

2008→2009 COURSE SELECTION

GRADE 8/9

INTRODUCTION

Nakusp Secondary School offers a comprehensive curricular program for students of all grades. Our objectives are to maximize student potential, learning time, and the exposure students can have from a variety of experiences. The intent is to produce students with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes that will allow them to become successful contributors to society.

Our school's mission is to have our students graduate with the skills and knowledge to move on and succeed with excellence later in life. To this end, we are cultivating a learning environment for which the motto is "**Prove it Possible!**"

This program booklet describes the junior curricular program at NSS. Students and parents need to work together, and with the school, to make informed decisions concerning course selections. A wrong decision now could seriously impact future post-secondary options.

We would like to thank the secretarial staff and teachers for their contributions in creating these booklets.

Kees van der Pol
Principal

Sue Paterson
Vice-Principal

CORE COURSES (GRADE 8)

All students in Grade 8 will be enrolled in the core courses listed below.

ENGLISH 8 (MEN--08)

This course develops skills in the strands of Reading, Writing, Listening, Speaking, and in the study of Language and Literature. Through a variety of units, students learn the characteristics of various writing formats; different speaking situations; and of novels, poems, stories, and film. They will demonstrate their knowledge and skills in a variety of ways.

SOCIAL STUDIES 8 (MSS--08)

This course examines world civilizations from 500 to 1600 AD, including society and culture, politics and law, economy and technology, and the environment. Skills and knowledge in Geography are reinforced and expanded, integrating each geographical region with its history

MATHEMATICS 8 (MMA--08)

This course will provide math skills necessary for students to function in society. Topics include Ratio, Percent, Data Management, Geometry (perimeter and area, and 3D figures), Introduction to Algebraic Expressions, Integers and Rational Numbers, and Roots and Powers.

SCIENCE 8 (MSC--08)

Science 8 stimulates interest in various areas of science: Biology (cells and body systems); Physics (optics and fluids); and Earth Science (water systems on Earth).

Emphasis is placed on safety in the laboratory, understanding experimental design, critical-thinking skills, science vocabulary and study skills, and being able to interpret and analyze information in a variety of ways.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 8 (MPE--08)

The junior physical education program is based on a 'level' system with students advancing through the levels at their own pace. Each year, the emphasis is on affective, cognitive, and psychomotor development through a variety of team sports, individual and dual activities, fitness, and outdoor pursuits. Once completed, the student should be able to demonstrate understanding, proficiency and a positive attitude towards physical activities.

HEALTH & CAREER EDUCATION 8 (MHCE-08)

20% of this course will look at Education and Careers with a component dealing with the transition to the Graduation Program. The rest of the course covers Health topics: Healthy Living, Healthy Relationships, Safety and Injury Prevention, and Substance Misuse Prevention.

CORE COURSES (GRADE 9)

All Students in Grade 9 will be enrolled in the core courses listed below:

ENGLISH 9 (MEN--09)

The central aim of the English 9 curriculum is to enable each student to experience literature and to use language with satisfaction and confidence, striving for fluency, precision, clarity and independence. This course affirms that the value of literacy and literature is fundamental. The goals common to each year 9 through 12 enable learners to experience literature and to use language in four areas: communication, culture, thinking, and learning.

SOCIAL STUDIES 9 (MSS--09)

Social Studies 9 focuses on Europe and North America from 1500 to 1815 AD. The colonization of Canada and the United States is studied in conjunction with its effect on the aboriginal peoples of North America. The study of various revolutions leads to the development of Canadian law and politics. Geographic skills are further developed with a focus on North America and Europe.

MATHEMATICS 9 (MMA--09)

Mathematics 9 topics include Rational Numbers, Solving Equations, Problem Solving, Polynomials, Factoring and Special Products, Trigonometry, Geometry (area and volume), Data Analysis, and Probability

FRENCH 8 (MFR--08)

French 8 is a course based on communicative situations. The resources contain topics which are familiar to the students' own experiences such as the school agenda, telephone conversations, nutrition, weekend activities, television, and sports. Listening, speaking, reading and writing skills are equally important in language acquisition. This mandatory course is a full curriculum that will require a high investment of time, energy and participation.

SCIENCE 9 (MSC--09)

Science 9 covers several scientific disciplines, including chemistry, biology, physics, and astronomy. The chemistry unit focuses on atomic theory and molecules. The biology unit investigates genetics and reproduction. Electricity and space exploration are studied in physics and astronomy.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 9 (MPE--09)

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HEALTH & CAREER EDUCATION 9 (MHCE-09)

The Grade 9 Level of HCE continues examining the topics presented in Grade 8, with a major focus on relationships.

EXPLORATIONS COURSES

CONCERT BAND 8 – full-year course (MMU--08BA)

Band 8 consists of students who have taken at least one year of band. **However, beginning students are welcome!** Students will continue to develop musically on an individual and group basis, and will continue to study basic music theory and history. At this level, students will be in more public performances than in previous years, and may be involved in an overnight trip.

BAND 9 – full-year course (MMU--09BA)

Band 9 consists of students who have taken at least one or two years of band. **However, beginning students with a very strong work ethic will be accepted.** Students will continue to develop musically on an individual and group basis, and will continue to study music theory and history. Over the course of the year, this band will be involved in many different performances and trips. Students will be exposed to a large range of music varying in style and difficulty.

CHOIR 8 (MMU--08CH)

Choir is aimed at developing basic vocal skills. Students will learn and perform a broad range of vocal styles. There is no prerequisite for the course except enthusiasm to sing. Over the course of the year, the choir will be involved in many different performances and trips. Credit will also be available for one piano accompanist.

Note: This course may be offered outside the regular timetable during the whole year.

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Note: This course may be offered outside the regular timetable during the whole year.

DRAMA 8 (MDR--08)

This is an introductory drama course, which focuses on improvisation, creative problem solving, and the beginnings of work on developing character. The course is aimed at increasing students' self-confidence and self-awareness as well as developing group work skills. Depending on the students' interests, they may also create video projects, work on dance pieces, or on basic scene design.

DRAMA 9 (MDR--09)

Drama 9 is an experiential course. During the course, the students will learn something about the theatre and about themselves. Gaining self-confidence and communications skills are two main goals of Drama 9. The course may include some

scene work, the presentation of memorized scripts, video projects, and other drama skills.

ELECTRONICS 9 (MTE--09EL)

Understanding circuits, components, and electronic theory are key skills for entering the flourishing electronics industry. Projects such as the Power Supply or other basic circuits would be built and taken home. Electrical safety and printed circuit board construction and repair would be covered.

FOODS 9 (MHE--09FD)

What could be more exciting in Foods 9 than learning about cooking and being able to sample what you make! Labs are comprised of breakfast and luncheon meals.

FRENCH 9 – full-year course (MFR--09)

French 9 is the continuation of an introduction to French as a Second Language based on communicative situations. The "Entre-Amis 1 and 2" textbooks (and other resources) are used in this course and contain topics which are familiar and of high interest to the student's own experiences such as a diary, traveling, music, and celebrations. This optional course is a full curriculum that will involve a high investment of time, energy and participation to achieve excellence.

NOTE: Direct entry to most BC universities from high school requires a second language at the Grade 11 level.

HOME ECONOMICS 8 (MHE--08)

This course consists of Foods and Sewing. In Foods, students will learn many of the basic valuable skills of the kitchen, from a tasty apple crisp to a final pizza party. Notebook organization, quizzes, and lab work are part of the total evaluation. Fun and care of the kitchen are parts of this course. In Sewing, Students will learn how to operate a standard sewing machine, as well as a serger. Projects covered will be an apron (to use in cooking classes) and, if time allows, a pair of shorts. Special projects for the holiday season will be determined later.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY 8 (MINT-08)

In the exciting world of computers, the opportunity to attain keyboarding skills and be exposed to the multimedia world of MS-Office programs such as Word, PowerPoint, and Excel will be pursued. High-school demands high quality academic achievement and a foundation in computers is a key to success.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY 9 (MINT-09)

Computers offer an exciting reality in society today. Proficiency with typing documents, Power Point presentations, Spreadsheets, Web Page design and many other skills can only improve success. Students are encouraged to integrate skills learned into other courses of study.

JAZZ BAND 8 – full-year course (MMU--08JB)

This course is geared towards students interested in studying and performing jazz, blues, and rock music. Although there are no pre-requisites, some previous band experience is essential, and students are strongly encouraged to take concert band. Over the course of the year, this band will be involved in many different performances and trips, including a festival performance tour.

Note: This course may be offered outside the regular timetable during the whole year.

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Note: This course may be offered outside the regular timetable during the whole year.

LIBRARY 8 (XAT--08LI)

Students learn how to use resources in the Library for research. Some sample assignments are assessed. Literacy is promoted through book reports and teacher readings of various stories and/or novels. One block per week is designated for assistance and homework in other courses.

MECHANICS 9 (MTE--09MX)

The enticing field of small gas engine construction and operation is explored in depth. Complete disassembly and reassembly of engines is the staple project for the course. Students may bring their own engines if sufficient resources (i.e. manuals etc.) are available. Safety and mechanical literacy are the focus of this course.

METALS 9 (MTE--09MT)

With the exciting possibilities in the Metal Shop, projects like tongs, survival containers, castings, and even custom bike and go-kart building have traditionally been done. Safety, team work, design work, and many metal working techniques will be part of this course. A good foundation in these skills can result in careers such as machining, welding, and other metal fields.

TECHNOLOGY 8 (MTE--08)

In the exciting world of the Wood Shop, projects such as whirly-gigs, small tables, as well as CO₂ cars, bridges, and cranes have traditionally been done. A good base of knowledge and skill can result in a career in the trades. Safety, group work, problem solving, and design will be included in this hands-on course.

In the Metal Shop, projects such as the trowel, metal ornaments, small lathe projects, and castings have traditionally been done. A good base of knowledge and skill can result in a career in the trades. Safety, group work, problem solving, and design will be included in this hands-on course.

TEXTILES 9 (MHE--09TX)

Learn how to create your own personal taste in clothing. Basic sewing skills are taught with sample work. Three major projects are required, including possibilities of a simple dress and elastic waist pants / shorts/ skirt. Discover the new sewing technology, the serger. Serger possibilities include knit tops, leggings, jogging suits, etc.

VISUAL ARTS 8 (MVA--08)

Art 8 is considered a foundation course in art. Students will develop their skills in a variety of artistic media. The emphasis at this level is a "hands-on" approach to art combined with examination of the principles of art and how students can use them in their projects.

VISUAL ARTS 9 (MVA--09)

Art 9 continues the Art 8 program. Students will explore a variety of methods of image making in this project-oriented course. Students will be introduced to concepts of art history and major artistic styles.

WOOD TECHNOLOGY 9 (MTE--09WW)

With the exciting possibilities in the Wood Shop, projects like trays, trivets, and tables have traditionally been made. Safety, teamwork, design work, and many woodwork techniques will be studied in this hands-on course. These woodwork techniques and skills can serve as a foundation for a career in the trades.