

GRADE 9 AT TIMBERLINE SECONDARY



PRINCIPAL / VICE PRINCIPAL MESSAGE

Welcome to the 2026-27 school year! Reviewing the Timberline course booklet is the first step towards planning an exciting year of school. We are pleased to offer a variety of courses that we hope will inspire and challenge you. Please take the time to read through the booklet and share the information with your family. The courses you choose will help guide the educational opportunities that can be offered at Timberline, as well as provide you with exciting and diverse experiences in the year ahead.

We urge you to extend your learning by exploring new opportunities in classes or subject areas that you have not tried before. Often it is through these new experiences that you may discover a passion for something that leads to a life-changing career path. It is our hope that every student has the best possible learning experience here at Timberline Secondary!

Mr. Laird Ruehlen, Principal
Mr. James Zlatanov, Vice-Principal

TIMBERLINE SERVICES AND PROGRAMS

COUNSELLING

The counselling office at Timberline provides a variety of counselling services to our students. These include course selection assistance, post-secondary planning, and personal counselling. Students are assigned a counsellor by their last name but can choose a counsellor of their preference. Appointments can be made to see a counsellor in the school's student services office.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Timberline's Career Facilitator can be found in the student services office. The Career Facilitator has many roles that include: Co-op education and dual credit options with North Island College.

INDIGENOUS YOUTH WORKER AND SUPPORT TEACHER

Timberline's Indigenous students are welcome and encouraged to connect with our Indigenous Youth Worker and Support Teacher. The Youth Worker can be found in the Friendship Room, while the Support Teacher can be found in the Student Services Office.

LEARNING COMMONS

The Library Learning Commons is a learning hub for the school community that encourages teachers and students to collaborate, communicate, and share. It is a flexible space that meets a variety of needs for students, classes, clubs, and community events, supporting inquiry, creativity, and connection. Students are always welcome in the learning commons, before, after, and during school hours, where Mrs. Murphy is happy to provide any support she can offer.

FLEX WEDNESDAY

Timberline students participate in a Flex Wednesday Schedule. More details will follow as to how this schedule will look for our next school year. We value the opportunity our students have to experience a more flexible learning situation one day a week.

STUDENT SUPPORT

Student support is designed for students who may need extra time and support with their academic courses. Students needing support will consult with the learning support teachers and counsellors to determine the best form of support for their academic needs.

ELECTIVES AT TIMBERLINE

Timberline students can take a variety of electives over their four years at the school. As students progress through each grade more elective options become available. Students are encouraged to take a variety of electives in grade 9 and 10 to assist them in choosing an area of interest once they are in grade 11 and 12. Below is an overview of the subject areas with electives in Grade 9. Specific courses and descriptions can be found in the course booklet.

- **DIGITAL HACKERSPACE**
- **DIGITAL MEDIA**
- **HOME ECONOMICS**
- **LANGUAGES**
- **LEADERSHIP**
- **PERFORMING ARTS**
- **TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION**
- **VISUAL ARTS**

GRADE 9 AT TIMBERLINE SECONDARY

BC GRADUATION PROGRAM

The B.C. Certificate of Graduation, or Dogwood Diploma, is awarded to students who successfully complete the provincial graduation requirements. To graduate, students require at least 80 credits total. These credits are accumulated through required courses, electives, and career education. Of the required course credits, at least 16 credits must be at the grade 12 level, and at least 4 credits must have an Indigenous focus. All courses are worth 4 credits.

REQUIRED COURSES = 52 CREDITS

- Composition and Literary Studies 10 (English 10)
- First Peoples English 11
- English Studies 12
- Social Studies 10
- a Social Studies 11 or 12
- Science 10
- a Science 11 or 12
- Mathematics 10
- a Mathematics 11 or 12
- Physical Education 10
- a Fine Arts/Applied Skills 10-12
- Career-Life Education 10
- Career-Life Connections 12

ELECTIVE CREDITS

Students must earn a minimum of 28 elective credits:

- Grade 10, 11, or 12 Ministry-Developed or Ministry - Approved courses.
- Board Authorized Courses
- Independent Directed Studies
- External Credits
- Post-Secondary/Dual Credits

PROVINCIAL GRADUATION ASSESSMENTS

Students must write a Grade 10 Numeracy Assessment and a Literacy Assessment in Grades 10 and 12.

GRADE 9 CORE CURRICULUM

Grade 9 students must take English 9, Social Studies 9, Math 9, Science 9, and Physical Education 9. You will also have the option to select elective courses as well. There are many options available so be sure to read carefully!

CORE COURSES

ENGLISH 9

In English 9 students will explore stories and texts to help them understand themselves and make connections to others and to the world. By questioning what they hear, read, and view, students will gain the ability to be engaged and educated citizens. English 9 explores communication in its many forms. This course offers students a chance to improve their writing, speaking, and collaborative skills while thinking creatively, critically, and reflectively about texts.

SOCIAL STUDIES 9

Social Studies 9 covers the political, social, economic, and technological revolutions of the 17th through 19th centuries as well as the growth of nationalism and the development of modern nation-states. This course also considers the continuing effects of imperialism and colonialism on indigenous people in Canada and around the world, and global demographic shifts, including patterns of migration and population growth. Students will use inquiry processes and skills to ask questions; gather, interpret, and analyze ideas, and communicate their findings, while assessing the significance of people, places, events, or developments of historical significance.

MATHEMATICS 9

This course was designed to provide students with opportunities to develop a broad range of mathematical understandings, attitudes, knowledge and critical thinking skills necessary for everyday life, future course work, and possible careers. Topics include rational numbers, exponents, polynomials, linear relations, algebra, financial literacy, proportional reasoning, and statistics. After successful completion of Mathematics 9, students will progress to Workplace Math 10 or Foundations of Mathematics and Pre-Calculus 10. *Students may also take Mathletes 9 – See course description under Physical Education.*

SCIENCE 9

Building on laboratory skills and the methods of scientific inquiry introduced in Grade 8, students discover some of the more basic principles of Physics, Chemistry and Biology. The Chemistry unit focuses on atoms, elements and compounds. The Biology unit examines the structure of cells and reproduction. In Physics, students will investigate the characteristics of electricity and space exploration. After successful completion of Science 9, students will progress to Science 10.

GRADE 9 AT TIMBERLINE SECONDARY

PHYSICAL EDUCATION – CHOOSE ONE

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 9

Having fun while being active is the focus of P.E. 9/10. Students can expect to participate in traditional P.E. activities as well as learning new skills, sports & games. Students will also work to improve their fitness, participate in weekly trail days, and take part in fun field trips in the community. Athletic clothing and footwear are required.

FIT FOR LIFE (PE 9)

FIT for LIFE PE is a promotion of life-long physically and mentally healthy lifestyles, wellness, and nutrition. This will be an encouraging and supportive environment focused on more personal choice in physical activity, personal goal setting and engaging in physical pursuits that will last through adulthood. Students will be introduced to several “Fit for Life” style activities that could include weightlifting, aerobics, jogging, walking, trail running, circuit training, swimming, martial arts, or spin classes – based on the personal preferences decided by the students. Exploration of recreational, friendly games with an emphasis on participation in a confidence-building, non-competitive environment will be a part of this course. This will be a very active class, so only choose this course if you enjoy being physically active.

BASKETBALL ACADEMY PE 9

Basketball PE is a course for those basketball enthusiasts who are looking to develop their individual and team skills in a competitive environment. If you seek a PE course with a greater fitness component, more intense competition, and higher expectations—all with a basketball focus—this is the course for you. (While we will focus on basketball, students can expect to participate in other PE activities throughout the course). Enrollment priority will be given to those who have displayed dedication to the sport and a positive attitude/work ethic in previous PE courses.

GIRLS BASKETBALL PE 9

Girls Basketball PE is a course for basketball enthusiasts looking to develop their individual and team skills in a low-consequence environment. If you like basketball but have been nervous to go out and play on the team this course will help to build your confidence in your skills and knowledge of basketball gameplay. If you are a student who is just starting out in your basketball journey or have played on the school team for years and just want to take your skills to the next level and prepare for the basketball season, you would be a good fit in this course. (While we will focus on basketball, students can expect to participate in other PE activities throughout the course).

VOLLEYBALL PE 9

Volleyball rocks at Timberline! This award-winning program is aimed at students with a strong desire to play competitive volleyball. Students can expect to learn a variety of skills, strategies, and systems in the sport of volleyball. Knowledge of rules and officiating are included as well as a weekly run. Other P.E. activities, jump training and individual fitness are included in this course. Gym strip, indoor court shoes, as well as outdoor running shoes are required.

VOLLEYBALL ACADEMY 9

This program is designed for experienced volleyball players looking to bring their game to a higher level. We will provide the opportunity to work with Volleyball Canada certified coaches and there will be a fees structure to this course. The details for this program will be provided to students who express an interest in the course.

HOCKEY ACADEMY 9

This program is designed for experienced hockey players interested in completing their PE course during class time at the ice arena! Hockey Canada certified coaches run the on-ice portion of the program and a school teaching staff member oversees all off-ice activities. There is a cost to this program and more details will be provided later in the school year for those interested.

ELECTIVES

Electives in Grade 9 at Timberline are an opportunity to experience as many diverse areas of the school as possible. Please note that for scheduling purposes, elective courses are paired together. We will try to provide students with as many of their preferred choices as possible. Students will select up to six electives and any number of outside the timetable electives.

AYAJUTHEM 9

This course was developed in collaboration with the ᑭᓐᓂᓐᓂᓐᓂᓐ (Homalco) Language Department is designed for students at all levels and explores the richness of the ᑭᓐᓂᓐᓂᓐᓂᓐ language and ᑭᓐᓂᓐᓂᓐᓂᓐ culture through interactive lessons, storytelling, and community engagement.

Through this course, students will connect with their own identities, gain insight into the ᑭᓐᓂᓐᓂᓐᓂᓐ worldview, and actively contribute to the revitalization of ᑭᓐᓂᓐᓂᓐᓂᓐ. This learning experience not only fulfills educational goals but also addresses the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action by preserving Indigenous languages and culture.

Students will develop foundational language skills, including pronunciation, comprehension of high-frequency vocabulary, and basic conversational phrases. Lessons incorporate cultural teachings, emphasizing oral histories, traditional ceremonies, and the connection between language and identity. Students will also explore

the cultural significance of land, community roles, and creative expression through music, art, and storytelling.

Course activities include direct instruction, land-based learning, peer teaching, and interactions with elders and knowledge keepers. Students will gain a deeper understanding of ᑭᓐᓂᓐᓂᓐᓂᓐ traditions and perspectives while participating in experiential learning and reflective writing. Assessment methods may include self-assessment, peer feedback, journaling, and creative presentations.

ART 9

If you like drawing, painting, and exploring your creative side then this is the course for you. Find out what you like to do best in this introductory high school art class. The course covers a wide range of artistic activities, drawing, painting, mixed media, and graphic design. The art room is a stimulating, vibrant place where you can explore the ‘right side’ of your brain. If you really like art or just want to find out what the art room is all about then sign up for a class.

Electives continued next page...

GRADE 9 AT TIMBERLINE SECONDARY

AMAZING TRADES 9

Create, design, and build projects as you rotate through the shops at Timberline: Woodwork, Mechanics, Robotics, Jewelry and Art Metal, Electronics and Drafting. Discover which trade to pursue further in grades 10-12. *This is a full semester course.*

COLLABORATIVE STUDIES AND INVESTIGATION (CSI) 9

CSI 9 is a hands-on, elective course that integrates science studies while building cross-curricular and transferable skills. There will be a focus on Inquiry-Based Learning developing a solid foundation of skills for high school studies. *This course could be paired with Writing 9 as a full semester course.*

CREATIVE ELECTRONICS 9

Creative Electronics explores how combining art and electronics creates a world of possibilities that allow students to gain technical skills and create interactive art projects. In this class we will create wearable art, robots that draw, and light displays that respond to people's presence.

DIGITAL HACKERSPACE 9

In Timberline's Digital Hackerspace, you can create digital paintings and drawings, build 3D models, animate stickmen, and dabble in coding and app development.

DIGITAL MEDIA 9

In Digital Media 9, you'll learn about filmmaking and video production, using digital video cameras and editing with Final Cut. Have you heard the phrase, "Don't always believe what you see?" This is doubly true in this course as you will learn the art of manipulation by making people disappear, giving them the ability to fly, and creating chaos by throwing fireballs and explosions.

DRAMA 9

Drama is an active and engaging program where students learn to incorporate the craft of theatre into their everyday lives, developing concentration, imagination, professionalism, character, and self confidence. Drama provides students with the opportunity to improve their creativity and communication skills.

DRAMEDIA 9

This course intertwines the introductory courses of film and drama, which will run concurrently. You get to be the filmmaker and the actor! All students will learn the basic operation of digital cameras, story creation, editing, directing, while developing their comfort onstage and in front of the camera as an actor. We will view/discuss/analyze a film bi-weekly. *This is a full semester course.*

FOODS 9

In Foods 9 you make it and you eat it. You will learn the fundamentals of safety, sanitation, measuring and understanding recipes while

cooking firsthand. Healthy snacking, baking basics, meal planning and the factors that affect attitudes and decisions about food, global food issues, and nutrition are also covered.

FRENCH 9

Get more comfortable with listening to and speaking Canada's other official language. By doing oral projects, expanding your repertoire of vocabulary, and learning more of the grammatical structures of the French language, you will find yourself feeling more confident with French and language learning in general. Be ready to listen, write, and speak and you will be one step further to fluency. *This is a full semester course.*

GUITAR 9

Guitar 9 is designed to give budding guitarists a chance to take their playing skills to the next level. Beginners and not so beginners are welcome: all that is needed is dedication and a desire to become better at playing music on the guitar. From chords to Arpeggios, scales to improvisation, students will practice and work at becoming better musicians.

SPANISH 1

¿Quieres hablar español? There are different reasons to join Spanish class: a university requirement, you'd like to communicate while traveling in Spanish speaking country or you'd like to speak another language. In Spanish 1, you will learn how to introduce yourself, talk about likes and dislikes, tell time, learn vocabulary about school, clothing, food, family, and more. As Spanish is the second most spoken mother tongue of the world, your learning will come handy at some point. Expect to actively participate in class by listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Spanish 1 is part of a series with Spanish 2 and Spanish 3 that will give you the equivalent of a language 11-level course. *This is a full semester course.*

TECHNICAL THEATRE 9

Technical theatre is a course in which you explore all the 'behind the scenes' areas that go into making a theatre production come to life. This hands-on course will teach the basics of scenic painting, lighting design, sound, the basics of costume design and stage makeup. If you are interested in using these skills to support the annual Musical, you should also sign up for Stagecraft.

WRITING 9

Fantasy, mystery, suspense, historical fiction, romance, and much more. In Writing 9 students will learn various skills and techniques writers use to develop a sustainable practice of writing. Students will write across various genres where they will be describing thoughts and actions. Not only will students learn formal and creative writing skills, they will also closely examine language and improve literacy skills. *This course could be paired with CSI 9 as a full semester course.*

COURSES OUTSIDE THE TIMETABLE

LEADERSHIP 9

Are you interested in making Timberline the best it can be? Then this is for you! Students meet once a week as a group to plan, organize, run, and evaluate community-building activities around the school. Leadership events include Grade 9 Welcome Day, Halloweek, Pep Rally, Holiday Food Drive, and a variety of small group-run initiatives. Students who select Leadership need to be good at group work, time management, and able to be advocates for issues affecting students.

JAZZ BAND 9

Students will continue to develop their performance skills in the jazz idiom. Improvisational skills will also continue to be developed. Several concerts will be arranged throughout the year and attendance at these functions is mandatory. *Jazz Band is open to Concert Band students with teacher permission.*

Courses Outside the Timetable continued next page...

GRADE 9 AT TIMBERLINE SECONDARY

MUSICAL THEATRE 9

A major musical will be performed in the spring. The bulk of rehearsing and preparation for this performance will require an out-of-timetable commitment. Actors will audition for parts. If you wish to be involved in the student pit band, please sign up for this course. If you want to be involved behind the scenes – stage crew, lights, sound etc. sign up for Stagecraft. *Auditions are required for this course.*

STAGECRAFT 9

Stagecraft is an 'out of timetable' course in which students become the build and run crews for our annual Musical Theatre production. Credit is based on accumulation of hours on tasks such as prop building and set painting, as well as working backstage or in the tech booth doing lights/sound for the show (limited spaces available). If you are looking for an 'in the timetable', lesson directed option, sign up for Technical Theatre.

SPORTS LEADERSHIP 9

If you enjoy sports, are self-motivated, and want to be part of a vibrant and dynamic team, this course is for you. Participants will gain valuable experience while meeting the expectations and responsibilities associated with organizing and operating a wide variety of athletic events. Central to the program is the organization and operation of an inclusive intramural program. Students will also assist sports teams and coaches at Timberline and in the larger community. Other responsibilities will involve coaching, tournament organization, score keeping, officiating, planning/operating elementary school events, and organizing/operating Timberline's Athletic Banquet. This is an outstanding opportunity for students to build lasting community connections and load the volunteer section of their resumes! Sports Leadership is a year-long course operating outside the regular timetable with class meetings taking place at lunch and or prior to class in the morning. In addition to this, students are required to complete volunteer work each semester.

SPECIALTY PROGRAMS

CONCERT BAND 9/PHYSICAL EDUCATION 9

(YEARLONG BAND AND PE)

Band 9 students should have successfully completed band at the Grade 8 level. Music performed in class and in concert will cover a diverse selection of musical styles, from classical to pop, marches to contemporary. Technique and theory will continue to be developed. Having fun while being active is the focus of PE 9. Students can expect to participate in traditional PE activities as well as learning new skills, sports, and games. As in all PE courses, working on individual fitness will also be a component of this course.

This is a full year course.

MATHELETES 9 (YEARLONG PE AND MATH)

Do you want to have PE all year long AND improve your success in Math 9? Then Mathletes 9 is the course for you. We all know the physical benefits of activity but through current brain research it has been shown that there are astounding learning and mental health benefits as well. Getting your heart rate into a moderate zone for 20-30 minutes can greatly improve our ability to learn directly after the activity and throughout the day. Physical activity is like miracle grow for your brain! Some blocks will be all PE, some all Math and some will be a split of PE and Math to take advantage of these learning benefits. Other advantages this course offers are increased time to learn mathematical concepts and decreased length of time off between Math 9 and Math 10. The content and competencies covered in this course will be the same as those covered in the traditional Math 9 and PE 9 courses. *This is a full year course.*

OUTDOOR DISCOVERIES 9 PROGRAM

The Outdoor Discoveries program challenges students academically, socially, and physically. The integrated grade 9 program (combining English 9, Social Studies 9, Physical Education 9, and Leadership 9) delivers learning in a meaningful way that helps students make connections across subjects, with each other, the surrounding environment, and local communities. Running from February to June, Outdoor Discoveries students have opportunities to explore coastal British Columbia in all its natural and human complexity. On top of their academics, students will be outside daily, including snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, hiking, canoeing, biking, running, wall climbing, swimming, skating, surfing, and participating in restoration activities. This rigorous and academic program is open to all grade 9 students; however, an application is required. Successful candidates will be those who are independent, hard-working, self-motivated, outdoorsy, and positive team players. There is a \$400 dollar cost associated with the program, as well as an expectation that students will provide some of their own basic gear, such as: hiking boots, rain jacket, bike, etc. Having said that, assistance will be provided for those for whom cost is an obstacle.