



Grade Nine Options

Advanced Placement Prep: Half Year program.

Looking for an academic challenge? Do you want to pursue learning in areas that interest YOU? Based on cross-curricular project learning, students in AP Prep are able to explore various areas of study that go beyond the curriculum and into areas of personal interest and passion. Students will learn about their own strengths and learning styles, and dive deep into areas of study that ignite in them a desire to learn. A perfect preparation for the Advanced Placement courses offered at École St. Albert Catholic High School. **Note: Additional costs are associated with this course – to be determined by student activities.**

ART 9: Half Year program.

Do you love to draw, paint, or sculpt? When you see a new art supply, is it hard not to pick it up and give it a try? Do you have an artist's mind? If you answered yes to any of those questions, let your creativity bubble in Art! This option allows students to gain experience with a variety of new materials, develop their skills, and discover their taste in art through the study of an art movement of their choice. Students will create a personal portfolio where they will store their artwork throughout the semester, and it is theirs to keep when the course is complete. Students will also be provided with a "Skillbook"; here they will develop their understanding of the Elements of Art and the Principles of Design. They will continue to grow as an artist as they apply their newfound skills in their sketchbooks and develop their talents through two-dimensional and three-dimensional student-choice projects. Uncover the artist within you in this hands-on course!

NOTE: There is an additional fee for this course to cover the cost of materials and supplies – determined by student activities. Students are also required to bring their own *Sketchbook*. They can be purchased at most dollar stores, arts and crafts stores, and stationery stores. Sketchbooks do not need to be expensive or high quality, they can be any size or shape based on student preference, and the same sketchbook can be used for all three years of the program – if you can get them to stop drawing in it! :)

ART 9 ADVANCED: Half Year Program (SECOND SEMESTER ONLY)

****There is a pre-requisite for this course. Students must have completed Art 9 in Semester One to satisfy curricular requirements.*

This course offers the most passionate artists the opportunity to continue to develop their talents and build their portfolios throughout the entire school year. Once completing the regular curriculum in the first semester, students will take part in creating their own personal program for the second semester. The sky is the limit!

Note: Additional costs are associated with this course – to be determined by student activities.

Band 9: Full Year program.

This option allows students to continue learning a concert band instrument and provides opportunities to perform publicly. Students increase music reading skills and musicianship through actively participating in class. Young musicians gain an appreciation for making music as an ensemble and being an important contributor to a musical team. Band 8 or equal training is preferred but not mandatory for this option.

Note: Additional costs are associated with this course – to be determined by student activities.

Singing 9: Half Year program. New musicians welcome. (One Semester)

Unlock your voice and discover the joy of singing in this engaging and dynamic Grade 9 Singing course. Designed for all experience levels, this program focuses on building confidence and vocal skills through a variety of singing experiences. Students will explore vocal development, choral singing, solo singing, and performance opportunities. Students will learn proper breathing, tone production, and techniques to care for and strengthen their voice. Join Singing 8 and showcase your growth through individual and group performances in a supportive environment. Whether you're a seasoned singer or just starting out, this course offers a creative space to develop your voice, express yourself musically, and make lasting memories with fellow performers. Join us and let your voice be heard!

There are no extra fees for Singing 9.

Cake Decorating 9: Half Year program.

This course is all about designing and decorating cakes. You will work with modeling chocolate, fondant, gum paste, buttercream, and a variety of other ingredients and cake tools. The first project is a dummy cake, then the course will progress through a variety of desserts, ending with the creation of your very own 3 tiered cake, designed, baked, and decorated by you!

Additional costs are associated with this course – to be determined by student activities.

Construction 9: Half Year program.

CTF 9 is an intermediate course level course that focuses on higher- level hands-on skills and knowledge as related to construction of real-life products. Students will apply fundamentals of safety, shop management, basic tools and materials, solid stock construction, furniture making and product management to create wood related projects while working through engaging challenges and applying project management skills.

Note: Additional costs are associated with this course – to be determined by student activities.

Cosmetology 9: Half Year program

Students will have the opportunity to explore how to care for their body with a focus on skin, nail, and hair care. They will be introduced to concepts and activities covering hair styling, scalp and hair health, skin care, and nail care (manicuring). This course offers a hands-on approach while educating students with the necessary background knowledge and skills in each area. Many of the activities are similar to beginning portions of a high school cosmetology course.

Note: Additional costs are associated with this course – to be determined by student activities.

Drama 9: Half Year program.

Take drama to another level! Perfect your theatre sports, movement & voice talents, and overall acting skills with the writing, casting, acting and directing of your very own skits. Put on small performances

for varying sized audiences throughout the year and take part in all of your favourite drama games! Design costumes and make-up, create the stand, put together sound and lighting effects. Get the opportunity to put your knowledge to the test as a member of the stage crew for an actual VJM production. Self-discipline, imagination, teamwork, and the ability to have fun are all needed!
Note: Additional costs are associated with this course – to be determined by student activities.

Fit for Life 9: Half Year program. All students are welcome.

This course incorporates a study of health, fitness and safety as it is applied to live a healthy lifestyle. This option includes a variety of activities (traditional and non-traditional) that will allow individuals to participate and develop an interest in physical activity.

Note: \$10 Fee to be charged for equipment replacement.

Film Study 9: Half Year Program. All students are welcome.

Students will analyze movie elements of camera & cinematography techniques. Students will also explore different directors and how their directorial style is unique to them. This option will also look at marketing, budgets, and box office revenue. In addition to watching movies, students are expected to complete questions and projects pertaining to the films.

There are no additional fees associated with Film Studies 9.

French 9 : Full Year program.

The goal of this French program is to provide opportunities for students to develop knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to communicate in French in a variety of real life situations. Each level specifies expectations in four integrated components: communication, culture, language system, and strategies for language learning. An online module- based learning program is used which allows students to work at their own pace and individual French level. This, in conjunction with projects and classroom activities in alignment with the Alberta curriculum meets the needs and interests of students. **There are no extra fees or materials for French.**

Foods and Fashions 9: Half Year program.

In fashions, students will go through a brief review of safety and basic skills and knowledge. Students then will select a project of their choosing and have an opportunity to personalize the project with options such as applique, embroidery, beadwork, fabric paint and other techniques and materials.

In Foods 9, students will take part in a variety of food challenges inspired by Skills Alberta. These will include but are not limited to a service component, photography/video component, and an opportunity to have their food critiqued. Students will work in groups for the challenges and will have opportunities to learn and develop skills in the entire process of cooking from planning to creating grocery lists, and executing their menus.

Note: Additional costs are associated with this course – to be determined by student activities.

Guitar 9: Half Year program.

For students who have taken Guitar 8 or who have strong guitar fundamentals. This option focuses on refining guitar skills such as music reading and performance through active class participation and individual practice.

Note: Additional costs are associated with this course – to be determined by student activities.

EmpoweredHER 9: Half Year program. All girls in grade 9 are welcome.

This is a girls-only option. The mission of this option is to strengthen young women mentally, physically and socially. Discussion of hot topics women face today and exploration of various skills, strategies and tools to make confident choices will empower young girls on their life journey. The class will cover the following topics: women in history, family relationships, relational aggression, media influences, self esteem, self respect & mental health.

Note: Additional costs are associated with this course – to be determined by student activities.

Marauder Broadcasting Class (MBC): This class is an adaptation of Photography 9

Students will be running the school social media accounts (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, TikTok), and creating and broadcasting a PodCast about student life. Students will learn skills in marketing, journalism, photography, videography, and branding. Students will also experiment with special effects modes and software to edit photos and videos. Students will learn how to use platforms such as WeVideo, Canva, CapCut, etc. to engage different audiences for different purposes.

Note: Additional costs are associated with this course – to be determined by student activities.

Men of Honour 9: Half Year program. All boys in grade 9 are welcome.

MoH is for boys only. The class seeks to empower young men to be themselves. We explore and discuss topics relevant to their daily lives and attempt to dispel many of the myths, stereotypes and unrealistic expectations that these boys are compelled to follow. The course seeks to build trust among the members of the class and provide the tools to go out into the world and be role models for other boys as well as, on a personal level to develop coping skills, self-awareness and confidence. Through discussion of various topics and providing engaging activities students will develop personal skills needed to navigate through life. Some of the key concepts and topics to be covered are media and pop culture influence, anger and aggression, identity, leadership, male role models, conflict resolution, problem solving, goal setting, mentorship, family relationships, and masculinity.

Note: Additional costs are associated with this course – to be determined by student activities.

Outdoor Education: Half Year program.

This course is designed to give students an appreciation of the environment and how we interact with it. This course will focus on basic first aid, backcountry evacuation, campsite safety and locations, weather preparedness, meal planning, equipment and trip planning. Students need to be prepared to complete activity in the outside environment in all weather conditions.

Sports Medicine 9: Half Year program.

This course is intended to provide learning opportunities for students with career plans in medical and related fields, as well as active student athletes. The following topics provide an organizational structure for the course: a) immediate care, prevention, and rehabilitation of athletic injuries, b) intermediate anatomy & physiology c) concussions and knee injuries.

Note: Additional fee of \$10.00 is associated with this course to cover the cost of course materials.

Technical Theatre 9: Half Year program. All students are welcome.

The Technical Theatre program at VJM will allow students to learn about what goes on behind the scenes of live theatre in a hands-on setting. Students will first develop a basic understanding of the five departments within technical theatre: scenery, props, costumes/makeup, lighting/special effects, and sound engineering. Later, they will branch off into the areas they are most interested in while working on a real musical theatre production – the dual-campus VJM/ESSACHS musical. Projects will vary each

year based on the chosen musical, and to allow students to direct their learning. This course is for crafty, techy students with a designer's mind. They enjoy working with a team to solve problems, get the job done, and achieve a common goal. There is no outside time requirement for this course - students are not obligated to participate in after-school rehearsals or to act in the musical. They are the brains of the operation who bring the performances to life working "behind the scenes". The practical knowledge acquired in this course will expose students to a wide variety of future career possibilities!

Note: There is an additional \$40 fee for this course to cover the cost of materials and safety equipment.

Textiles: Half Year program. All students are welcome.

Embroidery, applique, cross stitch, needle felting, and more. This course will provide a sampling of these and other crafting methods. Students will then design and complete a project using the techniques they most enjoy. Projects will be based upon student interest and ability. Students do not need any prior knowledge of sewing to participate. **Additional costs are associated with this course – to be determined by student activities.**

Writer's Ink 9: Half Year program.

This option is for students who love to write and would like to publish their work. It will provide an opportunity for students to write for enjoyment, personal growth and to enter writing contests. Students will explore various writing mediums. Students will learn how to work in editing teams to make revisions to self and peer work. Student projects are determined on an individual basis with students having the opportunity to have creative control.

There are no extra fees for Writers Ink. Students will either bring a notebook or a Chromebook to class to write.

PLEASE NOTE: Option courses offered are dependent upon adequate student enrollment.