

# BERT CHURCH HIGH SCHOOL

Grade 9 Course Information

2017-2018



**INQUISITIVE, INCLUSIVE, INNOVATIVE**

---

Bert Church High School, 1010 East Lake Blvd., Airdrie, AB, Canada, T4A 2A1  
Tel (403) 948-3800 \* Fax (403) 948-4117  
Email: [bchurch@rockyview.ab.ca](mailto:bchurch@rockyview.ab.ca)  
Website: <http://bertchurch.rockyview.ab.ca>

# **BERT CHURCH HIGH SCHOOL**

A GREAT PLACE TO LEARN

## **Grade 9 Course Information Handbook 2017-2018**

1010 East Lake Boulevard

Airdrie, Alberta T4A 2A1

School Office Phone: 948-3800

School Office Fax: 948-4117

email: [bchurch@rockyview.ab.ca](mailto:bchurch@rockyview.ab.ca)

[www.bertchurch.rockyview.ab.ca](http://www.bertchurch.rockyview.ab.ca)

**Laurie Johnston**

Principal

**Wendy Ruzicka**

Assistant Principal

**Scott Bloxham**

Assistant Principal

**Crystal Anderson**

School Counsellor

**Christiana van Ysselsteyn**

School Counsellor

# Strive For Excellence

*Quaerite Excellentiam*



## Mission Statement

*Members of the Bert Church High School learning community collaborate and challenge all individuals to use skills, knowledge and values to become responsible, productive citizens and lifelong learners in an ever changing global community.*

## School Values

**INQUISITIVE, INCLUSIVE, INNOVATIVE**

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

School Information.....	Page 2
Mission Statement .....	Page 3
Table of Contents.....	Page 4
Grade Nine Required Courses .....	Page 5
English Language Arts 9 .....	Page 5
Mathematics 9 .....	Page 5
Physical Education 9.....	Page 5
Science 9 .....	Page 5
Social Studies 9 .....	Page 5
Teacher Advisory - Approaches to Learning 9 .....	Page 5
Grade Nine Complementary Courses .....	Page 6
Art 9.....	Page 6
Choir 9 .....	Page 6
Communication Technology 9 .....	Page 6
Cosmetology 9 .....	Page 6
Dance 9.....	Page 6
Drama 9 .....	Page 7
Foods 9 .....	Page 7
French 9 .....	Page 7
German 9 .....	Page 7
Guitar 9.....	Page 7
Industrial Education 9 .....	Page 7
Instrumental Music (Band) 9 .....	Page 7
Leadership 9.....	Page 8
Physical Education 9 Enrichment .....	Page 8
Robotics 9 .....	Page 8
Yoga 9 .....	Page 8
Numeracy Support Block .....	Page 8
Knowledge and Employability Grade 9 Courses.....	Page 9
myBlueprint .....	Page 9

# GRADE NINE REQUIRED AND COMPLEMENTARY COURSES

It is recommended that students achieve 60% or higher in English, Mathematics, Science and Social to advance to the grade ten (10) academic sequence.

## GRADE NINE REQUIRED COURSES

### English Language Arts 9

English Language Arts 9 takes a process and theme oriented approach. This provides for variety, flexibility and student involvement. A variety of units are covered with practice in reading, writing, listening, speaking, viewing, and representing skills. To advance to English 10-1, it is recommended that students achieve 60% in English 9. This course is year long.

### Mathematics 9

Mathematics 9 consists of the following units: Powers and Roots, Algebraic Equations, Polynomials, Circle Properties, Shape and Space, Transformations, and Data Analysis. To advance to Mathematics 10 Combined (Math 10C), it is recommended students achieve a minimum of 60% in Mathematics 9.

### Physical Education 9

PE 9 will focus on fitness, skills and the development of positive interpersonal skills. This activity course requires participation and the wearing of proper athletic dress. Shorts and t-shirts may be purchased through the school. Activities may include the following: Badminton, Basketball, Fitness Training, Football, Organized Games, Soccer, Softball, Team Handball, Track & Field, and Volleyball.

### Science 9

This is a general science course that draws on the major scientific disciplines of chemistry, physics and biology. Unit topics include: Biological Diversity, Matter and Chemical Change, Environmental Chemistry, Electrical Principles and Technologies, and Space Exploration. To advance to Science 10, it is recommended that students achieve 60% in Science 9 and Math 9.

### Social Studies 9

Grade 9 students will analyze the relationship between Canada's political and legislative processes and their impact on issues pertaining to governance, rights, citizenship, and identity. Students will also explore issues of economics and their impact on quality of life, citizenship, and identity in Canada and the United States. To advance to Social Studies 10-1, it is recommended that students achieve 60% in Social Studies 9.

### Teacher Advisory - Approaches to Learning 9 & Health and Life Skills 9

The outcomes for this course are: understanding self as learner, organization and management of time and resources, understanding the learning process, assessment and evaluation (preparing for courses and exams effectively) and learning about self-advocacy. Another aim of the Teacher Advisory is to ensure that parents and students have a known 'go-to' person at Bert Church High School. If there are concerns about academic progress, or social/emotional concerns, you may contact your student's Teacher Advisor to discuss those concerns. The Teacher Advisor will communicate with colleagues (teachers, administration, guidance counsellors) to determine how to best address the identified needs. Further, Teacher Advisory assists students in reaching their educational goals and exploring options and areas of potential interest and growth through Focus time. Students are encouraged and guided to make sound educational decisions for their learning, whether it be a Focus option of a special interest or to further develop skills and understandings in core academic classes.

Also included in this course will be the **Health and Life Skills 9 curriculum**:

The aim of Health and Life Skills 9 is to enable students to make well-informed, healthy choices and to develop behaviours that contribute to personal wellbeing and the wellbeing of others. Three general outcomes are the foundation for HPLS 9: Wellness Choices, Relationship Choices, and Life Learning Choices. As positive and productive citizens, we learn to make good decisions.

## **GRADE NINE COMPLEMENTARY COURSES**

**Courses will run ONLY if there is sufficient enrollment.**

**Additional Fees Required. Fees listed are from 2016-2017 and are subject to change.**

### **Art 9 [90004a Fine and Performing Arts – Art 9] Cost: \$35**

This course introduces the student to artistic terminology; it allows for experiential application of sketching techniques in various media, exploration of art forms, with research and design being integrated throughout the program. There is a heavy emphasis on self-control, self-direction and self-initiation of creative and challenging goals for the student.

### **Choir 9 [90004g Fine and Performing Arts – Choral 9] Cost: \$35**

Choir is a performance-based class and is open to students who enjoy singing and/or wish to improve their singing within an ensemble. Students are exposed to a wide range of musical styles. Attendance at all concerts, and festivals and **MANDATORY**. Having some previous experience with singing is an asset, but not a necessity. Choir runs as a “J” block outside the regular timetable, from 7:30 to 8:50 am (2 – 3 days per week).

### **Communication Technology 9 [90016a CTS\_MDC Communication Technology 9] Cost: \$35**

We live in a world where visual communication is an essential skill. In this course, students will have the opportunity to explore all things multimedia. If you’re interested in photography, graphic design, electronic publishing, animation or video production, then this course is right for you! Using industry standard software and professional equipment, students will create a variety of multimedia projects that will give them the foundations for the high school Photography and Video Arts courses.

### **Cosmetology 9 [90015b CTS\_HRH Cosmetology 9] Cost: \$30**

Cosmetology 9 is designed to introduce students to the fashionable world of hairstyling and aesthetics. This option will explore personal and professional grooming techniques as well as the following aesthetic and hairstyling practices: basic nail art techniques used to enhance the appearance of fingernails, introductory hairstyling and personal hair-care tips and techniques, basic skin care practices to help students maintain the cleanliness of their skin and the creation of the students’ own salon. Cosmetology 9 provides students with an opportunity to explore the topic through project based learning, helping to prepare them for the practical and creative aspects of the high school CTS Cosmetology program.

### **Dance and Creative Movement 9 [90004e Fine and Performing Arts – Dance 9] Cost: \$20**

This option will explore dance and creative movement as a means of communication and self-expression, allowing students an outlet to realize their creative selves! Dance 9 will give students a chance to briefly explore the following genres: Ethno cultural (i.e. Folk, Celtic, Latin, African, etc.), Jazz (Funk, Hip Hop, and House), Ballet, Musical Theatre, Conditioning (Zumba, Yoga), Creative Movements, Performance and Choreography. Students will be expected to perform in front of their peers, parents

and the community. This option is open to both male and female students. Previous dance experience is NOT a prerequisite to this program.

### **Drama 9 [90004c Fine and Performing Arts – Drama 9] Cost: \$10**

Emphasis is placed on the development of the student as a creator, performer, historian, critic and patron. Students will develop dramatic skills acquired in previous years through assuming roles, exploration of dramatic situations and reflection on the outcome (though no previous experience in Drama is necessary). Teamwork is essential, as students participate in non-competitive, cooperative, supportive, joyful, yet challenging, dramatic study. This course is recommended as preparation for grade 10 level drama courses.

### **Foods 9 [90015d CTS\_HRH Foods 9] Cost: \$40**

This is a basic Foods course covering areas such as safety and kitchen procedures (tools, measuring, food terms, reading recipes, etc.). Cooking topics and labs may include Canada's Food Guide, Breakfast, Lunch & Supper, and Snacks & Appetizers.

### **French 9 [90011 French as a Second Language 9] Cost: \$10**

This course is intended for students who have taken or been exposed to French at some point and wish to continue developing listening, reading, speaking and writing skills. The language of instruction will be French as much as possible. Students who take French 9 will have a smooth transition into French 10.

### **German 9 [90021 German Language and Culture 9] Cost: \$10**

This is a beginner's course for those students who want to learn basic German. If you already know English, then learning basic German is easy. This course focuses mainly on speaking and listening, with some emphasis on reading and writing. German 9 is recommended to prepare for German 10.

### **Guitar 9 [90004b Fine and Performing Arts – Music 9] Cost: \$30**

Guitar is a performance-based class and is open to students who would like to learn how to play the guitar and to students who enjoy playing guitar already and wish to improve their playing. Students are exposed to a wide range of musical styles. Owning a guitar is **NOT MANDATORY** but it would certainly help you develop quicker. Class times are inside of the regular timetable and occur 2 to 3 days per week.

### **Industrial Education 9 [90018f CTS\_TMT Industrial Arts 9] Cost: \$35**

This course is offered in two main content areas, Wood or Metal, depending on the shop area being used. Safety and manual hand skills are emphasized. Sketching, blueprint reading and drawing are presented and used in the course. Task specific vocabulary is presented and used. Students build various projects of their choice from a variety of options. This course focuses mostly on the development of hand tool skills.

### **Instrumental Music (Band) 9 [90004d Fine and Performing Arts – Band 9] Cost: \$40**

Students learn a variety of music styles, genres and facets in a wind instrument/percussion setting that promotes full band, ensemble and solo work. Techniques learned include sight-reading, listening, ear training, composition and evaluative performance. Skills learned in previous wind instrumental/percussion courses will be further developed. Class times are inside of the regular timetable.

Performances are **MANDATORY**. (Students are encouraged to have had prior school band experience but there is always the possibility of learning a new instrument.) If you want to make some noise, JOIN THE BAND!

### **Leadership 9 [90015h CTS\_HRH Recreation Leadership 9] Cost: \$10**

Students in Leadership 9 will build their skills as leaders while becoming engaged within the community. They will learn about leadership and learning styles and how they impact group dynamics. Learners will discover what their strengths are as leaders and how to put those skills into action by planning and delivering lessons and working with students in our feeder schools.

### **Physical Education 9 Enrichment [90009e Physical Education Enrichment 9] Cost: \$40**

Physical Education 9 Enrichment is a course designed for students that are athletically inclined and enjoy participating in physical activity and fitness. The intent is to increase the amount of time being active throughout the school year. Ties to future sport-related endeavors may include exposure to Sports Medicine and Sports Performance, which can then be chosen as Grade 10-12 courses. Additionally, exploration of local off-campus activities will be part of the program.

### **STEM 9: Robotics Cost: TBA - Approx. \$35**

This course will introduce students to engineering design, drafting and computer programming. Throughout the course students will learn Oval, a C-based programming language. Students will design a series of engineering challenges and will program their robots to complete the tasks. This course is a great introduction to careers in STEM; no programming experience is needed!

### **Yoga 9 [90004k Yoga 9] Cost: \$20**

Yoga 9 is an introduction to the poses, postures and breathing techniques of Yoga. This course is designed to develop strength, flexibility and relaxation in students. This course is designed for students who are interested in combining disciplined physical training with breath work in order to improve focus, reduce stress and anxiety, increase flexibility, and promote overall wellbeing. No experience in Yoga is required to take Yoga 9.

### **Numeracy Support Block**

**Note:** This will be a school directed block that is taken **during** the Complementary 9 schedule. This course is for students who are having difficulty with Math and need to increase their numeracy skill levels. BCHS is intervening to develop these skills so that all students have a better chance for success in Math 9 and to be able to take Math 10C. Participants will be placed from assessments informed by their previous school.

## KNOWLEDGE AND EMPLOYABILITY GRADE 9 COURSES

The core requirements consist of Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies. These courses reflect the content of regular grade 9 courses, but within a functional, life skills and applied vocational context. In addition, students are encouraged to enroll in grade 9 complementary courses suited to their interests and needs (e.g. Art, Drama, Foods, and Music etc.).

### myBlueprint

myBlueprint is the foundational educational planning tool used during the students' four years at BCHS. All students will have myBlueprint accounts to assist with setting goals, tracking high school diploma requirements and exploring post-secondary options. Guidance and Career Counsellors use myBlueprint to gather information on student needs and interests. This electronic tool facilitates planning by ensuring that students' educational interests and aspirations are known by school staff. The interactive component of myBlueprint provides students with an opportunity to plan their education. It is highly customized to meet curriculum expectations and learning outcomes and to build on opportunities and experiences related to occupational interests. Students build a forward-thinking plan and visually track school-specific completed in-progress and planned courses. The ability to create multiple "what-if" plans encourages students to explore options to meet their needs and interests. Students are offered the opportunity to explore a wealth of information on post-secondary opportunities across Canada, based on personal preferences and saved high school plans. Students can compare options side-by-side to save time and make the most informed decisions about the future. Head to [www.myblueprint.ca](http://www.myblueprint.ca) and use the access code **bertchurch** (lowercase, one word) to open your account today

---

*Members of the Bert Church High School learning community collaborate and challenge all individuals to use skills, knowledge and values to become responsible, productive citizens and lifelong learners in an ever-changing global community.*