

Students in Grades 9-12 follow a program of studies in English, Modern and Classical Languages, Mathematics, Fine Arts, Physical Education, Science, Social Studies, Philosophy, Art History and Religious Studies. Students may register for course offerings to meet the grade level requirements and to make appropriate progress towards graduation with the understanding that courses which are under-subscribed may not be offered in a given year.

Secondary School students are guided by their Academic Plan, the IB Coordinator, and teachers to select courses that are appropriate to their own academic needs in agreement with their parents. Difficult scheduling issues may be referred to the Principal for a final decision. Every student is expected to register for a complete schedule of classes.

Grade 9 Typical Schedule		Graduation Requirements
English	Required Core Course	Marymount's course of studies offers students a wide range of subjects. A minimum of 20 credits in Grades 9-12 is required for graduation. Over the four years of a typical High School program, a student will complete well over the minimum total credits required. Care must be taken to complete subject credit requirements within the total credits earned.
Biology I	Required Core Course	
Physical Science	Required Core Course	
World History I	Required Core Course	
Mathematics	Required Core Course	
Modern Language	Required Core Course	
Philosophy	Required Core Course	
History of Art	Required Course	
Religious Studies	Required Course	
Physical Education/Health	Required Course	
Italian Literature 9	Recommended for IB Italian A	To earn a Marymount High School Diploma a student must fulfill (Grades 9-12) the following requirements: (1 credit represents a full year in a normally scheduled course)
Electives	Students' Choice	
Electives Choices:		
Basic Design	Intro to Programming	
Computer Arts	HS Drama	
Artificial Intelligence		
And Society	Latin	
HS Band	3rd Modern Language	
HS Choir	MUN	
Music Production	Public Speaking	
Electives vary from 1 to 2 depending on the schedule module adopted. When choosing your courses please make sure to select 3 possible electives in order of preference. Please see Course Selection on the last page of this booklet.		English 4 credits
		Social Studies 3 credits
		Mathematics 3 credits
		Science 3 credits including 1 year of a Lab Science
		Fine Arts 1 credit
		Physical Education 1 credit required in Grades 9-10 (0.5 each year)
		Modern Language 4 credits or 1 credit each year at Marymount
		Religious Education 2 credits required each year in attendance at Marymount (0.5 per year)

ENGLISH

ENGLISH 9 STANDARD (Credit: 1)

Students in this course continue their study of literary and non-literary texts and strengthen their ability to express themselves both orally and in written composition. Skills in literary analysis are reinforced and students



are encouraged to read and think critically. Grammatical concepts are applied to a variety of writing exercises. Vocabulary study is embedded within the teaching of literary texts, in terms of both the vocabulary from within the text and for use in approaching it critically. Expository essay writing, oral presentation skills and earlier-stage commentary writing are the overarching communication focuses for the year, addressed through the study of literary texts from each of the genres: short story, the novel, poetry and drama.

ENGLISH 9 ADVANCED (Credit: 1)

In this course students deepen their understanding of literary and non-literary texts. As they study these forms, students will develop skills in critical reading and in writing analytical and descriptive essays. Students study a 19th and 21st novel and contemporary short stories. Study of poetry introduces students to written literary commentaries and oral presentation. The year concludes with a study of Greek and Shakespearean drama. Vocabulary study is also an integral part of the curriculum. Class discussions and student essays focus on content and style; students learn to appreciate diction, imagery, tone and structure and deepen their understanding of literary techniques.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS - ELL (Credit: 1)

The High School ELL program is designed to improve students' use of English, and help implement the use of the English language to then access the regular school curriculum in all subjects areas. English language proficiency is to ensure students are placed in an appropriate level.

The aims of the ELL program are that students should be able to:

- Demonstrate English proficiency through basic interpersonal communication.
- Demonstrate English proficiency through cognitive academic language development in all school subjects including Language Arts, Mathematics, the Sciences, and Social Studies.
- Demonstrate English proficiency in socially and culturally appropriate ways.

SCIENCE

BIOLOGY I - Grade 9 (Credit: 1)

The course includes and introduction to the material necessary for the study of IB Biology: cells, diffusion, osmosis, enzymes, human physiology and environmental sciences. A practical approach allows students to develop scientific thinking, scientific communication and practical skills.

PHYSICAL SCIENCE - Grade 9 (Credit: 1)

This course introduces the general principles of physics and chemistry. Topics include measurement, motion and forces, energy, thermodynamics, waves, electricity & magnetism, and chemical principles. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate an understanding of the physical world and be able to apply scientific principles to interpret observations.

SOCIAL STUDIES

WORLD HISTORY I: 19th and 20th century - Grade 9 (Credit: 1)

The first year of this two year course aims to deepen students' historical knowledge of four world regions: Europe, Asia and Oceania, the Americas and Africa and the Middle East. World History I students will study political, economic, cultural and territorial aspects of the history of regions of the Americas and Africa and the Middle East during the 19th and 20th centuries. This course emphasizes group and individual project work, essay writing, critical thinking and research techniques.

PHILOSOPHY - Grade 9 (Credit:1/2)

This course introduces students to Philosophy. The students will learn how to think philosophically about ideas and concepts that deeply impact our lives, with a focus on political philosophy. Students will learn about a variety of arguments concerning the justification of the state, the value of different forms of governments, and



key concepts such as liberty and equality. They will study key texts from Plato and Aristotle to Hobbes and Rousseau, improving their skills in critical analysis and developing arguments of their own.

MATHEMATICS

ALGEBRA I - Grade 9 (Credit: 1) Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra

This course develops basic algebraic concepts of equation solving, manipulation of monomials and polynomials and graphing of functions. Skills will be acquired in solving equations in two variables and in handling exponent factors, fractions, square roots, quadratic equations, real numbers and inequalities.

GEOMETRY AND FURTHER ALGEBRA - Grade 9-12, (Credit: 1) Prerequisite: Algebra I

Geometry and Further Algebra builds on learning from Math 8 and continues to make connections among concepts from algebra, geometry, functions, and statistics. Geometry is represented as a mathematical system through the study of plane and non-planar figures. Students will study the basic geometric language, parallel and perpendicular lines and planes, congruent triangles and their application, similar polygons, right and non-right triangle relationships, circles and their areas, relationships among angles, arcs, and line segments in a circle, the geometric relationships created when tangents and secants intersect a circle and geometric constructions. Algebra topics that will be expanded upon are as follows: representations of a quadratic function, solving quadratic equations, solving systems of linear equations, and simplifying radicals. The section on statistics will study descriptive and inferential statistics using univariate and bivariate data.

MODERN LANGUAGES

Students in Grade 9 have the choice of French, or Spanish offered from Level I-V. Italian is offered from Level I-V. Mandarin is offered at level I & II. German is offered at level I - IV. Arabic is offered at level I - III.

Grades 9 - 12 (Credit: 1)

Level I: This course acquaints the student with basic vocabulary, grammar and some aspects of civilization through the use of a text, audio material and, in the second semester, of a reader. Upon completion the student will be able to use the four language skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing) in real life situations with emphasis on functional expressions.

Level II: This course develops the fundamental skills of learning a second language with an emphasis on oral communication, both listening comprehension and speaking. Students also acquire reading and writing skills, and grammatical patterns are presented formally but are practiced in functional situations relating to the ability to communicate with an understanding of the culture.

Level III: This course reviews, reinforces, and extends grammar through intensive oral and written activities. The emphasis here is placed on reading, analyzing and developing spontaneity in the use of language skills. Students read at least a short story per semester or a collection of short stories to increase their vocabulary and analytical skills. Essay writing is introduced.

Level IV: This course sharpens previously acquired language oral and written skills through presentations, essay writing and grammatical review, the literary tense is introduced. Students learn to appreciate the culture of the second language by becoming familiar with writers of that language and are provided with the tools for



textual interpretation. A collection of short stories and several excerpts from an anthology are read and analyzed. Vocabulary is studied in context according to themes.

Level V: This course sharpens previously gained language skills through oral presentations, essay writing and grammar review. Students deepen their appreciation of culture and literature analyzing the work of writers, poets, playwrights and directors being provided with tools for textual and cultural analysis. Magazines, films and newspapers are used for class discussion and vocabulary building.

ITALIAN LITERATURE 9 - Grade 9 (Credit: 1)

The course is designed for students whose native language is Italian and it is recommended to students who have achieved the Italian “Terza Media” diploma. It is not a mandatory requisite for IB Group A courses, but it is highly recommended. It is designed to give students an overview of the Italian literary movements from the birth of the Italian language up to the XVI^o century. The students will be exposed to different genres of literature and different texts, both literary and non literary. Emphasis will be placed on improving analytical reading and writing abilities.

LATIN I - Grade 9 (Credit: 1)

This introductory course offers a thorough and fascinating grounding in Latin that combines the traditional grammatical method with the reading and translating approach. In addition to grammar, paradigms and readings the course reinforces the grammar and morphology while encouraging the joy of linguistic and cultural discovery.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

WORLD RELIGIONS (Credit: 1/2)

The World Religion course guides students in approaching with reverence the teachings, rules of life, and sacred rites of world religions. Students examine the Church’s relationship to non-Catholic Christians and non-Christian religions, including primal religions, Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, Judaism. Along with studying basic beliefs, code of conduct and styles of worship, students examine the local and global issues that influence the practice of religion today. Through readings, activities, art, and lectures, students will examine the nature of religion and the influence of various cultural and social forces that both shape and affect it.

CONFIRMATION (CREDIT: 1/2)

The Confirmation course is offered for students who wish to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, or those who have recently received the Sacrament of Confirmation and wish to take an in-depth look at the Catholic faith. The goal of the course is to prepare students both intellectually and spiritually to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation and to become lifelong disciples of Christ. Students examine the role of the Holy Spirit, the Church, and the Sacraments in salvation history and in their own lives. They learn and practice different styles of prayer and understand how to develop a deep and lasting personal relationship with God.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH 9

PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH 9 (Credit: 1/2)

This course builds on the foundations set in the Middle School Sports Program. The focus is towards a tactical and functional appreciation of each sport and activity, including the rules of the game and how to officiate. Values of sportsmanship and fair play are integral to the course content and participation in the athletic program and sports outside the PE program are actively encouraged. Students will also have monthly health education lessons (focusing on mental, social, physical and emotional health), in conjunction with the essential principles of healthy living and individual fitness.



PERFORMING ARTS

HS BAND Grade 9 - 12 (Credit: 1)

This is an advanced level ensemble open for students from Grades 9 – 12 who already play a band instrument or have prior musical knowledge and/or experience.

The course focuses on improving musicianship through the students' sense of tonality, rhythm and technique, and through performing in several styles. Individual growth will be emphasized. Students will have opportunities to conduct and arrange music. Diligent practice is expected and private lessons are encouraged. The ensemble performs several times throughout the school year including the Christmas and Spring Concerts and Graduation.

Advanced Band students may be chosen as members of the orchestra for the HS play and form the core group of the Royal Winds, the School's Honor Band. Students may be asked to audition to ensure an adequate level.

HS CHORUS - Grade 9-12 (Credit: 1)

In this year-long course students discover the fun and excitement of singing in a group. Students learn about proper vocal production, singing in harmony in two or three parts, and studying music from many different genres and backgrounds. Performance is a key component so students will perform in the classroom, in school concerts during the year, in school masses and on retreats. The group will explore possibilities to sing off campus and perhaps a field trip to France to perform.

HIGH SCHOOL DRAMA I - Grade 9-12 (Credit: 1)

This course is a practical and academic study in the subject of drama. Class time is broken down into a series of practical workshops aimed at building confidence, taking risks and learning to create theatre as an ensemble. Techniques on acting, movement, design, and directing are all incorporated into the subject so there is something for everyone. Students are assessed on their ensemble work, practical projects, homework and a final performance at the end of the year. It is suitable for students that have little or no experience in drama, as well as those that have perhaps already shown enthusiasm and skill in the subject in their middle school years.

VISUAL ARTS

BASIC DESIGN - Grade 9-12 (Credit: 1)

Basic Design is an elective course for Grades 9-12. In this course students will become familiar with basic processes and techniques in creating both two and three-dimensional works. Students will have the opportunity to realize their own designs whilst researching art and design both past and present. Basic design will help students develop their ability to observe, understand and use artistic materials, elements and the principles of good design. Students will attempt to master necessary skills and techniques needed to make personal statements. Emphasis will be placed on the understanding and application of the principles of design. Through local museum research both two and three-dimensional works of past and present are studied and ideas gained for future studio works.

HISTORY OF ART - Grade 9 (Credit: ½)

The central theme of this course is to acquaint the students with the basic History of Art from the Paleolithic to the 20th Century. The students are provided with a vocabulary with which to speak about works of art and architecture. On the basis of style and content they will learn to explain why a work belongs to a particular period and culture. They will describe the meaning of artworks by analyzing how specific works are created and how they relate to historical and cultural contexts. They will compare the characteristics of the visual arts within a particular historical period with ideas, issues, or themes in the humanities or sciences. They will analyze and interpret artworks for relationships among form, context, purposes, and critical models, showing an understanding of the work of critics, historians, aestheticians, and artists. This course is highly recommended, in particular, for those students who intend to follow the IB Visual Arts course of study in their junior and senior years.



COMPUTER ARTS 1 - Grade 9 - 12 (Credit: 1)

Computer Arts is an elective one-year course for Grades 9-12. The course offers fundamental instruction in creating and designing images and moving images with computers. Computer aided design is the focus of the class. Research into how computers are used in modern design will be investigated. The completion of assignments will combine text with graphics for layout and static image design, and audio with moving image for animated cartoon films, Internet Web design and digital video editing. Pupils will become familiar with the use of the multimedia center and they will extend their word processing skills. Students will be required to have the Photoshop program on their personal computers.

INTRODUCTION TO PROGRAMMING- Grade 9-12 (Credit: 1)

This course is designed to consolidate and further computer skills, which were introduced in Middle School, with an in-depth approach to some applications, e.g. Web page creation and multimedia authoring. The students will experience coding using Java and Python, interpreted, high-level, general-purpose programming languages; The students will gain an extensive background in computing, including basic knowledge of computer hardware components, and programming. This provides vital knowledge and puts computers in their place in our society today - 'the social implications of the computerization of today's world.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND SOCIETY - Grades 9-12 (Credit: 1)

The course provides a basic grounding in the principles and practices around Artificial Intelligence, automation and cognitive systems with particular emphasis on the mathematical and coding aspects. Along with the technologies involved, the course also focuses on the societal and ethical implications of AI's use and improvements.

MODEL UNITED NATIONS & DEBATE Grade 9 - 12 (Credit: 1)

This course prepares students to participate actively as delegates in the Model United Nations conferences held in The Hague and in Haarlem. Students learn about the history, structure and function of the UN, how to research and write resolutions on urgent world issues, how to debate, how to question Socratically, and how to deliver speeches of different kinds. There is an emphasis on collaboration. This class is the best preparation for students interested in attending a MUN conference.

MUSIC PRODUCTION Grade 9-12 (Credit :1)

This yearlong course is designed to enhance music theory fundamentals and composition skills. The essential aspects of melody, harmony, rhythm and form are studied in relation to the creative process of composing through a DAW (Digital Audio Workstation). Students will gain experience with hardware and software for music sequencing, synthesis, composition and music performance practices. Students will also analyze the impact of technology on music and the development of the music industry.

There are no prerequisites for this course, although prior musical experience is suggested.

This course is recommended for students considering IB Music as their Group 6 option in the IB Diploma.

PUBLIC SPEAKING Grade 9-12 (Credit :1)

This yearlong course is designed to develop the skills necessary for effective oral communication and public presentation. Throughout the course students will learn to select, structure and shape subject matter into a coherent and concise speech as well as to adapt language and form to audience, purpose and situation where appropriate. Students will also build skills in vocal projection and clarity of speech, match tonal register to audience, purpose and situation, integrate body language, use notes and visual aids where appropriate, to support the subject matter and engage the listener.



Grade 9 Course Selection

Name of Student: _____

Are you interested in eventually following the IB diploma program in Grades 11&12? Yes No

List your current course level in:

Mathematics _____ Foreign Language _____

(e.g. French 3rd year, Spanish 2nd year)

Required courses for Grade 9:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> English 9 (Placement in Advanced English 9 will be determined by Teacher recommendation and/or internal assessment)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious Education Please select one: <input type="checkbox"/> World Religions 9 (or) <input type="checkbox"/> Confirmation Class
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biology I	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Physical Education 9/Health 9
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Physical Science	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> History of Art
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social Studies: World History I	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mathematics: Please select one: <input type="checkbox"/> Geometry <input type="checkbox"/> HS Algebra 1 (HS Algebra 1 option for students who have not taken Algebra 1 in Grade 8)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Philosophy	

Students in Grade 9 have the choice of Italian, French, or Spanish offered from Level I-V. Italian is offered from Level I-V. Mandarin is offered at level I & II. German is offered at level I - IV. Arabic is offered at level I - III. (Please note New Students will be given a placement test by the instructor to place your child in the appropriate level.)

Identified ELL (English Language Learners) and Learning Support students will have course choices further reviewed/adjusted to meet their individual needs. Parents will be consulted directly.

Modern Languages (Choose 1 or 2):

<input type="checkbox"/> Arabic I <input type="checkbox"/> Arabic II <input type="checkbox"/> Arabic III	<input type="checkbox"/> French I <input type="checkbox"/> French II <input type="checkbox"/> French III <input type="checkbox"/> French IV <input type="checkbox"/> French V	<input type="checkbox"/> German I <input type="checkbox"/> German II <input type="checkbox"/> German III <input type="checkbox"/> German IV	<input type="checkbox"/> Italian I <input type="checkbox"/> Italian II <input type="checkbox"/> Italian III <input type="checkbox"/> Italian IV <input type="checkbox"/> Italian V <input type="checkbox"/> Italian Literature 9 (Recommended for IB Italian A)	<input type="checkbox"/> Mandarin I <input type="checkbox"/> Mandarin II	<input type="checkbox"/> Spanish I <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish II <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish III <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish IV <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish V
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Elective courses: Please select 4 courses in order of preference (1-4)

<input type="checkbox"/> Artificial Intelligence and Society <input type="checkbox"/> Basic Design <input type="checkbox"/> Computer Arts I <input type="checkbox"/> HS Drama I	<input type="checkbox"/> HS Band <input type="checkbox"/> HS Choir <input type="checkbox"/> Intro to Programming <input type="checkbox"/> Latin I	<input type="checkbox"/> Latin II <input type="checkbox"/> MUN <input type="checkbox"/> Music Production <input type="checkbox"/> Public Speaking	<input type="checkbox"/> 3rd Modern Language (Please state what language and level)
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Student Signature _____ Parent Signature _____

For any further information or clarification please contact Ms. Viviane Mingazzini, Secondary School Principal at vmingazzini@marymountrome.com