

VANCOUVER COLLEGE

PROGRAM OF STUDIES – MIDDLE SCHOOL 2020 - 2021

TABLE OF CONTENTS	Page
A Message from the Assistant Principal	2
Planning Guide Directory	3
Grade 7 Program	4 - 10
Grade 8 Program	11 - 17
Grade 9 Program	18 - 24
Appendix 1: Grade 7 Elective Rotations	25
Appendix 2: Grade 8 Elective Rotations	26
Appendix 3: Grade 9 Elective Rotations	27

Please note this Program of Studies is available online at www.vc.bc.ca :: Academics :: Middle School.

A MESSAGE FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Every September, as summer begins to turn into fall, it brings with it a feeling of excitement and anticipation for all members of our community. For our students, this enthusiasm is most focused on the endless possibilities that lay before them. These possibilities include making new friends, becoming a master of a new co-curricular activity or developing into a more refined student.

The Middle School Program of Studies is designed as a resource to assist students to make well-informed choices for an academic program which will fulfill the Ministry of Education requirements and provide them with more information about their upcoming academic program.

With the new BC curriculum emphasizing a personalized approach to learning, we believe that this inaugural handbook will allow students greater information to understand their future. Students will now be able to explore required and elective courses at their grade level that most interest them, pursue excellence and thus become a more refined student.

Vancouver College focuses on the formation of the whole person, preparing students for lives dedicated to excellence, leadership and service to the Church and community. It is with this in mind that we require all students to enroll in Religious Studies and Physical & Health Education courses, along with the regular Provincial requirements.

Spiritually, the boys will have opportunities to participate in regular liturgies and annual retreats. In addition, there are many leadership roles available to the Middle School students through our very active Campus Ministry.

Athletically, Vancouver College boasts an excellent variety of sports which your son is encouraged to participate in, including some which do not require prerequisite experience. In addition to our Middle School teams, students are encouraged to become active through their Physical Education classes and our recreational program.

We look forward to working with you and your son(s) as they reach maturity and realize their potential during their years in Middle School at Vancouver College.

Semper Fidelis,

Mr. John-Paul Cavalluzzo
Middle School, Assistant Principal

PLANNING HANDBOOK DIRECTORY

The purpose of this handbook is to provide students and parents with the information necessary to make thoughtful course selections. The task for now is to **choose your courses carefully** in consultation with parents and teachers, to ensure a great start to your next school year.

Course Planning for the Linear System

Vancouver College Middle School operates on a linear system. This means that the courses chosen to start your program of study in September will remain that way for the entire year through June (other than your elective classes - term by term rotation basis).

Timetable

Students in Grade 7 will be provided with eight courses for a full program of study. This includes one elective class rotation. Career Education 7 will be done in a blended format outside of the regular eight block rotation.

Students in Grade 8 will be provided with eight courses for a full program of study. This includes one elective class rotation. Career Education 8 will be done in a blended format outside of the regular eight block rotation.

Students in Grade 9 will be provided with eight courses for a full program of study. This includes one elective class rotation. Students will have the choice of taking French 9 or Spanish 9. Career Education 9 will be done in a blended format outside of the regular eight block rotation.

Completing your Timetable

It is the responsibility of each student to ensure that they have completed their elective and or language course selection in a timely fashion. Elective rotations are filled based on a student's rank and order. However, if students do not submit their rankings or are late doing so, they may not be given one of their top elective choices.

Advanced Placement for Mathematics and Language Courses

Advanced Placement aims to encourage students to explore and challenge their love for math and language throughout their Middle and Senior School experience. Students will be identified at the end of their Grade 7 year as candidates to write a diagnostic French or Math exam for placement in a higher grade level in the upcoming academic year. Their result on the diagnostic exam in concert with teacher feedback will determine a student's placement.

Please note that due to scheduling conflicts, we cannot guarantee that students will be placed in the higher level course. In such cases, students will be placed in the best situation possible and reassigned at the end of the future school year.

Selecting a Block of Study in The Learning Centre

The Learning Centre (TLC) helps formalize inclusive support for students with exceptional learning profiles. Students that have an IEP (Individual Education Plan) and are Language Exempt would be eligible to select a TLC block in their Middle School timetable. Other accommodations can be made and supports explored with Cliona Ryan-Glennon, Director of The Learning Centre.

Language and Math Challenge Pathways

Students of Vancouver College may have the opportunity to gain an accelerated pathway for Language and Math when they enter the Middle School.

I) Students who meet the following requirements will have an opportunity to write the **Language** Challenge Placement Assessment at the end of their Grade 6 and/or 7 year:

- *New Students* - **1.** Students must have a French Immersion background or be a Heritage language learner, **2.** analysis of D1 form (admissions teacher recommendation)
- *Current Students* - **1.** A or higher average on French 6 or 7 Language course Term 1 and 2 French section of report card, **2.** current Language teacher recommendation

Notes:

- The highest grade level an incoming student can be placed is French 10.
- Please contact the Languages Department Chair - Henry Budai for more information.

II) Students who meet the following requirements will have an opportunity to write the **Math** Challenge Placement Assessment at the end of their Grade 7 year:

- *New students* - **1.** 90% or higher on the math section of the admissions placement exam, **2.** analysis of D1 form (admissions teacher recommendation)
- *Current Students* - **1.** 90% or higher on Math 7 Term 1 and Term 2 report cards, **2.** current math teacher recommendation

Notes:

- Only 32 students will be placed in Math Accelerated 8 upon the successful completion of the Math Challenge Placement Assessment.
- Students have the ability to write the Math 9 Challenge Exam at the end of their Grade 8 year. Please contact the Mathematics Department Chair - Cynthia Accili for more information.

In consultation with the Department Chair, the Middle School Assistant Principal reserves the ultimate decision in an appropriate placement of the student. It is the explicit responsibility of the student to attend this assessment session if seeking to accelerate.

Please note that due to scheduling conflicts, we cannot guarantee that the students will be placed in the higher level course. In such cases, students will be placed at grade level and reassigned at the end of the 2020-2021 year.

For additional information, please contact Learning Centre staff and [see this page on our website.](#)

GRADE 7 PROGRAM

Course Name	Category	Page
English 7	R	6
French 7	R	6
Social Science 7	R	6
Religious Studies 7	R	7
Mathematics 7	R	7
Science 7	R	7
Physical and Health Education 7	R	8
Career Education 7	R	8
Theatre 7	E1	9
Art 7	E1	9
Information Technology 7	E1	9
Concert Band 7	E2	10
MS Jazz Ensemble 7,8,9	E3	10

Note: R = Required (Full Year), ^ = Placement Test, E1 = One Term Elective, E2 = 2 Term Elective Commitment Minimum, E3 = 3 Term Off Timetable Elective

ENGLISH

English 7

Required Course

BC's New Curriculum defines English Language Arts as "a foundational curriculum that equips students with the language and literacy skills they will need for success in school, community, career, and life. It provides students with the opportunity to become effective communicators, to develop and express their own ideas, and to think deeply and critically about the ideas of others.

Through their study of language and texts, students have opportunities to develop a lifelong love of reading, writing, and learning and an appreciation for the power, beauty, joy, and artistry of language and texts. As they explore and create written, oral, and visual texts, students expand and deepen their understanding of both real and imaginary worlds, gaining insight into their own lives and the lives of others."

FRENCH

French 7

Required Course

In French 7 students will improve their communicative skills. They will broaden their comprehension of French by reading authentic documents and literature and by listening to audio and visuals. They will write structured paragraphs on a variety of topics. Participation in group activities and oral presentations in the classroom is mandatory. Evaluations include the four language skills, include formative as well as summative assessments, and occur frequently.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Social Studies 7

Required Course

The main purpose of the Social Studies curriculum is to develop graduates who have the knowledge, skills, and competencies to be active, informed citizens. An informed citizen understands key historical, geographical, political, economic, and societal concepts, and how these different factors relate to and interact with each other. Students must build deep understandings and create their own knowledge through investigations into interesting, open-ended questions, debating and discussing historical

and contemporary issues, and developing and supporting their own hypotheses, solutions, and conclusions.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Religion 7

Required Course

The CISVA explains that “the primary goal of Christian Education is to give students the knowledge, skills, and competencies to have an active and authentic relationship with Jesus.” Students will know and appreciate their membership in a larger Catholic community. Through their preparation and participation in the Sacrament of Confirmation, students will understand how God empowers them to live out their Catholic faith. By examining the lives of the saints, students will recognize how the Beatitudes and Works of Mercy are foundations to be true disciples of Christ. Religion 7 provides opportunities to reflect and meditate on the presence of the Holy Spirit in guiding and transforming our lives, as seen in scripture through the story of Pentecost and the early Church community. Students are required to complete eight service hours each term for successful completion of the course.

MATHEMATICS

Math 7

Required Course

The Math 7 course was designed to help students develop and foster their appreciation of the importance of mathematics across the curriculum and in society. The curriculum focuses on the development of fluency, logical reasoning, analytical thought, and creative thinking. Students actively investigate problems and find solutions to foster a strong numeracy foundation that is applicable in all areas of their lives.

The prescribed learning outcomes for Math 7 are grouped under the following curriculum organizers and cover the following major topics:

- Number - Decimals, Fractions, Percentage
- Patterning - Linear Relations, Variables, Equations
- Geometry and Measurement - Geometry, Volume
- Data and Probability - Graphs, Probability

SCIENCE

Science 7

Required Course

The Science 7 curriculum focuses on students learning specific to science while focusing on content specific to biology, physics, chemistry and geology. Using scientific method, the curriculum gives students the opportunity to develop the skills, processes, attitudes, and scientific habits of mind that allow them to pursue their own inquiries. The class uses critical thinking, creative insight, and scientific knowledge to increase each student's understanding of science through a hands-on experience.

The curricular competencies for Science 7 are grouped under the following curriculum organizers and cover the following major topics:

- Processes of Science- Scientific Method
- Life Science- Evolution, Diversity of Living Things
- Physical Science- Chemistry, Electricity
- Earth and Space Science- Climate Change

PHYSICAL AND HEALTH EDUCATION

Physical and Health Education 7

Required Course

PHE 7 will enable all learners to enhance their quality of life through active living by exposing students to a variety of sports, activities, and leisure pursuits so that they have the knowledge, attitudes, and experience necessary to lead an active, healthy lifestyle. This course aims to develop a student's attitude towards physical activity, as well as develop positive self-esteem, personal and social behaviours through active involvement in a variety of physical activities. PHE 7 is designed to offer students the opportunity to further their expertise in the activities introduced in earlier Physical Education and Health grade levels.

CAREER EDUCATION

Career Education 7

Required Course

Career Education is taught in a blended format. The big ideas, curricular competencies and outcomes are taught in a variety of subject areas. In addition, school initiatives, such as retreats and grade level presentations, also provide a format to teach our students Career Education.

However, at the centre of Career Education 7 is our Advisory program (called *Better Man* block). The guiding questions of this program include: *Who am I? Who do I want to become? And what does it mean to be a man?* *Better Man* block is focused on teaching Social-Emotional Learning, which aims to develop the character of each student.

ELECTIVES - APPLIED SKILLS AND FINE ARTS

Every student will be on a term by term rotation for their elective course(s). For example: Term 1 - IT 7, Term 2 - Art 7, Term 3 - Theatre 7. In Grade 7, students will be able to select from two options for their elective rotation. Option 1 - Experiencing all electives (IT 7, Art 7, Theatre 7) during the academic year. Or Option 2 - Band 7 for the full academic year (or a minimum of a two term commitment with teacher permission).

Theatre 7

Elective

Engaging in the arts develops people's ability to understand and express complex ideas. This elective involves creating artistic works collaboratively and as an individual using ideas inspired by imagination, inquiry, experimentation, and purposeful play. Students will learn to express feelings, ideas, and experiences through the arts. Topics of study include: Readers Theatre, Movement and Mime, Theatre History, Script work, and acting and blocking techniques culminating in a class final performance. Grading will be based on participation, discussion and reflection, performances and self-evaluation. Since this class is based on participation; enthusiasm and hard work are required.

Art 7

Elective

Students will explore several different media, using a variety of materials. Principles of art & design will be discussed and applied to the creative process. Reference will be made to artists in different historical and cultural contexts. At the end of the course, students will exhibit their creative work.

Information Technology 7

Elective

The curriculum in IT 7 is designed to develop a variety of foundation skills including keyboarding, and basic Internet techniques. The objectives of IT 7 are to acclimatize students to working in online environments; to apply word-processing and presentation software to various assignments; to introduce students to creating and/or enhancing images using image editing software and to produce basic web-pages.

Concert Band 7

Elective

Band 7 is an introductory course. It is expected that many students will be beginners on their chosen band instrument. All woodwind, brass and percussion instruments are appropriate choices for band. String and E. Bass players will also be welcomed. The instructor will assist in instrument selection for those who are unsure. A 3 term commitment is desired however students with prior experience on their band or string instrument may choose to join for term 2 and 3. The primary purpose of this course is skill development and group performance of concert band, classical, contemporary, pop, ballad, progressive rock and funk literature. Music that all students will enjoy! Note reading and basic theory will also be learned. Repertory will be selected according to the general ability of the group and will progress in difficulty throughout the school year. Students must provide their own instrument. Home practice is required and is part of the evaluation. Mandatory performances include the Christmas and Spring Concerts. This group will likely participate in an adjudicated festival.

Middle School Jazz Ensemble 7,8,9

Elective (off timetable - for credit)

Please note that this course may not be selected *in lieu* of a timetabled elective. It is an enhancement program to be taken in conjunction with concert band 7, 8, or 9. Recruitment/enrollment takes place in September. In this ensemble, students will be introduced to instrumental jazz. Focus: group performance of big band jazz and pop literature, skill development, improvisation, and jazz theory. Beginners are welcome here as long as they are also enrolled in their grade level concert band. Meet time is every Day 2 7:15 - 8:25 A.M.

GRADE 8 PROGRAM

Course Name	Category	Page
English 8	R	12
French 8	R	12
Social Science 8	R	12
Religious Studies 8	R	13
Mathematics 8	R	13
Mathematics Accelerated 8 [^]	R	13
Science 8	R	14
Physical and Health Education 8	R	14
Career Education 8	R	14
Theatre 8	E1	15
Art 8	E1	15
Information Technology 8	E1	15
Entrepreneurship 8	E1	16
Digital Arts Literacy 8	E1	16
Concert Band 8	E2	16
MS Jazz Ensemble 7,8,9	E3	17

Note: R = Required (Full Year), ^ = Placement Test, E1 = One Term Elective, E2 = 2 Term Elective Commitment Minimum, E3 = 3 Term Off Timetable Elective

ENGLISH

English 8

Required Course

This course has been designed to develop and hone the core ELA (English Language Arts) skills with independence, confidence, accuracy, and enthusiasm. Through exploring and responding to a variety of texts, students will not only increase their ELA skills, but will come to identify themselves as readers, writers, and speakers. Students will strengthen their understanding of literary devices, and the four modes of discourse: exposition, persuasion, narration, and description, to both deconstruct text, and to create texts of their own. English Language Arts is also an invitation to explore the contexts, languages, environments, and periods in which the texts were written; therefore enriching the understanding of how intimately texts communicate our worldviews.

FRENCH

French 8

Required Course

In French 8, students will improve their French communication skills by learning to read, write, speak, and listen effectively using a variety of strategies that build critical and creative thinking capacity. Students are required to collaborate with each other on and offline to develop their personal and social awareness and their mastery of technology. Students also explore authentic cultural texts and produce original work in the target language. Evaluations include the four language skills, include formative as well as summative assessments, and occur frequently.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Social Studies 8

Required Course

The term “Social Studies” means the study of various aspects or branches of human society. This is a true humanities course. In this class, we will be exploring history, people, and events that have shaped the world we live in today. Some of the topics include: global civilizations, the Middle Ages in Europe, Cultural Mythology, and Exploring the New World. Students will engage the course content in a variety of different assignments, assessments, discussions, projects, and classroom activities. Throughout the year students will explore and research local, provincial, national, and

global current events. Furthermore, students will develop skills such as public speaking, critical thinking, and researching as we explore content throughout the school year.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Religion 8

Required Course

This course is designed to promote a living relationship with God by providing the students with opportunities to know, love and serve Him. Through the students' study of Hebrew Scripture in the Old Testament, with a focus on the formation of the covenantal relationships between God and His people, students will explore: Biblical truths, creation and evolution, the Pentateuch, and the Holy Trinity. By exploring, questioning and reflecting upon Sacred Scriptures, students will come to better understand and appreciate Salvation History's origins and connect them to the New Testament. Students will be able to profess their faith, celebrate the Christian Mystery, live a moral life within a Christian community and learn what it means to be a missionary disciple. Students are required to have eight service hours for each term, for successful completion of the course.

MATHEMATICS

Math 8

Required Course

This course aims to help students develop, demonstrate and apply mathematical concepts such as the order of operations involving fractions, Pythagorean theorem, surface area and volume of 3D objects, proportional reasoning, solving algebraic equations and an introduction to financial literacy. They will also be able to represent and communicate using models and mathematical vocabulary in class discussions. Students are encouraged to use their critical thinking and deduction skills so they can apply their knowledge to their everyday lives.

OR

Math Accelerated 8

Required Course

The accelerated program aims to encourage students to explore and challenge their love for math throughout their Middle and Senior School experiences. The program starts in the Middle School where students will complete Math 8 and 9 in their Grade 8 year and Math 10 in their Grade 9 year given that they achieve a final average of 80% or above in Math Accelerated 8 (if they achieve below 80%, students will be enrolled

into Math 9 for the following school year). Once students enter the Senior School they will complete Math 11 and 12 in their Grade 10 and Grade 11 years. The completion of Math 12 allows students to enter AP Calculus in their Grade 12 year at Vancouver College. Students in high academic standing will be identified as a possible candidate for this course and they will then have to successfully write a diagnostic exam for placement in this accelerated program.

SCIENCE

Science 8

Required Course

Science 8 allows students to explore and inquire about the world around them. The goal is to develop a stronger understanding of the natural world around them. On top of content goals, students should develop skills to interpret and solve new problems, issues, and events in the world. The central topics in Science 8 include: cell theory, the immune system and the impacts of epidemics and pandemics on the human population, kinetic molecular theory, earth sciences, and the study of the electromagnetic spectrum.

PHYSICAL AND HEALTH EDUCATION

Physical and Health Education 8

Required Course

The emphasis of PHE 8 is to involve students in a variety of activities for the purpose of fitness health. The course includes exposure to several sports and fitness activities that challenge students and focus their efforts on self improvement. Other areas of focus infused throughout the year include balanced nutrition, as outlined by the new Canadian Food Guide, mental well-being and the importance of their role in the development of social and community health. Students will spend time self-reflecting, evaluating and studying the various components of healthy living with the hopes that they become healthy and active young adults.

CAREER EDUCATION

Career Education 8

Required Course

Career Education is taught in a blended format. The big ideas, curricular competencies and outcomes are taught in a variety of subject areas. In addition, school initiatives,

such as retreats and grade level presentations, also provide a format to teach our students Career Education.

However, at the centre of Career Education 8 is our Advisory program (called *Better Man* block). The guiding questions of this program include: *Who am I? Who do I want to become? And what does it mean to be a man?* *Better Man* block is focused on teaching Social-Emotional Learning, which aims to develop the character of each student.

ELECTIVES - APPLIED SKILLS AND FINE ARTS

Students will take a minimum of one (1) Applied Skills and Fine Arts course in their Grade 8 year. Students will be on a term by term rotation for their elective course. For example: Term 1 - Information Technology 8, Term 2 - Art 8, Term 3 - Theatre 8.

Theatre 8

Elective

This elective is a continuation of Theatre 7. Creative growth requires patience, readiness to take risks, and willingness to try new approaches. Theatre students will learn to trust themselves and others in order to take risks to express feelings, ideas, and experiences; to create artistic works collaboratively and as an individual using ideas inspired by imagination, inquiry, experimentation, and purposeful play; and to begin to make connections between theatre and other areas of their lives. Topics of study include: Improvisation, Characterization, maintaining concentration and focus when in role, Scene Study, and Theatre History. Grading will be based on participation, discussion and reflection, knowledge of drama skills, performances and self-evaluation. Since this class is based on participation; enthusiasm and hard work are required.

Art 8

Elective

Art 8 is an introductory course with all projects being based on the principles of design and elements of art. Students have opportunities to work in a variety of mediums such as watercolour, ink, graphite, oil pastel and more. Emphasis is placed on the development of skills and students are encouraged to become creative thinkers through creative problem solving. Project work will focus on the student's effort, creativity and skill development through the use of criterion referenced assessment. It is recommended that students take Art 8 and 9 if they wish to continue in the Senior School.

Information Technology 8

Elective

The curriculum in IT 8 is designed to develop a variety of foundation skills including keyboarding and basic Internet techniques. The objectives of IT 8 are to acclimatize

students to working in online environments; to apply word-processing and presentation software to various assignments; to introduce students to creating and/or enhancing images using image editing software and to produce basic web-pages.

Entrepreneurship 8

Elective

This course intends to give students a new perspective on the business world around them. They will be exposed to many important aspects of the 21st century, including but not limited to: financial mathematics, needs fulfillment thinking, social media skills, online presence, pitch skills, and marketing tactics. All of these topics will allow students to take a look at our world with a lens not easily found in other academic offerings. The knowledge gained in this course will help in their future years at VC and beyond.

Digital Arts and Literacy 8

Elective

Digital Arts and Literacy is designed to introduce students to a variety of digital resources for use in researching, and for producing digital presentations and media productions. Students will become immersed in programs such as iMovie, Google Slides, Sketch-up, Google Docs, and more. Digital research programs such as Pro-Quest, EBSCO, and others will be explored and utilized when learning proper research techniques. Finally, Digital Arts and Literacy 8 will explore the world of digital citizenship, the meaning of it, its impact and how our students can navigate more effectively in the complex world of social media. This course is intended to be a hands-on, practical course, where students work cooperatively on project based assessments.

Concert Band 8

Elective

This course is an extension of Band 7 however beginners are fully welcomed and encouraged to join. String and E. Bass players will also be welcomed. There will be split instruction by Ms. Ashcroft and Mr. Olson so that both beginners and advanced students can be accommodated. A 3 term commitment is desired however students with prior experience on their band or string instrument may choose to join for term 2 and 3. The primary purpose of this course is skill development and group performance of concert band, classical, contemporary, pop, ballad, progressive rock and funk literature. Note reading and theory will also be learned. Repertory will be selected according to the general ability of the group and will progress in difficulty throughout the school year. Students must provide their own instrument. Home practice is required and is part of the evaluation. Mandatory performances include the Christmas and Spring Concerts. This group will likely participate in an adjudicated festival.

Middle School Jazz Ensemble 7,8,9**Elective (off timetable - for credit)**

Please note that this course may not be selected *in lieu* of a timetabled elective. It is an enhancement program to be taken in conjunction with concert band 7, 8, or 9. Recruitment/enrollment takes place in September. In this ensemble, students will be introduced to instrumental jazz. Focus: group performance of big band jazz and pop literature, skill development, improvisation, and jazz theory. Beginners are welcome here as long as they are also enrolled in their grade level concert band. Meet time is every Day 2 7:15 - 8:25 A.M.

GRADE 9 PROGRAM

Course Name	Category	Page
English 9	R	19
French 9	R	19
Spanish 9	R	19
Social Science 9	R	20
Religious Studies 9	R	20
Mathematics 9	R	20
Foundations of Mathematics and Pre-Calculus 10 [^]	R	21
Science 9	R	21
Physical and Health Education 9	R	22
Career Education 9	R	22
Theatre 9	E1	22
Art 9	E1	23
Information Technology 9	E1	23
Digital Photography 9	E1	23
Electronics and Robotics 9	E1	24
Concert Band 9	E2	24
MS Jazz Ensemble 7,8,9	E3	24
<p><i>Note: R = Required (Full Year), ^ = Placement Test, E1 = One Term Elective, E2 = 2 Term Elective Commitment Minimum, E3 = 3 Term Off Timetable Elective</i></p>		

ENGLISH

English 9

Required Course

Language is fundamental to thinking, learning and communicating in all cultures. By some accident of fate, you live in Western Canada. And somehow, by a series of historical events, we speak a language that developed over the course of 1,200 years in England. Today, of course, English is spoken, at least as a second language, around the world, largely due to the influences of imperialism, pop music, movies, business, and the Internet.

Language is dynamic and ever evolving, but is governed by a set of rules. English 9 allows you to develop the language skills you learned in Grade 8, including parts of speech and grammar, and to creatively explore and appreciate the various forms of English literary expression, including novels, short stories, theatre, poetry and the media. You will develop your skills in creative writing and in multi-paragraph compositions.

LANGUAGES

French 9

Required Course

This course uses a holistic approach including audiovisual and internet resources to develop the students' four main language skills. Through the context of tourist destinations in France, the consumer world, leisure activities, French food and meals, and French cinema, students enhance both their oral and written expression. Students acquire expertise in the use of possessive adjectives, -ir and -re verbs, the past tense, the partitive article and the imperative, all the while honing their composition skills as script writers and communicators. The goal of French 9 is to instil an enjoyment of learning languages.

OR

Spanish 9

Required Course

In this full year course, students will embark on a new linguistic adventure, joining the ranks of speakers of the third most commonly spoken language in the world. Using REALIDADES, a state of the art language program, students will benefit from a variety of innovative technologies, thus making Spanish real, all the while integrating their language learning with cultural awareness. With the aid of audio, DVD and internet

resources, students will develop a strong written and oral skill base, interacting with such personal topics as friends, school life, meals, health and leisure activities.

Prerequisite: A 65% academic average or above in French 8 is needed to enroll in Spanish 9.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Social Studies 9

Required Course

In this course, students learn more about themselves, each other, and the world we inhabit. This course is a formal study of European and Canadian History. Students will develop critical thinking skills and come to know how Canada has been influenced by ideas, environment, power and identity. Students will be taught to demonstrate a capacity to interpret evidence, assess and defend positions, and conduct inquiry related to the core concepts of the curriculum. Students completing Social Studies 9 will be able to tell a fuller, more inclusive story about Canada and have a sense of their own place in Canada's past, present, and future.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Religion 9

Required Course

This course takes an in-depth look at the New Testament, helping to explore the political, cultural, and geographical world of Jesus to know him better. Connections will be made between your life and the parables that Jesus told, so that you are able to recognize and appreciate the "little deaths" and the "little resurrections" in your daily life. Practical activities will help you to understand Jesus' mission and suggestions on how to live your life in a way that evangelizes the people that surround you. Students are required to have eight service hours for each term, for successful completion of the course.

MATHEMATICS

Math 9

Required Course

The Math 9 course is designed around five core areas: students will focus on Computational Fluency and Flexibility with rational numbers and Operations with Real

Numbers. They will develop and apply their skill to real life problems, as well as algebraic situations. Algebraic topics such as operations on polynomials, exponent laws and solving equations will be areas of focus. Students will also explore Similar Shapes by describing, measuring and comparing their proportional relationships. A major area of study will be Linear Relationships; students will learn to describe linear patterns through examining tables of data, graphs and equations. They will analyse, identify and solve real life problems that have linear relationships. Finance and Data Analysis is also a core area where students will be learning to interpret data, and examine its validity and reliability.

OR

Foundations of Mathematics and Pre-Calculus 10^A

The Grade 10 Mathematics curriculum is designed to build on students' mathematics knowledge and enable them to apply this knowledge to everyday life. The major areas of study are polynomials, powers, prime factorization, linear functions and equations, arithmetic sequences, trigonometry and financial literacy (gross/net pay).

Prerequisite: Mathematics 09.

SCIENCE

Science 9

Required Course

Over the course of this year students will study topics from Biology, Physics and Chemistry. Starting in the fall students start to explore the topic of cells. This will include investigating how new cells are created, the role they play within different organisms and other areas of microbiology. As we move into Term 2 our focus will shift to physics; electricity to be precise. Finally, as the academic year draws to a close, students will learn about the different components of the natural world as we study how water, nutrients and other matter is recycled by the plants and animals we share the earth with.

Throughout the course of the year, students will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of tasks including scientific investigations, debates, experiments within the lab and student-led projects. As a class we will continually reflect upon how scientific theory relates to both Catholicism and First Nation understanding and knowledge.

PHYSICAL AND HEALTH EDUCATION

Physical and Health Education 9

Required Course

The emphasis in PHE 9 is to involve students in a variety of activities for the purpose of fitness and health. The course includes exposure to several sports and fitness activities that challenge students and focus their efforts on self improvement. Other areas of focus infused throughout the year include balanced nutrition, as outlined by the new Canadian Food Guide, mental well-being and the importance of their role in the development of social and community health. Students will spend time self-reflecting, evaluating and studying the various components of healthy living with the hopes that they become healthy and active young adults.

CAREER EDUCATION

Career Education 9

Required Course

Career Education is taught in a blended format. The big ideas, curricular competencies and outcomes are taught in a variety of subject areas. In addition, school initiatives, such as retreats and grade level presentations, also provide a format to teach our students Career Education.

However, at the centre of Career Education 9 is our Advisory program (called *Better Man* block). The guiding questions of this program include: *Who am I? Who do I want to become? And what does it mean to be a man?* *Better Man* block is focused on teaching Social-Emotional Learning, which aims to develop the character of each student.

APPLIED SKILLS AND FINE ARTS - ELECTIVES

Students will take a minimum of one (1) Applied Skills and Fine Arts course in their Grade 7 year. Students will be on a term by term rotation for their elective course. For example: Term 1 - Information Technology 8, Term 2 - Art 8, Term 3 - Theatre 8.

Theatre 9

Elective

This elective is a continuation of Theatre 8. Identity is explored, expressed, and impacted through theatre experiences. Theatre students demonstrate respect for themselves, others, and the audience; take creative risks to experience and express thoughts, emotions, and meaning; and revise, refine, analyze, and document performance pieces and experiences to enhance presentation in a variety of ways. Topics of study include: Movement and Voice, Improvisation, Characterization, maintaining concentration and focus when in role, Theatre History, Monologue, Scene Work, Stage Vocabulary and Technical Skills, and Sword fight Choreography. Grading

will be based on participation, discussion and reflection, knowledge of drama skills, performances and self-evaluation. This class is based on participation, therefore; enthusiasm and hard work are required.

Art 9

Elective

Art 9 is a continuation of skills and creative strategies learned in Art 8. Students have opportunities to work in a variety of mediums; such as watercolour, acrylic paints and printmaking. Emphasis is placed on the development of skills and students are encouraged to become creative thinkers through creative problem solving. Project work will focus on the student's effort, creativity and skill development through the use of criterion referenced assessment. It is recommended that students take Art 9 if they wish to take Art in Senior School.

Information Technology 9

Elective

The curriculum in IT 9 is designed to develop a variety of foundation skills including keyboarding and basic Internet techniques. The curriculum involves the development of information literacy, positive attitudes towards technology, problem solving and critical thinking skills related to the use of technology, information technology literacy, lifelong learning patterns and skills, and knowledge relevant to careers in IT. Both individual and group work will be employed to meet the course's objectives.

Digital Photography 9

Elective

This course will give students an opportunity to explore the world of digital photography including the history of medium, style and technique, and contemporary issues in our image saturated society. Students will learn to creatively express their ideas and emotions, learn to look critically at the visual world around them, and to appreciate beauty. In an age where everyone is documenting their lives with cell phone cameras, students learn how to make their images stand out from the rest, and how to create unique digital art with their own photographs.

Electronics & Robotics 9

Elective

This course will serve as an introduction to electronics concepts for students. Students will follow along with online tutorials to build arduino circuits that control motors, LED lights and other projects. Students will be encouraged to use their creativity and curiosity to search for answers online and design devices that can solve problems. As

an elective course Electronics & Robotics 9 will open a whole new world of possibilities for our young men to explore and engage in their learning.

Concert Band 9

Elective

This course is an extension of Band 8. There are limited positions available for beginners in this course. String and E. bass players are welcome. A 3 term commitment is desired but exceptions can be made. Focus: group performance of grade 2 and 3 concert band and pop literature, skill development, advanced note reading, and theory. Repertory will be selected according to the general ability of the group and will progress in difficulty throughout the school year. Students must provide their own instrument. Home practice is required and is part of the evaluation process. Mandatory performances include the Christmas Concert and Spring Concert. This group usually does a spring band tour and will participate in an adjudicated festival.

Middle School Jazz Ensemble 7,8,9

Elective (off timetable - for credit)

Please note that this course may not be selected *in lieu* of a timetabled elective. It is an enhancement program to be taken in conjunction with concert band 7, 8, or 9. Recruitment/enrollment takes place in September. In this ensemble, students will be introduced to instrumental jazz. Focus: group performance of big band jazz and pop literature, skill development, improvisation, and jazz theory. Beginners are welcome here as long as they are also enrolled in their grade level concert band. Meet time is every Day 2 7:15 - 8:25 A.M.

APPENDIX 1 - VANCOUVER COLLEGE MIDDLE SCHOOL

GRADE 7 ELECTIVE SELECTION FORM 2020/2021

From Options 1 and 2, please indicate your first and second choice by inputting your rank and order into the appropriate box in the last column only.

Students choosing Option 1 will have IT 7, Theatre 7 and Art 7 respectively.

Students choosing Option 2 will have Band all year.

Please understand that there is no guarantee that pupils will receive their specific choices but we will do our best to accommodate your interests.

Students will find out their elective courses when they receive their schedule at the end of the summer and again on the first day of school.

	TERM 1	TERM 2	TERM 3	CHOICE (PLEASE INDICATE YOUR TOP CHOICE BY USING A CHECK MARK)
OPTION 1	IT 7	Theatre 7	Art 7	
OPTION 2	Band 7	Band 7	Band 7	

If you have any questions, please email Ms. Deutsch (adeutsch@mail.vc.bc.ca). Your elective selection needs to be completed by **Friday, May 1, 2020**.

APPENDIX 2 - VANCOUVER COLLEGE MIDDLE SCHOOL

GRADE 8 ELECTIVE SELECTION FORM - 2020/2021

From the six options below, please indicate your **first**, **second** and **third** choice by inputting your rank and order into the appropriate box in the last column only.

FOR EXAMPLE, a student choosing Option 1 selecting Digital Arts Literacy 8 as their choice in Term 1 would have Art in Term 2 and Theatre in Term 3. In an attempt to control class sizes, students would normally not be allowed to mix and match electives. Unfortunately, students not following these directions may end up in electives not of their choosing.

Please understand that there is no guarantee that pupils will receive their specific choices but we will do our best to accommodate your interests. Those students participating in **Band** must check this selection since it is an **all year** elective (or a minimum of two terms). Students will find out their elective courses when they receive their schedule at the end of the summer and again on the first day of school.

GRADE 8 ELECTIVES

	TERM 1	TERM 2	TERM 3	CHOICE (PLEASE INDICATE YOUR TOP THREE CHOICES BY RANK AND ORDER)
OPTION 1	Digital Arts Literacy 8	Art 8	Theatre 8	
OPTION 2	Entrepreneurship 8	Theatre 8	IT 8	
OPTION 3	Art 8	Entrepreneurship 8	Digital Arts Literacy 8	
OPTION 4	IT 8	Digital Arts Literacy 8	Art 8	
OPTION 5	Theatre 8	IT 8	Entrepreneurship 8	
OPTION 6	Band 8	Band 8	Band 8	

If you have any questions, please email Ms. Deutsch (adeutsch@mail.vc.bc.ca). Your elective selection needs to be completed by **Friday, May 1, 2020**.

APPENDIX 3 - VANCOUVER COLLEGE MIDDLE SCHOOL

GRADE 9 ELECTIVE SELECTION FORM - 2020/2021

From the six options below, please indicate your **first**, **second** and **third** choice by inputting your rank and order into the appropriate box in the last column only.

FOR EXAMPLE, a student choosing Option 1 selecting Art 9 as their choice in Term 1 would have Digital Photography 9 in Term 2 and Theatre 9 in Term 3. In an attempt to control class sizes, students would normally not be allowed to mix and match electives. Unfortunately, students not following these directions may end up in electives not of their choosing.

Please understand that there is no guarantee that pupils will receive their specific choices but we will do our best to accommodate your interests. Those students participating in **Band** must check this selection since it is an **all year** elective (or a minimum of two terms). Students will find out their elective courses when they receive their schedule at the end of the summer and again on the first day of school.

GRADE 9 ELECTIVES

	TERM 1	TERM 2	TERM 3	CHOICE (PLEASE INDICATE YOUR TOP THREE CHOICES BY RANK AND ORDER)
OPTION 1	Art 9	Digital Photography 9	Theatre 9	
OPTION 2	Theatre 9	Art 9	Electronics & Robotics 9	
OPTION 3	IT 9	Electronics & Robotics 9	Art 9	
OPTION 4	Electronics & Robotics 9	IT 9	Digital Photography 9	
OPTION 5	Digital Photography 9	Theatre 9	IT 9	
OPTION 6	Band 9	Band 9	Band 9	

If you have any questions, please email Ms. Deutsch (adeutsch@mail.vc.bc.ca). Your elective selection needs to be completed by **Friday, May 1, 2020**.