

Murdoch MacKay Collegiate



Grade 9 – Optional Courses
2025-2026

MANITOBA HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT SYSTEM

Grade 9

Grade 10

Grade 11

Grade 12
June Graduation

5 compulsory	5 compulsory	4 compulsory	3 compulsory
ENGLISH 1 credit	ENGLISH 1 credit	ENGLISH 1 credit	ENGLISH 1 credit
MATHEMATICS 1 credit	MATHEMATICS 1 credit	MATHEMATICS 1 credit	MATHEMATICS 1 credit
SCIENCE 1 credit	SCIENCE 1 credit	HISTORY 1 credit	PHYS. ED 1 credit
SOCIAL STUDIES 1 credit	GEOGRAPHY 1 credit	PHYS. ED 1 credit	2 Additional Grade 12 credit
PHYS. ED. 1 credit	PHYS. ED. 1 credit		1 Optional Credit
3 Optional credits	3 Optional credits	4 Optional credits	

TOTAL = 30

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE SEE A COUNSELLOR

Visual Art 10S

This is a studio-based program centered around painting, drawing, design and sculpture. Students will be given the opportunity to experiment with a variety of techniques and materials. This course is not a requirement for the Grade 10 program.

Drama 10S

This introductory Drama course is designed to develop students' intellectual, social, physical and imaginative skills by participating in creative games and exercises. Activities promote group cooperation, use of voice and body communication, team building skills and self-confidence. Participation and cooperation are essential to success in this course.

French 10F

The French: Communication and Culture 10F course aims to continue to build skills learned in grade 8 general outcomes. Vocabulary and structures are introduced in a thematic approach based on the students' background and experiences. Topics to be covered may include fashion/clothing/personal appearance, nationalities and countries, advertisements and slogans, sustainable development, French Canadian culture, family, travel and adventure through the use of movies, technology, games, skits, hands-on activities and writing.

Computer Science 20S

Does technology control you? Is it time you learned how to control technology? Taking this course will provide you with an introduction to the world of Computer Science, and the power to program the technology of the future. In this course, you will be exposed to the discipline of Computer Science through introductory programming software and be given the opportunity to create basic animations and games. Programmable robots will be used to transition you from drag-and-drop programming to programming from scratch using the C# programming language. By progressing through a series of hands-on, problem-solving challenges, you will develop both programming and problem-solving skills. A final project of your choice (including a game) will demonstrate your cumulative learning.

Human Ecology/Family Studies

These courses offered in Human Ecology/Family Studies provide hands on experience designed to:

- * Develop personal management skills
- * Plan personal nutrient guide
- * Increase resourcefulness
- * Plan a healthy, creative and satisfying lifestyle
- * Prepare for career options
- * Build transferable life management skills
- * Prepare for future life roles
- * Increase global awareness
- * Learn strategies for successful relationships

Foods & Nutrition 10S

This is an introductory course for students who may or may not have any previous Foods experience. Foods and Nutrition 10S is the study of the choices people make every day as they relate to food. Students learn how food affects their health, appearance, and energy. Choices made in the marketplace and in restaurants are analyzed. The practical part of the course includes preparing a variety of delicious and nutritious dishes. Food preparation skills are developed.

Family Studies 10S

This course emphasizes the understanding of oneself. This is a hands-on course! It allows the student to acquire knowledge and skills through practice and experiential learning that are integrated into authentic work and parenting situations. Students will take home the electronic Baby and participate in many other activity-based lessons. An important focus will be on the student's transition to the Senior Years and allowing the student to apply knowledge gained to his/her developing maturity. Evaluation is based on class work, tests and a portfolio-based final exam.

Applying Information and Communication Technology ICT I & II (2 x 0.5 credit)

This course focuses on developing the knowledge, skills and attitudes you require to creatively and effectively use ICT throughout your high school experience. You will learn new ways to express written and visual content using today's technologies, which may include the creation/editing of videos, animations, websites, infographics, and game coding. You will be challenged to maximize Office 365's potential to create, collaborate, communicate, present, and organize information. Learn how to think critically about online information, discuss ideas electronically and professionally, record ideas and plan projects using digital tools, improve organization and file management, present findings creatively, and engage in learning remotely as a responsible digital citizen.

Graphic Arts Technology

The Graphic Arts Program is a general interest course but may be specially suited to students interested in pursuing a career in design, commercial art, fine art, communications, public relations, printing, advertising, photography, marketing and/or journalism.

Students are exposed to many commercial printing and photographic processes. Emphasis is placed on both computer aided design and on producing printed communications including business cards, social tickets, newsletters, T-shirts, heat transfers, posters, air brushings, decals and photographic portraits.

Graphics Technology 10G

Orientation and Safety

- graphic arts course description
- safety rules and equipment list
- WHMIS/MSDS information & Orientation

Macintosh Operating System

- computer orientation, terms and setup

Design

- principles & elements of design

- typography

Layout

- design/produce project folder
- safety poster for graphic arts

Adobe Photoshop

- introduction to Adobe Photoshop
- desktop design assignments
- image Manipulation
- Adobe Photoshop assignments

Sign Production Processes

- decals and sign making

Screen Printing

- custom printed t-shirts

Black & White Photography

- black and white photogram
- processing prints

Digital Photography

- understanding composition and digital images
- expose & download image file
- refine above photograph for export to desktop assignment

Desktop Publishing

- using specialized creative software to create layouts

Portfolio Assignment

- technical write ups with all completed projects in one unit

Electronics Technology

These courses introduce students to the fields of electronics and technology and to the various career opportunities within these industries. The major focus is "hands-on" project work where students develop problem-solving and design skills and gain valuable experience utilizing a variety of electronic tools and computers. It is especially beneficial to those students who are interested in pursuing a career in engineering, science, telecommunications, architecture, mechanics or construction. However, the skills and experience obtained by taking these courses are valuable assets for everyday life and have proven to be beneficial to all.

Electronics Technology 10G

This is a fun, exciting and informative program that deals with introductory electronics and teaches students the basics of electronic theory. It focuses on circuit board development, computer assisted design work, solar power, and cyborg/robotics. A few projects that are studied include:

1. An alarm system
2. A decision maker
3. A solar powered vehicle

Woodworking Technology

The Woodworking Technology program offers you the opportunity to participate in an enjoyable, educationally sound approach to learning. A major focus is “hands-on” project work where students develop problem-solving and practical skills. Whether you’re considering University, College or just interested in learning by constructing a variety of exciting practical projects then this is the course for you. These programs are open to ALL STUDENTS and no prerequisite is required for any of the four full credit programs offered. Students are given the opportunity to develop useful skills through the use of various types of tools and machinery with safety being stressed at all levels. Woodworking Technology: Don’t leave school without it.

Woodworking Technology 10G

Grade 9 Woodworking is an excellent hands-on course that affords students the opportunity to design and construct projects. Using safe practice, the students will enhance their skills in the use of modern tools and machines. Topics covered will help reinforce student knowledge in other subjects such as Math, Science and Social Studies.

The following topics will be covered:

- Projects such as clocks, wood art, cabinets, baseball bats and bowls
- Safety
- Wood Identification and Management
- Planning and Design

- Fasteners
- Computer Aided Design (CAD)
- Finishes and Finishing
- Measurement, Layout
- Career Development

Drafting Design Technology

Drafting Design Technology is a study of principles and techniques of manual drawing and computer aided drafting (CAD) as a means of visual and technical communication used in the workforce. Topics include manual drafting techniques such as sketching, drawing and also the use of available CAD programs (2D and 3D modelling). Using both hands on and CAD programs, the student will be able to develop skills in architectural layout and design, problem solving, as well as measurement, scaling plans and dimensioning.

Drafting Design Technology 10G

Students will sample the basic principles and techniques of manual and computer drafting (CAD) as a means of visual communication. Topics will include drafting equipment, techniques, terminology, format and layout, measurement and scaling, multi view drawings and dimensioning.

Students will explore these basic concepts and technical computer drawings using project-based activities.

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

The curriculum of music study at Murdoch MacKay Collegiate is designed to provide you with exceptional and enjoyable musical experience. Whether you want to participate in a great band, jazz band, or choir, or if you are interested in preparing for university study and a career in music, we have opportunities that will help you to succeed.

Band 10S

The Murdoch MacKay Bands are performance ensembles including all Grade 9 to Grade 12 band students. The focus of these groups is on the development of basic instrumental technique and the performance of quality Wind Band Literature and Orchestral Transcriptions. In years where student interest is sufficient, an auditioned Wind Ensemble is offered, comprised of students from all grade levels based on instrumental ability.

Choral 10S

Joining a choir is a uniquely satisfying experience. Murdoch MacKay's choral program will provide students with an interest in vocal music the opportunity to develop skills in this area. Students will learn and perform music of different styles and time periods and have many opportunities to perform throughout the year.

Guitar 10S

Our guitar course is designed for beginners to the guitar. Students will be introduced to the fingerboard, basic chord shapes, and learn correct hand technique, while exploring popular and classical guitar music. Lead and rhythm guitar skills will be developed.

As this will be a semestered course, students will play every day. Guitars will be provided for use in class.

Students may play in small ensembles, individually, or together as a class, depending on interest. Opportunities will be given for more advanced students to progress at their own level. Enrolment will be limited.

Jazz Band 10S

Murdoch MacKay's Jazz Band is a performance ensemble which focuses on the study of different eras of big band jazz music. The study of authentic jazz improvisation, jazz phrasing and articulations, as well as replicating the characteristic sounds of famous ensembles (Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Thad Jones/Mel Lewis, Stan Kenton and others) through quality literature are main focuses of the group.

All members of the Jazz Band must also be enrolled in Band.

Vocal Jazz 10S

Murdoch Mackay's Vocal Jazz Ensemble is a dynamic performance ensemble that focuses on the study of different areas of vocal jazz music. The study of authentic jazz performance practice as well as replicating characteristic sounds of famous vocalists (Ella Fitzgerald, Frank Sinatra, Mel Torme, Sarah Vaughn and others) through quality jazz literature are the goals of the course. Some focus will also be given to performance of contemporary a cappella and pop music.

Music Production 10S

This course is designed to put the tools in your hands and give you the experience to produce your own music. Music Production is the process of creating, developing, and refining recorded music for public presentation – from composition to recording, mixing, mastering, and finally distributing the music. Focus will be given to developing an understanding of the roles of different musical variables, and to learning skills with production tech and recording equipment.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Technical Education programs provide students with job skills that can be used for:

Employment opportunities upon graduation
Apprenticeship programs
Entry into College and University Programs

AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY

(Level 1 Accredited)

Students work with tools and equipment to service, diagnose and repair all types of vehicles. Areas of study include: engine fundamentals, fuel systems, drive trains, climate controls including air conditioning and electrical systems.

FASHION TECHNOLOGY

Students study all facets of the fashion industry. Areas include: basic pattern design and production, fashion illustration, industrial sewing techniques and garment construction.

CARPENTRY

(Level 1 Accredited)

Students work with tools and equipment to learn skills related to the carpentry trade. Areas include: hand tools, portable power tools, stationary equipment, surveying, foundations, stairs, cabinets, masonry, interior/exterior finishing, furniture construction and CAD (computer aided drawing).

METALS & AEROSPACE

(Level 1 Accredited)

Students work with hand tools and equipment related to the metal industries. Areas include: blueprint reading, hand tools, basic and advanced lathe, milling and grinding, and CNC machining (computer numerical control).

WELDING TECHNOLOGY

(Level 1 Accredited)

Students work with hand tools and equipment related to the Welding industry. Areas of study include: oxy-acetylene welding/cutting, hand tools, basic and advanced GMAW/SMAW/GTAW, CNC Plasma Design and blueprint reading.

Technical Education

GRADE 9 TRY-A-TRADE

The TRY-A-TRADE program gives students an opportunity to explore a variety of vocational programs within one school year. This will assist students in determining future career paths, interests, and examples being: Automotive & Welding Technology, and/or Carpentry & Machining Technology (Metals & Aerospace). This provides students with hands-on experiences and allows for better informed decisions when selecting their vocation of choice for grades 10 through 12. Fashion Technology offers a full credit option for grade 9 students.

Please note that students enrolling in Automotive Technology, Welding Technology, Machining Technology or Carpentry will require CSA approved footwear.

Exploring Technical Education

For Grade 9 students who are unsure of what path of interest to follow, enrolling in each course will introduce them to two areas of technology at a time (4 in total, should they choose).

Automotive Technology & Welding Technology

Participating students will complete a variety of activities and projects in both areas over one semester and gain a wide range of skills. Upon completion of the course, the students will be able to make future course selections based on their success and specific interests.

These are introductory courses intended for students wishing to sample both Automotive and Welding Technology. The emphasis is on hands-on activities. Students will be introduced to safety, tools and equipment specific to each area. Automotive fundamentals and welding processes will be introduced.

Carpentry & Machining Technology (Metals & Aerospace)

Participating students will complete a variety of activities and projects in both areas over one semester and gain a wide range of skills. Upon completion of the course, the students will be able to make future course selections based on their success and specific interests.

These are introductory courses intended for students wishing to sample both Carpentry and Machining. The emphasis is on hands-on activities. Students will be introduced to safety, tools and equipment specific to each area. Carpentry fundamentals and metal fabrication processes will be introduced.

Fashion Technology

Exploration of Fashion Design & Technology 10S

Students study all facets of the fashion industry. Areas include basic pattern design and production, fashion illustration, industrial sewing techniques and garment construction. Project ideas include beadwork, stenciling and embroidery.

Some technical programs include a work experience component as part of the program in their Grade 12 year.