



Grade 9

Course Selection Booklet

2021 - 2022

Mission Statement:

Belmont strives to be a community where people feel inspired, acknowledged and supported.

Through rich and diverse programs, within an environment of mutual respect, and in cooperation with the community, we will foster the attitudes, skills and knowledge which encourage individuals to risk the untried, and to be independent, life-long learners and productive citizens.



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Principal's Welcome

Belmont Secondary School offers an outstanding range of academic and elective courses for all students. The course description booklet provides details for students about the courses offered. The choices students make ultimately determine the timetable construction. It may not always be possible to offer all the courses listed in this booklet. For example, if a course has insufficient enrollment, it will not be offered. Students may need to be flexible in adjusting to alternate course selections they will be asked to list along with their choice selections. **Make course selections carefully and please be aware that requests for course changes after the timetable is built will only be granted in exceptional circumstances.**

Students, please consult with your parent/guardian as you make your course selections for next year. Our counsellors will meet with students during and after course selection to ensure they have chosen the appropriate courses in order to meet the [Ministry of Education's Graduation Requirements](#).

Thanks for your support through this process.

Mr. Jim Lamond
Principal

Vice-Principal

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Student Portfolio

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Communication

The communication tools and links below are the main methods we use to send out notifications and news:

- Belmont Website <http://belmont.web.sd62.bc.ca/>
- Belmont APP <https://belmont.appazur.com/>
- Belmont Bulletin <https://belmontbulletin.blog/>

Program Planning

Class Size Limitations – When space in classes is limited, priority will be given to students needing the course to meet graduation requirements. Students wishing to upgrade previously attempted courses may be admitted depending on availability of space; students may need to consider online or summer school alternatives.

Counselling Department – Counsellors are an integral part of the academic advising process. Students should meet with their assigned counsellor to plan/finalize their programs and review graduation requirements as not all course requests can be accommodated. Appointments can be booked online at <http://belmont.web.sd62.bc.ca/resources/counselling/>

Counsellor

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Course Selections – Students in Grades 9, 10 and 11 carry full timetables (8 courses) and are **not** permitted to have unassigned blocks in their timetables, except for very exceptional circumstances approved by the Principal. **Grade 12 students** undertake full timetables until graduation requirements have been addressed.

Course selections are completed via the [MyEd Student Portal](#) so students must activate their account. See our [website](#) for assistance.

Course Planning (Grade 9)

Required Courses

Career Education	Social Studies
English	Elective 1
Mathematics	Elective 2
Physical and Health Education (PHE)	Elective 3
Science	

Elective Courses¹

Applied Design, Skills & Technologies (ADST)	Arts	Languages	PHE – Sports Performance & Recreational Courses
Home Economics & Culinary Arts: -Food Studies -Sustainability -Textiles Information & Communications Technology: -Information Technology Technology Education: -Cosmetology -Metalwork -Power Technology -Woodwork	Cross-disciplinary & Interdisciplinary Arts Courses: -Film Making -Yearbook Dance: -Dance: Company -Dance: Performance -Hip Hop & Conditioning Drama: -Drama Music: -Concert Band -Concert Choir & Chamber Choir -Introduction to: - Guitar - Music Composition - Piano -Winterdrumline Visual Arts: -Ceramics & Sculpture -Mixed Media Arts -Visual Arts	-French -Japanese -Spanish	-Athlete Training -Outdoor Education -Sports Performance: - Basketball - Football - Rugby - Volleyball

¹ Course Fees, as applicable, are determined annually.

Choice Programs¹

Academies²: - Baseball, Hockey and Softball Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) – Application³	¹ Course Fees, as applicable, are determined annually. ² Visit the District’s Academies website for information and application(s): https://www.sd62.bc.ca/programs-services/academies ³ AVID is yearlong course as it is paired with English and students use one elective choice for this course.
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Locally Developed Courses

Leadership ⁴	⁴ This is a yearlong course and occurs outside the timetable.
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English Program: Required Courses

For more information on BC's Curriculum visit <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/>

Career Education 9

MCE--09

- Satisfies the curriculum through cross-curricular activities and seminars in all subject areas.
- Offers students preliminary opportunities to explore and develop personal interests, passions, and competencies. Students can make connections with learning opportunities for success in school, in the workplace and in their daily lives.

English Language Arts 9

MEN--09

- Designed to build students' skills in the areas of reading and writing, speaking and listening, viewing and representing through various activities and strategies in order to strengthen their literacy and critical thinking.
- Explores each of the choice areas: Composition, Creative Writing, Focused Literary Studies, New Media, and Spoken Language in preparation to enter their preferred areas of choice in English 10.

Mathematics 9

MMA—09

- Designed to continue building on skills from math 8 and to prepare students for both the Workplace pathway and the Foundations/Pre-Calculus Pathway.
- Covers powers and exponents, rational numbers, algebra, polynomials, linear equations, graphing, proportional reasoning, statistics in society, and financial literacy.
- In order to be successful in Foundations of Mathematics and Pre-Calculus 10, a C+ or better in Math 9 is strongly recommended.

Physical and Health Education 9

MPHE-09

- Expands students' application, understanding, proficiency and leadership through physical activities.
- Explores skills, knowledge, appreciation of team and individual sports, dance, theory, and healthy living.

Science 9

MSC—09

- Designed to expose students to a variety of topics in the areas of Biology, Chemistry and Physics.
- Incorporates the Scientific Method as students develop an understanding of the role of science in their surroundings.
- Includes the elements, the Periodic Table, compounds, chemical formulas, static electricity, current, electric circuits, power, cell reproduction, reproduction in living organisms, solar radiation, ecosystems and sustainability.

Social Studies 9

MSS--09

- Concentrates on 1750-1919, and includes European, Asian, North American and First Nations topics.
- Refines skills introduced in Grade 8 through an examination of concepts such as: revolution, nationalism, industrialization, colonialism and imperialism.
- Builds concepts and skills, together with the discussion of contemporary issues, culminates in students' ability to transfer knowledge to a real-life situation.
- Provides greater opportunity to explore a variety of topics and First Nations issues will be a central theme.

Elective Courses

Applied Design, Skills & Technologies (ADST)

Home Economics & Culinary Arts

Food Studies 9

MADFS09

- Introduces preparing meals, desserts, snack foods, and developing cooking skills and knowledge.
- Shares the experience of cultural food preparation and celebrations.
- Explores food trends, nutrition, and food systems to make wise choices for a healthy lifestyle.

Sustainability 9

XLDCB09SUS

- Explores the connections between sustainable lifestyle choices, self-sufficiency, healthy foods and a sustainable planet.
- Involves a combination of research, projects, seed to table gardening, sustainability labs and discussions at school and in the local community.

Textiles 9

MADT-09

- Introduces sewing and/or builds on existing skills.
- Explores other textile arts techniques such as weaving, crochet, or knitting.
- Explores how to design and plan projects, and construction techniques.
- Explores the cultural and social influences that play a part in our fashion and textile choices.

Information & Communications Technology

Information Technology 9

MADIT09

- Designed to provide students with a wide range of computer literacy skills.
- Develops knowledge and skills in keyboarding, computer fundamentals, business applications, use of the Internet, and web site design.
- Potential applications include All the Right Type, Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Access), HTML, GIMP, Scratch, Dreamweaver and Flash.

Technology Education

Cosmetology 9

XLDC09COS

- Introduces the salon industry and career opportunities.
- Explores hairstyling techniques (braiding, updo, blowdry, curling iron, etc.), skin care, and nail art.
- Builds towards Intermediate Cosmetology and other courses in grade 10-12.

Metalwork 9

MADM-09

- Begins with learning project layout and measurement techniques.
- Students fabricate projects through a variety metalwork processes including sheet metal fabrication, machining, welding, forge work and jewelry fabrication.
- Examines a variety of metalwork related careers.
- Prioritizes safety tests, safe and respectful metalworking shop etiquette.

Power Technology 9

MADPT09

- Introduces energy and power as they relate to how mechanical systems make things move.
- Begins with the basics of designing and building SumoBots, then moves on to more complex projects such as disassembling and reassembling small gas engines, and designing and building a hydraulic arm.
- Challenges students to use what they learn to design and build their own machines and inventions.

Woodwork 9

MADW-09

- Develops skills using hand and power tools and machinery while building projects out of wood.
- Explores a variety of project designs and styles while learning a variety of techniques.
- Includes historical and cultural contexts of wood use, identification, properties, and uses of various wood species, and issues in wood sustainability.
- Prioritizes safety tests, safe shop and woodworking practices including stock breakout techniques using a variety of stationary machines.
- Completes projects using hand tools, portable and stationary power equipment.

Arts

Cross-disciplinary & Interdisciplinary Arts Courses

Film Making 9

XLDCA09DFT

- Students will be required to work in front of, but primarily, behind the camera.
- Introduces the practical functions and maintenance of HD video cameras and equipment and develops the skills necessary to participate in film production.
- Students will work independently and collaboratively on a series of short video productions to develop their skills in pre-production (planning), production (filming) and post-production (editing) where they will learn editing techniques using Adobe Premiere Pro.
- Students are also required to "read," reflect and write about films from a range of genres viewed in and out of class, focusing on both the narrative and technical aspects of films and their sociocultural relevance from both historical and contemporary perspectives.

Yearbook 9

XYB--09

- Designed for students who are self-starters and who are independent and responsible workers capable of producing the school's annual yearbook on computers.
- Students will:
 - Become familiar with Photoshop and InDesign from the Adobe Creative Cloud Suite.
 - Learn elements of graphic design.
 - Acquire skills in photography, page layout, presentation, etc.
 - Improve their written and oral communication skills.
 - Practice their organizational and leadership skills as they plan and carry out the various activities associated with producing a yearbook.
- Editors and section heads will form the leadership core who will work with other students inside and outside of class time to complete the yearbook on time and on budget.

Dance

Dance 9: Company

XD---09A

Prerequisite: Previous dance experience and a successful audition (held in March of 2021).

- Runs yearlong with one block in each semester (Dance: Advanced and PHE Dance)
- Auditions will be held among the applicants to select those with the skill level required for this course.

- Applications due February 28, 2021 with auditions being held March 2021: [Belmont Dance Company Application](#)
- Dancers in this class will learn and refine advanced technique in jazz, ballet, hip hop and contemporary.
- Each student is encouraged to develop his or her own dance technique, muscular strength, fitness level, flexibility and performance skills.
- Dancers will participate in the Greater Victoria Performing Arts Festival as well as other community performances.

Dance 9: Performance

MDNC-09

- Open to all grade 9 students with or without previous dance training.
- Exposes students to many different dance styles including, but not limited to, jazz, lyrical, hip hop and contemporary.
- Aims to enable each student to develop his or her dance technique, muscular strength, flexibility, fitness level and performance skills daily.
- Students are required to present learned choreography at several performances during the school year.

Hip Hop & Conditioning 9

XLDCE09HHC

- Explores the different versions of hip hop in today's dance world: Hip Hop, Breakdance, Contemporary Hip hop, and Street Funk.
- Dancers are expected to work on improving their coordination, muscle strength, flexibility, fitness level and dance skills daily.

Drama

Drama 9

MDR--09

- Introduces upper level theatre courses.
- Students will gain performance experience in improvisation and scripted scene work, developing skills involving voice, movement, character development and will be introduced to various technical aspects and behind the curtain skills involved in theatre production.

Music

Please note:

- Performance Ensembles operate in a cohort fashion with designated supplementary blocks.
- The second block is to provide a structure for the variety of learning opportunities and activities that occur outside of conventional classes/rehearsals.

Concert Band 9

XBA--09Y

- Beginners are welcome!
- Runs as a **yearlong performance-based ensemble**; set as a Concert Band (woodwinds, brass and percussion), musical and instrumental skills will be developed through the rehearsal and performance of music from diverse styles including present day, and traditional Concert Band works.
- Develops students' understanding of music theory throughout the course.
- Occasional extracurricular rehearsals and festival/community performances will be required throughout the year.

Concert Choir 9 Chamber Choir 9

XC---09
XLDCG09CC

- Runs as a **yearlong performance-based ensemble** that focuses on a wide variety of contemporary choral styles.
- Develop musicianship skills that include theory and ear training, vocal technique, and skill singing 3 and 4-part harmony.
- Excellent entry-level class for interested new singers to make friends and gain confidence with students who share a love of singing.
- Occasional extracurricular rehearsals, festivals, school, and community performances throughout this year will be required.

Introduction to Guitar 9

XGUIT09

- Introductory step-by-step course for Grade 9-12 students, geared towards the absolute beginner.
- Introduces chords, scales, popular riffs, theory, strumming patterns, finger picking, bass lines, note reading, symbols and technical terms, rhythm, and ear training.
- Develops technique and facility on the guitar through contemporary music and the blues.
- Promotes becoming a knowledgeable musician and take away guitar skills to continue learning.

Introduction to Piano 9

XLDCA09PIA

- Introduces a step-by-step method geared towards the absolute beginner.
- Starting with the basics, students will learn melody and chords, hand and finger positioning, theory, composition, symbols and technical terms, sight reading and ear training.

Winterdrumline 9

MMU—09DRL

- **Runs outside of the timetable - Meeting times to be determined.**
- Utilizes multiple instruments and playing techniques to create engaging and entertaining concerts and performances in a variety of venues.
- Explores Percussion and Movement to express concepts and ideas through music.
- Develops competency and skills in the area of Music theory, Reading, Rhythm, and Percussion Techniques.
- Requires collaboration with classmates to create a dynamic learning environment in which to engage in musical expression.

Visual Arts

Ceramics & Sculpture 9

XLDCA09CS

- Explores the textural world of clay as you sculpt and construct vessels as well as other architectural forms using basic hand-building methods of slab and coil.
- Students will receive instruction of throwing on the potter's wheel – a challenging and exciting process!
- Includes glazing (and other methods of finishing clay), kiln use, tool manipulation and preparation for display.
- Requires students to work independently and remain open to a variety of possibilities as well as to teacher suggestions.

Mixed Media Arts 9

XLDCB09DPD

- Combines traditional drawing and painting with digital media to develop innovative ways of making art.
- Explores acrylic paint, ink, charcoal, watercolor, spray painting, photography, and Adobe Photoshop (time and availability dependent).
- Uses technology to develop and create a digital art portfolio and an artist website with the goal of extending art practices beyond the classroom.

Visual Arts 9

MVA—09

- Project-based course where students learn new techniques as they develop and create works of art.
- Explores charcoal, paint, spray paint, printmaking, mixed media, ceramics, and sculpture (varies annually).
- Emphasis on creative and critical thinking and exploring different modes of communication.

Languages

French 9

MFR--09

- Emphasizes basic French communication skills as well as listening, speaking, reading and writing in French.
- Introduces French through an experiential model that may include gesture.
- Exploration of themes such as: extracurricular activities, food, family, celebrations and school.
- Cultural study of global French language usage.

Japanese 9

MJA—09

- Emphasizes conversation and communication skills, also reading and writing of HIRAGANA characters.
- Promotes learning via movies, animé, games and role-playing.
- Cultural practice of calligraphy, origami and tea ceremony.

Spanish 9

MSP--09

- Emphasizes basic conversation and communication skills and focuses on building vocabulary, pronunciation and interpersonal communication skills.
- Utilizes a communicative/experiential approach that incorporates gesture and holistic learning techniques.
- Exploration of themes such as: family, school, sports, food, travel and extracurricular activities.

Physical & Health Education: Sports Performance & Recreational Courses

Athlete Training 9

XLDCA09AT

This course offers sections both inside and outside of the timetable. Outside the timetable training/practice times to be determined.

- Geared towards student-athletes interested in developing explosive and functional strength as well as improving speed and agility for their respective sports.
- Utilizes a significant power-lifting component.

Outdoor Education 9

XLDCE09OE

- Introduces students to a variety of outdoor experiences and field instruction.
- Conducted through group activities, projects and expeditions to build trust and confidence while appreciating the local environment.
- Seasonal activities may include: hiking, canoeing, kayaking, skim/paddle boarding, snowshoeing, climbing, orienteering, navigation, survival simulations, and forest games.
- Students will gain a basic understanding of the knowledge and skills required to participate safely in outdoor recreational activities as well as developing their environmental stewardship and sense of sustainability.

Sports Performance 9 – Basketball

XLDCE09BB

This course offers sections both inside and outside of the timetable. Outside the timetable training/practice times to be determined.

- Geared towards the basketball player who wishes to improve performance.
- A multi-graded class where students will work on basic skills, strategies, and related concepts.
- Students will train using a variety of methods such as weights, and plyometrics to improve performance.

Sports Performance 9 – Football

XLDCE09FB

- Geared towards the football player who wishes to improve performance.
- A multi-graded class where students will work on basic skills, strategies, and related concepts.
- Students will train using a variety of methods such as weights, and plyometrics to improve performance.

Sports Performance 9 – Rugby

XLDCE09RU

This course offers sections both inside and outside of the timetable. Outside the timetable training/practice times to be determined.

- Geared towards the rugby player who wishes to improve performance.
- A multi-graded class where students will work on basic skills, strategies, and related concepts.
- Students will train using a variety of methods such as weights, and plyometrics to improve performance.

Sports Performance 9 – Volleyball

XLDCE09VB

This course offers sections both inside and outside of the timetable. Outside the timetable training/practice times to be determined.

- Geared towards the volleyball player who wishes to improve performance.
- A multi-graded class where students will work on basic skills, strategies, and related concepts.
- Students will train using a variety of methods such as weights, and plyometrics to improve performance.

Choice Programs

Academies

- The following academies are hosted at Belmont:
 - **Baseball:** XLDCE09BAS & MPHE-09BAS
 - **Hockey:** XLDCE09SOF & MPHE-09SOF
 - **Softball:** XLDCE09HOC & MPHE-09HOC

For detailed and up-to-date information regarding our District Academy programs, please visit our District Academies site: <https://www.sd62.bc.ca/programs-services/academies>

Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) 9

AVID is a post-secondary preparatory program for A/B to C students who have a desire and willingness to challenge themselves.

- Focuses on building critical thinking skills, questioning strategies, post-secondary and career awareness, organization, and study techniques.
- Includes collaborative and enrichment activities that build and enhance teamwork and character traits.
- AVID classes are linear and paired with an English class.

Some of the topics AVID 9 students will be introduced to include: Writing-to-learn practices, Time Management techniques, Focused Note-taking, Collaborative Study Tutorials, & Public Speaking skills.

For more information about our district's AVID program, visit us at <http://avidsooke.weebly.com>

Locally Developed Courses

Leadership 9

XLEAD09Y

- Designed for students wishing to develop leadership, organizational skills, public speaking.
- Explores leadership styles, methods and theory through organization of major and minor school events.
- Builds awareness of social and civic responsibility and effective leadership styles/ methods.
- Runs outside the timetable throughout the year and involves volunteer activities; meeting dates/times determined annually.