GRADE 9
2022 – 2023 COURSE INFORMATION

This information sheet is not to be submitted; it is for your information only. Students will be receiving course planning information at school during class time from our MEI High School Counsellors between Feb 8 – Feb 14, 2022. Students will enter their course requests during class time at MEI using the myEducation BC portal under the supervision and guidance of the School Counsellors between March 7 - 11, 2022. Previous student passwords for MyEd have been disabled. A new individual Login ID and password to access the portal will be provided to each student by our School Counsellors in class time between March 7 - 11. To assist students and parents in this process please consult the link below which includes the 2022-2023 Course Calendar and additional information regarding course planning for students. https://www.meischools.com/resources/course-planning-for-mei-secondary-students/.

Grade 9 Required Courses

A Bible and Career Education Course
- ❑ Bible 9 – Exploring the Biblical Story
- ❑ Career Education 9

A Language Arts 9 Course
- ❑ English Language Arts 9 **OR**
- ❑ English Language Arts 9 Honours **(Note 1)**

A Physical and Health Education Course
- ❑ Physical and Health Education 9 Boys **OR**
- ❑ Physical and Health Education 9 Girls **OR**
- ❑ Hockey Academy 9 **(Note 2)**

A Science 9 Course
- ❑ Science 9 **OR**
- ❑ Science 9 Honours **(Note 3)**

A Social Studies 9 Course
- ❑ Social Studies 9

A Mathematics Course
- ❑ Mathematics 9 or Workplace Math 9 **(Note 4)**

Grade 9 Elective Course Options

Students select electives for a total course value of 8

Applied, Design Skills and Technologies (ADST)
(must select at least one in this section)................................(Course Value)
- ❑ Entrepreneurship and Marketing 9 ······································ (2)
- ❑ Food Studies 9 ·· (2)
- ❑ Information and Communications Technologies 9 .... (2)
- ❑ Textiles 9 ··· (2)
- ❑ Woodwork 9 ··· (2)

Art Education (AE) **(must select at least one in this section)**
- ❑ Music 9 (Band) ·· (4)
- ❑ Music 9 (Drama & Choir) .... (2)
- ❑ Visual Arts 9 ·· (2)

An Optional Modern Language Course (Note 5)
- ❑ Core French 9 ·· (2)
- ❑ Spanish 9 ··· (2)

One or Two Support Block(s) (Note 6)
- ❑ Support Block A ··· (0)
- ❑ Support Block B ··· (0)

Extended Day Course – Optional

Optional courses offered outside of the regular timetable (early morning or after school). To apply for these classes students need to submit an application form through Microsoft Forms by March 11, 2022. Links for these applications can be found on the MEI Schools website, in the MYED BC course selection portal, and with the QR Codes below.

- ❑ APEX: Student Leadership 9 📄 **(Note 7)**
- ❑ Drumline 9 📄 **(Note 7)**
- ❑ Junior Worship Leadership 9 📄 **(Note 7)**
- ❑ Renaissance Singers 9 📄 **(Note 7)**

APEX: Student Leadership 9 | **Drumline 9** | **Junior Worship Leadership 9** | **Renaissance Singers 9**

Important Notes – Please read carefully

Note 1. The English department will make the final selection upon review of the student's grade 8 MEI academic English record. Request for English 9 Honours from schools other than MEI Middle must have a teacher recommendation. The final decision will be made by the English department.

Note 2. Students in the MEI Hockey Academy will meet the requirement for Physical and Health Education 9 by the end of their program.

Note 3. The science department will make the final selection upon review of the student's grade 8 MEI academic math and science record

Note 4. This course is designed for students who were not successful in Math 8.

Note 5. If you want to take French 9 or Spanish 9 and intend to carry on with the next levels in grade 10, 11 or 12, you must select this elective.   Please read the BC Second Language Information on the back of this sheet.

Note 6. Learning Support Blocks are for designated students only. Each LS block takes the space of a 4-credit elective course. For more information about support blocks please contact our LS teachers: Mrs. Grim; Mrs. Dean; or Mrs. Comeau.

Note 7. Student interested in applying for this class need to complete the online application form.

BC SECOND LANGUAGE INFORMATION

As you are considering whether or not to carry on your education with a second language beyond grade 8, it is important to take into account the following information:

High School Graduation Requirement

A second language is **optional in grades 9 – 12** and is not required for high school graduation.

In order to take French or Spanish 10, 11 or 12 at MEI, students must have successfully completed French 9 or Spanish 9. Students can switch from French 8 and move on to Spanish 9 without prior Spanish knowledge.

University Admission Requirements

At this time a second language is **not** required for general admission to:

- ✓ British Columbia Institute of Technology
- ✓ Kwantlen Polytechnic University
- ✓ Trinity Western University
- ✓ University of the Fraser Valley
- ✓ University of British Columbia (Okanagan Campus only)
- ✓ University of Northern British Columbia
- ✓ University of Victoria
- ✓ Most other BC Colleges and Bible Schools.

A grade 11 second language is not required for students transferring to SFU or UBC after completing a full year of university transfer courses at UFV, KPU, TWU or UVic, etc.

A grade 11 second language is required for direct general admission to **Simon Fraser University** and **University of British Columbia (Vancouver Campus)**.

A grade 11 second language, or equivalent, is required for **all** students planning to complete a **Bachelor of Arts degree** at the **University of the Fraser Valley.** Students without an additional grade 11 language, will need to complete a first year modern language course as part of their university studies.

A grade 12 second language is required for **all** students planning to complete a **Bachelor of Arts degree at the University of British Columbia (Vancouver Campus**) even if they are transferring from another post-secondary institution

(PSI). Students without an additional grade 12 language must take a language as part of their university studies.

University of British Columbia no longer takes into account a "challenged" language 12 mark as part of calculating student average of their academic grade 12 courses for admission selection purposes. However, students wanting their modern language 12 (e.g., French 12 or Spanish 12) mark to count as one of their required academics, must take the language 12 as a classroom at MEI instead of challenging it.

Six Surprising Benefits of Learning Another Language

1. Learning a new language could improve your memory. There's evidence that learning vocabulary boosts memory, but it's more than just simple repetition. Delving into another language can make you more mentally alert because you're also paying attention to body language cues.

2. Being bilingual can make you a better multitasker. Science suggests that bilingual speakers demonstrate an increased capacity for problem-solving. Using cognitive muscles to navigate multiple languages can make you more adept at juggling tasks in other ways.

3. Knowing other languages may encourage cultural appreciation. Learning a new language could contribute to greater tolerance because of the exposure to a variety of cultures. Some studies show there is a correlation between being bilingual and having a more positive outlook.

4. Speaking other languages can make you a better communicator. It's not just about knowing how to express yourself. It's also about the ways other languages can help you understand your own.

5. Learning a language can encourage creativity. One of the natural outcomes of being versed in another language is immersing yourself in that culture. The process can spark connections and shift paradigms within your own world.

6. Being bilingual may make your brain bigger. Research suggests that being bilingual has noticeable benefits when it comes to the size of your brain, particularly growth in the cerebral cortex and hippocampus. Like the other muscles in your body, the brain can get bigger with exercise. One of the best ways to keep your mind active is to learn, speak, and read in other languages.