

# Hants East Rural High

2019-2020

## Grade 9 Course Selection Guide



### Hants East Rural High

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[www.HERH.ccrce.ca](http://www.HERH.ccrce.ca)



# Hants East Rural High School

*Mike Smith, Principal*



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The next four years promise to be filled with study, opportunity, friendship and laughter. We have an exceptional staff dedicated to making this a positive and productive experience. Your decisions and actions will define the level to which you will be successful.

We offer many extra-curricular activities to complement the academic courses in which you will be enrolled. Whether a sports team, club, activity or academic competition, we encourage you to get involved in those things that interest and challenge you. We have high expectations for your behavior, both in and out of class. As young adults, you need to take charge of your learning.

While you will have a great deal of flexibility in course selection for grades 10-12, Grade 9 is quite prescribed. Those students enrolled in French Immersion or Integrated French must fulfill that commitment until the end of Grade 9. The level of success you have in Grade 9 will have a strong bearing on your options for Grade 10.

Every student will be provided with a PowerSchool account. This will allow parents/guardians to know daily attendance, up-to-date marks for each course and the dates for major tests and assignments. We also maintain a solid website [www.herh.ccrce.ca](http://www.herh.ccrce.ca), which is intended to provide valuable information related to our school. Strong communications between home and school is critical.

Strive to reach your full potential. Work hard, play hard and have some fun.

*Mike Smith, Principal*

## **Course Descriptions**

### **Citizenship Education 9**

This course aims to engage students as citizens at the local and global level. It focuses on citizenship, as well as an understanding of civics, and is enhanced by critical inquiry into rights, privileges, and responsibilities, with an emphasis on active participation.

Areas of focus include: Who am I as a citizen?; Financial Citizenship; Digital Citizenship; Governance; Global Citizenship; and Engaged Citizenship.

The curriculum is unique and inquiry-based, and includes a Service Learning component where students will address a need in their school or community and explore ways to meaningfully engage in the democratic process.

### **English Language Arts**

English Language Arts 9 provides students with the foundation to be successful in subsequent English courses. Learning activities are organized around the three English Language Arts strands: Speaking and Listening, Reading and Viewing, and Writing and Other Ways of Representing. More specifically, students will complete novel studies, individual and small group presentations, multi-genre reading experiences, analysis of non-fiction texts, a critical study of various forms of media, examination of the writing process and the use of technology in the writing process. The overarching goal of English 9 is to improve students' communication and critical thinking skills.

### **French - Core**

Students will use the Communi-Quête program. It uses an integrative approach to second language teaching. All learning activities will have a communicative purpose to develop skills that prepare students to interact by drawing on their experiences and knowledge. The course will continue with the oral production of French through activities that have a communicative purpose to develop skills that will prepare students to interact by drawing on their experiences and knowledge.

### **French - Integrated**

The Integrated French program is suited to students who are highly motivated and interested in learning French as a second language. The program will offer an accelerated French course and a Social Studies course taught entirely in French. All teaching is in French and students are expected to speak French at all times in the classroom.

### **French - Immersion**

The aim of the French immersion program is to enable the students to become functionally bilingual. Students will receive their instruction in the French language except for English Language Arts. Students will take English Language Arts, French, Healthy Living, Mathematics, Physical Education, Science, Social Studies, and Child Studies.

## **Healthy Living 9**

Healthy Living 9 allows students to develop knowledge, skills, attitudes, and behaviors related to healthy living. It integrates the concepts of personal health management, health promotion, and health education. The course looks at specific topics that encompass personal safety and injury prevention, healthy growth and sexuality, substance use and abuse, as well as healthy relationships. The goal of Healthy Living 9 is to teach students to be conscious of their health throughout their lives and to bring awareness to health issues. Through this health education, students will come to understand that they need to begin making smart decisions about their lives and all aspects of their own health.

## **Mathematics**

Grade 9 Mathematics is an introductory course to study algebra and geometry and to build on the skills covered through middle school. It also introduces new topics that will expand mathematical knowledge and help prepare students for senior high mathematics courses. The course emphasizes basic computational skills, mental mathematics and estimation, problem-solving, logical thinking and reasoning. Connections to real life situations are explored throughout the course. Topics include square roots and surface area, powers and exponent laws, rational numbers, linear relations, linear equations and inequalities, similarity and transformations, circle geometry, probability and statistics. Successful completion of Mathematics 9 is necessary to register for Mathematics 10.

## **Physical Education**

The Grade 9 Physical Education program provides the student with an opportunity to participate in a wide range of physical activities. Through these, each student has an opportunity to develop communication skills through partner and small group activities. As well, leadership and fair play are qualities fostered in a variety of selected activities. It is intended that each student will develop an appreciation for a physically active lifestyle that will endure throughout one's entire lifetime. At the conclusion of this course a student should be able to demonstrate: 1) a positive attitude toward physical activity, 2) an improved level of physical fitness, 3) an improved level of cooperation through fair play, 4) an improved level of self esteem and self confidence, and 5) an improvement in physical and social skills. Proper Physical Education attire is mandatory and must be brought every day.

## **Science**

Science 9 is divided into four sections: Space Exploration, Atoms and Elements, Reproduction, and Characteristics of Electricity. The emphasis throughout the course will be developing scientific literacy through diverse learning experiences which provide opportunities to explore, analyze, evaluate, synthesize, appreciate, and understand the interrelationships among science, technology, society, and the environment.

## **Electives**

- Students in Immersion and Integrated programs will take Child Studies 9.
- Students in the English program will take Child Studies 9 plus one other elective.

## **Child Studies 9**

In Child Studies 9, students will be involved in a variety of learning activities as they relate to taking care of children. Students will look at three major areas: the basic skills required when caring for infants and young children; the importance of providing healthy food choices for children; and an exploration of how children develop and learn through daily experiences (ie: play, toys, music, art and media).

## **Technology Education**

Technology Education 9 is a hands-on course which is designed to provide students with the opportunity to experience and understand the implications of technology. The lessons and activities require students to problem solve, research information, design solutions, work individually and cooperatively with others, build and construct and report findings. The course is comprised of three of the following modules:

- Communications Technology
- Energy Engineering
- Innovations and Inventions
- Production Technology

The specific modules covered will be determined by each individual teacher.

## **Visual Arts 9**

Throughout history, the arts have provided processes that nurture personal growth and celebration of the universal connections among individuals. Visual arts enables learners to know themselves, experience the natural and created worlds, and create dynamic new worlds in ways that are both personal and global, real and magical. The development of aesthetic awareness is intrinsically related to learning in, through, and about visual arts. However, visual arts also nurtures the development of a broad range of cognitive, language, personal, and social skills.

The Visual Arts curriculum focuses on:

- expanding each student's knowledge base
- building skills in visual arts to provide students with the necessary tools for self-expression
- extending the range of visual arts strategies each student uses to construct meaning
- extending the range of situations that each student can create, interpret, and respond to
- providing consistent challenge and support to enable students to grow beyond their current level of creativity to one of increasing experience and maturity

The Visual Arts 9 curriculum comprises three modules:

- Painting with Acrylics
- Contemporary Art Trends
- Nature and the Built Environment