

COURSE CALENDAR SUPPLEMENT 2023 - 2024

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THE ONTARIO SECONDARY SCHOOL DIPLOMA

To earn a high school diploma in Ontario, students must:

- earn 18 [compulsory credits](#)
- earn 12 [optional credits](#)
- pass the [literacy requirement](#)
- earn at least two [online learning credits](#)
- complete a minimum of 40 hours of community involvement activities

Credit Requirements

Compulsory Credits: Students must earn the following 18 compulsory credits in order to obtain the Ontario Secondary School Diploma:

- 4 credits in English (1 credit per grade)
- 1 credit in French as a Second Language
- 3 credits in Mathematics (at least 1 credit in Grade 11 or 12)
- 2 credits in Science
- 1 credit in Canadian History
- 1 credit in Canadian Geography
- 1 credit in the Arts
- 1 credit in Health and Physical Education
- .5 credits in Civics
- .5 credits in Career Studies

Group 1: 1 additional credit in English, or French*, or a third language, or Social Sciences and the Humanities or Canadian and World Studies, or Guidance and Career Education, or Cooperative Education*

Group 2: 1 additional credit in Health and Physical Education, or the Arts, or Business Studies, or French*, or Cooperative Education*

Group 3: 1 additional credit in Science (grade 11 or 12) or Technological Education (grades 9-12), or French*, or Cooperative Education*

*A maximum of 2 credits in Cooperative Education and/or French can count as compulsory credits.

Elective Credits: In addition to the 18 compulsory credits, students must earn 12 elective credits selected from the common course calendar. Elective credits may include up to four credits earned through approved dual credit courses.

Definition of a Credit

A credit is recognition of the successful completion of a course for which a minimum of 110 hours is scheduled. A credit is granted to a student by the principal of a secondary school on behalf of the Minister of Education.

Community Involvement Requirements and Procedures

Every student must complete 40 hours of Community Involvement. Hours completed the summer before a student enters 9th grade may be counted toward the 40 hours. Keep track of your hours as students self submit their hours via MyWay.

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test

All students who enter grade 9 in the 2000 - 2001 or in subsequent years must successfully complete the Ministry literacy requirement in order to earn a secondary school diploma. This may be accomplished by either successfully passing the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) or the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course (OSSLC). The standard method for assessing the literacy skills of students in Ontario for purposes of meeting the literacy requirement for graduation is the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test. Students will normally be administered the literacy test when they are in grade 10. The test is based on Ontario curriculum expectations for language and communication, particularly reading and writing, up to and including grade 9. There is no limit to the number of times the test may be re-taken.

ONLINE LEARNING GRADUATION REQUIREMENT

Beginning with students that entered Grade 9 in the 2020-21 school year, students must earn at least two online learning credits to get their Ontario Secondary School Diploma.

The online learning graduation requirement also applies to adult learners that will be entering the Ontario secondary school system starting in 2023-24 school year.

Opting out

Parents who wish to opt out or exempt their child from the online graduation requirement must complete the opt-out form available from their child's school board. Exemption from the online learning graduation requirements may be requested by:

- the parent or guardian of the secondary student
- students who are 18 years of age or older
- students who are 16 or 17 years of age and have withdrawn from parental control

GRADE NINE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Students in grade nine will take a program of eight courses: five compulsory and three elective.

Compulsory Courses

CGC1DF - Geography of Canada, Grade 9, Academic - offered in 2023-24

This course uses a variety of frameworks, including eco-zones and principles of physical, human, and economic geography, to explore the distinct and evolving character of Canada's geography. Students will investigate the interconnections between the environment and human activities in Canadian eco-zones in order to understand Canada's diversity and role in the world. ***This course is offered with French as the language of instruction.***

CGC1DI - Geography of Canada, Grade 9, Academic

This course uses a variety of frameworks including eco-zones and principles of physical, human and economic geography, to explore the distinct and evolving character of Canada's geography. Students will investigate the inter-connections between the environment and human activities in Canadian eco-zones in order to understand Canada's diversity and role in the world.

ENL1WI- English, Grade 9

This course enables students to continue to develop and consolidate the foundational knowledge and skills that they need for reading, writing, and oral and visual communication. Throughout the course, students will continue to enhance their media literacy and critical literacy skills, and to develop and apply transferable skills, including digital literacy. Students will also make connections to their lived experiences and to society and increase their understanding of the importance of language and literacy across the curriculum.

FEF1DI - Extended French, Grade 9, Academic

This course emphasizes the expansion of students' oral communication, reading, and writing skills through the study of themes that reflect their interests. Students will apply their knowledge of French in discussions, debates, dramatizations, and oral presentations. Students will read and write in a variety of genres (e.g., poems, articles, brochures) and study at least one short novel intended for a French-speaking audience.

FSF1DI - Core French, Grade 9, Academic

This course emphasizes the further development of oral communication, reading and writing skills. Students will build on and apply their knowledge of French while exploring a variety of themes, such as relationships, trends and careers. Thematic readings, which include a selection of short stories, articles and poems, will serve as stepping stones to oral and written activities.

MTH1WI - Mathematics, Grade 9

This course enables students to consolidate, and continue to develop, an understanding of mathematical concepts related to number sense and operations, algebra, measurement, geometry, data, probability, and financial literacy. Students will use mathematical processes, mathematical modelling, and coding to make sense of the mathematics they are learning and to apply their understanding to culturally responsive and relevant real-world situations. Students will continue to enhance their mathematical reasoning skills, including proportional reasoning, spatial reasoning, and algebraic reasoning, as they solve problems and communicate their thinking.

SNC1WI - Science, Grade 9

This course enables students to develop their understanding of concepts related to biology, chemistry, physics, and earth and space science, and to relate science to technology, society, and the environment. Throughout the course, students will develop and refine their STEM skills as they use scientific research, scientific experimentation, and engineering design processes to investigate concepts and apply their knowledge in situations that are relevant to their lives and communities. Students will continue to develop transferable skills as they become scientifically literate global citizens.

Elective Courses**ADA1OI - Dramatic Arts, Grade 9, Open**

This course emphasizes the active exploration of dramatic forms and techniques, using material from a wide range of authors, genres and cultures. Students will construct, discuss, perform and analyze drama and then reflect on the experiences to develop an understanding of themselves, the art form, and the world around them.

AMI1OI - Instrumental Music, Grade 9, Open

This course emphasizes the performance of music at a level that strikes a balance between challenge and skill and is aimed at developing technique, sensitivity and imagination. Students will participate in creative activities that will teach them to listen with understanding. They will also learn correct musical terminology and its appropriate use. Students will perform as a class and in small groups and will be encouraged to participate in an extra-curricular ensemble.

AMV1OI - Vocal Music, Grade 9, Open

This course emphasizes the performance of music at a level that strikes a balance between challenge and skill and is aimed at developing technique, sensitivity and imagination. Students will participate in creative activities that teach them to listen with understanding. They will also learn correct musical terminology and its appropriate use. Students will perform as a class and in small groups and will be encouraged to participate in an extra-curricular ensemble.

ATC1OI - Dance, Grade 9, Open

This is an introductory dance class. Students will have fun developing their technical and creative dance skills, while improving their overall fitness. This course focuses on collaborative creations, group presentations, positive body image, and anatomy and nutrition.

AVI1OI - Visual Arts, Grade 9, Open

This course offers an overview of visual arts as a foundation for further study. Students will become familiar with the elements and principles of design and the expressive qualities of various materials through working with a range of materials, processes, techniques and style. They will learn and use methods of analysis and criticism, and will study the characteristics of particular historical art periods and a selection of Canadian art and art of other cultures.

BBI10I - Introduction to Business, Grade 9, Open

This course introduces students to the world of business. Students will develop an understanding of the functions of business, including accounting marketing, information technology, human resources, and production, and of the importance of ethics and social responsibility. This course builds a foundation for further studies in business and helps students develop the business knowledge and skills they will need in their everyday lives.

BTT10I - Information and Communication Technology in Business, Grade 9, Open

This course introduces students to information and communication technology in a business environment and builds a foundation of digital literacy skills necessary for success in a technologically driven society. Students will develop word processing, spreadsheet, database, desktop publishing, presentation software, and website design skills. Throughout the course, there is an emphasis on digital literacy, effective electronic research and communication skills, and current issues related to the impact of information and communication technology.

PAI10I- Coed Individual and Small Group Activities, Grade 9, Open

This course is a Co-Ed option that focuses on skill development, improved fitness and health through small group and individual activities. Students also acquire an understanding of the factors and skills that contribute to healthy development and well-being. Note: Students may obtain the credit in EITHER PAI10I or PPL10X/Y but not both.

PPL10X - Healthy Active Living Education (Females) Grade 9, Open

This course emphasizes students' daily participation in a variety of enjoyable physical activities that promote lifelong healthy active living. Students will learn movement techniques and principles, ways to improve personal fitness and physical competence and safety/injury-prevention strategies. They will investigate issues related to healthy sexuality and the use and abuse of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs and will participate in activities designed to develop goal setting, communication and social skills.

PPL10Y - Healthy Active Living Education (Males) Grade 9, Open

This course emphasizes students' daily participation in a variety of enjoyable physical activities that promote lifelong healthy active living. Students will learn movement techniques and principles, ways to improve personal fitness and physical competence and safety/injury-prevention strategies. They will investigate issues related to healthy sexuality and the use and abuse of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs and will participate in activities designed to develop goal setting, communication and social skills.

HFN10I - Food and Nutrition, Grade 9, Open

This course explores the factors that affect attitudes and decisions about food, examines current issues of body image and food marketing, and is grounded in the scientific study of nutrition. Students will learn how to make informed food choices and how to prepare foods, and will investigate our Canadian food heritage and food industries, as well as global food issues. The course also introduces students to research skills related to food and nutrition.

TEJ10I - Exploring Computer Technologies, Grade 9, Open

This exploratory course introduces students to concepts and skills in computer technology which encompasses computer systems, networking, interfacing, and programming, as well as electronics and robotics. In the hardware component, students will learn about fundamental electronic parts and test equipment as they build and analyze a computerized project. Students will program their project to accomplish a specific set of tasks. This component will be excellent preparation for further study in Computer Engineering Technology, including TEJ20I, and TEJ3MM. In the software component, students will learn computer programming concepts. This component will be excellent preparation for further study in Computer Science, including ICS 20I and ICS3UI.

TIJ10I - Exploring Technologies, Grade 9, Open

This course enables students to further explore and develop technological knowledge and skills introduced in the elementary science and technology program. Students will be given the opportunity to design and create products and/or provide services related to the various technological areas or industries, working with a variety of tools, equipment, and software commonly used in industry. Students will develop an awareness of environmental and societal issues, and will begin to explore secondary and postsecondary education and training pathways leading to careers in technology-related fields.

