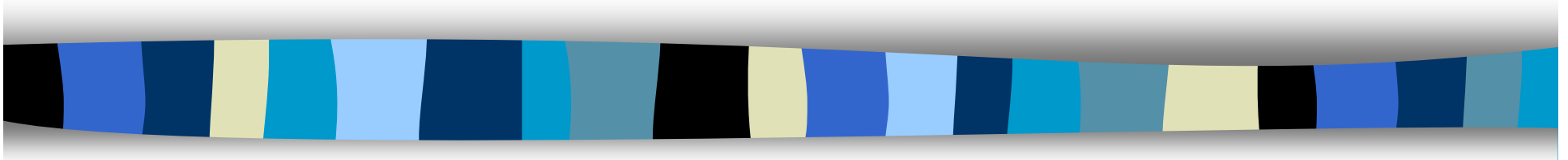


PLANNING YOUR GRADE NINE YEAR



Archbishop Denis O'Connor C.H.S.

January 2011



Today

- Making it to Graduation Day: June, 2015
- How do I fill out a Course Selection Sheet?
- Academic Levels in Grades 9 and 10
- Looking Ahead
- Grade Eight Parent Information Night



A Word From Our Grade Nines!

Regarding Organization

- Organizational skills are critical – keep an organized notebook, use dividers, don't have paper everywhere
- There are due dates! – some short and some long. There are consequences for late submissions.
- Use your agenda (or another calendar) to keep track of due dates, events...
- Always have pens, pencils and other supplies necessary for class.
- Have a dedicated work area that is well organized and is not 'cluttered'.



A Word From Out Grade Nines!

Regarding Class Work

- Ask for extra help! Don't wait until you get home. Teachers are happy to answer questions (this surprised some students!)
- Learn how to use study notes when preparing for tests (summarize key points)
- Students can fail a course which means summer school.
- Learn how to use footnotes and endnotes (otherwise it is deemed plagiarism)



A Word From Out Grade Nines!

Regarding Behaviour

- Students need to use time in class well. Be independent and productive during class. If not, homework becomes overwhelming.
- Be punctual getting to class. Lates are not acceptable.
- Demonstrate appropriate behaviour – respectful at all times.
- Make good choices!. Don't start on a path you will regret later.

TEST TIME



**What three things must a student complete
in order to graduate with an Ontario
Secondary School Diploma?**

How Will You Make It To Graduation Day?

To earn the Ontario Secondary School Diploma all Ontario students are required to:

- Earn 30 Credits
- Successfully pass the Grade 10 Literacy Test
- Complete 40 Hours of Community Service





The Grade Nine Option Sheet

Sections:

- Labels, Personal Information
- Compulsory Courses (6)
- Optional Courses (2)
- Alternate Courses (2)
- Signatures



Reading a Course Code

ENG 1P1

Subject

English

Grade

1 – Grade 9

2 – Grade 10

3 – Grade 11

4 – Grade 12

Level

L - Foundations

P – Applied

D – Academic

O – Open



Compulsory Courses

- Religion
- English
- French
- Geography
- Mathematics
- Science

I. Compulsory Courses:

Enter a Course Code and Course Number for each of the subjects areas listed below.
(Course Codes and Course Numbers are listed on the back of this page).

<u>Course</u>	<u>Course Number</u>	<u>Course Code</u>	<u>Teacher Recommendation</u>
Religion	116	HRE101	
English	_____	_____	Foundations/Applied/Academic
French	_____	_____	Applied/Academic
Geography	_____	_____	Applied/Academic
Mathematics	_____	_____	Foundations/Applied/Academic
Science	_____	_____	Foundations/Applied/Academic



Optional Courses - Students Choose Two Of:

- Drama
- Instrumental Music (No experience necessary!)
- Vocal Music
- Visual Arts (Drawing, Painting, Sculpture)
- Physical Education (Male and Female)
 - Students can select the regular gym class or the Fitness class. In the fitness class students run 2 days per week. On the other 3 days, students do weights and other cardiovascular activities.
- Exploring Technologies (Woodworking, Computer Aided Design, Drafting Principles, Welding)
- Exploring Transportation Technologies (Auto - learning about and fixing cars)
- Technology in Business – Computer Studies (Word, Excel, Powerpoint, Photoshop, Illustrator, Dreamweaver, Premiere)



Something to Consider

- Every student must complete an Arts credit in either grade 9 or 10. It may be helpful to earn this credit in grade 9 so that you have more flexibility when selecting optional courses in grade 10.
- Every student must earn one Physical Education in high school. You may want to complete this credit in grade 9.
- Students are to select the French level that matches the level of their English course.



Alternate Courses

- Alternate courses are used if we cannot schedule one of your optional courses.

III. Alternate Courses:

If you are not able to be scheduled in one or two of the optional courses you have requested we will place you in the alternate course(s) you select.

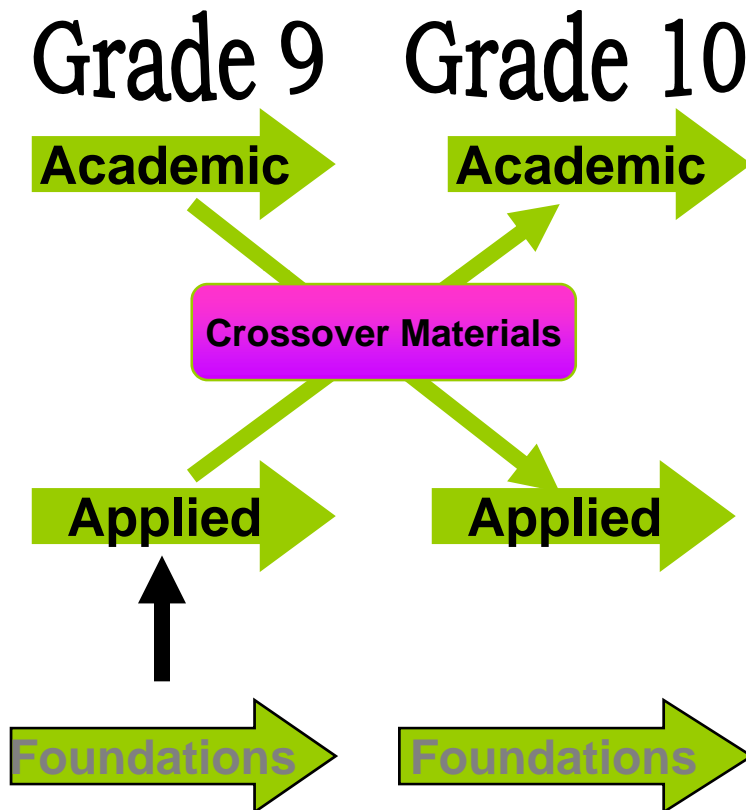
Course

Course Code

Course Number

ACADEMIC LEVELS IN GRADE 9 AND 10

We encourage parent and student, in consultation with the grade 8 teacher, to select the academic level that reflects the pathway of the student and will lead to success in grade 9. The students' learning style is an important factor in this decision.



Students have the opportunity to change levels between grade 9 and 10 (academic to applied or applied to academic). The one exception is Math where a student must successfully complete a two week transfer course in the summer between grades 9 and 10.

Foundations in English, Math and Science

- emphasis is on core skills and knowledge development in English, Science and Math
- the specific learning needs of each student are accommodated
- goal is to bring the core subject skills to grade level to allow for a possible transition to the applied level.

Applied Level

- emphasis will be on the practical and hands-on applications of the concepts
- students are generally more dependent learners who benefit from greater teacher direction and receive more samples of work. Workbooks may accompany textbook.

Academic Level

- recommended for students achieving at level 3 and higher.
- Students need to work independently, meet deadlines and keep pace with a fast-moving curriculum. Emphasis is on theory and abstract thinking.



ACADEMIC LEVELS IN GRADE 9 AND 10

Foundations in English, Math and Science (L)

- emphasis is on core skills and knowledge development in English, Science and Math
- the specific learning needs of each student are accommodated
- As in all levels, attendance and work habits are a key success factor
- students may proceed from grade 9 Foundations to grade 9 Applied.



Applied Level (P)

- emphasis will be on the practical and hands-on application of the course material
- for students who benefit from greater teacher direction, more examples during a lesson and assignments that are more structured. Workbooks may accompany textbook.

Academic Level (D)

- recommended for students achieving at level 3 and higher
- While the course work provides students with both theories and practical applications, there is a greater emphasis on **Theory** as a basis for future learning and problem solving
- Students need to work independently, meet deadlines and keep pace with a fast-moving curriculum
- Good work and study habits are essential



Changing Academic Levels From Grade 9 to Grade 10

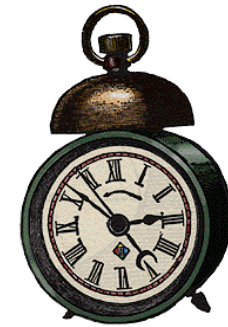
- Students can change academic levels from grade 9 to grade 10 (i.e. Applied English in grade 9 to Academic English in grade 10)
- Student success in the grade 9 course, the desired pathway of the student and a recommendation from the grade 9 teacher would be considered in the decision making process
- One exception is in the area of Math. A student must complete a nine day transfer course in the summer between grade 9 and 10 to be eligible for the grade 10 Academic level Math course
- Our goal is to have a successful grade 9 result and use that result as a basis for course selection in grade 10



Open Courses

- Open courses have one set of expectations for the subject being taken
- All optional courses are at the Open level
- Example: Religion – HRE1O1, Physical Education – PPL1O1 and PPL1O2

To Be Handed In By Friday, January 28



- Course Option Sheet (signed by parent)
- Student Activity Fee of \$75 (with form)
 - covers costs such as student retreat, yearbook, student I.D. Card, agenda book...

Transportation

- A Durham Region Transit pass is provided to students who live in the school busing zone as designated by the Durham Catholic District School Board.





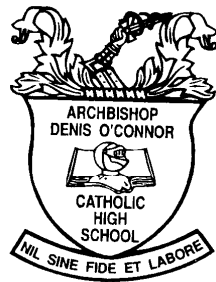
Looking Ahead

- Purchasing of Uniform – McCarthy's, Used Uniform Sale
- August Mailing
- Orientation Day – September 1, 2011? (Tentative)
- First Day of High School!
– **September 6, 2011**

Grade Eight Parent Night

We invite your parents to attend our Grade Eight Parent Information Night on Thursday, January 20, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in our school gymnasium.

Parents are invited for a school tour. Tours begin at 6:15 p.m. The last tour will start at 6:30 p.m.



**Nothing without faith
and work**