



# GRADE 9

## 2019 – 2020 COURSE SELECTION FORM

**Student Name** (print) \_\_\_\_\_ **Student #** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please refer to the *MEI Secondary 2019–2020 Course Calendar*

[http://www.meischools.com/secondary/documents/student\\_services/coursecalendar.pdf](http://www.meischools.com/secondary/documents/student_services/coursecalendar.pdf) or scan the QR Code for direct access. Please submit this completed course selection form after the course planning presentation on **Monday March 11, 2019** or to the main office before closing time at 4:00 pm on **Wednesday March 13, 2018**.



### Grade 9 Required Courses

The following required courses will be entered automatically:

- ✓ Bible 9 – Exploring the Biblical Story
- ✓ Career Education 9
- ✓ English Language Arts 9 **OR** English 9 Honours (Note 1)
- ✓ Physical and Health Education 9 **OR** Hockey Academy 9 (Note 2)
- ✓ Science 9 **OR** Science 9 Honours (Note 3)
- ✓ Social Studies 9
- ✓ Mathematics 9 **OR** Workplace Mathematics 9 (Note 4)

### Grade 9 Elective Course Options

#### **Applied, Design Skills and Technologies ✂**

- Entrepreneurship and Marketing 9 ✂
- Drafting 9 ✂
- Food Studies 9 ✂
- Information Technology 9 ✂
- Textiles 9 ✂
- Woodwork 9 ✂

#### **Art Education 🎨**

- Visual Arts 9 🎨
- Music - Band 9 🎵
- Music - Drama 9 🎭

#### **Modern Languages (Note 6)**

- French 9
- Spanish 9

#### **Extended Day Course (Optional)**

- APEX: Student Leadership 9 📄 (please attach application form)
- Junior Worship Leadership 9 📄 (please attach application form)

#### **Select ✓ 1 Science Preference**

- Science 9 **OR**  Science 9 Honours

#### **Write 1 required Applied, Design Skills and Technologies Elective ✂**

#### **Write 1 required Art Education 9 Elective 🎨**

#### **Write 4 additional grade 9 electives in order of priority (Notes 5, 6)**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

### Extended Day Course(s)

Write one or two **optional** extended day course(s)

Please provide completed application form for each course

### Important Notes – Please read carefully

- Note 1.** Students wishing to be selected for English Language Arts 9 Honours must write a 2 hour entry test at MEI Secondary in the Secondary Library (Date and time TBA.) The final decision will be made by the English department.
- Note 2.** Physical and Health Education classes are divided between boys and girls. 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. Request for Science 9 Honours from schools other than MEI Middle must have a teacher recommendation. Recommendations can be sent by email to Mrs. Thiessen at [dthiessen@meischools.com](mailto:dthiessen@meischools.com)
- Note 4.** The MEI secondary math department will follow the MEI Grade 8 math teacher's recommendation for a student's placement into either Mathematics 9 or Workplace Mathematics 9. The MEI Secondary math department will evaluate the academic records of in-coming non-MEI students in order to decide the appropriate math pathway placement.
- Note 5.** Your selection will be used to create a complete timetable. However, it does not mean that you will be receiving the four electives classes you have chosen. For instance, students who select Band 9 as their Art Education course will only have room for one more elective. Students who select Drama 9 or Visual Arts 9 will have room for two electives. The remaining chosen electives will be used as alternates.
- Note 6.** 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 should write this elective as priority no. 1. Please read the BC Second Language Information on the back of this form.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

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

## BC SECOND LANGUAGE INFORMATION

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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.