



WATERLOO COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE

Grade 9 Course Selection Calendar 2026-2027

Grade 9 students select a total of eight (8) courses: **five (5) compulsory courses and three (3) elective courses. One of the Grade 9 elective credits can be for the compulsory technology education credit that must be completed in Grade 9 or 10.**

Consider your course selection carefully. During the school year, courses are difficult to change because courses may be full and/or changes often disrupt a student's entire timetable.

Course changes in September or mid-year are not easily accommodated.

Consider your educational and career plans when selecting courses. Refer to the [Transition Guide to Secondary School](#) for more information, including Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) requirements and pathway planning for apprenticeships, college, community, university and work.

If you are a **Multilingual Language Learner (MLL)** and will be registering in the **ELD** (English Literacy Development) or **ESL** (English as a Second Language) programs, your course selections will be completed with the assistance of your Grade 8 ELD/ESL teacher. ESL courses are indicated below; ELD course offerings are on a separate form.

GRADE 9 COURSE SELECTIONS (8 CREDITS IN TOTAL)

5 compulsory credits:	<input type="checkbox"/> English	<input type="checkbox"/> French	<input type="checkbox"/> Geography	<input type="checkbox"/> Math	<input type="checkbox"/> Science
3 elective credits:	<input type="checkbox"/> Elective #1	<input type="checkbox"/> Elective #2	<input type="checkbox"/> Elective #3 OR Grade 9 or 10 Technology Credit		

GRADE 9 COURSE CODE EXPLANATION

M	T	H	1	W	I
Subject (First 3 Letters)			Grade	Type	Program
DEPARTMENT A: ARTS B: BUSINESS C: CANADIAN AND WORLD STUDIES E: ENGLISH F: FRENCH	G: GUIDANCE & CAREER EDUCATION H: HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES L: INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGES	M: MATHEMATICS P: PHYSICAL EDUCATION S: SCIENCES T: TECHNOLOGY		GRADE 9 & 10 D: ACADEMIC OR SINGLE STREAMED (GR. 9) L: LOCALLY DEVELOPED O: OPEN W: DESTREAMED	SPECIALIZED PROGRAMMING F: EXTENDED FRENCH I: REGULAR PROGRAM V: ENGLISH LITERACY DEVELOPMENT (ELD) Z: ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL)

WCI Grade 9 Course Offering

ARTS

ADA1OI (Dramatic Arts, O)	This course emphasizes the active exploration of dramatic forms and techniques, using material from a wide range of authors, genres, and cultures. Students will construct, discuss, perform, and analyze drama and then reflect on their experiences to develop an understanding of themselves, the art form, and the world around them.
AMI1OI (Instrumental Music - Band, O, Experienced)	This course is designed for students who are coming to WCI from a feeder school where they have been in an instrumental (band) music class setting for a minimum of one year. See below for a list of applicable instruments. The course focuses on developing technique, musicality, creativity, and basic theoretical knowledge.
AMI1OX (Instrumental Music - Band, O, Beginner)	Do you like music and want to start a new instrument? <i>This course is designed for students learning a band instrument for the first time.</i> Students may learn an instrument from the following list: flute, oboe, bassoon, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, French horn, trombone, baritone, tuba, and percussion. (Note: Percussion students are required to gain facility on drums, mallet percussion, and timpani. Piano instruction is not available in instrumental music courses.) The course focuses on developing technique, musicality, creativity, and basic theoretical knowledge.
AMS1OI (Instrumental Music - Strings, O, Experienced)	Students will be playing violin, viola, cello or bass in this course. It is designed for students who are coming to WCI from a feeder school where they have been in a strings music class setting for a minimum of one year. The course focuses on developing technique, musicality, creativity, and basic theoretical knowledge.
AMS1OX (Instrumental Music - Strings, O, Beginner)	Do you like music and want to start a new instrument? This course is designed for students learning a string instrument for the first time. Students may learn a string instrument from the following list: violin, viola, cello, and bass. The course focuses on developing technique, musicality, creativity, and basic theoretical knowledge. <i>This is intended as an introductory course for students who have never played a string instrument.</i>
AMV1OI (Vocal/Choral, O)	This course is designed for both beginner and experienced singers. The course focuses on developing healthy vocal production, technique, choral singing, musicality, creativity, and basic theoretical knowledge.
AVI1OI (Visual Arts, O)	This course is exploratory in nature, offering an overview of the visual arts and providing a foundation for further study. Students will become familiar with the elements and principles of design and the expressive qualities of various materials by using a range of media, processes, techniques and styles. Students will use the creative and critical analysis processes and will interpret art within a personal, contemporary and historical context.

BUSINESS & COMPUTER SCIENCE

BEM1OI (Business: Building the Entrepreneurial Mindset, O) OR BEM1OZ (Business: Building the Entrepreneurial Mindset, O - ESL)	In this course, students will learn what makes an entrepreneur thrive and the skills required to succeed in today's business environment. Students will begin to develop their own entrepreneurial mindset and learn why it's important to take initiative, adapt to change, find creative solutions, and understand the financial considerations of entrepreneurship. This hands-on course utilizes business software and applications to help students plan and develop their entrepreneurial ideas and learn how to present them to a target audience effectively. Throughout the course, students will enhance their communication skills and develop and refine their project management skills, including goal setting, time management, and networking.
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CANADIAN & WORLD STUDIES (GEOGRAPHY)

CGC1WI (Exploring Canadian Geography, W) OR CGC1WF (Canadian Geography, W - Extended French) OR CGC1WZ (Exploring Canadian Geography, W - ESL)	This course builds on learning in Grades 7 and 8 in geography. Students will explore relationships within and between Canada's natural and human systems and how they interconnect with other parts of the world. Students will also examine environmental and economic issues, and their impact related to topics such as natural resources and industries, careers, land use and responsible development, and sustainability. In addition, students will understand the connections that diverse communities and individuals have with the physical environment and each other throughout Canada, including First Nations, Métis, and Inuit perspectives. Students will apply geographic thinking, use the geographic inquiry process, and use geospatial technologies throughout their investigations.
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ENGLISH

ENL1WI (English, W)	"The Grade 9 English course is designed to support students in developing and consolidating the literacy knowledge and skills they need to succeed in education and in life, and to encourage students to experience the joy and possibility that literacy learning can ignite." (The Ontario Curriculum Grade 9 ENL1WI English, 2023)
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ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL)

ESL A,B,C,D,E	The ESL courses are designed to help multi-language learners build skills they need to develop fluency in everyday English and proficiency in academic English that will allow them to integrate successfully into the mainstream school program.
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FRENCH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

FEF1DI (Extended French, D)	Students will discuss themes such as cultural identity, life lessons, and the value of language. They will explore the cuisine, history, and culture of French regions and overseas departments around the world! They will read and listen to authentic French texts, beginning with shorter fables and progressing to a novel that brings the French language to life. All throughout the course, students will work on improving their writing and speaking abilities in individual and group contexts.
FSF1DI (Core French, D)	This course emphasizes the appreciation of the French language and francophone culture around the world. Further development of reading, writing, and oral communication skills will help students explore everyday real-life situations with a variety of themes. They will discover francophone cuisine and culture. Short reading texts and a short novel will give students an opportunity to apply their understanding in context..
FSF1OZ (ESL Beginner French, O - ESL) no French experience needed	ESL French is an introduction to French and francophone culture around the world! Students come into this course with little or no background in French. By the end of the semester, they will be able to speak in the present, past, and future, ask questions, use the negative, and will increase their vocabulary significantly. They will learn about the art, history, music, and food of the places in the world where French is spoken, from Québec to Northern Africa and the Caribbean. This course is a wonderful way to begin your journey in French, Canada's second official language!

GUIDANCE, CAREER EDUCATION & LEARNING STRATEGIES

GLE1O1 (Learning Strategies, O) <u>OR</u> GLS1O1 (Learning Strategies, O) <u>OR</u> GLS1OZ (Learning Strategies, O - ESL) <u>OR</u> GLS4OZ (Advanced Learning Strategies, O - ESL)	This course focuses on learning strategies to help students become stronger, more independent learners. Students will learn how to develop and apply literacy and numeracy skills, personal-management and time-management skills, as well as interpersonal and teamwork skills to improve their learning and achievement in school, the workplace and the community. This course helps students build confidence and motivation to pursue opportunities for success in secondary school and beyond. Students that have an IEP (Individualized Education Program) select GLE1O1. Students without an IEP select GLS1O1. ESLAOI students select GLS1OZ. ESLBOI students select GLS4OZ.
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HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

PPL1OX (Healthy Active Living Education, O) Female-identifying	This course introduces female-identifying students to a variety of enjoyable individual and team physical activities (basketball, volleyball, badminton, tennis, pickleball, lacrosse, dance, football, floor hockey/ringette, soccer, softball, dodgeball, handball, ultimate frisbee, rugby, etc.) The course will emphasize the importance of lifelong physical activity, daily fitness, health education and total fitness for life. Students will investigate issues related to healthy sexuality, substance use and abuse, and participate in activities designed to develop goal setting, communication, and social skills. CPR and AED training may also be part of the course material. Evaluations are based on participation and effort over skill proficiency. Choose this course if you are excited to play a variety of sports, make friends, learn how to have lifelong health and have fun!
PPL1OY (Healthy Active Living Education, O) Male-identifying	This course introduces male-identifying students to a variety of enjoyable individual and team physical activities (basketball, volleyball, badminton, pickleball, lacrosse, football, floor hockey, soccer, softball, handball, dodgeball, handball, ultimate frisbee, rugby, etc.) The course will emphasize the importance of lifelong physical activity, daily fitness, health education and total fitness for life. Students will investigate issues related to healthy sexuality, substance use and abuse, and participate in activities designed to develop goal setting, communication, and social skills. CPR and AED training may also be part of the course material. Evaluations are based on participation and effort over skill proficiency. Choose this course if you are excited to play a variety of sports, make friends, learn how to have lifelong health and have fun!

MATHEMATICS

MTH1WI (Mathematics, W) <u>OR</u> MTH1WZ (Mathematics, W - ESL)	This course enables students to consolidate and continue to develop an understanding of mathematical concepts related to number sense and operations, algebra, measurement, geometry, data, probability, and financial literacy. Students will use mathematical processes, mathematical modelling, and coding to make sense of the mathematics they are learning and to apply their understanding to culturally responsive and relevant real-world situations. Students will continue to enhance their mathematical reasoning skills, including proportional reasoning, spatial reasoning, and algebraic reasoning, as they solve problems and communicate their thinking.
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SCIENCE

SNC1WI (Science, W) <u>OR</u> SNC1WZ (Science, W - ESL)	This course enables students to develop their understanding of basic concepts in biology, chemistry, earth and space science, and physics, and to relate science to technology, society, and the environment. Throughout the course, students will develop their skills in the processes of scientific investigation. Students will acquire an understanding of scientific theories and conduct investigations related to sustainable ecosystems; atomic and molecular structures and the properties of elements and compounds; the study of the universe and its properties and components; and the principles of electricity.
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SOCIAL SCIENCES & HUMANITIES

HIF1OI (Exploring Family Studies (through Cooking, Clothing Care and Sociology), O) OR
HIF1OZ (Exploring Family Studies (through Cooking, Clothing Care and Sociology), O - ESL)

Grade 9 Exploring Family Studies is a course that is all about people. In this class we learn about topics that connect directly to your life such as family, personal values and how we can effectively communicate with each other. Throughout the course there are a variety of summatives that are not only engaging but also fun such as the Grilled Cheese Contest or the Sewing Bag Project. Our four units look at the history of the family, how to cook, clothing care and finally a communication unit. It is a fun time and an awesome learning journey!

TECHNOLOGY

TAS1OI (Technology and Skilled Trades, O) OR
TAS1OZ (Technology and Skilled Trades, O - ESL)

This hands-on course enables students to further explore the engineering design process and develop other technological knowledge and skills introduced in earlier grades. Students will design and safely create prototypes, products, and/or services, working with tools and technologies from various industries. As students develop their projects to address real-life problems, they will apply technological concepts such as precision measurement, as well as health and safety standards. Students will begin to explore job skills programs and education and training pathways, including skilled trades, that can lead to a variety of careers.