

# COURSE DESCRIPTIONS Grades 8

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## **ART 8**

**#150**

This fun course lets you learn how to develop and design pictures. Learn how to use colour, lines, perspective, and many ways to draw exciting projects you will be proud to hang on your wall! No drawing experience necessary.

## **BAND 8**

**#152**

Students enrolled in this course should have participated in Grade 7 band. The course will further develop basic instrumental techniques through rehearsing concert repertoire. This ensemble consists of flute, clarinet, bass clarinet, alto/tenor/bari saxophone, bassoon, trumpet, trombone, euphonium and tuba. Bassists and percussionists may have to double on wind instruments at the discretion of the instructor. This is not a piano or guitar class.

**PREREQUISITE:** Grade 7 band or band instructor's permission. While students who have not completed band 7 may enroll in Band 8, the understanding is that they are one year behind and will have to put in additional effort to be successful.

## **CHOIR 8**

**#159**

Do you love to sing? Have you always wanted to learn more about singing, or sing with a group? Let your voice be heard! Students in this course will learn vocal technique through choral literature. This class is highly participatory. Students perform in at least one formal concert in Massey Theatre. No previous singing or music experience is necessary.

## **DRAMA 8**

**#162**

This course is an introduction to developmental drama. The course includes activities in movement, speech, concentration, mime, and improvisation through a "games" approach. Once confidence has been instilled, the student must be prepared to put a lot of energy into participation since this is a "doing" class. Evaluation is based on participation and development throughout the term with some supplemental written assignments.

## **ENGLISH 8**

**#100**

Students in English 8 are required to read novels, short stories, poems, plays, and a variety of non-fiction material. Students will acquire some understanding of basic grammatical and literary terms; writing will focus on both narrative and expository. Students will also work on developing listening and speaking skills.

## **ENGLISH DYNAMICS 8 & 9**

**#103, #203**

The English Dynamics 8 and 9 curriculum is designed for students who are reading and/or writing below their current grade level and would benefit from a specialized English class in addition to the regular English program. The primary goal of English Dynamics 8 and 9 is to strengthen students' basic skills in reading and writing, as well as help students become more aware of their own learning styles. Learning strategies are explicitly taught and incorporated into assignments.

## **ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE**

**#650**

English as a Second Language classes are provided to students whose ability in standard English inhibits their progress in the English-speaking system. They are helped to become proficient in: listening, speaking, reading and writing English so that they can better function in regular academic classes. Canadian cultural integration is emphasized as well as preparation for integration into Grade 8-12 courses.

**FRENCH 8****#140**

Students will be using a programme that focuses on communication. Through a variety of approaches, they will develop skills communicating in French in four areas – reading, writing, listening and speaking.

**HOME ECONOMICS 8 GENERAL****#170**

Come and learn to cook and sew in this exciting combination course. Foods will cover basic food preparation, nutrition, safety and sanitation. Clothing and textiles will cover basic sewing techniques and information. Sewing machines will be used to construct three projects.

**KEYBOARDING 8****#180**

This personal use course is designed as an introduction to touch typing and key familiarization. With the increasing frequency of computer use in today's society, keyboarding has become a necessary life-time skill.

**LEADERSHIP 8****#192**

Leadership 8 is an individualized program for students who are interested in becoming active citizens in the school community. This is an opportunity for students to receive training and mentoring in organization, communication and team-building skills. It prepares students to take on leadership roles in the NWSS Student Leadership Council. **Due to the nature of this "z" block course, students must be able to meet and commit to 60 Leadership service hours at lunch and after school. This is an annual course. (See next page re: Z Block)**

**MATHEMATICS 8****#124**

This is a mathematics course which builds the foundation for future detailed study of mathematical concepts. Course content includes Number Systems and operations with numbers (integers, fractions and decimals), Introductory Algebra, Measurement (Surface Area and Volume), Probability and Statistics. Problem solving will be emphasized throughout the course. Scientific calculators are required for this course.

**MATHEMATICS 8/9 HONOURS****#123**

This course is designed for students strong in Mathematics to allow them to enrich their existing mathematics concepts and complete Math 9 in grade 8. An entrance exam is required for acceptance into this course.

**MATH (PATHFINDER)****#5500**

Pathfinder Math is a self-paced computer-monitored Mathematics program which is based upon mastery learning. It provides a vehicle for students to master the curriculum of Mathematics 8A modified 9A, 10E and 11E. It is an alternative to regular Math for self-motivated students who find Mathematics a true challenge. Counsellors should be contacted for more information about this program.

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION 8****#122, #119 (Annual)**

The concepts taught are: active learning, wellness, fitness, and lifetime/leisure activities with an emphasis on full participation. The following activities will be included: Active health/nutrition, basketball, drug and alcohol education, family life education, gymnastics, minor games, rugby, skating, soccer, track and field, touch football, volleyball (indoor/outdoor) and wrestling.

**SCIENCE 8****#130**

Science 8 is intended to stress a hands-on approach to the study of Science. Topics include: Processes of Science; Life Science (cells and organ systems); Earth and Space Science (water systems on Earth); and Physical Science (light, optics and fluid dynamics).

**SOCIALS STUDIES 8****#110**

This course surveys the history and geography of several different regions of the world. Areas of focus may include a focus on the early civilizations of China, the Middle East, Africa, Japan, India, Medieval Europe, and Renaissance Europe. Students will learn skills associated with critical thought, reason and logic, cartography, and argument development and presentation. There is also a current events component to the course.

**TECHNOLOGY 8****#175**

Technology 8 is an exciting introductory course to the Technology Education program. Students will work on interesting projects in: Electronics, Metalwork, and Woodwork. Students will also have the opportunity to get involved in some challenging design competitions. The major focus will be on the safe use of hand and machine tools. This is an excellent course for students planning future courses in the technology areas. Essential Skills training from the ITA will be taught.

PREREQUISITE: None

**PLEASE NOTE:**

- ➡ Z Block courses are in addition to your regular course load of 8 courses.
- ➡ Z Block courses are offered outside of regular school hours.