



Grade 9 Course Calendar 2026-2027

Kingston Secondary School

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STUDENTS ENTERING GRADE 9

All Grade 9 students must take 8 courses in 8 subject areas. These courses are: English, Math, Science, Geography, French, Healthy Active Living and two additional credits: one from Arts & one from Technology.

When making course selections, students need to consider the following:

- Elective Selections: Students in Grade 9 take 2 elective courses, typically one in art and one in technology. All students must have one art and one tech credit by the end of grade 10.
- For Immersion/Extended students, which courses they would prefer to take in French. Students are encouraged to take all extra French courses in Grades 9 & 10 wherever possible (6 additional courses in French for Immersion certificate, and 3 additional courses in French for Extended Certificate).

CREDIT ATTAINMENT AND PROVINCIAL STANDARD

Credits are granted with a minimum grade of 50%, in all courses. Provincial standard, however, is set at 70%. This means if a student achieves a minimum of 70%, he or she is prepared to take the next course in the same pathway. If a student achieves a grade of less than 70%, he or she may experience difficulty in a subsequent course due to not having mastered expectations from the previous course. If this is the case, a student may consider upgrading, changing pathways or accessing additional support through Student Success. Please contact your school's Student Services department for more information.

PROGRAM PLANNING AND COURSE SELECTION

Selecting a Program of Study

The following course information is designed to assist students and their parents in the selection of a program of studies for next year and beyond. Students should consult with parents and elementary school teachers to ensure that each of their selections is consistent with their pathways plan and aspirations. Entrance requirements to careers and post-secondary programs vary widely. Excellent resources for this information include: myblueprint.ca, ontariocolleges.ca and electronicinfo.ca. The responsibility of appropriate course selection rests with the student and their parents/guardian. The Student Services staff is available to assist in making informed decisions.

DEFINITION OF A CREDIT

A credit is granted as a means of recognizing the successful completion of a course for which a minimum of 110 hours is scheduled. A credit is granted to a student by the Principal of a secondary school on behalf the Minister of Education.

OSSD, OSSC & COA DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS

To earn your diploma, you need 18 compulsory credits, 12 optional credits, 40 hours of Community Involvement, and you must successfully complete the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test.

Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD)

	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Compulsory Courses	English* Math Science Geography French Healthy Active Living 2 additional credits from Arts & Technology	English Math Science History Civics (.5) Career Studies (.5)	English Math	English
Other Compulsory Courses	<p>Students must take three other compulsory courses chosen from 3 groupings of courses before the end of Grade 12:</p> <p>Group 1 – An additional credit in English, or French as a second language**, or a Native language, or a classical or an international language, or social science and the humanities, or Canadian and world studies, or guidance and career education, or cooperative education***.</p> <p>Group 2 – An additional credit in health and physical education, or the arts, or business studies, or French as a second language**, or cooperative education***.</p> <p>Group 3 – An additional credit in science (Grade 11 or 12) technological education, or French as a second language**, or computer studies or cooperative education***.</p> <p>*A maximum of 3 credits in English as a second language (ESL) or English literacy development (ELD) may be counted towards the 4 compulsory credits in English, but the fourth must be a credit earned for a Grade 12 compulsory English course.</p> <p>**In groups 1, 2, and 3, a maximum of 2 credits in French as a second language can count as compulsory credits, one from group 1 and one from either group 2 or group 3.</p> <p>***A maximum of 2 credits in cooperative education can count as compulsory credits.</p> <p>†The 12 optional credits may include up to 4 credits earned through approved dual credit courses.</p>			
Number of Optional Credits	Choice of which art and which technology	3 options	5-6 options	5-7 options
Summary of Graduation Requirements	<p>Students need to complete the following criteria to earn their graduation diploma:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 19 compulsory courses (as described above) • 11 optional courses (as described above) • 40 hours of Community Involvement • Successful completion of the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test or Course. 			
Special Considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students attending college, university or entering a trade or apprenticeship may find that specific high school requirements determined by an industry, college, or university are in place. Careful research should be done when selecting courses. • Students may only count 2 cooperative education courses toward their compulsory courses. Other cooperative education courses count as optional credits. • Students may count 3 English as a Second Language (ESL) courses toward their compulsory English requirements. The 4th English must be a Grade 12 English. • Up to four Dual Credits can be counted towards optional or elective credits. 			

Requirements for the Ontario Secondary School Certificate (OSSC)

The Ontario Secondary School Certificate (OSSC) will be granted on request to students who leave school before earning their diploma provided they have earned a minimum of 14 credits distributed as follows:

- 2 English
- 1 Canadian Geography or Canadian History
- 1 Mathematics
- 1 Science
- 1 Health and Physical Education
- 1 Arts, Technology or Computer Studies
- 7 Additional optional credits

Requirements for the Certificate of Accomplishment (COA)

Students who leave school before fulfilling the requirements for either the OSSD or the OSSC may be granted a Certificate of Accomplishment which will recognize achievement for those students who plan to find employment or take future training after leaving school. There is no literacy test requirement with either the OSSC or Certificate of Accomplishment.

PROGRAM OPTIONS

PROGRAM	DESCRIPTION
EXTENDED FRENCH	This program is offered to students that were enrolled in Late Immersion during grade 7 and 8. Students will be required to take 7 of their high school credits in French, and will have the option of completing the DELF (an internationally recognized French certification program).
IMMERSION FRENCH	This program is offered to students that were enrolled in Early Immersion. Students will be required to take 10 of their high school credits in French and will have the option of completing the DELF (an internationally recognized French certification program).
INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE (IB)	This program is an academically challenging and balanced programme of education with final examinations that prepares students, aged 16 to 19, for success at university and life beyond. It has been designed to address the intellectual, social, emotional and physical well-being of students. The programme has gained recognition and respect from the world’s leading universities.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Students must complete 40 hours of community involvement outside of the students' normal instructional hours in order to be granted their diploma. Hours may be completed over the course of their high school years. **Please note: You are encouraged to start your community involvement hours in the summer months leading up to your Grade 9 year.** For more information, please contact Student Services.

THE ONTARIO SECONDARY SCHOOL LITERACY TEST/COURSE

The Ontario Curriculum requires each student to write the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT). The OSSLT is based on curriculum expectations for reading and writing across the disciplines up to and including Grade 9. Remedial assistance is made available for students who are not successful. Accommodations are made for students receiving special educational programs and services and who have an Individual Educational Plan. For additional information, please contact Student Services.

Students who have been **unsuccessful** at least once in writing the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) are eligible to take the OSSLC. This course is designed to help students acquire and demonstrate the cross-curricular literacy skills that are evaluated by the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT). Students who successfully complete the course **will meet the provincial literacy requirement for graduation.**

SUBSTITUTIONS FOR COMPULSORY COURSES

In order to allow flexibility in designing a student's program and to ensure that all students can qualify for the secondary school diploma, substitutions may be made for a limited number of compulsory credits. To meet individual students' needs, principals may replace up to three of these credits (or the equivalent in half courses) with courses from the remainder of those that meet the compulsory credit requirements. Each substitution will be noted on the student's Ontario Transcript. Please contact Student Services for more information.

LANGUAGE CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS

- **Core French:** Students who complete the full four-year French program either in Academic French (FSF1D0, FSF2D0, FSF3U0, and FSF4U0) or Applied French (FSF1P0, FSF2P0, FSF3O0, FSF4O0) will receive a Certificate of Core French Studies.
- **Extended French:** Students who take seven (7) courses: the four (4) language courses (FEF1D4, FEF2D4, FEF3U4, and FEF4U4) and three (3) electives in which French is the language of instruction, (e.g. Social Sciences, Canadian Studies, and Physical Education) will earn an Extended French Certificate at graduation.
- **Immersion French:** Students who take ten (10) courses: the four (4) language courses (FIF1D3, FIF2D3, FIF3U3, and FIF4U3) and six (6) other courses in which French is the language of instruction will earn their French Immersion Certificate at graduation.
- **An International Language Certificate** is awarded to students who have earned six or more credits in a combination of French, Latin or Spanish courses. Students must have studied at least two different languages, in which a minimum of two Grade 12 credits have been earned.

GRADE NINE COURSES OFFERED IN FRENCH AT KSS

- To meet the requirements of the Extended French and the Immersion French certificates, students may choose among the courses listed below offered in French. For a description of course content, please see the relevant department section.

Grade 9

NAC103	Les arts visuels
CGC1D3	Géographie
MTH1W3	Mathématiques
PPL103	Éducation physique

COURSE OFFERINGS

Please note: Course offerings are subject to enrolment and qualified staffing. Not all courses are offered every year. We are planning to run the follow courses, based on sufficient enrollment.

Course outlines for the courses listed in this catalogue are available to parents and students at the school from the Principal. Curriculum documents which describe course expectations can be found at <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/curriculum/secondary>

ARTS - DRAMA

ADA100 Dramatic Arts, Grade 9, Open

This course provides opportunities for students to explore dramatic forms and techniques, using material from a wide range of sources and cultures. Students will use the elements of drama to examine situations and issues that are relevant to their lives. Students will create, perform, discuss, and analyze drama, and then reflect on the experiences to develop an understanding of themselves, the art form, and the world around them. **Prerequisite:** None

ARTS - MUSIC

AMU100 Music-Instrumental, Grade 9, Open (Beginner)

This course emphasizes the creation and performance of music at a level consistent with previous experience and is aimed at developing technique, sensitivity, and imagination. Students will develop musical literacy skills by using the creative and critical analysis processes in composition, performance, and a range of reflective and analytical activities. Students will develop an understanding of the conventions and elements of music and of safe practices related to music and will develop a variety of skills transferable to other areas of their life. No prior experience necessary. **Prerequisite:** None

AMU101 Music-Instrumental, Grade 9, Open (Experienced)

This course emphasizes the creation and performance of music at a level consistent with previous experience and is aimed at developing technique, sensitivity, and imagination. Students will develop musical literacy skills by using the creative and critical analysis processes in composition, performance,

and a range of reflective and analytical activities. Students will develop an understanding of the conventions and elements of music and of safe practices related to music and will develop a variety of skills transferable to other areas of their life. No prior experience necessary. **Prerequisite: Ability to read music notation**

AMV100 Music - Vocal, Grade 9, Open

This course emphasizes performance of music at a level that strikes a balance between challenge and skill and is aimed at developing technique, sensitivity, and imagination. Students will participate in creative activities that teach them to listen with understanding. They will also learn correct musical terminology and its appropriate use. *Vocal music will be the focus of this course.*

Prerequisite: None

ARTS - VISUAL

NAC100 Visual Arts, Expressing Aboriginal Cultures, Grade 9, Open

This course examines art and culture in Canada through an exploration of art forms – painting, sculpture, craft, storytelling, dance, and music – created by First Nation, Metis and Inuit artists. Students will learn to identify art forms and describe relationships between the art forms and indigenous traditions, philosophy, and culture. Students will also create their own art forms to express their understanding of First Nation, Metis and Inuit identity, relationships, and sovereignty. The focus of this course is visual art. Students who complete NAC 100 will meet the overall expectations for Grade 9 Visual Art and have the prerequisite for Grade 10/11 Visual Arts. *This course is also offered as an extended/immersion French course (NAC103).* **Prerequisite:** None

ENGLISH

ENL1W0 English, Grade 9

This course enables students to continue to develop and consolidate the foundational knowledge and skills that they need for reading, writing, and oral and visual communication. Throughout the course, students will continue to enhance their media literacy and critical literacy skills, and to develop and apply transferable skills, including digital literacy. Students will also make connections to their lived experiences and to society and increase their understanding of the importance of language and literacy across the curriculum. *This course is also offered in the Pre-IB Programme (ENL1WE).* **Prerequisite:** None.

PHYSICAL HEALTH & EDUCATION

PPL100 Healthy Active Living Education, Grade 9, Open

This course emphasizes students' daily participation in a variety of enjoyable physical activities that promote lifelong, healthy, active living. Students will learn movement techniques and principles, ways to improve personal fitness and physical competence, safety, and injury-prevention strategies. They 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. *This course is also offered as an extended/immersion French course (PPL103).* **Prerequisite:** None

LANGUAGES

FSF1D0 Core French, Grade 9 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. Students will develop their skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing by using language learning strategies introduced in the elementary Core French program, and will apply creative and critical thinking skills in various ways. They will also enhance their understanding and appreciation of diverse French-speaking communities and will develop skills necessary for lifelong language learning. **Prerequisite:** Minimum of 600 hours of French instruction, or equivalent

FEF1D4 Extended French, Grade 9 This course provides opportunities for students to speak and interact in French in a variety of real-life and personally relevant contexts. Students will develop their skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing by using language learning strategies introduced in the elementary Extended French program. They will develop their creative and critical thinking skills through independently responding to and interacting with a variety of oral and written texts. They will also enhance their understanding and appreciation of diverse French-speaking communities and will develop skills necessary for lifelong language learning. **Prerequisite:** Minimum of 1260 hours of French instruction, or equivalent

FIF1D3 Immersion French, Grade 9 This course provides opportunities for students to speak and interact in French independently in a variety of real-life and personally relevant contexts. Students will develop their 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. Students will enhance their knowledge of the French language through the study of French-Canadian literature. They will also increase their understanding and appreciation of diverse French-speaking communities and will develop skills necessary for lifelong language learning. **Prerequisite:** Minimum of 3800 hours of French instruction, or equivalent in a variety of real-life and personally relevant contexts. Students will develop their 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. Students will enhance their knowledge of the French language through the study of French-Canadian literature. They will also increase their understanding and appreciation of diverse French-speaking communities and will develop skills necessary for lifelong language learning.

MATHEMATICS

MTH1W0 Principles of Mathematics, Grade 9, Academic 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. *This course is also offered as an extended/immersion French course (MTH1W3) and in the Pre-IB Programme (MTH1WE).*

Prerequisite: None

SCIENCE

SNC1W0 Science, Grade 9

This course enables students to develop their understanding of concepts related to biology, chemistry, physics, and earth and space science, and to relate science to technology, society, and the environment. Throughout the course, students will develop and refine their STEM skills as they use scientific research, scientific experimentation, and engineering design processes to investigate concepts and apply their knowledge in situations that are relevant to their lives and communities. Students will continue to develop transferable skills as they become scientifically literate global citizens. *This course is also offered in the Pre-IB Programme (SNC1WE).* **Prerequisite:** None

SOCIAL SCIENCE, HUMANITIES & GEOGRAPHY

CGC1W0 Issues in Canadian Geography, Grade 9

This course examines interrelationships within and between Canada's natural and human systems and how these systems interconnect with those in other parts of the world. Students will explore environmental, economic, and social geographic issues relating to topics such as transportation options, energy choices, and urban development. Students will apply the concepts of geographic thinking and the geographic inquiry process, including spatial technologies, to investigate various geographic issues and to develop possible approaches for making Canada a more sustainable place to live. *This course is also offered as an extended/immersion French course (CGC1W3).* **Prerequisite:** None

TECHNOLOGY

TAS100 Technology and the Skilled Trades, Grade 9, Open

This hands-on course enables students to further explore the engineering design process and develop other technological knowledge and skills introduced in earlier grades. Students will design and safely create prototypes, products, and/or services, working with tools and technologies from various industries. As students develop their projects to address real-life problems, they will apply technological concepts such as precision measurement, as well as health and safety standards. Students will explore job skills programs, education and training pathways, including skilled trades, that can lead to various careers. **Prerequisite:** None

TEJ100 Exploring Computer Technology, Grade 9, Open

This exploratory course introduces students to concepts and skills in computer technology, which encompasses computer systems, networking, interfacing, and programming, as well as electronics and robotics. Students will develop an awareness of related environmental and societal issues and will begin to explore secondary and postsecondary pathways leading to careers in the field. **Prerequisite:** None

SCHOOL TO COMMUNITY

School to Community Services (SCS) is committed to the principle that all students can learn in a supportive environment within an inclusive school community. Students receiving SCS are a diverse group of learners with developmental disabilities who may require support in the areas of communication, socialization, daily living skills, motor skills, and behaviour. Students follow a course of study intended to prepare them for their post-secondary pursuits, which commonly include post-secondary education, apprenticeship programs, employment in the workplace, and independent community living.

Orientation to secondary school begins for students during their last year of elementary school through a personalized transition process. The secondary school program stresses inclusion in academics, school life, and the community. Students receiving SCS access credit courses through the school's Course Selection Process. Inclusion in credit courses can occur as per the strengths, needs, and goals outlined in the student's IEP. Students receiving SCS may be included in courses either for credit or for experiential/skills development. The course's expectations can be modified as needed. Programming within the SCS program is comprised of alternative courses of study (K courses). The * asterisk in the course description refers to grade level which varies ("A" for Grade 9, "B" for Grade 10 etc). The following "K" courses are offered within SCS programs at all secondary schools within the LDSB.

KGL NM, Personal Life Skills*

This course includes any combination of the alternative expectations or curriculum expectations from the Ontario Curriculum. Students participate in the resource period to improve general skills in communication, mathematics, social, vocational, self-help or motor areas. This resource period is also used for students who require assistance in completing work for their credit courses. Students may participate in several resource periods throughout their secondary school years.

*KEN*NM, Language and Communication Development*

This course involves the development of skills need for communication and general language use. Many of the program areas for language may link directly to the language strands outlined in the Ontario Curriculum. The IEP becomes the definition of the course and may include components from the following program areas: Listening and Comprehension, Non-Verbal Communication, Social Language, General Language Functions, Conversations Skills and/or Functional Language.

*KMM*NM, Numeracy and Numbers*

This course involves the development of mathematic skills required for daily living. Many of the program areas for language may link directly to the language strands outlined in the Ontario Curriculum. The IEP becomes the definition of the course and may include components from the following program areas: Calendar Skills, Time, Numeracy, Measurement, Money and/or Personal Finances.

*KHD*NM, Social Skills Development*

This course involves the development of the individual in his/her relationships with and response to others. The IEP becomes the definition of the course and may include components from the following

program areas: Awareness of Self and Others, Self-Control/Conflict Resolution/Anger Management, Decision Making and/or Problem Solving.

*KGW*NM, Exploring the World of Work*

This course involves the development of skills related to employment. The IEP becomes the definition of the course and may include components from the following program areas: Job Searching Skills, Specific Work Skills, Work Etiquette, and/or Documentation Requirements.

*KPP*NM, Self Help and Self Care*

This course involves the development of skills required for independent living. The IEP becomes the definition of the course and may include components from the following program areas: General Self Help/Life Skills, Community Awareness, Home Making Skills, Health and Safety and/or Advocacy Skills.

*KPF*NM, Personal Health and Fitness*

This course involves the development of physical fitness and good health skills. This component may also involve the development of movement and coordination (gross motor) and/or the development of the small muscles (fine motor). The IEP becomes the definition of the course and may include component from the following program areas: Pre-ambulatory Skills, Basic Movement Skills, Basic Gross Motor Skills, Wheelchair Training and/or Fitness Skills