



*W.C. Miller Collegiate is committed to providing a balanced, comprehensive curriculum, a safe, supportive environment, and a positive preparation for lifelong learning, responsible citizenship and community contribution.*



## **W.C. MILLER COLLEGIATE Grade 9 Course Descriptions 2018-2019**

A detailed list of all courses offered at W.C. Miller Collegiate is available on our website <http://www.blsc.ca/school/wcm/Pages/default.aspx> under the course registration tab. Below are descriptors of grade 9 compulsory and optional courses.

### **COMPULSORY COURSES**

### **Course Code**

#### **English (10F)**

**ENG10F**

Students *read, listen to, view* and *analyze* a variety of texts, such as short stories, novels, non-fiction, poems, plays, essays, newspaper articles and editorials, music, films, and television. Students respond by practicing various *writing, speaking, and representing* skills, such as personal responses, short essays, narratives, poems, drama roles, debates, role-playing and various “hands-on” projects. Students are given some degree of choice as to the texts they study. Writing skills such as spelling, vocabulary and grammar are worked on continuously, as they appear in reading and writing.

#### **Health and Physical Education (10F)**

**HEPE10F**

Grade 9 Health deals with the five new general learning outcomes referred to as the “Healthy Active Five”. The units covered include Movement, Fitness Management, Safety, Personal/Social Management and Healthy Lifestyle Practices.

Grade 9 students meet in a co-ed setting for Phys. Ed. They meet every other day in a six-day cycle for one semester. Classes are run in the following manner: cardiovascular conditioning, muscle flexibility and toning followed by the daily activity generally beginning with drills and lead up games, followed by the actual game situation. One hour of credit is gained per class to a maximum of one ½ credit (45 hours) in grade 9. Evaluation criteria include fitness tests, self-evaluation and teacher evaluation.

## **Introduction to High School (10S)**

**IHS10S**

This course consists of two half-credit courses, each with specific outcomes:

### **Applying Information and Communication Technology I 15F:**

This course is designed to introduce students to some of the major concepts of computing and technology so that they can decide which areas they wish to focus on in the future. Topics include: desktop publishing using Word, spreadsheets and databases using Excel and Access, presentation software using Power Point, and Keyboarding using a web based program. WEB 2.0 applications will be used throughout the course to make students aware of free software that is comparable to the programs taught in class. Internet safety will be addressed, as well as "digital footprints" through social media.

### **Life/Work Exploration 15S:**

The primary objective of this course is to help our incoming Grade 9 students make a successful transition from junior high to high school. W. C. Miller Collegiate believes that this successful transition is not simply measured in terms of a student's academic progress, but also includes their development in the areas of strength of character, decision making skills, effective social skills, organization skills, independence, and empathy skills.

## **Mathematics (10F)**

**MAT10F**

Grade 9 Mathematics (10F) is a foundation course to prepare students for multiple possible pathways in Grades 10 to 12. The course builds on the understandings from Kindergarten to Grade 8 Mathematics. In Math 10F students will review work with integers and fractions. A study of exponents and exponent rules will be highlighted. Simplifying polynomial expression and solving algebraic equations are very important aspects of this course. Geometry topics include a study of similar triangles, spatial geometry and symmetry. There will also be a study of probabilities and statistics. A common theme in each topic is an emphasis on students developing their problem solving ability.

## **Science (10F)**

**SCI10F**

This required course introduces students to the world of science. Students are required to gain science knowledge by performing labs, activities, and direct instruction in a safe, responsible manner. Science 10F focuses on basic biology, physics, chemistry and astronomy. Both the theory and lab work emphasize problem solving and the link between science, technology and society.

## **Social Studies (10F/10F-FI)**

**SOC10F or SOC10FFI**

The course is divided into six sections: (Canada's) people, regions (physical geography), economy, systems of government and law (including the Young Offenders Act), world trade, and relations with the USA. Many class periods focus on current events. Testing and written work are structured in such a way as to invoke the learner to think about "Our Country Today" and what may become of "Our Country in the Future." This course is taught in English and also in French as part of our French Immersion program.

## **Transitional Mathematics (10F)**

**MTR10F**

Transitional Math provides a bridge between Grade 8 and Grade 9. The course is an opportunity for students to acquire the necessary numeracy skills for future high school math courses. Enrollment in Transitional Math is based on the results of a math assessment done in the spring of a student's grade 8 year.

## **ELECTIVE COURSES**

**Course Code**

### **American History (20G)**

**HIS20G**

American History will create a greater understanding of significant historical events that shaped the United States. It is intended to have a focus and emphasis on those historical developments that have influenced the world, especially Canada. A further intent is to identify the personalities who, in a significant way, shaped American history and to examine their contributions. Students will study the story of America before the arrival of Europeans up to the present times, including current events impacting the United States, and us in Canada, today.

### **Art (10S)**

**ART10S**

During this course the students will obtain knowledge based on the fundamentals of art. These fundamentals include the basic skills of drawing, painting, and 3 dimensional. This course is suggested for anyone wishing to continue taking art at high school or for anyone interested in learning how to use basic materials and tools.

**Junior Concert Band (10S)****BAN10S**

In Junior Concert Band, students have the opportunity to expand the musical abilities and understanding developed in middle school. Music from a variety of historical periods and styles is explored and rehearsed with technical, theoretical, and expressive concepts developed in the context of musical performance. The central goal of this course is to develop each student's technical ability, musical understanding, and aesthetic response while also encouraging them to become the best human beings they can be. Through this process, a strong and supportive community will be developed in the Band Room, and the Junior Concert Band will strive to perform at the highest possible level both in rehearsal and in concerts, festivals, and other events throughout the school year.

**Choir (10S)****CHO10S**

The Junior Concert Choir comprises students in both grade 9 and 10. This year long course meets on alternate days opposite Junior Concert Band. Classes are rehearsal based and are designed to allow all students the opportunity to make music as part of a community of singers as well as develop individual choral, musical, and performance skills. Repertoire performed by this group is carefully selected to allow students the opportunity to explore a variety of historical contexts and musical styles.

**Drama (10S)****DRA10S**

This course will be an introductory level course in which students will be introduced to the elements of drama, the basics upon which all theatre activities are based. Students will become more conscious of themselves, as well as the people and world around them. Specific activities include improvisational forms, scripted acting, voice production, script writing, adapting stories, and some exposure to the more specific theatre arts – sets, props, lighting, sound effects, and wardrobe.

**English as an Additional Language (11G)****EAL11G**

This is a course aimed at learning English at the beginner level (Canadian Language Benchmarks levels 1-4). Students will learn basic vocabulary through listening, speaking, reading and writing. Students will be exposed to a thematic approach that will allow them to focus on using language in undemanding and non-threatening situations. Themes are language needed for survival or socio-cultural themes. Themes include: greetings, colours, school language, body parts, clothing, food, shelter, personal information, basic numbers, seasons, transportation, weather, holidays, time, calendar, community, safety, sports and games.

**Français langue seconde – Immersion 10F****FRA10FFI**

This course is a transition course to senior high school French. The one-hour class will be conducted fully in French. Emphasis is placed on communication in the second language; students will practice speaking French to express themselves, writing in a variety of ways and for different purposes, as well as listening to and reading in French for comprehension and information. Using the textbook, exercises, videos, projects, novel studies, and games, students will be able to use what they are learning to engage in various topics of conversation in French.

**French (10F)****FRE10F**

This course is a transition course to senior high school French. Emphasis is placed on communication in the second language; students will practice speaking French to express themselves, writing in a variety of ways and for different purposes, as well as listening to and reading in French for comprehension and information. Using the textbook, exercises, videos, projects and games, students will be able to use what they are learning to engage in various topics of conversation in French.

**Hockey Skills (11G)****HKY11G**

The W.C. Miller Hockey Canada Skills Academy allows local school boards the opportunity to work together with Minor Hockey Associations and Hockey Canada to offer hockey as an academic option to any student wishing to participate in the program. The role of the Hockey Canada Skills Academy is to: provide additional skills training for minor hockey aged players, supplement, not compete with, the existing programs run by Altona Minor Hockey, provide emphasis on individual skill development and academic achievement and create an environment for skill development which will enhance game performance. Hockey Skills 11G introduces the student to all aspects of skating, shooting, passing, and puck control. The course consists of on-ice, off-ice, and classroom sessions.

## Home Economics (10G)

HEC10G

This course consists of two half-credit courses, each with specific outcomes:

### Foods and Nutrition 15G:

The primary objective of this course is to gain an understanding of basic nutrition. This includes the study of nutrients, what foods they are found in and how to make healthy food choices. Students will also learn how to prepare healthy foods in the kitchen and will practice safety, sanitation, safe knife handling and basic food preparation skills.

### Clothing and Textiles 15G:

The primary objective of this course is to learn the basics of clothing construction including fabric characteristics and care. Students will learn the safe and correct operation of a sewing machine as well as basic hand sewing techniques.

## Spanish (10F)

SPN10F

Spanish is the language of Spain and most of South America and the "second language" in many parts of the United States. There are significant Spanish-speaking communities found in Canadian cities such as Montreal, Toronto and Winnipeg and many aspects of Hispanic life and culture are already familiar -food, Latin music, art and literature. This course will cover basic grammar, some Spanish culture and has a strong aural-oral emphasis. Presented in the first year are the alphabet, numbers and many of the basic verbs needed in everyday speech.

## Woodwork Technology (10G)

WDS10G

This course is open to all who are interested in Building Technologies. It is an entry-level woods course; a program designed for anyone with an interest in woodworking. This course emphasizes skill and technique development with tool operations and applications. Students are required to provide a calculator, duo-tang and pencil with good eraser. Students will be asked to cover costs for projects that can be taken home upon completion.

## AUDITION GROUPS – Sign up for auditions will take place in September 2018

### Junior Jazz Band (15S)

In Junior Jazz Band, students are provided the opportunity to dive into the world of big band music and explore a wide array of musical genres/styles including swing, blues, rock/funk, ballad, Latin, and pop. Here the focus is more geared towards performance, and less time is spent on fundamentals, so it is assumed that students are also involved in Junior Concert Band. Improvisation is a huge part of the art form of jazz, and thus it is also a key component of this course. Students work to develop their musical ear and their ability to improvise in a variety of contexts, notably the 12-bar blues and other simple chord changes. Through all of this the Junior Jazz Band will seek to create a tight-knit community of supportive music makers who strive to perform at the highest standards at concerts, festivals, and other events throughout the school year.

**Note:** Students sign up for jazz band in September and are placed in either Junior or Senior Jazz Band depending on grade level and experience. Auditions may be called at the discretion of the band instructor. **Jazz Bands rehearse outside of the regular timetable two times per week.**

### Vocal Jazz (15S)

Quantum and Nova are auditioned groups that perform in a contemporary style on microphones and receive one half credit per school year. Students who participate in these ensembles are animated, energetic performers who can learn music quickly and sing independently. These groups focus on performance skills and focused music study. Quantum and Nova participate in festivals and concerts throughout the year including Brandon Jazz Festival in spring. A high level of commitment and professionalism is expected from all members as these courses happen twice a week **outside the regularly scheduled timetable**. Interested students are invited to audition for these ensembles in September.