



Grade 9 STUDENT COURSE GUIDE

2026-2027

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

To meet the province's graduation requirements, each student must attain a minimum of 30 credits to receive a Manitoba High School Diploma. Some credits are compulsory; they are designed to ensure a quality education and represent a range of subject areas as chosen by Manitoba Education. The remaining courses may be chosen as electives.

MANITOBA REQUIREMENTS

These are the courses required by the Province of Manitoba for graduation:

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|----------------------------------|-----------|---------------------|
| English Language Arts | 4 credits | Grade 9, 10, 11, 12 |
| Mathematics | 4 credits | Grade 9, 10, 11, 12 |
| Physical Education/Health | 4 credits | Grade 9, 10, 11, 12 |
| Science | 2 credits | Grade 9, 10 |
| Social Studies | 1 credit | Grade 9 |
| Geography | 1 credit | Grade 10 |
| History of Canada | 1 credit | Grade 11 |

Students planning to attend university will require a minimum of 6 courses at the Grade 12 level with the total number of credits remaining at 30 or higher.

Most courses in high school are semesterized. In grades 9, 10, and 11, students may choose to take their mandatory social studies, geography, or history as a combined course with ELA. This course is then taught in both semesters with the same teacher for both subjects.

NHS REQUIREMENTS

These are the courses required by Niverville High School as part of our comprehensive educational program:

Career Development (Life Works Exploration - Mandatory) ½ credit Grade 9

Grade 9 "Try-a-Trade"

| | | |
|---------------------------|----------|---------|
| Interactive Digital Media | ½ credit | Grade 9 |
| Drama | ½ credit | Grade 9 |
| Art | ½ credit | Grade 9 |
| Motion Picture Arts | ½ credit | Grade 9 |

Note: Grade 9 students will choose 3 of these 4 courses.

SPECIAL GRADUATION RECOGNITION:

Merit: A student who successfully completes a minimum of two (2) credits over and above the 30 credit provincial grad requirement will receive Merit recognition.

Distinction: A student with an average of 90% or higher in any Grade 12 course will receive Distinction recognition for those specific courses.

NHS LEARNING CLUSTERS

Students may choose elective courses from the following learning clusters that suit their interest and allow them to tailor their learning to meet their own goals.

Academic

These courses are designed to provide students with a broad academic base. Many of these courses will provide the knowledge and skills needed to meet the entrance requirements of post-secondary programs. Teaching and learning will emphasize concrete applications of the theoretical material covered in the course and will also emphasize the development of critical-thinking and problem-solving skills. Students have the flexibility to concentrate their studies in both of the following two focus areas.

Science/Math Focus:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|
| Chemistry | Grade 11 & 12 |
| Biology | Grade 11 & 12 |
| Physics | Grade 11 & 12 |
| Current Topics in Science | Grade 11 |
| Interdisciplinary Topics in Science | Grade 12 |

Humanities Focus:

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| Reading is Thinking | Grade 9 & 10 |
| French | Grade 9 - 12 |
| Sociology | Grade 11 |
| History of Western Civilization | Grade 12 |
| Global Issues | Grade 12 |
| Law | Grade 12 |
| Psychology | Grade 12 |

Digital Technology

This cluster focuses on learning to solve problems, accomplishing tasks, and expressing creativity, both individually and collaboratively. Students will learn to use today's technology for tasks at school and in their personal lives. More importantly, students will learn to adapt to change and be able to independently learn and use new technology as it evolves throughout their lives. Each student should be knowledgeable about technology, be able to use technology readily and effortlessly, and be able to make decisions about their use of technology.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Information Communication Technology | Grade 9 |
| Motion Picture Arts | Grade 9 |
| Interactive Digital Media | Grade 9 - 12 |
| Digital Pictures | Grade 10 |
| Digital Film Making | Grade 10 |
| Computer Science | Grade 10, 11 & 12 |

Applied Commerce Education

This cluster provides students with opportunities for creating, designing, problem-solving and exploring the various aspects, trends and issues in business.

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|------------------------------|----------|
| Business Innovations | Grade 9 |
| Creative Promotions | Grade 10 |
| Retailing Perspectives | Grade 11 |
| Marketing & Digital Commerce | Grade 12 |

Performing & Visual Arts

This cluster is intended to support, promote and inspire the growth of all students as artistic learners as they journey towards becoming creative, artistically literate adults and citizens.

| | |
|-------------|---------------|
| Band | Grade 9 - 12 |
| Jazz Band | Grade 9 - 12 |
| Choir | Grade 9 - 12 |
| Drama | Grade 9 - 12 |
| Art | Grade 9 - 12 |
| Photography | Grade 10 - 12 |

Grade 9 Course Descriptions

GRADE 9 MATHEMATICS (2 credits)

Students will learn numeracy skills, become stronger problem solvers, further their mental math skills, and learn to communicate and reason mathematically. Students are expected to work both individually and in small groups on mathematical concepts and skills. Mathematics 10F was developed as a foundational course to prepare students for multiple possible pathways in Grades 10-12. Financial literacy will be integrated into this year-long course.

GRADE 9 SCIENCE (1 credit)

Grade 9 Science is an introduction to fundamental scientific concepts of our world that will encourage students to develop a critical sense of wonder and curiosity about scientific and technological endeavours. Students will examine topics related to electricity, reproduction, and atomic theory.

GRADE 9 ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS (1 credit)

This course develops the capacity and capability of students to navigate multiple uses of language and literacies and a wide range of texts and contexts.

English Language Arts (ELA) enables learners to increase the complexity and sophistication in the ways they make sense of language, understand language as a system, and use language to explore and design, while being aware of the potential to gain power and agency in the realm of literacy. Through comprehending, communicating, and critically thinking within rich learning experiences, learners develop and deepen competency in using language to meet personal and academic goals.

The goals of the 9-12 English Language Arts curriculum are to give students opportunities to:

- develop flexible and versatile ways of thinking and using language to meet personal, social, and academic needs
- build a sense of self, identity, community, and the world
- sustain a lifelong sense of curiosity, a passion for learning, and an appreciation of the power and beauty of literature, language, and multiple forms of text

Grade 9 Course Descriptions (continued)

GRADE 9 COMBINED HUMANITIES (Year long - 2 credits)

Students may choose to take their mandatory social studies (course description below - Canada in the Contemporary World) as a combined course with ELA. This course is then taught in both semesters with the same teacher for both subjects. A particular skillset is recommended for Combined Humanities, specifically: ability to self-start, organization, planning and follow through.

GRADE 9 CANADA IN THE CONTEMPORARY WORLD (1 credit)

This course provides students with an opportunity to examine their own society and to define their place as a citizen of our country and of the world. This course will enhance their ability to become informed, active and responsible citizens, and develop the core concept of active democratic citizenship through study of Canada's history and geography. The four foundational skill areas of literacy and communication, problem solving, human relations, and technology are developed throughout the course.

GRADE 9 PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH (1 credit)

This Physical Education course consists of a variety of sports, games, and activities in which skill acquisition is emphasized along with the physical health benefits of physical activity in the pursuit of the development of healthy lifelong habits.

Female students in grade 9 may have the option to receive their Physical Education credit through the Female Fitness class. Please note, students who choose to take Female Fitness will not be able to take band due to scheduling limitations.

ELECTIVE COURSES



GRADE 9 FRENCH (1 credit)

Recommended Prerequisite: Grade 8 French

The goal of this course is for students to communicate in French about simple daily topics or situations and to begin to develop their conversational French skills. Communication will happen through reading, writing, speaking and listening.

The objective of the Basic French courses is to develop students who will:

- acquire a good foundation in French from which to pursue fluency;
- gain insights into and an appreciation of the francophone culture;
- gain appreciation for French languages, cultures, and communities throughout Canada and around the world

GRADE 9 FAMILY STUDIES (1 credit)

This course explores issues and experiences related to daily life in families. Students will learn to examine themselves and their family, explore the transition of teenagers into adulthood, gain the ability to make wise decisions throughout life, recognize the societal factors that affect those decisions, and appreciate the variety and diversity of families today.

GRADE 9 READING IS THINKING (1 credit)

Reading is Thinking is designed to improve the literacy skills of students so they can be successful in their learning across a variety of content areas and in their life. Students will learn, practice, and internalize strategies that are essential life-long learning skills for proficiency in reading, writing, understanding, and interpreting content specific materials. The strategies learned will be applicable in the content areas of English, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. Students will also be encouraged to begin or to continue reading for enjoyment.

GRADE 9 BUSINESS INNOVATIONS (1 credit)

This is an introductory course to Commerce Education that allows students an opportunity to explore business-related topics such as economics, marketing, entrepreneurship, technology, and finance. Throughout the course, students will apply the concepts and strategies they learn by developing a creative business plan.

GRADE 9 INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT)/KEYBOARDING (1 credit)

The purpose of the course is to reinforce and extend the ICT knowledge, attitudes, and skills acquired by students in the Early and Middle Years. The course will further prepare students to use ICT to learn and demonstrate their learning in all Senior Years courses. Keyboarding is designed to provide an opportunity to learn to type on a Chromebook keyboard using correct techniques as well as the development of speed and accuracy. Students will also develop their familiarity of Google Suite and aim to become proficient using docs, sheets, and slides.

GRADE 9 LIFE/WORK EXPLORATION (½ credit) (one of the Try-a-Trade courses)

This (mandatory) course will help students acquire and apply knowledge and skills to make appropriate decisions for life, work, and the essential post-secondary education/training that is required in today's economy. Its primary goal is to assist students on their path to graduation and ensure a smoother transition to post-secondary education and work. All grade 9 students will automatically be enrolled in this course.

GRADE 9 EXPLORATION OF INTERACTIVE DIGITAL MEDIA (½ credit) (one of the Try-a-Trade courses)

This course is designed for students to explore the basics of interactive digital media (IDM). As our day-to-day digital interactions increase it is important to understand the concepts, ethics, and functionality of the apps, video games, media platforms, and information technology in a deeper way. This exploratory course explores careers and issues in the IDM field as well as introducing students to animation, digital asset design, and coding while making their own video games.

GRADE 9 MOTION PICTURE ARTS (½ credit) (one of the Try-a-Trade courses)

Motion Picture Arts explores the basics of developing a short film. Students will learn the skills to tell stories visually through both script and the method of filming. Students will learn to record and edit video, storyboard, and see a film project to completion.

GRADE 9 ART (½ credit) (one of the Try-a-Trade courses)

The goal of the visual arts is to support, nurture, and inspire the growth of every student as an artist. This course introduces students to elements and principles of artistic design in a variety of contexts. Students will be introduced to different elements and principles of artistic design. We receive about 80% of our information visually, which makes it essential that students explore thinking, feelings, and problem solving by discussing and analyzing visual perception. *Students will be required to purchase an art package at the cost of \$30.*

GRADE 9 DRAMA (½ credit)

(one of the Try-a-Trade courses)

Drama introduces students to the art and craft of drama through presentations, acting, writing and producing their own scripts. Students will explore how to take on roles individually and in groups. An emphasis is placed on experimenting with different ideas and techniques of acting.

GRADE 9 BAND (1 credit)

Prerequisite: Grade 8 Band

The emphasis of this course is to further the understanding of music through performance and study of high-quality music of various styles and genres for winds and percussion, and to develop the practical, theoretical, expressive, and creative musical skills needed to perform music effectively. There will be a number of concerts and festival performances throughout the year, and students will be expected to participate in these and all other scheduled music-related activities.

GRADE 9-12 JAZZ BAND (½ credit available at each grade level)

This is a half credit course for band students interested in studying jazz music. The bands meet twice a week during lunch and after school throughout the school year. The Jazz band attends the Brandon Jazz Festival every year in March and all band members are expected to attend.

GRADE 9-12 CHOIR (½ credit available at each grade level)

This is a half credit course for students interested in studying jazz/contemporary music and improving their vocal technique. The choir meets twice a week during lunch throughout the school year and once a month after school. The choir performs at events such as school concerts, the Brandon Jazz Festival and local venues throughout the year. All choir members are expected to attend the scheduled performances.