

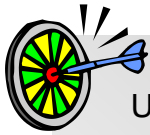


Grade 9 Course Selection at GCI: A Guide For Students & Parents

The Grade 9 Program

In Grade 9, students take **eight** courses. **Five** courses are compulsory; **three** are optional. The compulsory courses – English, French, Geography, Math, and Science – are either academic or applied. (Note: Essential compulsory courses are available through the Fast Forward program at Glenview Park SS and Jacob Hespeler SS, if academic and/or applied courses do not address a student's needs. Contact your teacher or counselor for information about essential courses.)

When selecting academic and applied compulsory courses, consider the following factors: (i) Achievement in Grades 7 and 8, (ii) Learning Skills and Preferences, and (iii) Post-Secondary Plans.



Achievement in Grades 7 and 8

Using your two **most recent** report cards, fill in the chart below:

	Grade 7 (Last Report)	Grade 8 (First Report)
English		
▪ Reading	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
▪ Writing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
▪ Oral & Visual Communication	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Math		
▪ Number Sense & Numeration	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Science and Technology	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
History	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Geography	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Generally speaking:

- ✓ Achievement of Level 3 or 4 (70% - 100%) *may* indicate an **academic** course is appropriate in that subject.
- ✓ Achievement of Level 2 (60 – 69%) *may* indicate an **applied** course is appropriate in that subject, and both learning skills and post-secondary plans should be considered.
- ✓ Achievement of Level 1 (50-59%) is an indicator that you and your teacher(s) should discuss secondary school program options. See the note above regarding *essential-level* compulsory courses.



Post-Secondary Plans

If you are planning to take an apprenticeship, or go into the workplace or to college, *applied* courses may be appropriate.

If you are planning to go to college or university, *academic* courses may be appropriate.

If you have specific questions regarding post-secondary plans, please speak to a guidance counsellor.



**Galt Collegiate Institute &
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~ Home of the Ghosts ~

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Grade 8 Information Night:
Wednesday, January 7, 2015

Learning Skills and Preferences

Check one answer for each question below to determine which course type (*academic* or *applied*) best matches your learning skills and preferences.



	✓ Column A	✓ Column B
1. Do you enjoy working by yourself?	r yes	r no
2. Do you prefer "paper and pencil" or "hands-on" activities?	r paper & pencil	r hands-on
3. Do you have trouble staying organized?	r no	r yes
4. Do you complete homework on the day it is assigned?	r regularly	r rarely
5. Do you like to solve problems your own way or be given steps to follow?	r own way	r steps
6. Do you set academic goals and try to achieve them?	r often	r rarely
7. Do you find English, Math, and Science difficult?	r no	r yes
8. Do you start projects that you do not finish?	r rarely	r often
9. When learning new things, do you ask yourself questions and seek answers to those questions?	r often	r rarely
10. When your teacher assigns a task, do you start right away or wait for further directions?	r right away	r further directions

Total the checkmarks in Column A and Column B.

- ☑ If most of your checkmarks are in Column A, **academic** courses may be appropriate.
- ☑ If most of your checkmarks are in Column B, **applied** courses may be appropriate.