



PRESTON HIGH SCHOOL

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Grade 9 Course Calendar Supplement 2023 - 2024

This brochure contains information for grade 9 only. A common course calendar outlining the grades 9 - 12 is available online

THERE ARE 4 ONTARIO SECONDARY SCHOOL DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS:

1. Credit Requirements = 30 credits are required in total (18 compulsory and 12 elective credits)

18 Compulsory Credits:

- 4 credits in English (1 credit per Grade)
- 3 credits in Mathematics (1 must be Grade 11 or 12)
- 2 credits in Science
- 1 credit in French as a second language
- 1 credit in Canadian History
- 1 credit in Canadian Geography
- 1 credit in the Arts
- 1 credit in Health and Physical Education
- 0.5 credit in Civics
- 0.5 credit in Career Studies

One credit each from Group 1, 2 & 3 earned anytime during their four years:

- **Group 1:** 1 additional credit in English or French as a second language** or a Native Language or a Classical / International Language or Social Sciences and the Humanities or Canadian 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 as a second language** or Cooperative Education*
- **Group 3:** 1 additional credit in Science (Grade 11 or 12) or Technological education (Grade 9 - 12), or French as a second language** or Computer Studies or Cooperative Education*

12 Elective Credits: Credits taken from areas of interest and pathways in order to fulfill the 30 credit requirement for OSSD.

** A maximum of 2 French credits can be counted for Group 1, 2 or 3.

* A maximum of 2 credits in Cooperative Education can count as compulsory credits.

2. 40 Hours of Community Volunteering (Tracking Sheet is available on the PHS website)

Students are able to begin collecting their Community Volunteer hours during the summer after Grade 8.

Please keep track of these details on your Tracking Sheet to be able to log your hours: **Community Sponsor's Name, Telephone number, Email address, Activity location and date(s) of volunteering, Number of Hours completed.** Students will be notified where to submit hours once they are a PHS student.

3. Completion of Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test or Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course

Students will 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. The Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course has been developed to provide students who have been unsuccessful on the test, an alternative means of demonstrating their literacy skills.

4. Online Learning Requirement - 2 credits

Beginning with students that entered Grade 9 in the 2020-2021 school year, students must earn at least two online asynchronous credits to earn their OSSD. If this learning method is not well suited for the student, parents may sign an Opt-Out form once their child is a PHS student to waive this requirement.

For more information about Grade 9 student life and academics please visit:

phs.wrdsb.ca/guidance/transition-to-grade-9

GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION

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.

Definition of Types of Courses - Three types of courses are offered in Grade 9 and 10.

1. **Academic Courses** emphasize theory and abstract problems.
2. **De-streamed Courses** ensure that all students have the foundational and transferable skills they will need in a rapidly changing world.
3. **Open courses** are designed to prepare students for further study in certain subjects and to enrich their education generally.

Course Coding System

The course code consists of a course title and a six-character code: The first five characters are designated by the Ministry of Education and Training. The sixth character is determined by the Waterloo Region District School Board.

Code Characters	Explanation	Example - ENL 1W I
1st, 2nd & 3rd	Subject discipline of the course in letters	"ENL" English
4th	Grade level as a number "1" Grade 9 "3" Grade 11 "2" Grade 10 "4" Grade 12	"1" = Grade 9 or first year
5th	Type of Course as a letter "D" Academic "W" De-Streamed "O" Open	"W" = De-Streamed course
6th	WRDSB designated character that indicates the credit value or may be used to differentiate between courses with similar codes	"1" = 1 credit

Additional Costs

In some courses there will be an **optional** Enhancement Fee for workbooks, materials and certain off-campus activities. There may be a charge for field trips in any course to cover the cost of transportation and/or admission.

GENERAL GRADE 9 PROGRAM INFORMATION

All students in Grade 9 will take a program of 8 courses: 5 Compulsory and 3 Electives. We ask students to choose a 4th elective course which may be used as an alternative course choice when necessary.

Compulsory Courses

Geography (Canadian & World Studies)

CGC1DI Academic

English

ENL1WI De-Streamed

French

FSF1DI Academic

Mathematics

MTH1WI De-Streamed

Science

SNC1WI De-Streamed

Elective Courses

ADA1OI Dramatic Arts

AMI1OI Instrumental Music

AMV1OI Vocal / Choral Music

AVI1OI Visual Arts

AWA1OI Visual Arts - Crafts

BB1OI Introduction to Business

BTT1OI Information and Communication Technology in Business

GLE1OI Learning Strategies for stu. with IEP (Individual Ed. Plan)

GLS1OI Learning Strategies for students without an IEP

PPL1OY Healthy Active Living Education (Male)

PPL1OX Healthy Active Living Education (Female)

TEJ1OI Computer Engineering Technologies

TIJ1OI Exploring Technologies (Auto, Wood & Metal Shop)

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GRADE NINE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:

Compulsory Courses - All Grade 9 students will be enrolled in the following FIVE courses:

Issues in Canadian Geography (CGC1DI, Academic) - This course examines interrelationships within and between Canada's natural and human systems and how these systems interconnect with those in other parts of the world. Students will explore environmental, economic, and social geographic issues relating to topics such as transportation options, energy choices, and urban development. Students will apply the concepts of geographic thinking and the geographic inquiry process, including spatial technologies, to investigate various geographic issues and to develop possible approaches for making Canada a more sustainable place in which to live.

English (ENL1WI, De-Streamed) - 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.

French (FSF1DI, Academic) - This course provides opportunities for students to communicate and interact in French with increasing independence, with a focus on familiar topics related to their daily lives. Students will develop their skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing by using language learning strategies introduced in the elementary Core French program, and will apply creative and critical thinking skills in various ways. They will also enhance their understanding and appreciation of diverse French-speaking communities, and will develop skills necessary for lifelong language learning.

Mathematics (MTH1WI, De-Streamed) - 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 modeling, 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.

Science (SNC1WI, De-Streamed) - 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 - All open level courses, choose THREE electives + ONE alternative course

The Arts

Dramatic Arts (ADA1OI, Open) - This course provides opportunities for students to explore dramatic forms and techniques, using material from a wide range of sources and cultures. Students will use the elements of drama to examine situations and issues that are relevant to their lives. Students will create, perform, discuss, and analyze drama, and then reflect on the experiences to develop an understanding of themselves, the art form, and the world around them.

Instrumental Music Band (AMI1OI, Open) - This course emphasizes the creation and performance of music at a level consistent with previous experience and is aimed at developing technique, sensitivity, and imagination. Students will develop musical literacy skills by using the creative and critical analysis processes in composition, performance, and a range of reflective and analytical activities. Students will develop an understanding of the conventions and elements of music and of safe practices related to music, and will develop a variety of skills transferable to other areas of their life.

Vocal Music (AMV1OI, Open) **Registration in a music course is recommended for extracurricular participation** - This course emphasizes the creation and performance of vocal music and is aimed at developing technique, sensitivity, and imagination through singing. Students will develop musical literacy skills by using the creative and critical analysis processes in composition, performance, and a range of reflective and analytical activities. Students will develop an understanding of the conventions and elements of music and of safe practices related to music, and will develop a variety of skills transferable to other areas of their life.

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Visual Arts (AVI1OI, Open) - This course is exploratory in nature, offering 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 by using a range of media, processes, techniques and styles. Students will use the creative and critical analysis processes and will interpret art within a personal, contemporary and historical context.

Visual Arts, Crafts (AWA1OI, Open) - This course is exploratory in nature, offering 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 by using a range of media, processes, techniques, and styles. Students will use the creative and critical analysis processes and will interpret art within a personal, contemporary, and historical context.

Business Studies

Introduction to Business (BBI1OI, Open) - This course introduces students to the world of business. Students will develop an understanding of the functions of business, including accounting, marketing, information and communication 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.

Information and Communication Technology in Business (BTT1OI, 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.

Special Education

Learning Strategies: Skills for Success in Secondary School (GLE1OI - students with IEP*, GLS1OI - students without IEP*, Open) - This course focuses on learning strategies to help students become better, more independent learners. Students will learn how to develop and apply literacy and numeracy skills, personal management skills, and interpersonal and teamwork skills to improve their learning and achievement in school, the workplace, and the community. The course helps students build confidence and motivation to pursue opportunities for success in secondary school and beyond.

*IEP = Individual Education Plan

Health & Physical Education

Healthy Active Living Education (PPL1OX - Female, PPL1OY - Male, Open) - Students can choose the gym credit in which they feel most comfortable. Other personal fitness opportunities are available in Grades 10, 11 & 12.

This course equips students with the knowledge and skills they need to make healthy choices now and lead healthy, active lives in the future. Through participation in a wide range of physical activities, students develop knowledge and skills related to movement competence and personal fitness that provide a foundation for active living. Students also acquire an understanding of the factors and skills that contribute to healthy development and learn how their own well-being is affected by, and affects, the world around them. Students build their sense of self, learn to interact positively with others, and develop their ability to think critically and creatively.

Technological Education

Exploring Computer Technology (TEJ1OI, 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. Students will develop an awareness of related environmental and societal issues and will begin to explore secondary and post-secondary pathways leading to careers in the field.

Exploring Technologies: Auto, Metal and Wood Shop (TIJ1OI, 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.

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