



# Centennial School

570 Poirier St., Coquitlam, BC

## GRADE 9 WELCOME PACKAGE

### COURSE SELECTION GUIDE 2019-2020

## *Hello Future Centaur!*

#### **Introduction:**

*It's still a few months away, but we at Centennial are already hard at work getting next year organized. You are focusing on finishing Grade 8 well. We are going to ask you to pause, and think about what you might want to do next year, and even beyond that. You don't need to know your whole career plan: just one year at a time. But, it's also good to know everything that your future high school can offer over the four years you are there. We prepare students for many different colleges, universities, trades, and of course...careers!*

#### **Things that happen during your Grade 8 to 9 transition:**

- ✓ Your middle school will be visited by some of our staff: Counsellors, Vice-Principals/Principal, Youth Worker, Teachers. This happens in January and February.
- ✓ You will come on a short field trip to Centennial to visit some of our elective areas – “Walkabout” – at the end of January.
- ✓ Your parent can come for **Parent** Information Evening, January 30<sup>th</sup>. You are also welcome to attend.
- ✓ You will receive this handout, and have a chance to choose the courses you'd like for Grade 9
- ✓ Course requests will be confirmed by the end of June.
- ✓ In August 2019, you will come for your official welcome, orientation, locker, and Grade 9 photo day.
- ✓ On September 3<sup>rd</sup>, you will come to school for 1 hour, to collect your paperwork and final timetable.

#### **Did you know?**

- ❖ Grade 9 students usually take 8 courses, but some students take a 9<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> course as well.
- ❖ Starting in Grade 10, your courses count for credits toward graduation. If you are involved in high-level sports or arts certifications (like ballet class), you might be eligible for course credits that count. If you take a Grade 10 course during Grade 9, it also counts towards graduation. Keep in mind that from Grade 10 to Grade 12, you will probably take 24 courses, and earn at least 96 credits, even though you need 80 credits to graduate.
- ❖ There's no school supply list for Grade 9. Instead, each teacher will let you know if you need something, but usually they say: a binder, section dividers and some filler paper, for starters.
- ❖ Our mascot is the Centaur – half person half horse. You'll see a “real” one at our spirit assemblies.

#### **There's a lot to know about how things work at Centennial**

- ❖ Visit the online PDF version of our student guide on the school website (published early 2019)
- ❖ Install our free app into your smartphone (if you have one). **App: MySchoolDay**



# Choosing Your Grade 9 Courses

- ❖ Grade 9 students take English, Social Studies, Science, Math, and PE, plus a selection of three elective courses (for many one of these is a Modern Language). If a Grade 9 student takes an off-timetable course, it is on top of the 8 main courses.
- ❖ You need to choose elective courses that contain “Applied Skills” and “Fine Arts”. Fortunately, most of our courses at Centennial have both of those components built in, so you are free to choose from the whole list of courses.
- ❖ Students who are following an English Language Learning (ELL) or Learning Assistance Centre (LAC) in Middle School may need to take certain courses in their list of eight (Often in lieu of a Modern Language). These choices are made by the counsellors at both Middle and Centennial Schools, in consultation with parents.
- ❖ Before you pick your electives, visit each elective classroom on Walkabout Day (January 25<sup>th</sup>) to see what you will be most interested in. Pick more than three electives in case your top three choices are full and we have to go with your alternate selections.
- ❖ The Grade 9 Program of Studies consists of a combination of required and elective courses (eight courses in total). All students must take English, Mathematics, Social Studies, Science, and Physical Education. In addition, students must choose three elective courses. When choosing courses, students should start considering longer term educational goals with respect to high school graduation, post-secondary institution requirements, and the world of work. Grade 9’s should choose one Fine Arts and one Applied Skill elective, if possible.

## Off-Timetable Classes

Most Grade 9 students have 4 classes every day, along with a lunch block. If you choose to take an extra class such as Band, Choir, Jazz Band or Strength and Conditioning, you might have a class during the lunch block or before school (7:20 start time). By the time you pick your courses, you might not know for sure when these ‘off-timetable’ courses are scheduled.

- Junior Grade 9/10 **CONCERT BAND** (lunch)
- **Fitness and Conditioning 10** (AM class)
- Concert **CHOIR** Grades 9-12 (lunch)
- Junior Grade 9/10 **JAZZ BAND** (lunch)
- **VOCAL JAZZ** Ensemble Grades 9-12 (lunch)
- **Musical theatre** (Grades 10+ usually) (After School)

## List of Classes you can Choose

See the next page for a list of our courses so you can begin the selection process.

# Course Descriptions for Grade 9's

## --- REQUIRED COURSES ---

### English 9

English 9 students pick up where middle school left off, as they develop skills in six areas, which are further grouped in two areas of competence: 1. comprehend and connect (reading, listening, and viewing skills), and 2. create and communicate (writing, speaking, representing skills). This course introduces students to the formal study of various literary genres: poetry, short stories, the novel, and drama. Students will develop skills and strategies that enable them to anticipate and confirm meaning while reading and listening. They will also study and apply the conventions of language to writing—with particular emphasis on coherent paragraph development. Student choice is important in English 9, as are the First Peoples Principles of Learning, which are based on the concepts of community, shared learning, and trust; therefore, both choice and the principles of learning are embedded in English 9.

### Social Studies 9

Social Studies 9 integrates the skills, knowledge and attributes that have been developed in earlier Social Studies courses and consolidates the competency of students in areas of critical thinking, research and referencing, the development of evidence-based arguments and effective communication. Students will focus on events, developments and changes in European governments through the development of early Canada concluding with the Riel Rebellions. These events, developments and changes will occur in political, geographical, economic and social areas. More specifically the students will examine the concepts of revolution and its effects on government, exploration, colonization and settlement in Canada. The knowledge and skills that students develop will prepare them to undertake further studies in Social Studies 10.

### Science 9

The Science 9 course introduces students to individual and group discovery in a laboratory setting. This course is activity based with an emphasis on four areas of scientific discovery. In Chemistry, the major concepts of ionic compounds and patterns within the periodic table are explored. In Physics, the major emphasis is on static and current electricity. Students will explore topics in Biology related to sexual and asexual reproduction as well as cell division. Topics in Environmental Science will also be explored particularly related to the carbon cycle, energy flows, and human impacts on the environment. The course goals are to introduce students to scientific discovery and a wide range of scientific knowledge, and to teach them to work effectively in a group setting. Note: Students with a C- in Science 8 are recommended to have an LEC support block concurrently when taking science 9. A course fee of \$15 is applied to cover the cost of field trips and other enhanced experiences that meet the suggested intentions of the new curriculum.

### Math 9

This course is designed to consolidate and extend topics introduced in the middle school years. Topics include operations with rational numbers, square roots and exponents, algebra, linear relations, financial planning, and statistics. At the end of this course, students will be prepared for Foundations of Mathematics and Pre-Calculus 10 OR Workplace Mathematics 10. An Math 9 called "Numeracy 9" exists in our school. This is Math for students who have been identified by their teachers as needing support with middle school mathematics and are not yet prepared to begin regular Math 9. From Numeracy 9 a student can continue to Workplace Math 10 OR choose to work through Math 9 to become ready for Math 10 Foundations and Pre-Calculus.

### Physical and Health Education 9

The aim of Physical Health Education 9 is to enable all students to develop knowledge, movement skills, and positive attitudes and behaviors that contribute to a healthy, active lifestyle. The students will have the opportunity to:

- Participate in, and experience, a variety of performance and leisure-oriented activities.
- Develop positive attitudes towards physical activities.
- Be able to develop positive personal and social health-related behaviors, and work cooperatively in group activities.
- Acquire skills and knowledge necessary to develop an active and healthy lifestyle.
- Activities will include a selection of team games, individual and dual activities, dance, and minor games

## --- ELECTIVES ---

### Arts Education 9

Art 9 is an introductory art course which offers a range of media exploration for students interested in developing their visual art skills. The main focus is on learning to see, visual literacy, and expanding students' vocabulary of art concepts. Students are taught the basic elements and principles of design, which are reinforced with class projects and discussions. Projects primarily include drawing, painting, ceramics and sculpture. Students should finish Art 9 with a good idea of their own creative potential and feel ready to approach more specialized senior level art courses.

### Business Education 9

This course introduces many of the basic concepts needed to understand how the business world works. Topics include marketing, accounting, business law, finance, and entrepreneurship. This is an introductory course to Marketing and Promotion 11, Accounting 11, and Entrepreneurship 12. This course utilizes computer software such as PowerPoint, Excel, Word, and Movie Maker.

## **Business Computer Applications 12**

Based on the old course Keyboarding 11, this course will help students develop keyboarding proficiency both as a personal life skill and as a foundation for career development. Students will learn to touch key to industry acceptable standards as well as create personal, school, and business documents using word processing software. This course is designed for the beginner as well as for those who wish to increase their speed and accuracy and learn more advanced word processing skills. Learn how to create reports, letters, tables, and other useful documents; and some advanced word processing and desktop publishing skills by the end of the course.

## **Drafting, Design & Animation 9**

This entry-level exploratory course will introduce students to a variety of drafting, design, animation and graphic communication techniques. Areas that will be covered include sketching, instrument drawing, 2D CAD, 3D modeling, 2D and 3D animation, computer graphics and architectural design, using both instruments and a variety of available up-to-date computer software. Students will acquire a useful set of skills that can be applied to many career and life choices.

## **Drama 9**

This introductory course helps students develop theatre & communication skills, creativity, and get them comfortable performing on stage. Students explore activities/topics including movement, improvisation, theatre games, short skits, scene acting and scene building. The course will help boost confidence and people skills, and introduce students to performing for a film or theatre audience.

## **Fitness and Conditioning 10**

Fitness and Conditioning 10 is an introductory athletic training class. Students will focus on learning functional movement sequences and proper training techniques. Emphasis is placed on safety and progressively increasing strength safely through a variety of training methods. Plyometrics, interval training, running, and weight training will all be utilized. All students welcome!

## **Food Studies 10**

LEARN THE BASICS! In this course you will learn to cook for yourself and your family. Food Studies 9/10 focuses on building confidence and creativity, basic food preparation skills and safe food practices. Main units will include: baking, breakfast, lunch and dinner. You will leave this class able to cook foods from all four food groups. Come prepared to tempt your taste buds with your creations!

## **French 9**

French 9 builds on skills in French 8, and encourages students' active participation in acquiring a basic functional level of both spoken and written French. By the end of French 9, students should be able to begin to identify tenses and to use appropriate French expressions for a variety of oral and written tasks. [Must have completed French 8 in middle school]

## **Hockey Academy – Hockey Skills 10**

This introductory course is open to all first-time Hockey Academy students in grades 9-12. The Centennial Hockey Academy provides the opportunity for male and female hockey players to supplement their minor hockey experience by improving their hockey skills and fitness levels. Course content includes the development of technical skills (power skating included), individual tactics, team tactics, team play, systems, strategy, off-ice training specific to hockey, health, and wellness. Other Academy components include sport psychology, fundraising, volunteering opportunities, as well as group activities such as rock climbing, hiking, yoga, and on-ice tournaments. Please note there is a course fee for the Hockey Academy.

## **Information & Communications Technology 9**

This “hands-on” course provides an opportunity to develop digital communication skills in data processing, graphic design, photo editing, presentation software, 2D digital animation, and coding. This course will help prepare students for a career in the digital world and provide them with new found skills which they can use to enhance projects for coursework in other curricular areas. Assignments will include working with Microsoft Office Tools; graphics editing and presentation with Photoshop, Illustrator, and Adobe Animate; coding and website design with HTML, CSS, and scripting languages.

## **Instrumental Music: Guitar 10**

If you are new to guitar or you have some experience with guitar, this course will give you the basics and more. Beginner guitar will teach you to play open position chords, strumming patterns, finger style guitar, barre chords, riffs and notation reading (chord boxes, tablature and music notation). The course would cover a wide variety of songs with the emphasis on collecting a repertoire of songs that students can play.

## **Japanese 9**

Japanese 9 is an introductory course. A multimedia approach (songs, games, video and audio tapes) will be used to bring Japanese culture into the classroom. Japanese 9 is a communications course, which will allow students to function in a variety of situations. Students will learn to read and write Hiragana as well as to converse in simple Japanese.

## **Metal/Wood 9**

Students enrolled in this course will learn about metalworking for one half of the semester and woodworking for the other half. The Metal section of the course (9 weeks) will introduce students to various cutting, forming, and welding techniques. Students will develop their designing and creative abilities in a fun, hands-on environment with two mini-competitions. The woodworking section of the course will allow students to gain experience with many of the tools and techniques used by a woodworker. A strong emphasis is placed on safe work habits as students learn to use power tools to saw, plane, shape, and assemble projects made of wood. As a project based course students can expect to build two wood projects while working hands-on in an environment that is safe, productive, and encouraging.

## **Music 9: Concert Band (at lunch)**

Whether you are new to band or already play an instrument, this course is a great choice. Develop your instrumental skills and have fun by being part of a strong group. Band 9 students work to become better musicians by performing and touring. Some of the events and activities music students will participate in throughout the school year will include performances at school and in the community, a music camp and a spring performance tour. Band 9 is an alternate day course running all year. Students are expected to attend all Band activities as part of the requirements of this course. Please contact the music director if you have questions.

## **Music 9: Concert Choir (at lunch)**

Whether you are new to choir or have sung in choirs before, this course is a great choice. Develop your vocal skills and have fun by being part of a strong group. Choir 9 students become better musicians by performing and touring. Some of the events and activities music student will participate in throughout the year will include performances at school and in the community, a music camp and a spring performance tour. Choir 9 is an alternate day course running all year. Students are expected to attend all Choir activities as part of the requirements of this course. Please contact the music directors if you have questions.

## **Music 9: Jazz Band (audition, at lunch)**

If you like swing, funk, Latin and rock, this is the place for you! This course will run in conjunction with Band, fitting easily into your timetable as an extra course in the same block. Students who wish to be included must also register for Music 9: Concert Band. Jazz Band is an opportunity to take your skills to the next level. Those who take Jazz Band also have the opportunity to learn trumpet, trombone, saxophone or any of the rhythm section instruments.

## **Music 9: Vocal Jazz (audition, at lunch)**

This course will provide experience in the exciting field of vocal jazz! Develop style, microphone technique, and staging awareness while performing exciting and fun music. This course will run in conjunction with Music 9: Concert Choir, fitting easily into your timetable as an extra course in the same block. Interested students must be enrolled in the corresponding level of Concert Choir.

## **Music Composition & Technology 10**

No previous training in music is required. This course starts with any skills students already have with computers or with music (including voice) and develops their ability to compose music and improve their knowledge of computers and audio recording equipment. Using both traditional methods and contemporary audio/digital equipment, students will have opportunities to design, create and record music. In addition, students will learn about song form and how to compose with a guitar. A variety of guitar genres will be covered (folk, pop, rock etc.)

## **Photography 10**

This course will provide students with opportunities to explore two-dimensional graphic art and photographic processes. This is an introductory course that is designed to meet the needs of students who have little or no art background. Students will gain an understanding of how the elements and principles of design can be used to communicate moods, feelings and attitudes through a medium of photography. The course will focus on personal image development through a variety of photographic techniques. Students will use the camera as an artistic tool for recording images and expressing their ideas and emotions. Students will develop an understanding of the evolution of the camera and the history of photography as an art form.

## **Power Technology 9**

Power Technology 9 will provide students with an introduction to energy, mechanical devices, and motion. An emphasis on practical hands-on experience will prepare students to move on to more advanced technical or mechanical courses. Students will be instructed on safe procedures to be employed in a shop situation and will gain valuable experience with a variety of tools and equipment. Power Tech students will have the opportunity to work on a wide range of projects involving working models, small engines, and transportation devices.

## **Spanish 9**

Spanish 9 is an introductory course that aims to develop speaking, reading, listening and writing skills needed to understand and communicate at a basic level. This course is also designed to make students aware of and appreciate various Hispanic cultures and customs.

## **Technology 9: Electronics/Power and Energy**

Electronics - Students enrolled in this course will learn about electronics for one half of a semester and power and energy technology for the other half. The electronics section introduces the fundamentals of electricity and the tools, parts, and processes used to design and fabricate basic electronics projects. Technology - In the power and energy section, students will investigate many different physics principles in fun and interesting ways. A variety of wood, metal, and plastic fabrication skills will be utilized to produce individual and group projects, which will be tested and competed.

## **Textile Arts & Crafts 9**

TAC 9 is a hands-on course where you can learn to make decorative items for yourself or to give as gifts. Students will learn about many crafting techniques and supplies. Projects include hand – sewing / embroidery, polymer clay, beading, scrapbooking, soap making, and holiday projects and decorations. Evaluation is based on completed project work, as well as project management.

## **Textiles 9 (Sewing)**

Learn to Sew! Textiles 9/10 is designed to help you learn the basics, the practical sewing skills needed to create clothing that you will be proud to wear. In this course you will make 3 garments (a shirt/hoodies, pant/skirt and a choice project) along with several smaller projects (accessories, home décor) based on time and student interest. We will learn how to choose fabric, how to work with a commercial patterns and make simple alterations. We will explore the process of upcycling and consider the environmental and ethical impacts of our clothing choices. This is a perfect course for beginners, no experience needed.



1. Read the descriptions of all required courses and elective courses that interest you.
2. Use all the resources available to help you choose electives: teachers, parents, counsellors, and other students.
3. Keep in mind your future plans: check what courses are required for the grade 10 program, graduation, and entry to post-secondary institutions.
4. Check off your required courses below.
5. Choose three elective courses and one alternate from the list.
6. Have your parent/guardian sign this form, and then submit it to your Grade 8 teacher or counsellor. If you are coming from outside district, please submit this form directly to Centennial.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Middle School: \_\_\_\_\_ Student #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: M † F †

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone Numbers: Father \_\_\_\_\_ Mother \_\_\_\_\_ Student Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Career Goals \_\_\_\_\_

Post-Secondary Plans \_\_\_\_\_

**Pick your required courses:**

- |   |  |   |                                     |  |
|---|--|---|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> English 9 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social Studies 9 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Science 9 | <input type="checkbox"/> Math 9     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Physical Education 9 |
|   |  |   | <input type="checkbox"/> Numeracy 9 |  |
| Gr 8 Mark: _____                              | Gr 8 Mark: _____                                     | Gr 8 Mark: _____                              | Gr 8 Mark: _____                    | Gr 8 Mark: _____   |

- COL Digital Literacy 10—All grade 9 students will be enrolled in this Digital Literacy class which is a course for developing technology skills. These skills will be integrated into and taught with their core subjects.

**Request your elective courses (maximum of 5 requests total):**

Write the numbers 1 to 5 in order of preference beside the course name below. We will try to get you your top 3 (no guarantees).

**FOCUS ON FINE ARTS (with built-in Applied Skills)**

	Arts Education 9
	Drama 9
	French 9* [French 8]
	Instrumental Music: Guitar 10
	Japanese 9
	Music Composition and Technology 10
	Photography 10
	Spanish 9

**FOCUS ON APPLIED SKILLS (with built-in Fine Arts)**

	Business Education 9
	Business Computer Applications 12
	Drafting, Design and Animation 9
	Electronics and Power 9
	Food Studies 10
	Hockey Academy – Hockey Skills 10
	Info and Communications Technology 9
	Metal/Wood 9
	Power Technology 9
	Textile Arts and Crafts 9
	Textiles 9 (Sewing)

Extra courses (during lunch or in the early morning block). Tick any than apply to you. You may take 2 Music courses.

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Music 9: Concert Band<br>(Lunchtime Day 1s)           | <input type="checkbox"/> Music 9: Concert Choir<br>(Lunchtime Day 2s)  | <input type="checkbox"/> Fitness and Conditioning 10<br>(Early Morning) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Music 9: Jazz Band 9<br>(Must also take Concert Band) | <input type="checkbox"/> Music 9: Vocal Jazz<br>(Must also take Choir) |   |

Please indicate if you have applied to one of the following special programs

- Pre-AP Science (separate application form)  
 Math 9/10 Accelerated (entrance exam required)

Please indicate if you were in any of these programs in Grade 8 (circle any that apply)

LEC (academic support in lieu of second language course)    ELL    District-Challenge    MAC    EPIC