# WALKERVILLE
# COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE

# GRADE 9

## COURSE DESCRIPTION BOOKLET

# 2026 – 2027

# WHAT DO YOU NEED TO GRADUATE?

## 17 Compulsory Credits

STUDENTS MUST EARN THE FOLLOWING COMPULSO
TO GET THEIR ONTARIO SECONDARY SCHOOL DIPLO

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| 4 | credits in English (1 credit per grade) |
| 3 | credits in mathematics (at least 1 credit in Gr |
| 2 | credits in science |
| 1 | credit in Canadian history (Grade 10) |
| 1 | credit in Canadian geography (Grade 9) |
| 1 | credit in the arts |
| 1 | credit in health and physical education |
| 1 | credit in French as a second language |
| 0.5 | credit in career studies |
| 0.5 | credit in civics and citizenship |
| 1 | credit in technological education (Grade 9 or |
| 1 | credit from the STEM-related course group |

**New**

OF THE 17 COMPULSORY CREDITS, YOU MUST COMPL
FROM THE FOLLOWING STEM-RELATED COURSE GRO

- business studies
- computer studies
- cooperative education
- mathematics (in addition to the 3 compulsory
- science (in addition to the 2 compulsory cred
- tech. education (in addition to the 1 compuls

## In addition, students must complete:

# COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Students in Grade 9 will choose courses from one or more of three types: academic, locally developed, or open. **Students must select the appropriate pathway (academic, locally developed, open or de-streamed).**

**ENGLISH (De-streamed) - ENL1W**
This course enables students to continue to develop and consolidate the foundational knowledge and skills that they need for reading, writing and oral and visual communication. Throughout the course, students will continue to enhance their media literacy and critical literacy skills, and to develop and apply transferable skills, including digital literacy. Students will also make connections to their lived experiences and to society and increase their understanding of the importance of language and literacy across the curriculum.

**ENGLISH - (Locally Developed) ENG1L**
This course provides foundational literacy and communication skills to prepare students for success in their daily lives, in the workplace, and in the Grade 10 LDCC Course. The course develops listening and talking skills, reading and viewing skills, and writing skills. The focus is on developing foundational literacy skills and on using language clearly and accurately in a variety of authentic contexts. Students develop strategies and put into practice the processes involved in talking, listening, reading, viewing, writing, and thinking, and reflect regularly upon their growth in these areas.

**CORE FRENCH - (Academic) FSF1DC**
**Prerequisite: Minimum of 600 hours of elementary Core French instruction, or equivalent**
This course provides opportunities for students to communicate and interact in French with increasing independence, with a focus on familiar topics related to their daily lives. Students will continue to develop language knowledge and skills by using language-learning strategies introduced in the elementary Core French program and will apply creative and critical thinking skills in various ways. They will also enhance their understanding and appreciation of diverse French-speaking communities and will develop the skills necessary to become life-long language learners.

**FRENCH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE - Core French (Open) FSF1OC**
This is an introductory course for students **who have little or no knowledge of French or who have not had the opportunity to accumulate the minimum of 600 hours of elementary Core French instruction.** Students will begin to understand and speak French in guided and structured interactive settings, and will develop fundamental skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing through discussing issues and situations that are relevant to their daily lives. Throughout the course, students will develop their awareness of diverse French-speaking communities in Canada and acquire an understanding and appreciation of these communities. They will also develop a variety of skills necessary for lifelong language learning.

**EXPLORING CANADIAN GEOGRAPHY (De-Streamed) - CGC1W**
**Prerequisite: None**
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.

**SCIENCE - (De-Streamed) SNC1W**
This course enables students to develop their understanding of concepts related to biology, chemistry, physics, and earth and space science, and to relate science to technology, society, and the environment. Throughout the course, students will develop and refine their STEM skills as they use scientific research, scientific experimentation, and engineering design processes to investigate concepts and apply their knowledge in situations that are relevant to their lives and communities. Students will continue to develop transferable skills as they become scientifically literate global citizens.

**SCIENCE - (Locally Developed) SNC1L**
This course emphasizes reinforcing and strengthening science-related knowledge and skills, including scientific inquiry, critical thinking, and the relationship between science, society, and the environment, to prepare students for success in everyday life, in the workplace, and in the Science Grade 11 Workplace Preparation course. Students explore a range of topics, including science in daily life, properties of common materials, life-sustaining processes in simple and complex organisms, and electrical circuits. Students have the opportunity to extend mathematical and scientific process skills and to continue developing their skills in reading, writing, and oral language through relevant and practical science activities.

**MATHEMATICS - (Locally Developed) MAT1L**
This course emphasizes further development of mathematical knowledge and skills to prepare students for success in their everyday lives, in the workplace, and in the Grade 10 LDCC course. The course is organized in three strands related to money sense, measurement, and proportional reasoning. In all strands, the focus is on developing and consolidating key foundational mathematical concepts and skills by solving authentic, everyday problems. Students have opportunities to further develop their mathematical literacy and problem-solving skills and to continue developing their skills in reading, writing, and oral language through relevant and practical math activities.

**MATHEMATICS (Locally Developed) - MAT2LS**
This course is designed to provide additional experiences in problem solving. Ideas will be presented in a realistic context providing students with an opportunity to explore, organize, interpret, and use mathematical models to solve problems. Repetition of skills and exposure to technology are key aspects of this course. Recommended for students who are achieving a high level 1 or low level 2 in Grade 8 math. This course should only be selected after consultation between the student's teacher, parent /guardians and guidance counsellor.

**MATHEMATICS - (De-Streamed) MTH1W**
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.

**HEALTHY ACTIVE LIVING EDUCATION - (Open) PPL1OF (Female), PPL1OM (Male), PPL1O (Co-ed)**
This course equips students with the knowledge and skills they need to make healthy choices now and lead healthy, active lives in the future. Through participation in a wide range of physical activities, students develop knowledge and skills related to movement competence and personal fitness that provide a foundation for active living. Students also acquire an understanding of the factors and skills that contribute to healthy development and learn how their own well-being is affected by, and affects, the world around them. Students build their sense of self, learn to interact positively with others, and develop their ability to think critically and creatively.

**INTEGRATED ARTS - (Open) ALC1O**
This course integrates dance, drama, media arts, music, visual arts and expose students to arts they can take in grade 10, giving students the opportunity to produce and present integrated art works created individually or collaboratively. Students will demonstrate innovation as they learn and apply concepts, styles, and conventions unique to the various arts and acquire skills that are transferable beyond the classroom. Students will use the creative process and responsible practices to explore solutions to integrated arts challenges. No experience is necessary in any art forms. Students will be introduced to basic theories and practices in drama, media arts, dance, music, (instrumental, guitar, vocal), and visual arts.

**VISUAL ARTS - (Open) AVI1O**
This course is exploratory in nature, offering an overview of visual arts as 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.

**BUILDING THE ENTREPRENEURIAL MINDSET - (Open) BEM1O**
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 will use business software and applications to help students plan and develop their entrepreneurial ideas and learn how to present them to a target audience. Throughout the course, students will enhance their communications skills as well as develop and refine their project management skills, including goal setting, time management, and networking.

**INDIVIDUAL, FAMILY, AND SOCIAL LIVING - (Open) HIF1O**
This course explores the challenges faced by all people; how to meet basic needs, how to relate to others, how to manage resources, and how to become responsible members of society. Students will learn about how families work and the diversity of families and societies, and will have opportunities to develop interpersonal skills, decision-making skills, and practical skills related to family and social issues in daily life.

**LEARNING STRATEGIES - (Open) GLS1OC**
This course focuses on learning strategies to help students become better, more independent learners. Students will learn how to develop and apply literacy and numeracy skills, personal management skills, and interpersonal and teamwork skills to improve their learning and achievement in school, the workplace, and the community. The course helps students build confidence and motivation to pursue opportunities for success in secondary school and beyond. * Directed for students who have selected de-streamed and are working towards provincial standard (Level 3).

**EXPLORING COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY – (Open) TGJ1O**
This exploratory course introduces students to concepts and skills in communications technology, which encompasses television/video and movie production, radio and audio production, print and graphic communications, photography, and interactive new media and animation. Students will develop an awareness of related environmental and societal issues and will begin to explore secondary and postsecondary pathways leading to careers in the field.