



Kamloops School of the Arts

**Grade 8 and 9
Course Selection Book**

2026-2027

www.ksa.sd73.bc.ca

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Our Vision

KSA is committed to increasing students' success through research-based, arts driven education.

General Information

Welcome to Kamloops School of the Arts. KSA offers all the courses a student needs to graduate along with a diverse complement of art electives and mosaics in Drama, Music, Dance, Visual Arts and Media Arts. We are proud of what we have achieved for students and look forward to another great school year.

Kamloops School of the Arts: Our Approach

Kamloops Schools of the Arts (KSA) offers a creative, "hands-on" and "minds-on", academic experience that integrates all the Arts into the re-designed BC curriculum. KSA is a K-12 school dedicated to the study and exploration of mathematics, science and humanities while allowing students to express their understanding and to learn to use the arts. In addition, students study and hone their artistic skills during dedicated studio time with professional artist-teachers. KSA offers programs designed to allow students to develop creativity, critical thinking and communication skills in a supportive, collaborative environment.

Course Selection Information

We hope that the course descriptions found in this booklet will help guide you in your decision making. Please read them carefully and give us a call, should you have any questions.

- With support from the vice principal and counsellor, current students will submit their course requests online. However, new students will complete a paper form and turn it in to the office.
- Your choice of majors should be based on your interests, abilities, past school achievements and future educational plans. Language, mathematics, and science requirements for post-secondary education need to be considered carefully when selecting courses. If you have any questions, please see our counsellor.
- Students, parents, and guardians are always welcome to discuss course selections and other concerns with our counsellor.

Student Support at KSA

Counselling Services

This is a student-centered service. Students are encouraged to see a counsellor for help with:

- Personal and interpersonal difficulties
- Timetable and course plans
- Future education and vocational planning
- Liaison with community agencies
- Scholarship information and application support

Homework Request

Homework requests for long-term illnesses should be made to the counselling secretary (Ms. Jane Viventi).

Learning Assistance

This program offers learning assistance, assessment, remediation and course assistance to students referred by counselors or teachers. Students needing specific help may be timetabled into the LAC room. Some of the services provided by LAC include: assistance with academic courses; adapted learning materials; tutoring; word processing; organizational help; study skills; assignment tracking; test support and proof-reading. Students completing online courses may also use this area. Parents are welcome to contact the school counsellor for further information.

Library Support Services

The library is strongly integrated into the learning fabric of the school and the library staff is readily available to contribute to student learning outcomes. Library staff help facilitate access to and use of information resources in and out of school, assist with technology, online resources, and media needs.

Academy Fees

Academy Description

Kamloops School of the Arts – Secondary is a multi-year Fine Arts Academy that offers an in-depth study of the major art forms of Music, Dance, Drama, Media and Visual Arts for grades 8-12. The arts are also integrated into the core curriculum in grades 8-12. Because twenty-five percent of our students' learning involves the study of the arts, the BC Ministry of Education recognizes Kamloops School of the Arts as an Academy.

Course Credits

Fine Arts Majors = (full year) = one 4 credit Fine Arts Major course of study
 Grades 10 – 12 Fine Arts Minors = two 2 credit (semester length) Fine Arts Minors
 Grade 8 and 9 Junior Mosaic = (7-week length) Multi-discipline Courses

Summary of Fine Arts Academy Fees Per Year

Academy Fees Grades 8 – 12	\$40.00
Major Course – Arts Education Grades 8 – 12	\$40.00
Grades 10 – 12 Minor Courses – Minimum of 2 courses per year	\$40 - \$70
Grade 8 and 9 Junior Mosaic	\$40

Locks

Students are required to put a lock on their lockers. These can be brought from home or purchased at the office for \$10.00.

Instrument Rental for Band

Based on district guidelines, rental for musical instruments is \$90.00 per year.

Financial Hardship Policy for Curricular Activities

No student will be denied the opportunity to participate in a course and/or activity associated with a course in which they are enrolled because of financial hardship. Parents, guardians or students should contact the school principal, in order that confidential, respectful and discreet arrangements can be made to ensure a student is not denied an opportunity to participate in a course or activity.

Suggested List of Supplies

Students will be expected to supply the following:

- loose leaf paper
- binders
- pens, pencils, and eraser
- metric ruler
- geometry set
- scientific calculator (with sin, cos, tan)
- pencil crayons or felt pens (optional)
- gym strip: shorts, T-shirt, socks, runners, warm workout clothing for the winter months, and a lock for the PE locker)
- lock (for assigned locker)
- jazz shoes and work out wear for students taking dance

Please note teachers may have additional special supply requirements.

Ministry Exams, Course Challenge

Required Provincial Examinations

Students may write provincial exams in any of the graduation years, Grades 10-12, and they may choose to re-write it in order to upgrade a score. This exam is not tied to a specific course, and therefore, will not impact a student's course mark, but will instead be reported as a separate score.

Grade 12 will write Grade 12 Literacy Assessment

Grade 10 will write Grade 10 Literacy Assessment and the Grade 10 Numeracy Assessment

Course Challenge

On rare occasions, when students believe they have all the prerequisite knowledge in a given course, they may request to challenge a course. Course challenges must be completed in April or May prior to the student starting school in September. Completed challenges are needed to facilitate the student being timetabled accordingly. Students who wish to challenge a course must meet with the school counsellor to determine eligibility for challenge, and to make necessary arrangements. In order to successfully challenge a course, a student must achieve a minimum of 80% on a final exam for the challenged course. Not all courses are open to challenge. This is to be determined by the principal.

External Course Credits

Credits toward graduation may be earned for successfully completing a wide range of activities that students participate in outside of school. The ministry has approved many courses and programs from diverse, community based learning activities. Some of the external courses also fulfil the applied skill / fine art requirement for graduation. Some examples of the courses are:

- Lifeguarding course
- Royal Conservatory of Music
- Cadets
- Athletics
- Dance
- TNT Options

Please check the Ministry of Education Website or see our school counsellor for more information.

<http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/support/graduation/getting-credit-to-graduate/external-credentials>

Program Requirements - Grades 8 and 9

GRADE 8	GRADE 9
English 8	English 9
Socials 8	Socials 9
PE & Health 8	PE & Health 9
Math 8	Math 9
Science 8	Science 9
French 8	French 9
1 Major: Drama, Dance, Art, Music	1 Major: Drama, Dance, Art, Music
4 MOSAIC: The Mosaic - see Course Selection Book	4 MOSAIC: The Mosaic - see Course Selection Book
Career 8	Career 9
Applied Design & Skills Technology ADST 8	Applied Design & Skills Technology ADST 9

Career Education 8 & 9 is offered within the suite of academic courses offered each term. Applied Design & Skills Technology 8 & 9 is offered through integration of core content into English & Science classes. As well, all Gr 8 & 9 students will take at least one course in the mosaic each year from the field of Applied Design & Skills Technology ADST.

Junior Majors – Grade 8

Each student chooses a Major Art form to study.

* Major courses are run all year and happen every second day.

* Choir students are considered to have a double major.

Junior Dance Majors:

Dance 8

MDNC-08

KSA Dance Major 8 focuses on creative movement. Skills are taught through a variety of styles, including modern, ballet and jazz. Small and large group ensembles are the focus of polished performances. Dancers complement their practical dance skills with the study of dance terminology, history of dance, composition, injury prevention and movement awareness. ***Work out clothing and jazz shoes are mandatory for all dance majors for health and safety.***

Junior Drama Majors:

Drama Performance 8

MDR—08

Drama Performance 8 introduces students to the forms and conventions needed to pursue acting at an advanced level in the senior secondary years. These skills are honed through character work, role play, improvisation, and scene work. Students develop their ability to express themselves through this performance art form. There is a focus on peer communication, students' own perspectives, as well as the perspectives of the various characters they play. The students have the opportunity to perform for audiences at various points throughout the year.

Junior Music Majors:

Instrumental Music 8: Concert Band

MMU—08

This course is designed to teach students at the beginner level knowledge of basic instrumental musicianship. This course provides musical experiences that allow students' identities to be explored and expressed. Students gain insight into perspectives and experiences of cultures from a variety of times and places. Students will learn the language of music to create and communicate. This course is a performance based course that requires both solo and ensemble performances from the student.

Vocal:**Music 8 (Concert Choir)**

Currently, choir is a full year course offered on Monday at lunch and Thursdays after school from 3 - 4:15pm.

MMU—08CHO

Students develop their individual and ensemble singing ability in this ensemble class. All levels of experience are welcome! Musical growth requires patience, readiness to take risks, and a willingness to try new approaches. Choral music is an ideal vehicle to develop strong individuals and to achieve individual and collective expression. Students develop an understanding and appreciation for a variety of musical styles, contribute to the community's musical life, and perform music demonstrating mastery of numerous musical skills. Daily home practice and participation in performances is required by the KSA Music Department.

Junior Media Arts Major:**Media Arts 8**

MADMA08

In this class you will explore both movie making and the art of photography! Students will learn how to make a music video, jumps and cuts, documentary, shot list, scripting, stop motion and many more film techniques. They will also have an opportunity to learn about rules of three, camera angles, and outdoor photography. Students will also be tasked with taking photographs for the yearbook. This class will serve as a stepping stone not only to the Media Arts major, but also to help you better prepare for a future behind the camera.

Junior Visual Arts Major:**Visual Art 8**

MVA--08

In Visual Arts 8, students experiment with a variety of mediums, including but not limited to; various 2D mediums such as graphite, drawing pencils, ink, charcoal, pastel as well as various 3D sculptural materials such as clay and paper mache. Students are introduced to historical art movements as well as contemporary artistic trends. Students also build foundational skills and techniques as they work with the elements of visual art and the principles of design during instructional time.

Junior Mosaics – Grade 8

Students in grade 8 sample a wide variety of arts courses to ensure they have the best foundational skills and the necessary depth of understanding with which to pursue an advanced arts major in their senior secondary years. Students rotate through this mosaic over 2 years. The mosaic consists of four different classes each year. Each class is 9 weeks long. This rotation fulfills the Ministry of Education's grade 8/9 requirements for Applied Design and Skills Technology (ADST) course work. **ADST courses are marked with a double asterisk (**).**

Applied Design, Skills & Technologies (ADST) 8 **

The intention of these courses is to provide students with experience and exposure to applications of design, and to begin developing skills with technology that will be required in the 21st Century. This course will be offered through a combination of in-class integration (for example, Digital Literacy in English, Power Technology in Science 8 and Robotics & Electronics in Science 9), and from a choice of standalone electives offered as MOSAIC.

Junior Dance Mosaics:

Hip Hop Dance 8 (Offered 2027-2028)

MDNC-08-HH

Students learn this form of movement based on rhythmic patterns iconic of Hip Hop dance. Skill development and technique include body isolations, control, power and precision. Basic jazz vocabulary, technique and concepts are introduced. The class includes warm-up skill development and combinations. Students are introduced to the history and evolution of Hip Hop as well.

Musical Theatre Stage Dance 8 (2026-2027)

MDR--08MTS

Stage Dance combines music, movement and theatrical performance. Students learn dynamic performance skills while moving, developing choreography and studying Broadway-style musicals. Students express story, character and motivation which are critical elements of stage dancing, and acting. You do not need to have a dance background, or theatre background. This course will develop students' basic musical theatre skills, setting students up for future success in not only dance, but also drama.

Junior Visual Art Mosaic:

****Creative Construction for the 21st Century 8 (offered in 2027- 2028)**

MVA—08KSA **

Students work with various technology-based visual art forms to create a variety of 2D and 3D art pieces. Techniques may include the following; silk screening, printmaking, papier de mache, ceramics -(slab construction, coil construction and slip casting) and 3D Printer construction. Planning, design, and troubleshooting are part of all of the above mentioned techniques.

****Ceramics 8 (2026-2027)**

MVA--08CER

Students will have an opportunity to learn the basics of clay constructions including throwing and shaping and various hand building techniques and sculpture. Most lessons and projects will be teacher led with some opportunity for students to add their own flare to the finished work.

Junior Media Arts Mosaic: (not offering at this time)****Junior Digital Photography 8**

MADMA08-DP

This course offers a variety of experiences with a point-and-shoot camera. Various camera settings will offer the students greater creative and technical control. This course builds the foundation for visual literacy regarding both form and content of photographic images including the elements and principles of design as they relate to photographic composition. Students learn framing within the viewfinder and explore various compositional principles necessary for excellent photography. Students learn to examine images critically based on these principles. Digital processing techniques are introduced using Photoshop and student photographs will be used to design and publish the yearbook.

****Junior Video Production 8**

MADMA08-DP

Students learn basic camera operation, numerous technical terms and photo composition techniques, video editing, lighting techniques and sound engineering and production for video work. Storyboarding is also part of this course. This is a project based course that requires both creative and critical thinking. Students may build devices to aid in the completion of various shots such as; dolly shots, truck shots, and lift shots. Students develop projects from the first concept to the finished project. Assessment includes a variety of methods including peer assessment, self-assessment and teacher critique.

Junior Music Mosaic:**Junior Guitar 8 (2026-2027)**

MMU--08-GR

Students start this course from a flexible entry point. This course welcomes all students from beginner to advanced. Students will learn chords, strumming and fingerpicking. Students play in a variety of musical genres. Learning happens in small groups, larger groups and individually. Students who have previous knowledge in guitar have the ability to progress their skills further in many technical areas. No previous musical knowledge is required for this course.

Contemporary Music 8 (2027-2028) CODE

Welcome to Contemporary Music! This course allows students to explore small ensemble playing, singing, and music-making in a variety of ways. Students can expect structured group lessons on song writing, student-led small-group projects, and opportunities to share their favourite kinds of music with their classmates. Students should sign up for Contemporary Music if they are interested in songwriting, arranging, composing and working independently with other musicians.

Junior Drama Mosaic:

Junior Theatrical Improvisation 8 (2026-2027)

MDR--08-TI

Theatrical Improvisation provides students with the fundamentals of improvised drama. This includes the exploration of unscripted performance under imaginary circumstances. Students work together to build a class ensemble in order to create work that addresses spontaneity, creativity, acceptance and healthy risk-taking. Students should be ready to collaborate with a variety of large and small ensembles and be willing to take creative risks through exercises, games and scene work.

****Foods 8 (Offered in 2027 - 2028)**

MADFS08

Students learn many aspects of food preparation, basic measurements, cooking, nutrition, and safety/sanitation protocols. Attention is given to basic safety and sanitation routines, food marketing, the impact of culture and traditions that shape our dietary choices. Students are expected to be able to work cooperatively in groups, as well as complete written lab reports and assignments as part of the course.

Core Courses – Grade 8

English 8

MEN--08

This program is designed to teach students to read for information and enjoyment, to write sentences and paragraphs clearly, and to communicate orally in small and large groups. Materials dealt with will include novels, short stories, poetry, drama and various shorter works. Evaluation will be based on quizzes, homework, exams and on written and oral assignments according to the course outline.

Mathematics 8

MMA—08

This academic math program provides part of the foundation for skills necessary in secondary level courses. The topics include: perfect squares and cubes, square and cube roots, percent less than 1 and greater than 100, numerical proportional reasoning, operations with fractions, discrete linear relations, writing and evaluating expressions using substitution, two-step equations, surface area and volume, Pythagorean theorem, construction, views and nets of 3D objects, central tendency, theoretical probability, and best buys. Students will require: pencils, eraser, lined paper, graph paper, and scientific calculator. Students may not use their phone as a calculator on tests.

Science 8

MSC--08

With an emphasis on inquiry based learning, Science 8 topics include: basic cell biology, atoms, states of matter, energy transformation from both a particle and a wave, as well as the theory of plate tectonics as the unifying theory that explains Earth's geological processes.

Social Studies 8

MSS--08

This course will use inquiry, assessment, and comparison to look at how ideologies, the physical environment, and relationships shape societies and events between the 7th century and 1750. Students will use critical thinking, communication skills and personal and social experiences to focus on social, political, economic and technological events, demographics, geography and global conflict. Students will be encouraged to relate historical and current events to their personal and social lives.

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French 8

MFR--08

Students will use stories, creative works, and real-life situations to develop speaking and listening skills. Students will learn common high frequency vocabulary and structures to express opinions, likes, physical states and to answer basic questions. The goal is to use writing, listening, speaking, and reading to express ourselves in French and understand aspects of French culture.

****Provisions can be made for advancement of French Immersion students.**

Physical Education & Health 8

MPHE-08

Physical Education & Health 8 is a co-ed course. This course will deal with active living, movement and personal and social responsibility. Students will be introduced to how healthy choices and relationships can influence our physical, emotional and mental well-being. Participation is a vital component of the course.

Leadership and Career Development:

Career Education 8

MCE--08

Career Education focuses on identifying and implementing steps needed to achieve career goals. The course will discuss how personal, educational and community choices impact different career paths. Students will also investigate the diverse perspectives of work, as well as the changing economic and labour markets both locally and globally. Goal setting,

cultural awareness, graduation requirements, and workplace safety will all be discussed. This course will be delivered in two ways; in a dedicated block on Wednesday mornings and within the other core courses.

Junior Majors – Grade 9

Students in grade 9 will have the opportunity to sample from a wider range of elective options. Each student will still choose a Major Art form to study. * Major courses are offered every other day and run all year. On the alternating days, students will select 4 exploration courses, each offered for one term. Exploration courses replace Minor courses at the junior level in order to increase options and also, to ensure that Kamloops School of the Arts fulfills the Ministry of Education's grade 8/9 requirements for Applied Design and Skills Technology (ADST) course work. Each student will need to select at least one ADST course from the MOSAIC offered. ADST courses are marked with a double asterisk (**).

*Students studying Choir will be considered as having a double major.

Junior Dance Major:

Dance 9

MDNC-09

KSA Dance 9 focuses on creative movement. Skills are taught through a variety of styles, including modern, ballet, and jazz. Small and large group ensembles are the focus of polished performances. Dancers complement their practical dance skills with the study of dance terminology, history of dance, composition, injury prevention and movement awareness.

Junior Drama Major:

Drama Performance 9

MDR—09

Drama Performance 9 builds on the forms and conventions learned in Drama Performance 8. Students will get a chance to apply and extend their knowledge to strengthen their abilities as performers. Students will deepen their craft through scene work, improvisation, movement, and voice work. There may be opportunities to perform for audiences at various points throughout the year. There is an increased focus on character exploration from different times, places, and cultures.

Junior Music Majors:

Instrumental Music 9: Concert Band

MMU—09

This course is designed to teach students at the beginner level knowledge of basic instrumental musicianship. This course provides musical experiences that allow students' identities to be explored and expressed. Students gain insight into perspectives and experiences of cultures from a variety of times and places. Students will learn the language of music to create and communicate. This course is a performance based course that requires both solo and ensemble performances from the student.

Vocal Music 9 (Concert Choir)

MM—09CHO

Students develop their individual and ensemble singing ability in this class. All levels of experience are welcome! Musical growth requires patience, readiness to take risks, and a willingness to try new approaches.

Choral music is an ideal vehicle to develop strong individuals and to achieve individual and collective expression. Students develop an understanding and appreciation for a variety of musical styles, contribute to

the community's musical life, and perform music demonstrating mastery of numerous musical skills. Home practice and participation in performances is required by the KSA Music Department.

Currently, choir is a full year course offered on Monday at lunch and Thursdays after school from 3 - 4:15pm.

Junior Media Arts Major:

Media Arts 9

MADMA09

In this class you will explore both movie making and the art of photography! Students will learn how to make a music video, jumps and cuts, documentary, shot list, scripting, stop motion and many more film techniques. They will also have an opportunity to learn about rules of three, camera angles, and outdoor photography. Students will also be tasked with taking photographs for the yearbook. This class will serve as a stepping stone not only to the Media Arts major, but also to help you better prepare for a future behind the camera.

Junior Visual Arts Majors:

Visual Arts 9

MVA--09

This course provides students with the opportunity for growth during their visual arts studio work. Students will experiment with a variety of mediums, including but limited to; various 2D mediums such as graphite, drawing pencils, ink, charcoal, pastel as well as various 3D sculptural materials such as clay and paper mache. Students expand their knowledge of historical art movements as well as contemporary artistic trends and techniques. Students also build foundational skills and techniques as they work with the elements of visual art and the principles of design during instructional time.

Junior Mosaics – Grade 9

Students complete their mosaic with 4 more samples of arts courses in grade 9. These sampler courses ensure students have excellent foundational skills and a depth of understanding to pursue an advanced arts major in their senior secondary years. Students rotate through this final mosaic. The mosaic is four different classes. Each class is 9 weeks long. This rotation fulfills the Ministry of Education's grade 8/9 requirements for Applied Design and Skills Technology (ADST) course work. **ADST courses are marked with a double asterisk (**).**

Applied Design, Skills & Technologies (ADST) 9 **

The intention of these courses is to provide students with experience and exposure to applications of design, and to begin developing skills with technology that will be required in the 21st Century. This course will be offered through a combination of in-class integration (for example, Digital Literacy in English, Power Technology in Science 8 and Robotics & Electronics in Science 9), and from a choice of standalone electives offered as MOSAIC.

Junior Dance Mosaics:

Hip Hop Dance 9 (offered in 2027-2028)

MDNC-09-HH

Students learn this form of movement based on rhythmic patterns iconic of Hip Hop dance. Skill development and technique include body isolations, control, power and precision. Basic jazz vocabulary, technique and concepts are introduced. The class includes warm-up skill development and combinations. Students are introduced to the history and evolution of Hip Hop as well.

Musical Theatre Stage Dance 9 (2026-2027)

MDR-09MTS

Stage Dance combines music, movement and theatrical performance. Students learn dynamic performance skills while moving, developing choreography and studying Broadway-style musicals. Students express story, character and motivation which are critical elements of stage dancing, and acting. You do not need to have a dance or theatre background. This course will develop students' basic musical theatre skills, setting students up for future success in not only dance, but also drama.

Junior Visual Art Mosaic:

Creative Construction for the 21st Century 9 ** (offered in 2027-2028)

MVA-09KSA

Students work with various technology-based visual art forms to create a variety of 2D and 3D art pieces. Techniques may include the following; silk screening, printmaking, papier de mache, ceramics -(slab construction, coil construction and slip casting) and 3D Printer construction. Planning, design, and troubleshooting are part of all of the above mentioned techniques.

Ceramics 9 (2026-2027)**

MVA--09CER**

Students will have an opportunity to learn the basics of clay constructions including throwing and shaping and various hand building techniques and sculpture. Most lessons and projects will be teacher led with some opportunity for students to add their own flare to the finished work

Junior Drama Mosaic:****ADST - Foods 9 (offered in 2027-2028)**

MADFS09 **

Students practice the basics of baking. Students learn many aspects of food preparation, basic measurements, cooking, nutrition, and safety/sanitation protocols. Attention is given to basic safety and sanitation routines, food marketing, the impact of culture and traditions that shape our dietary choices. Students are expected to be able to work cooperatively in groups, as well as complete written lab reports and assignments as part of the course.

Junior Theatrical Improvisation 9 (2026-2027)

MDR--09-TI

Theatrical Improvisation provides students with the fundamentals of improvised drama. This includes the exploration of unscripted performance under imaginary circumstances. Students work together to build a class ensemble in order to create work that addresses spontaneity, creativity, acceptance and healthy risk-taking. Students should be ready to collaborate with a variety of large and small ensembles and be willing to take creative risks through exercises, games and scene work.

Junior Media Arts Mosaic: (not offered in 2025)***Junior Digital Photography 9 *****

MADMA09-DP **

This course offers a variety of experiences with a point-and-shoot camera. Various camera settings will offer the students greater creative and technical control. This course builds the foundation for visual literacy regarding both form and content of photographic images including the elements and principles of design as they relate to photographic composition. Students learn framing within the viewfinder and explore various compositional principles necessary for excellent photography. Students learn to examine images critically based on these principles. Digital processing techniques are introduced using Photoshop and student photographs will be used to design and publish the yearbook.

Junior Video Production 9 **

MADMA09-DP**

Students learn basic camera operation, numerous technical terms and photo composition techniques, video editing, lighting techniques and sound engineering and production for video work. Storyboarding is also part of this course. This is a project based course that requires both creative and critical thinking. Students may build devices to aid in the completion of various shots such as; dolly shots, trick shots, and lift shots. Students

develop projects from the first concept to the finished project. Assessment includes a variety of methods including peer assessment, self-assessment and teacher critique.

Junior Music Mosaic:

Junior Guitar 9 (2026-2027)

MMU--09-GR

Students start this course from a flexible entry point. This course welcomes all students from beginner to advanced. Students will learn chords, strumming and fingerpicking. Students play in a variety of musical genres. Learning happens in small groups, larger groups and individually. Students who have previous knowledge in guitar have the ability to progress their skills further in many technical areas. No previous musical knowledge is required for this course.

Junior Drumline 9 (not offered at this time)

MMU--09-DL

Drumline is a part of the 9 week junior mosaic that gives students the opportunity to explore this high-intensity style of percussion. All students will learn to play and will be expected to demonstrate competency on snare drum, bass drum, cymbals, and smaller instruments of the battery. The course is aimed at developing percussion technique, reading and interpreting music, mastering basic and intermediate rudiments, and ultimately performing cadences in front of a variety of school and public audiences. Students do not have to have prior musical experience to participate.

Core Courses - Grade 9

English Language Arts 9

MEN--09 **Prerequisite: English 8**

The “Big Ideas” organizer for the English Language Arts 9 Curriculum first and foremost starts with sharing the understanding that “language and text can be a source of creativity and joy.” Text and story in Language Arts will become a means for students to connect their ideas, and personal experiences to the world of experiences and varying perspectives around them. Students will spend much time exchanging, presenting, comparing, and contrasting their ideas with the ideas of others. “Critical, creative, and reflective” thinking will help students to “construct meaning.” There will be many opportunities to present ideas and to share various points of view through work created in class. Students will be expected to learn literary elements and devices as a foundation for understanding and communicating course content. In addition, there will also be many opportunities to write in various forms and for various purposes.

Mathematics 9

MMA-09 **Prerequisite: Mathematics 8**

This academic math program is designed to review and extend the concepts introduced in math 8 (number operations, patterns and relations, shape and space and statistics and probability). A fundamental focus will be to increase math literacy and encourage students to become effective problem solvers in all areas of mathematics. Successful completion of this course will lead to Foundations of Mathematics and Pre-calculus 10. Students will require: pencils, eraser, lined paper, graph paper, and scientific calculator. Students may not use their phone as a calculator on tests.

Science 9

MSC—09 **Prerequisite: Science 8**

With an emphasis on inquiry based learning, Science 9 topics will include: Cells are derived from cells. How does the electron arrangement of atoms impact their chemical nature? How do current and static electricity differ? How is the biosphere, geosphere, hydrosphere, and atmosphere interconnected.

Social Studies 9

MSS—09 **Prerequisite: Social Studies 8**

This course will use inquiry, assessment, and comparison to look at how ideologies, the physical environment, and relationships shape societies and events between 1750-1919. Students will use critical thinking, communication skills and personal and social experiences to focus on social, political, economic and technological events, demographics, geography and global conflict. Students will be encouraged to relate historical and current events to their personal and social lives.

French 9

MFR—09 Prerequisite: French 8

Through participating in meaningful conversations about familiar topics, listening and viewing with purpose, and exploring stories and creative works, students will deepen their understanding of French culture and their ability to communicate in the four areas of French learning. Students will work with past, present and future time frames and commonly used vocabulary in order to describe and compare, express needs and opinions, describe events and re-tell stories both orally and written. They will continue to develop oral skills through meaningful real-life situations and original works in a variety of forms.

Physical Education & Health 9

MPHE-09 Prerequisite: Physical Education & Health 8

The focus of this course is on both daily and life-long participation in physical activity. Students will be exposed to other aspects of a healthy lifestyle, including relationships and emotional and mental well-being. Marks will reflect motor skills, fair play, knowledge and pursuit of fitness. Individual and team sports will be covered in classes. Participation is a vital component of the course.

Leadership and Career Development:

Career Education 9

MCE--09

Career Education focuses on identifying and implementing steps needed to achieve career goals. The course will discuss how personal, educational and community choices impact different career paths. Students will also investigate the diverse perspectives of work, as well as the changing economic and labour markets both locally and globally. Goal setting, cultural awareness, graduation requirements, and workplace safety will all be discussed. This course will be delivered in two ways; in a dedicated block on Wednesday mornings and within the other core courses.