

# CHEMAINUS SECONDARY SCHOOL



GRADE 8 & 9  
COURSE SELECTION  
CATALOGUE  
2026 - 2027



## SCHOOL INFORMATION

Principal – Ms. C. Mullin [cmullin@sd79.bc.ca](mailto:cmullin@sd79.bc.ca)

Vice-Principal - Ms. A. Bell [abell@sd79.bc.ca](mailto:abell@sd79.bc.ca)

Counsellor – Mr. M. Knippelberg [mknippelberg@sd79.bc.ca](mailto:mknippelberg@sd79.bc.ca)

Careers Counsellor - Mr. G. Culbertson [gculbertson@sd79.bc.ca](mailto:gculbertson@sd79.bc.ca)

Counselling Secretary – [chsscounsellingsecretary@sd79.bc.ca](mailto:chsscounsellingsecretary@sd79.bc.ca)

9947 Daniel Street, Chemainus, BC V0R 1K1

250-246-4711

email: [chss@sd79.bc.ca](mailto:chss@sd79.bc.ca)

web: [chss.sd79.bc.ca](http://chss.sd79.bc.ca)

FACEBOOK & APP: ChemainusSecondarySchool



# Grade 9 REQUIRED COURSES

## ENGLISH 9

English 9 is a continuation of the development of reading, writing and inference skills begun in previous years. The curriculum is designed to empower students by providing them with strong communication skills, an understanding and appreciation of language and literature, and the capacity to engage fully as literate and responsible citizens in a digital age. Students will use oral, written, visual and digital texts to access information. Students will learn about strategies, processes, writing structures and conventions. Students are guided in their learning to think critically, creatively, and reflectively; to construct a sense of personal and cultural identity; and to be respectful of a range of perspectives and worldviews

MEN-09

## SOCIAL STUDIES 9

**Big Ideas for Social Studies 9 students are:** Emerging ideas and ideologies profoundly influence societies and events; the physical environment influences the nature of political, social, and economic change; disparities in power alter the balance of relationships between individuals and between societies and collective identity is constructed and can change over time. **Time period to be discovered: 1750 - 1919.**

Students will conduct inquiry and research during the course. Written assignments and tests will also be forms of evaluation.

MSS-09

## MATHEMATICS 9

Emphasizes numeracy to help us see patterns, communicate ideas and solve problems. Throughout the course, students will use logic, analyze, make connections and apply multiple strategies to problem solve. Math content includes exponents, income, financial literacy, rational numbers, polynomials, graphing, equations, reasoning and statistics in society. The big ideas are the following:

- Operations with numbers using algebra
  - Integers
  - Fractions (Add, Subtract, Multiply, Divide)
  - Graphing,  $y=mx+b$
- Fluency with rational numbers
- Represent linear relationships
- Measure and compare proportions
- Analyze data.

A scientific calculator is required.

MMA-09

## **SCIENCE 9**

Science 9 requires students to be actively communicating, thinking and being personally and socially responsible in their learning and laboratory activities. The big ideas are the following:

- Cells are derived from cells.
- The electron arrangement of atoms impacts their chemical nature.
- Electric current is the flow of electric charge.
- The biosphere, geosphere, hydrosphere, and atmosphere are interconnected, as matter cycles and energy flows through them

Students will be required to write simple to more complex lab reports in grade 9.

A calculator is required for this course.

MSC-09

## **CAREER EDUCATION 9**

The Career Education curriculum supports students in the process of becoming successful, educated citizens by providing them with opportunities to explore a variety of careers and options for their future. Career Education helps students to discover a bridge between classroom learning and workplace and post-secondary realities and is intended to make their learning meaningful and relevant. In Grade 9, students explore concepts such as identity, leadership, personal planning, and transferable skills. As students build on the foundation developed from their experiences, they begin to explore in greater depth their skills and passions and begin to determine possible routes to their goals.

MCE-09

# Grade 8 REQUIRED COURSES

## **ENGLISH 8**

The English 8 curriculum is designed to empower students by providing them with strong communication skills, an understanding and appreciation of language and literature, and the capacity to engage fully as literate and responsible citizens in a digital age. Students will use oral, written, visual and digital texts to access information. Students will learn about strategies, processes, writing structures and conventions. Students are guided in their learning to think critically, creatively, and reflectively; to construct a sense of personal and cultural identity; and to be respectful of a range of perspectives and worldviews.

MEN--08

## **SOCIAL STUDIES 8**

The Big ideas for SS 8 are: contacts and conflicts between peoples stimulated significant cultural, social, political change; human and environmental factors shape changes in population and living standards; exploration, expansion, and colonization had varying consequences for different groups and hanging ideas about the world created tension between people wanting to adopt new ideas and those wanting to preserve established traditions. The time period to be discovered is 7<sup>th</sup> Century to 1750. Students will conduct inquiry and research during the course. Written assignments and tests will also be forms of evaluation.

MSS--08

## **MATHEMATICS 8**

Mathematics 8 emphasizes numeracy to help us see patterns, communicate ideas and solve problems. We will apply mathematics to inquiry questions which will enable us to draw conclusions and make predictions. Students will analyze, reason, and make connections when solving problems. Numeracy content includes percentiles, square roots, proportions, fractions, equations, surface area & volume, and financial literacy, decimal numbers, positive and negative integers.

MMA--08

## **SCIENCE 8**

Science 8 requires students to demonstrate intellectual curiosity about a scientific topic or problem of personal interest. Students will make observations, work collaboratively, draw conclusions and communicate ideas. Scientific content includes cells, kinetic theory, theory of the atom, energy and plate tectonics, elements and compounds, natural selection, electromagnetic force, and climate change.

MSC--08

## **FRENCH 8**

Emphasis will be on giving the student a positive experience with the French language, keeping in mind that not all students may choose to carry on with French in their high school career. Classroom work will consist of written and oral (spoken) work.

There will be participation in simple spoken activities and skits that will be presented to the class. Several countries where French is spoken are introduced. French culture is presented as far as it is relevant to the age levels of the students.

MFR--08

## **CAREER EDUCATION 8**

The Career Education curriculum supports students in the process of becoming successful, educated citizens by providing them with opportunities to explore a variety of careers and options for their future. Career Education helps students to discover a bridge between classroom learning and workplace and post-secondary realities and is intended to make their learning meaningful and relevant. In Grades 8, students explore concepts such as identity, leadership, personal planning, and transferable skills. As students build on the foundation developed from their experiences, they begin to explore in greater depth their skills and passions and begin to determine possible routes to their goals with mindfulness and a growth mindset.

MCE--08

## **PHYSICAL AND HEALTH EDUCATION 8**

This course is designed to provide the knowledge and skills necessary for students to successfully participate in different physical activities and make decisions that will lead to a healthy lifestyle. Students develop skills in the areas of physical literacy, healthy and active living, social and community health, and mental well-being. The knowledge component includes such topics as fundamental movement skills and strategies, training principles, sources of health information, signs and symptoms of stress, anxiety and depression, nutrition, and healthy relationships.

All PE students are required to have PE strip: t-shirt, short/track pants, running shoes and a towel.

MPHE--08

# PHYSICAL EDUCATION OPTIONS

## **PHYSICAL AND HEALTH EDUCATION 8/9**

This course is designed to build upon the skills and knowledge from the previous year. Students will continue to learn and improve their skills and knowledge to successfully participate in different physical activities and make decisions that will lead to a healthy lifestyle. Students further their skill development in the areas of physical literacy, healthy and active living, social and community health, and mental well-being. The knowledge component includes such topics as fundamental movement skills and strategies, training principles, sources of health information, signs and symptoms of stress, anxiety and depression, nutrition, and healthy relationships.

MPHE-09

MPHE-08

## **BASKETBALL 8/9**

This course will provide an opportunity for young basketball players to train and learn about the sport of basketball. The course will provide an avenue for students to develop their basketball skills, leadership, and character. Areas of exploration will include basic and advanced techniques of individual offensive and defensive play; basic and advanced team concepts and strategies for offence and defense; strength and conditioning; coaching and leadership theory; injury prevention; and nutrition. In addition, this class will look for opportunities to help lead younger students within Chemainus Secondary School and the community. Occasional classroom/theory days will be used to supplement on court training. Student's work ethic will have a significant impact on their success. Commitment, personal and social awareness, and responsibility are of the utmost importance in this course.

## **VOLLEYBALL 8 /9**

Volleyball is a semester PE course that focuses on skill development and activity. This class will meet three times per week, twice in the gym and once in the classroom. Students will improve their skills, learn strategies, and become level one certified officials, providing them an opportunity to earn money refereeing.

# ELECTIVE COURSES

**Students must take three (3) of the following elective courses.**

## **ART STUDIO 8/9**

Building on Art 8, students will continue to use the Elements and Principles of art as a framework to explore various modes of expression. A mix of mandatory projects and self-directed work will give an opportunity to create works in a variety of mediums.

MVA-09

MVA-08

## **BAND 8-9**

Are you ready to continue the journey on your band instrument? Or would you like to learn an instrument for the first time and become part of a performing group? Come and join the Chemainus Secondary Band and be a part of a larger musical ensemble. Belonging to this group the students will have fun while developing their identity with self-expression. This will enhance the way they think and how they feel. Here students will develop skills on their instrument and deepen their theoretical understanding of a variety of musical styles. Students will be introduced to the creative process as they learn to use proper music notation and are exposed to composition and improvisational exercises.

Band will be a full year course and will be outside of the timetable.

XBA-09

XBA-08

## **CHOIR 8-9**

If you're enthusiastic about singing, this course is for you! Join Choir to develop your singing skills and experience the fun of singing in a group. In this course, you'll learn vocal techniques, how to read music, and explore songs from a variety of different styles including modern, pop, and musical theatre. No experience is needed—just a love for singing!

XC---08

XC--09

## **DANCE FOUNDATIONS 8/9**

Students will study and actively participate in movement, techniques, stretching, dance styles and the role of dance in society.

Techniques of stretching, specific movement skills, terminology, and dance sequences are taught. There is an opportunity to explore individual choreography as well as presentation of class projects and small groups or pairs. All students will have the opportunity to participate in our "Dance Showcase".

MDNC-09

MDNC-08

## DRAMA 8/9

A fun activity-based class, Drama 8/9 provides a creative outlet. Students learn to build trust, confidence and skills in a variety of activities.

The course will consist of games, exercises, mime, radio plays, scene presentation, and an introduction to improvisational work.

MDR-09

MDR-08

## ADST: ELECTRONICS AND ROBOTICS 8/9

The focus will be **ROBOTICS**. The main objective of this course is to develop knowledge into the world of electronics. This is a hands-on course based on labs, theory and projects.

Students will design, build circuits, program and construct various electronic or robotic devices.

MADER09

MADR-08

## ADST: FOODS 8/9

This course focuses on the foundations of cooking. Throughout this course, students will focus on a variety of themes that may include; kitchen basics, food trends, and international foods and food culture. Students will work cooperatively in groups to prepare a variety of foods while learning about food preparation techniques, cooking principles and food safety.

MADFS09

MADFS08

## FRENCH 9

French 9 is recommended to students who enjoyed the experience of studying a second language in Grade 8. Reading, writing, speaking and listening are emphasized in French 9. Students will learn French through a variety of highly engaging stories.

MFR-09

MFR-08

## ADST: INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY - COMPUTERS 8/9

Information Technology 8/9 is a general computer course intended for students at ALL levels of experience and ability with computer technology. Instruction and learning takes place in a lab setting with tutorials, assignments and projects. Both individual and group work inquiry-based opportunities will be available for students to further explore their learning in other subjects.

Topics covered will include Computer Hardware, Office Applications (word processing, spreadsheets, presentation software), Graphic Design (illustration and photo editing), Electronic Communications (internet technologies and web page design), Animation, and Digital Video (filming and editing a short movie).

MADIT09

MADCC08

## **ADST: METALWORK 8/9**

Technology Education 8/9: Metalwork is a project-oriented course designed to familiarize students with the safe use of hand and power tools and welding equipment.

There will be class and individual demonstrations. Students will work at their own level to complete small projects using hand and power tools.

MADM-09  
MADM-08

## **PHOTOGRAPHY 8/9**

Photography is a course that focuses on students getting hands on experience with digital cameras, and the technologies associated with the field of photography. Students will focus on learning how to manipulate the settings of a camera to achieve a specific result, the fundamentals of good lighting for photo shoots, compositional techniques and photo editing programs such as photoshop and lightroom. Students will learn how to break down photographs into their basic elements, and how to use those basic elements to build compelling compositions. Learning the various components of the camera and their functions will allow students to make informed choices about how the equipment they use can influence their final products.

Returning students will be given the opportunity to start developing their own style and will work towards the creation of a professional portfolio that they can use to help build a career in the field of photography.

XPHOT09  
XPHOT08

## **STAGECRAFT/ THEATRE PRODUCTION 8/9**

Learn what happens behind the scenes in theatre! In Stagecraft, you'll learn set design, prop-making, lighting, sound, costume design and stage management. Through practical projects you will develop technical proficiency, artistic creativity, teamwork skills, and contribute to the school's theatre productions. No experience needed - just a willingness to learn and get hands-on with theatre production. Perfect for anyone who loves art, building, designing, and problem-solving.

## **ADST: TEXTILES 8/9**

This will be an introductory course for students. Students will study a variety of textiles related topics that may include: hand sewing, machine sewing, knitting, crocheting, fabric properties/care, textile manipulation, fashion design and refashioning and repurposing. We will produce a variety of items ranging from pincushions to PJ's to purses.

MADT-09  
MADT-08

## **ADST: WOODWORK 8/9**

Woodwork 8/9 focuses on students developing their skills related to: the care and use of woodworking hand tools, machines and materials; develop proper attitudes and practices concerning health and safety; develop the ability to select and to design projects that are functional, attractive and appropriate; develop a pride in good work and the ability to evaluate one's own accomplishments objectively; develop proper attitudes towards work and towards relationships with others.

This course is strongly recommended for all students considering a career in Woodwork and/or our Dual Credit Carpentry Trades Program.

MADW-09

MADW-08

## **YOGA 8/9**

In Yoga, students will develop and maintain a regular physical yoga practice while demonstrating understanding of alignment and anatomy as it relates to the safety and the benefits of the practice. The students will make connections between the physical practice and their ability to handle stressors both on and off the mat. Further, by a study of yogic philosophy, meditation and mindfulness, the students will see that by developing a healthy state of well-being within themselves, they can have a positive impact in their own lives as well as affect the larger community in a positive way.

MPHE-09

MPHE-08