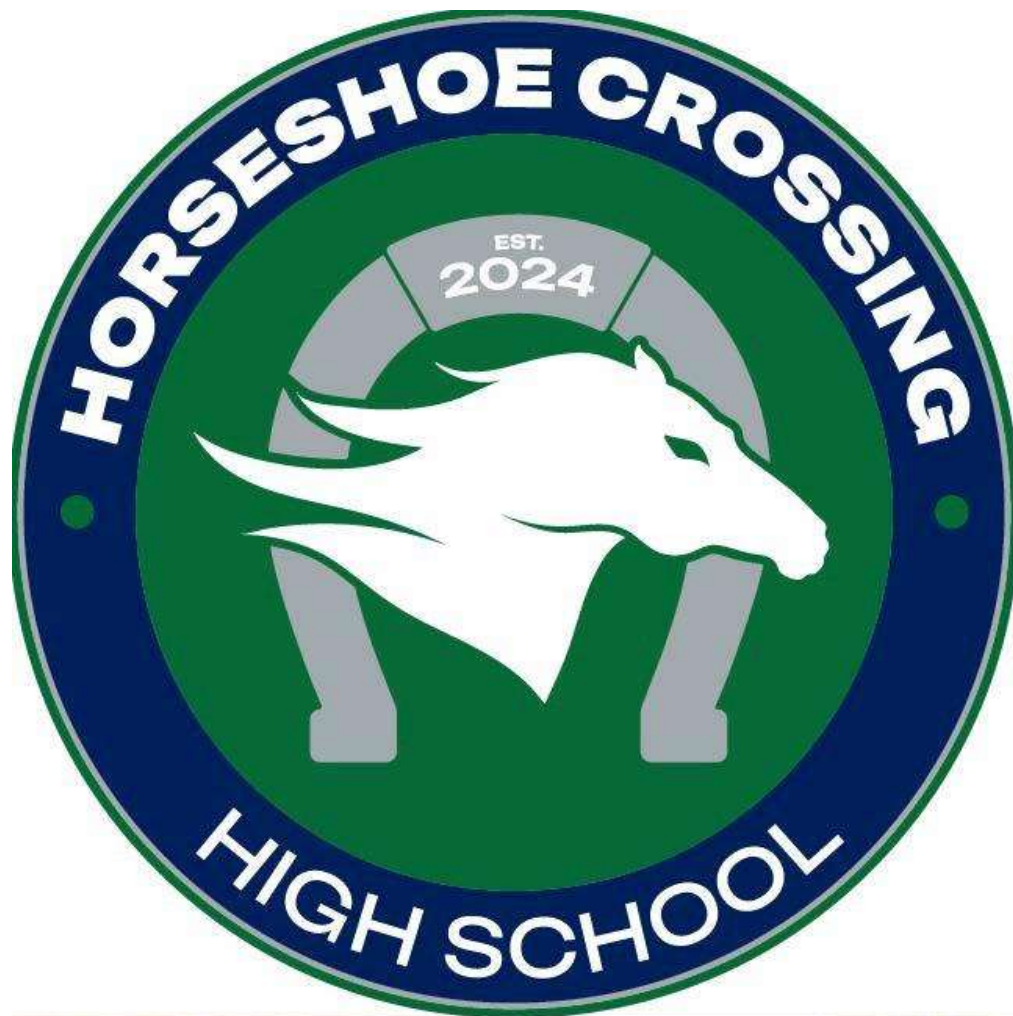


HORSESHOE CROSSING HIGH SCHOOL

GRADE 9 COURSE PLANNER

2025-2026

Also available online at <https://horseshoecrossing.rockyview.ab.ca>



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Grade 9 Course Information Handbook 2025-2026

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Jordan Fenton
Principal

Marie Cumberland
Assistant Principal

Theresa De Rosier
School Counsellor

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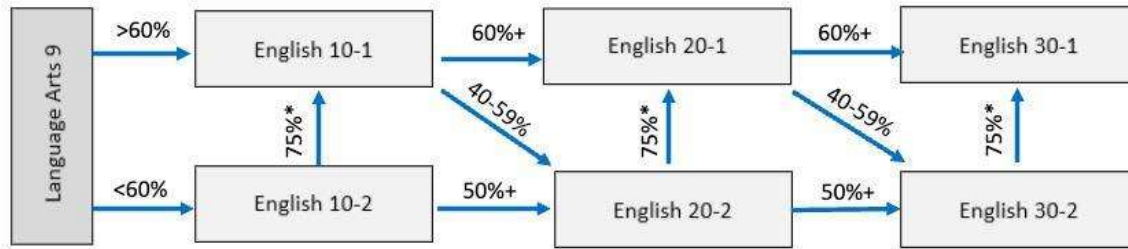
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GRADE NINE REQUIRED AND COMPLEMENTARY COURSES

GRADE NINE REQUIRED COURSES

English Language Arts 9

English Language Arts 9 takes a process and theme-oriented approach. This provides for variety, flexibility and student involvement. A variety of units are covered with practice in reading, writing, listening, speaking, viewing, and representing skills. To advance to English 10-1, it is recommended that students achieve a minimum of 60% in English 9. This course is yearlong.

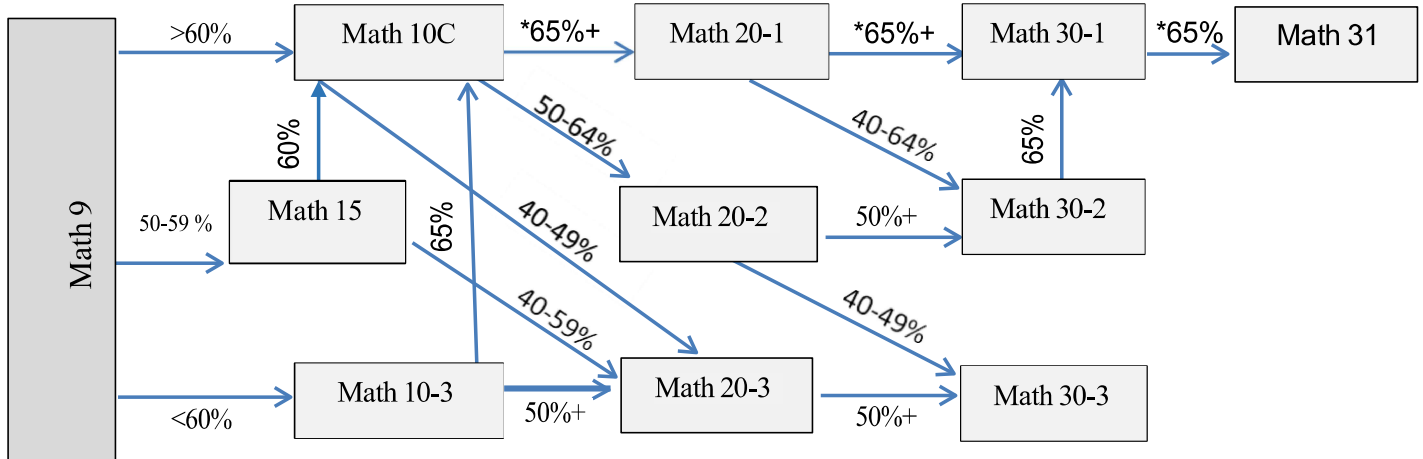


* recommended grade

*To successfully progress from English 30-2 to 30-1, it is recommended that a student achieve a mark of 75% or higher.

Mathematics 9

Mathematics 9 consists of the following units: Powers and Roots, Algebraic Equations, Polynomials, Circle Properties, Shape and Space, Transformations, and Data Analysis. To advance to Mathematics 10 Combined (Math 10C), it is recommended students achieve a minimum of 60% in Mathematics 9. This course is yearlong.



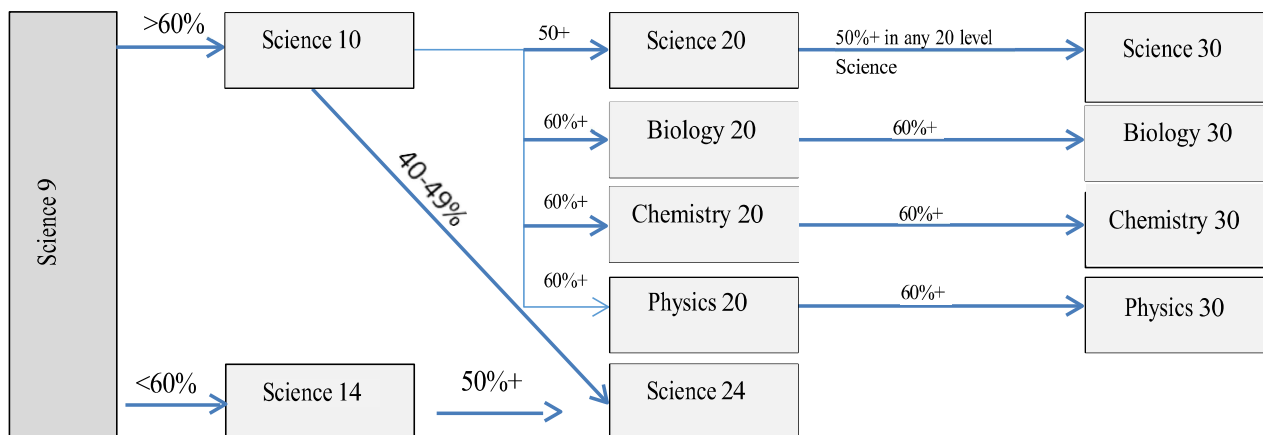
*Recommended

Physical Education 9

PE 9 will focus on fitness, skills and the development of positive interpersonal skills. This activity course requires participation and the wearing of proper athletic dress. Shorts and t-shirts may be purchased through the school. Activities may include the following: Badminton, Basketball, Fitness Training, Football, Organized Games, Soccer, Softball, Team Handball, Track & Field, and Volleyball.

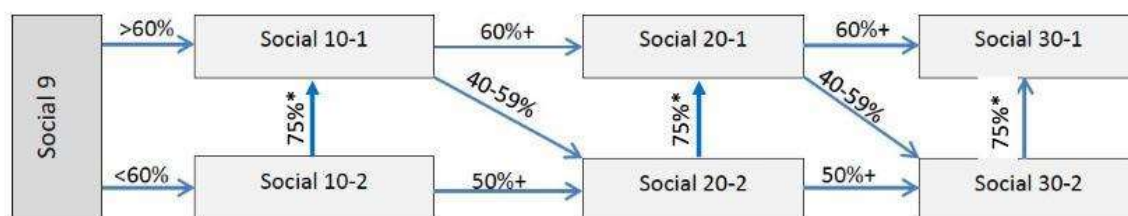
Science 9

This is a general Science course that draws on the major scientific disciplines of Chemistry, Physics and Biology. Unit topics include: Biological Diversity, Matter and Chemical Change, Environmental Chemistry, Electrical Principles and Technologies, and Space Exploration. To advance to Science 10, it is recommended that students achieve a minimum of 60% in Science 9. This course is semestered.



Social Studies 9

Grade 9 students will analyze the relationship between Canada's political and legislative processes and their impact on issues pertaining to governance, rights, citizenship, and identity. Students will also explore issues of economics and their impact on quality of life, citizenship, and identity in Canada and the United States. To advance to Social Studies 10-1, it is recommended that students achieve a minimum of 60% in Social Studies 9. This course is semestered.



* recommended grade

Health and Life Skills 9

The aim of Health and Life Skills 9 is to enable students to make well-informed, healthy choices and to develop behaviours that contribute to personal wellbeing and the wellbeing of others. Three general outcomes are the foundation for H&LS 9: Wellness Choices, Relationship Choices, and Life Learning Choices. As positive and productive citizens, we learn to make good decisions.

GRADE NINE COMPLEMENTARY COURSES

Courses will run **ONLY** if there is sufficient enrollment.

Fees listed are from 2024-2025 and are subject to revision for the 2025-2026 school year.

Art 9 - Fee: \$70

Introduces the student to the artistic process. This program allows for experiential application of techniques using various mediums and exploration of art form, with research and design concepts being integrated throughout the program. There is an expectation for the student to explore their creativity and expand their skills. Critical thinking and aspiration is essential for student success.

Band 9 (Instrumental Music 9) - Fee: \$120

Students learn a variety of music styles, genres and facets in a wind instrument/percussion setting that promotes full band, ensemble, and solo work. Techniques learned include sight-reading, listening, ear training, composition, and evaluative performance. Skills learned in previous wind instrumental/percussion courses will be further developed. Class times are inside of the regular timetable and run yearlong. Performances are **MANDATORY**. (Students are encouraged to have had prior school band experience but there is always the possibility of learning a new instrument.) If you want to make some noise, JOIN THE BAND!

Note: A band instrument rental fee of **\$210** is applicable to students registered in a band program who rent a musical instrument; **\$30** for percussion.

Cosmetology 9 - Fee: \$15

Cosmetology 9 is designed to introduce students to the fashionable world of hairstyling and esthetics. This option will explore personal and professional grooming techniques as well as the following esthetic and hairstyling practices: basic nail art techniques used to enhance the appearance of fingernails, introductory hairstyling and personal hair-care tips and techniques, basic skin care practices to help students maintain the cleanliness of their skin and the creation of the students' own salon.

***Please note that Cosmetology 9 is NOT a prerequisite for the high school Hairstylist Apprenticeship CTS class. Students will be able to enter in grade 10 whether or not they have taken it at the middle school level as they are independent programs.**

Dance 9 - Fee: \$30

In Dance 9 students will explore movements through a variety of dance styles working both individually and a part of a group. Whether you're an experienced dancer or new to dance classes you will learn technique, body control, choreography and have to opportunity to explore your own choreography. You will be part of a supportive environment where you are free to explore movement and make mistakes to learn and grow.

Design Studies 9 - Fee: \$30

As students learn and implement the elements and principles of design, they engage with a variety of different mediums, explore the possibilities of design, and establish their identities as designers. Design Studies 9 provides learners with the opportunity to explore design careers including media arts, graphic design, and many others. Students utilize tools and technologies to create in response to challenges and critically reflect on the efficacy of their designs. A digital portfolio is utilized by students to document their growth and development as well as showcasing their creations.

Drama 9 – Fee: \$10

Emphasis is placed on the development of the student as a creator, performer, historian, critic and patron. Students will develop dramatic skills through assuming roles, exploration of dramatic situations and reflection on the outcomes (though no previous experience in Drama is necessary). Teamwork is essential, as students participate in non-competitive, cooperative, supportive, joyful, yet challenging, dramatic study.

Foods 9 - Fee: \$45

This is a basic Foods course covering areas such as safety and sanitation, as well as the Canada Food Guide. Students learn about and create delicious recipes in topics such as Fruits and Vegetables, Baking and Meals.

Industrial Arts 9 (Construction/Fabrication) - Fee: \$45

Construction 9 offers all students important learning opportunities in the field of woodworking. This course builds basic student knowledge in planning, materials, tools, work habits, safety, and the field of woodworking.

In Fabrication 9 students develop knowledge and skills in the use of basic hand tools and materials used in fabrication processes. They will safely transform common metals into useful products.

Leadership 9 - Fee: \$25

Students in Leadership 9 will build their skills as leaders while becoming engaged within the community. They will learn about leadership and learning styles and how they impact group dynamics. Learners will discover what their strengths are as leaders and how to put those skills into action by planning and delivering lessons and working with students in our feeder schools.

Outdoor Education 9 – Fee: \$20

In this program students will learn to challenge themselves mentally, physically, socially, and emotionally. The students will utilize the great outdoors as a classroom and incorporate many skills to learn how to live an active and healthy lifestyle. The focus of this course is on building outdoor skills such as leadership, excursion, trip planning, wilderness navigation, survival, and outdoor cooking. Students will utilize these skills both in the classroom and the outdoors. Excursions are tailored to the seasons.

Robotics 9 - Fee: \$60

This course will introduce students to engineering design, drafting and computer programming. Throughout the course students will learn Oval, a C-based programming language. Students will design a series of engineering challenges and will program their robots to complete the tasks. This course is a great introduction to careers in STEM; no programming experience is needed!

Sports Performance 9 - Fee: \$25

Students in this program of studies develop their physical abilities in all areas of sport. This course combines theory and practical application in the areas of personal health, wellness, and performance. Topics include proper weight training techniques, current training principles, performance enhancement, sports psychology, nutrition, sports studies, sports injuries, philosophy of sport and personal development through participation in sport.

Yoga 9 - Fee: \$25

Yoga 9 is an introduction to the poses, postures and breathing techniques of Yoga. This course is designed to develop strength, flexibility, and relaxation in students. It is designed for those who are interested in combining disciplined physical training with breath work to improve focus, reduce stress & anxiety, increase flexibility, and promote overall wellbeing. No experience is necessary.

KNOWLEDGE AND EMPLOYABILITY GRADE 9 COURSES

Knowledge and Employability courses (K&E) provide students with practical and applied opportunities to develop the competencies necessary to:

- earn a high school Certificate of Achievement (80 credits)
- enter the workplace upon leaving school with employability and occupational skills
- make successful transitions to continued education and training
- become responsible and contributing members of society

At HCHS, our K&E 9 students are fully integrated into mainstream cohorts. This allows students to move in and out of the K&E curriculum to match their skills & abilities.

Grade 9 K&E classes include English Language Arts, Social Studies, Science, and Math. Students also participate in PE, Health, and option classes.