

Course Choices For Grade 9 Students

Grade 9 courses are organized into three types: **Academic (D)**, **Applied (P)**, and **Open (O)**. All courses build on the Grade 8 curriculum and prepare students for courses at the senior level. Various post-secondary options are available depending on the level chosen and path taken by students. The following is an overview of the different course options:.

OPEN (O level)

- one set of expectations appropriate for all students in grade 9

APPLIED (P level)

- knowledge and skills developed through both theory and practical applications, but **emphasis** is on **practical** applications and **concrete** examples
- course covers essential concepts of a subject using familiar, real-life situations
- more opportunities to experience hands-on applications of the concepts they study

ACADEMIC (D level)

- knowledge and skills developed through both theory and practical applications, but **emphasis** is on **theory** and **abstract** thinking as a basis for future learning and problem solving
- students learn the essential concepts of a subject and explore related material

Sample Student Skills/Learning Processes

Applied	Academic
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • prefers teacher-organized learning • prefers guided reading practice • can demonstrate knowledge and understanding and describe/explain in his/her own words • performs better when working in a hands-on/practical environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is willing and able to do meaningful student-directed learning (i.e., can work independently) • can effectively communicate knowledge and understanding both orally and in writing • has strong critical thinking skills; able to analyze, synthesize, assess and interpret information