

SIR JOHN A. MACDONALD SECONDARY SCHOOL

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GRADE 9 COURSES 2021-2022 COURSE CALENDAR SUPPLEMENT

Sir John A. Macdonald Secondary School is a full-service school offering programs for students who are university, college or workplace-bound. With a student population of approximately 1,650 students, we offer a wide range of curricular and extra-curricular programs to meet the diverse needs of our students.

GENERAL GRADE 9 PROGRAM INFORMATION

- Students in grade 9 will take a full-time program of 8 courses (5 compulsory, 3 electives).
- Please ensure you choose courses at the appropriate level for grade 9 (consider recommendations from grade 8 teachers).
- Making course level changes after the start of a semester is typically not possible because of timetable/course restrictions. Make sure you review specific course expectations to ensure you are appropriately placed.
- Plan and select your elective courses carefully. Switching elective courses can be extremely difficult once our timetable is established each year.
- SJAM's guidance staff will assist with pathways planning/course selections throughout high school.

COMPULSORY COURSES

NOTE—this brochure contains information for incoming grade 9 students only. The WRDSB Common Course Calendar, outlining all courses offered in grades 9 – 12, is available online at <http://jam.wrdsb.ca/guidance/course-selections>.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT PROGRAM @ SJAM

The Advanced Placement (AP) program offers students the opportunity to pursue university-level studies while still in high school. Based on their performance on rigorous AP examinations, students can earn credits for many universities and colleges in Canada and the USA. Enrolling in Pre-AP courses prepares students for success in senior Advanced Placement courses, while extending the current curriculum and enriching specific learning outcomes.

SJAM offers Pre-AP courses in Mathematics and Science. We also offer Enriched French for students coming from French Immersion programs (starting in Grade 9).

Although Pre-AP extends the curriculum, evaluation is based on the regular academic Ontario curriculum.

NEW FOR 2021-2022

Based on recommendations from the review of our AP program during the 2019/2020 school year and Ministry of Education directives regarding math de-streaming in Grade 9 for September 2021, changes to SJAM's pre-AP/AP program are as follows:

- MATH – commences in Grade 10 (apply in grade 9 year)
- SCIENCE – will commence in Grade 11 for Physics and Chemistry (apply in Grade 10)

This revised plan will allow teachers, as subject specialists, to better support students' applications and opportunities for success.

FAST FORWARD PROGRAM

Sir John A. Macdonald Secondary School is one of the Waterloo Region District School Board's designated sites for Fast Forward magnet programs.

This program is for students who may be working towards an Ontario Secondary School Diploma but who are likely intending to go directly to the workplace upon completion of high school.

Most students in this program will be working significantly below grade level and will have been identified (IPRC/IEP) as candidates for this program in elementary school. Refer to the Fast Forward program supplement for more information.

CANADIAN GEOGRAPHY:

CGC 1DI—Issues in Canadian Geography (Academic Level)

- Examine the interrelationships within and between Canada's natural and human systems and how these systems interconnect with those in other parts of the world.
- Explore environmental, economic, and social geographic issues relating to topics such as international trade, immigration, mega-projects, urban sprawl, climate change, aboriginal relations, and resource depletion.
- Apply the concepts of geographic thinking and inquiry to investigate various geographic issues while developing possible approaches for making Canada a more sustainable place to live.

CGC 1PI—Issues in Canadian Geography (Applied Level)

- Course focuses on current geographic issues that affect Canadians.
- Draw upon personal and everyday experiences as you explore a range of issues, such as international relationships, urbanization, immigration and interactions with the natural environment.
- Develop awareness about issues that affect our lives and the interconnections we have with other parts of the world.
- Apply the concepts of geographic thinking and the geographic inquiry process to investigate choices related to sustainable living in Canada.

ENGLISH:

ENG 1DI—English (Academic Level)

- This course is designed to develop oral communication, reading, writing, and media literacy skills.
- Students will analyze literary texts from contemporary and historical periods, interpret informational and graphic texts, and create oral, written, and media texts in a variety of forms.
- Digital literacy/online portfolio are integral parts of the course.
- Intended to prepare students for the grade 10 academic English course, which leads to university or college preparation courses in grades 11 & 12.

ENG 1PI—English (Applied Level)

- This course is designed to develop key oral communication reading, writing, and media literacy skills.
- Students will read, interpret, and create a variety of informational, literary and graphic texts with a more hands on approach.
- Intended to prepare students for the grade 10 applied English course, which leads to college or workplace preparation

ENGLISH (contd.):

ENG 1LB—English (Essential Level)

- This course provides foundational literacy and communication skills to prepare students for success in their daily lives, in the workplace and in the Grade 10 essential level course.
- The course develops a variety of important skills, including listening, talking, reading, viewing and writing.
- In all strands, the focus is on developing foundational literacy skills and in using language clearly and accurately in a variety of authentic contexts.

FRENCH:

FSF 1DI—Core French (Academic Level)

- 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.
- Develop skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing.
- They will also enhance their understanding and appreciation of diverse French-speaking communities.

FSF 1DX—Core French (Academic—Enriched)

- Intended for students coming from a French immersion or bilingual background.
- Course provides opportunities for students to speak and interact in French independently in a variety of real-life and personally relevant contexts.
- Develop skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing, as well their ability to communicate in French with confidence, by using language learning strategies introduced in the elementary French Immersion program.
- Enhance knowledge of the French language through the study of literature and culture. They will also increase their understanding and appreciation of diverse French-speaking communities.

FSF 1PI—Core French (Applied Level)

- This course provides opportunities for students to communicate and interact in French in structured situations, with a focus on everyday topics, and to apply their knowledge of French in everyday situations.
- Develop listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills.
- They will also enhance their understanding and appreciation of diverse French-speaking communities.

MATHEMATICS: GRADE 9 DESTREAMING FALL 2021

- In the summer of 2020, the Ministry of Education announced a new Grade 9 math course which will be the compulsory Grade 9 math course in all Ontario schools effective September 2021.
- As details become available, we will share with our community, including the implications for our school designated programs and magnet programs. This new curriculum will be a continuation of the grade 8 curriculum.
- Pre-AP and other "enhanced" math courses are no longer offered as these do not support the equitable spirit of destreaming.

NEW FOR 2021-2022

MTH1W1—Mathematics

- 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 modelling, 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.
- Prerequisite: None

MAT 1LB—Mathematics (Essential Level)

- This course emphasizes further development of mathematical knowledge and skills to prepare students for success in their everyday lives.
- Organized in three strands: money sense, measurement, and proportional reasoning.
- Focus on developing key mathematical concepts and skills by solving authentic, everyday problems.
- Students develop their math literacy and problem solving through relevant and practical math activities.
- Recommended for students achieving below level 1 in Grade 8 math.

SCIENCE:

SNC 1DI—Science (Academic Level)

- This course will enable students to improve their scientific inquiry skills and apply scientific knowledge to technological, societal, and environmental issues.
- The focus is on theories and investigations related to atomic structure, ecosystems, static and current electricity, and the nature of the universe.

SNC 1PI—Science (Applied Level)

- This course will enable students to develop practical skills in scientific investigation and apply scientific information to everyday life.
- Students will conduct investigations related to the nature of matter, ecosystems, static and current electricity, and astronomy and space exploration.

SNC 1LB—Science (Essential Level)

- This course will enable students to improve their communication and mathematical skills while investigating topics in science.
- The focus will be on investigations into the science in everyday life, the nature of common substances, body systems, and electric circuits.

ELECTIVE COURSES

ARTS:

ADA 1OI—Drama (Open Level)

- Connect with classmates in a fun, artistic and welcoming environment.
- Gain the confidence to shine in front of audiences.
- Explore dramatic techniques (tableau, creative movement, comedy, improvisation), learn about the history of the stage, train on state of the art lighting and sound theatre equipment.
- Work with professional actors and enjoy live theatre.
- Develop acting and public speaking skills: trust, self-confidence, teamwork, creativity, expressiveness, self-reflection.

AMI 1OI—Instrumental Music (Open Level, experienced)

- Ideal for students who are experienced players on woodwind, brass or percussion instruments that you will play in class.
- Develop your instrumental performance skills; you will play your instrument every day.
- Learn to read and write standard music notation and complete listening and composition activities.
- Play as a class and in small groups, you will be encouraged to perform in the Junior Band.
- **Preparatory Course: Grade 7 or 8 Instrumental Music/Band**

AMI 1OX—Instrumental Music (Open Level, no experience required)

- Ideal for students with no experience on a woodwind, brass or percussion instrument. Starting as a beginner, you will learn to play an instrument.
- Develop your instrumental performance skills; you will play your instrument every day.
- Learn to read and write standard music notation while completing listening and composition activities.
- Play as a class and in small groups, you will be encouraged to perform in the Grade 9 Band.

AMV 1OI—Vocal Music (Open Level)

- This course is for you if you like to sing, whether you have experience or not.
- Develop your vocal performance skills; you will sing every day.
- Learn to read and write standard music notation while completing listening and composition activities.
- Sing as a class and in small groups, you will be encouraged to perform in the Highlander Chorus.

ATC 1OI—Dance (Open Level)

- Take a break from desks and chairs and just dance! Explore your creativity and passion for movement in the grade 9 Dance course. All levels of experience welcome.
- Develop a variety of dance styles (Ballet, Jazz, Lyrical, Hip Hop, Contemporary, etc) through movement exploration, professional guest instruction, and improvisation in our state of the art facility.
- Improve your technique and create innovative choreography.
- Experience live dance performances from top professionals

AVI 1OI—Visual Art (Open Level)

- This course offers an overview of visual arts as a foundation for further study.
- Become familiar with the elements and principles of design and the expressive qualities of various materials through working with a range of processes, techniques and styles.
- Develop a variety of artistic skills, including sketching, painting, sculpture and multi-media.
- Learn and use methods of analysis and criticism while studying the characteristics of particular historical art periods and a selection of Canadian art and art of other cultures.

ELECTIVE COURSES

BUSINESS STUDIES:

BBI 1OI—Introduction to Business (Open Level)

- This foundation course introduces students to the many facets of business, including finance, marketing, accounting, entrepreneurship, investing in the stock market and international business.
- Emphasis is placed on fun and interactive learning with hands on activities.
- Students will develop leadership skills and self confidence as they gain insight into all the specialized areas Business Studies has to offer at the senior level.

BTT 1OI—Information and Communication Technology for Business (Open Level)

- This computer software application course focuses on learning G-Suite (Google drive, Docs, Sheets and more), web page design and Office 365 apps.
- Learn to manage and use your Chromebook effectively.
- Skills learned in BTT can be applied to many other subject areas, leading to greater student success.

FAMILY STUDIES:

HFN1OI—Food and Nutrition (Open Level)

- This course provides students with opportunities to develop food-preparation skills and learn how to make simple meals and snacks, like pizza, cookies and muffins, soup and salads, from scratch.
- Students will learn how to work safely in the kitchen, and also how to prevent contamination and food borne illness.
- Using Canada's Food Guide, students will learn to make nutritious food choices.
- Students will investigate the factors that influence food choices, including beliefs, attitudes, current trends, traditional eating patterns, food-marketing strategies and individual needs.

SCHOOL SUPPORT SERVICES & RESOURCES

Sir John A. Macdonald Secondary School offers students support and resources outside of the classroom through our student services team. This includes:

- Guidance Counsellors
- Special Education Resource Teachers (SERTs)
- Student Success
- Social Worker
- Child Youth Workers
- Library
- Student Activities
- School Nurse

HEALTH & PHYSICAL

EDUCATION:

PPL 1OX (Females), PPL 1OY (Males) Healthy Active Living (Open Level)

- This course emphasizes students' daily participation in a variety of enjoyable physical activities that promote life long healthy active living.
- Students will learn movement techniques, ways to improve personal fitness and physical competence and safety/injury-prevention strategies.
- Students will investigate issues related to healthy sexuality and the use and abuse of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs and will participate in activities designed to develop goal setting, communication and social skills.
- Students will also receive CPR and AED training.

TECHNOLOGICAL STUDIES:

TIJ 1OI—Exploring Technologies (Open Level)

- Course prepares students for the exciting technological world, with an emphasis on hands-on activities and theory.
- Students construct projects such as a mini rocket, electrical circuits, draw a floor plan of a house, and do home renovation projects which includes carpentry and electrical work.
- Highlight of the course is servicing a real car and designing, constructing and testing a 600mm long working model Sailboat.
- Students learn how to complete technical projects and protect the environment at the same time.
- All technical courses at SJAM will reinforce skills and knowledge in Mathematics, Science, English literacy and Computer Technology.

TEJ 1OI—Exploring Computer/Engineering Technologies (Open Level)

- This course prepares students for the exciting world of Engineering.
- Students complete a series of projects, which may include an ancient trebuchet, complex electrical circuits, AutoCad and SolidEdge drawings, PowerPoint presentations, Desktop Publications, Spreadsheets, and/or PhotoShop Digital Art.
- Students will develop solutions for problems using Physics, Math and Computer Modeling Techniques.
- Using these skills, students design, build and test projects, such as an Engineering Vehicle Challenge and a cricket circuit board.
- Students compare the physical outcome of each design with theoretical values, just like working engineers do.

COMPULSORY COURSES

Canadian & World Studies (Geography)

- CGC 1DI (Academic)
- CGC 1PI (Applied)
- CGC1PB (Essential/Fast Forward)

English

- ENG 1DI (Academic)
- ENG 1PI (Applied)
- ENG 1LB (Essential/Fast Forward)

French

- FSF 1DI (Academic)
- FSF 1DX (Enriched—for students coming from French immersion)
- FSF 1PI (Applied)

Mathematics

- MPM 1DI (Academic)
- MFM 1PI (Applied)
- MAT 1LB (Essential/Fast Forward)

Science

- SNC 1DI (Academic)
- SNC 1PI (Applied)
- SNC 1LB (Essential/Fast Forward)

ELECTIVE COURSES (choose 3)

- ADA 1OI—Dramatic Arts
- AMI 1OI—Instrumental Music (Experienced)
- AMI 1OX—Instrumental Music (No Experience)
- AMV 1OI—Vocal Music
- ATC 1OI—Dance
- AVI 1OI—Visual Art
- BBI 1OI—Introduction to Business
- BTT 1OI—Information & Communication Technology for Business
- HFN 1OI—Food and Nutrition
- PPL 1OX—Healthy Active Living (Female**)
- PPL 1OY—Healthy Active Living (Male)**
- TIJ 1OI—Exploring Technologies
- TEJ 1OI—Exploring Computer/Engineering Technologies

**** Highly recommended for all grade 9 students.**