#  <br> ACADEMIC <br> OpTIONS 2016-2017 



Grades 8-11

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# ACADEMIC OPTIONS <br> GRADE 8-11 TABLE OF CONTENTS 

Page 3 - Grade 8

$$
\text { Page } 5 \text { - Grade } 9
$$

## Page 8 - Grade 10

Page 13 - Grade 11

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## OPTION COURSES

At St. George's, high school students have the opportunity to select from a number of Options Courses to complement their academic schedule with subjects of personal interest, enhancing their overall learning experience.

The Options Courses will be selected by the students at the beginning of December for the upcoming academic year. Advisors will play a large role in helping students to review their choices and understand what courses are necessary in order to follow specific post-secondary programs.


## GRADE 8

All students in Grade 8 must take the following compulsory courses:
$\square$ English
$\checkmark$ French
『 Science \& Technology
V Physical Education

V Geography \& History/Citizenship (taught in French)

V Ethics \& Religious Culture
『 Mathematics 206 or 206/306

Grade 8 students are also required to select two option courses from the list below:
$\square$ Visual Arts
$\square$ Drama
$\square$ Music
$\square$ Spanish

## OPTION COURSE: VISUAL ARTS

The Grade 8 Visual Arts program focuses on materials. Students make their own paint and paper, for example, to discover their unique properties. Students also study how to link design and matter (materials and subject matter) in a meaningful way. If you are thinking about water, for example, it makes sense to use a water-based material and make your design flow! Students learn how to embody ideas in a wide range of materials including drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture and digital media.

A further goal is to explore art and creativity as an integral part of human life, not as an isolated subject. After all, a study of visual materials helps us understand where colours come from (chemistry, mining and recycled materials), and how we see colour (biology). Nevertheless, studio work is a major part of the course and students end the year with a significant portfolio of finished artworks. Highlights of the year's work are featured at our annual Visual Arts Festival.

## GRADE 8

## OPTION COURSE: DRAMA

Students in Grade 8 Drama continue to refine their skills in Tableaux, Mime, Script Writing and Improvisation. Students will generate a deeper understanding of each skill; they will develop more stage awareness and will continue to build their confidence on stage; they will learn to become stronger and more active team players. In addition, students will learn basic sound and lighting design. Grade 8 Drama prepares students for a much more exploratory curriculum in Grade 9 Drama.

## OPTION COURSE: MUSIC

Students will continue to develop the physical and mental skills necessary to produce a sound on a wind or percussion instrument. They will review the treble and the bass clef, how to read notes in each clef, as well as learn new fingering and valve combinations on their instruments necessary for producing the corresponding pitches. They will also continue to discuss and explore basic ensemble performance techniques. The Grade 8 students will work on full band pieces that reinforce all of the musical elements mentioned above. They will listen to and write about different musical selections from various genres, recognize the instruments they hear, and discuss, analyze and criticize these musical selections.

## OPTION COURSE: SPANISH

This is an introductory language course for students with little or no previous knowledge of Spanish. Students will learn the basic structures of the Spanish language and how to apply Spanish to everyday situations, as well as explore the many different cultures of the spanish-speaking world.

This class will focus on developing skills in all four aspects of language-learning: speaking, listening, reading and writing. For those who love a challenge and are ready to take risks, take la clase de español!

## GRADE 9

All students in Grade 9 must take the following compulsory courses:

| $\nabla$ English | $\nabla$ Science \& Technology |
| :--- | :--- |
| $\nabla$ French - Tutorial, Base, Enrichi, |  |
| Langue maternelle (programme local) | $\nabla$ Physical Education |
| $\nabla$ History/Citizenship |  |
| $\nabla$ Mathematics 306 or 426s | $\nabla$ Ethics \& Religious Culture |

Grade 9 students are also required to select two option courses from the list below:
$\square$ Visual Arts
$\square$ Theatre Arts
$\square$ Music
$\square$ Spanish

## GRADE 9

## OPTION COURSE: THEATRE ARTS

The Grade 9 Theatre Arts Program begins with stage combat and clowning, which provides a building block for our second unit: animating Children's Theatre Stories. Students will take their stories 'on the road' by performing at our Elementary School, and then mounting them in our own theatre in front of a large children's audience.

The final unit focuses on each individual element of a production. Students will theatrically explore and present each one, while identifying their importance \& presence in a larger piece of work. Finally, students will work towards combining all of the elements together in the culminating project for this unit, where they will begin to conceptualize presentations as a 'whole'. The year concludes with expanding students' improvisation skills. Throughout the course of the year, students will learn how to work more independently.

## OPTION COURSE: VISUAL ARTS

The Grade 9 Visual arts program focuses on foundational skills in observational drawing, visual perception and creativity. We start with contour drawing from life, and yes, everyone can learn how to draw, you just need to be taught properly! This leads to an exploration of negative space, which is often used in stencil art, Pop Art and silk-screening. Students silk-screen their own T-shirt designs. Students also learn a variety of creative problem-solving techniques such as "free association", "flow states" and "visual thinking". These creative strategies can be applied throughout life to solve various challenges (not just in art).

In Grade 9 students keep a visual notebook of ideas and develop an individual portfolio of work in drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, photography and new media. They are exposed to a variety of works from the world's artistic heritage to broaden their understanding. Students are encouraged to make the art room their studio and develop personal interests. Field trips complement the experience. Highlights of the year's work are featured at our annual Visual Arts Festival.

## GRADE 9

## OPTION COURSE: MUSIC

Students will continue development on their individual instrument through solo and ensemble performing. They will be introduced to composition and learn techniques composers use to write music. This class will also touch on various genres of music such as classical, jazz, rock and funk, as well as include the discussion and exploration of improvisation and creativity in music. Students will also expand their appreciation of music theory, history, and ear training. Mandatory participation is expected for all concerts.

## OPTION COURSE: SPANISH

This is an introductory language course for students with little or no previous knowledge of Spanish. Students will learn the basic structures of the Spanish language and how to apply Spanish to everyday situations, as well as explore the many different cultures of the spanish-speaking world.

This class will focus on developing skills in all four aspects of language-learning: speaking, listening, reading and writing. For those who love a challenge and are ready to take risks, take la clase de español!

## GRADE 10

Students in Grade 10 must follow either a Science or Liberal Arts program of study.

## LIBERAL ARTS PROGRAM - GRADE 10

All students in Grade 10 Liberal Arts must take the following compulsory courses:
$\square$ English
$\square$ Mathematics 414 cst , 426s or 506 s
च History/Citizenship
マ Physical Education
$\checkmark$ Ethics \& Religious Culture
$\square$ French
V Science and Technology

Grade 10 Liberal Arts students are required to select one option course from the list below:
$\square$ Visual Arts
$\square$ Theatre Arts
$\square$ Music

Grade 10 Liberal Arts students are also required to select one option course from the list below:
$\square$ Phys. Ed. Leadership
$\square$ Multimedia
$\square$ Spanish

## SCIENCE PROGRAM - GRADE 10

All students in Grade 10 Science must take the following compulsory courses:

V English
$\square$ Mathematics 414,426 or 506

- History/Citizenship

マ Physical Education

V Ethics \& Religious Culture
$\square$ French
Environmental Science and Technology

- Marine Biology

Grade 10 Science students are also required to select one option course from the list below:
$\square$ Visual Arts
$\square$ Theatre Arts
$\square$ Music

## GRADE 10

## MARINE BIOLOGY

## (Mandatory option for Science Program students)

This course provides a rigorous introduction to marine biology using an experiential approach. Several major themes are emphasized throughout the course:

- the vast diversity of organisms living in the ocean and their importance to sustaining life on Earth;
- the relationships between marine organisms and the environment - both physical and biological; and
- the human impact on the marine environment.

As part of the course, students have the opportunity to attend a one-week tropical marine ecology trip at the Roatán Institute of Marine Sciences located in Roatán, Honduras.

## OPTION COURSE: VISUAL ARTS

The Grade 10 Visual Arts course focuses on questions of "re-presentation" and illusion. Why are humans so drawn to paintings that "look real"? Why do we like "virtual realities"? Why do we like magic tricks and camouflage? Inspired by some of the great masters of the Renaissance and Surrealist movements, such as Leonardo da Vinci and René Magritte, we attempt to answer these questions. In the process, students learn some impressive, illusionistic drawing skills, such as shading and linear perspective.

Students keep a visual notebook of ideas and develop an individual portfolio of drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, photography and new media. Students are especially encouraged to make the art room their studio and develop personal interests. Field trips complement the experience. Highlights of the year's work are featured at our annual Visual Arts Festival.

## GRADE 10

## OPTION COURSE: MUSIC

Students will continue development on their individual instrument through solo, and ensemble performing and continue to develop compositional skills introduced in Secondary III Music. The students will compose works for their own instrument, as well as for small ensembles within the class. Students will engage in research pertaining to an artist of their choice.

This class will continue to explore various genres of music such as classical, jazz, rock and funk, as well as include the discussion and exploration of improvisation and creativity in music. Students will also expand their knowledge of music theory, history and ear training. Mandatory participation is expected for all concerts.

## OPTION COURSE: THEATRE ARTS

The Grade 10 Theatre Arts Course is geared towards students who are interested in acquiring more advanced skills in 'acting'. The program focuses on extensive character exploration, mask work and shadow theatre. Students will learn how to manipulate their body and voice to play a believable character, as well as develop an understanding and the ability to 'emote' and have an impact on the audience. They will continue their character journey through a scene study unit and conclude the year by further developing their improvisation skills. By the end of the year, students' performance skills are significantly enhanced and refined, and their level of confidence has grown immeasurably.

## GRADE 10

## OPTION COURSE: PHYS ED. LEADERSHIP

The physical education leadership course strives to teach students to take a leadership role in all the physical activities that they are involved in. Understanding the importance of physical activity and taking responsibility for their health is the first step in achieving that goal.

With a focus on fitness and the development of lifetime habits through cardiovascular, resistance and flexibility training, this course provides students with the necessary tools to learn how to stay healthy and active in their lives outside of school. In addition to all of the health-related activities, students will also be involved in advocating physical activity within their community through several leadership initiatives.

## OPTION COURSE: EXPLORATION IN MULTIMEDIA

This is an introductory course in the production and editing of digital images, video production, and digital photography. Students will learn how to use computer software, hardware, and techniques related to film and photography. The course is project-based, and encourages both personal and experimental approaches to the projects.

## OPTION COURSE: SPANISH

This course builds on the knowledge and skills acquired in previous Spanish classes. Students will cover new themes such as sports, the environment and shopping. Each theme will incorporate not only new vocabulary but also new grammar to improve Spanish communication skills. A great course focused on obtaining more fluency in Spanish.

## STUDENTS MAY ALSO OPT TO CHOOSE FROM THE FOLLOWING EXTRA ENRICHMENT COURSES

## EXTRA ENRICHMENT COURSE: ADVANCED STUDIO ART

Advanced Studio Art is an advanced pre-AP course for students who wish to create a professional portfolio in Fine Art, 2-D Design or 3-D Design. It is run on an extracurricular basis (once a week after school from 3-5 p.m). This course requires independent work and students are encouraged to live like artists by creating a small studio space at home and keeping a daily visual notebook of ideas and reflections. They are also expected to have regular meetings with a Visual Art teacher to advance their ideas. This course builds upon (and requires) the observational drawing skills taught in Grade 9 and 10 regular art, such as contour drawing, shading and linear perspective. It is therefore highly recommended that you take the regular art class option, in conjunction with the Advanced Studio Art course, in order to succeed.

NB: This course is a pre-requisite for students who wish to take AP Studio Art in Grade 11. A $\$ 150$ supply fee is required to participate in this course.

## EXTRA ENRICHMENT COURSE: FRANÇAIS LANGUE MATERNELLE COACHING

This coaching session is offered to Grade 10 students from the Français Langue Maternelle program who wish to write the MEERS français langue d'enseignement exam at the end of Grade 11. These sessions are given one day per week at lunch or afterschool.

## GRADE 11

Before making course selections for their Grade 11 year, students should understand fully the implications of their decisions for CEGEP.

## LIBERAL ARTS PROGRAM - GRADE 11

All students in Grade 11 Liberal Arts must take the following compulsory courses:
English $\downarrow$ Ethics \& Religious Culture
$\square$ Mathematics 504 or 506 or 583
V French
V Contemporary World/
『 Physical Education
Integrated Project

Grade 11 Liberal Arts students are required to select one option course from the list below:
$\square$ Visual Arts
$\square$ Theatre Arts
$\square$ Music

Grade 11 Liberal Arts students are also required to select three option courses from the list below:
$\square$ Psychology
$\square$ Phys. Ed. Leadership
$\square$ History of the $20^{\text {th }}$ Century
$\square$ AP Studio Art
$\square$ Photo/Media
$\square$ Virtual Studies
$\square$ Spanish

## GRADE 11

In order to enter any CEGEP Science program (Health/Pure and Applied) students must successfully completed Science and the Environment in Grade 10 and Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics in Grade 11.

## SCIENCE PROGRAM - GRADE 11

All students in Grade 11 Science must take the following compulsory courses:

V English
$\square$ Mathematics 506 or 583

- Contemporary World/

Integrated Project
$\square$ Ethics \& Religious Culture

- French

V Physical Education
V Chemistry
『 Physics

Grade 11 Science students are required to select one option course from the list below:
$\square$ Visual Arts
$\square$ Theatre Arts
$\square$ Music

Grade 11 Science students are also required to select one option course from the list below:
$\square$ Psychology
$\square$ Photo/Media
$\square$ Phys. Ed. LeadershipVirtual Studies
$\square$ History of the $20^{\text {th }}$ Century
$\square$ Spanish

## GRADE 11

## CHEMISTRY

## (Mandatory option for Science Program students)

(Prerequisite: Grade 10 Environmental Science and Technology, Mathematics 426s)

This course is designed for students who intend to continue studies in Pure and Applied or Health Sciences. The course features an intensive experimental approach and a rigorous mathematical treatment. Topics include heats of reaction, chemical kinetics, gas laws, equilibrium, acid/ base chemistry and reaction rates. Students will be evaluated on lab reports, periodic quizzes, unit tests and science fair (research paper, lab report, five page report, board and presentation). The successful completion of this course is required for entry into all CEGEP Science programs.

## PHYSICS

## (Mandatory option for Science Program students)

(Prerequisite: Grade 10 Environmental Science and Technology, Mathematics 426s)

This course is designed for students who intend to continue studies in Pure and Applied or Health Sciences. Through mathematical analysis and experimentation, students learn physical concepts including: motion, forces, kinematics, dynamics, conservation of energy, light phenomena, reflection, refraction, and images formed by lenses and mirrors. Students will also work towards completing a project for our local Science Fair with the possibility of going on to compete at higher-level science fairs too. Examples of evaluations are: tests, exams, labs, and other projects. The successful completion of this course is required for entry into all CEGEP Science programs.

## GRADE 11

## OPTION COURSE: PSYCHOLOGY

The aim of the course is to introduce students to the study of human behaviour and mental processes. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles and phenomena associated with each of the major subfields within psychology. They also learn about the methods psychologists use in their research and practice. Students are encouraged to make connections between their own lives and the material studied, especially in such pertinent areas as the biological basis of behaviour, social psychology, developmental psychology, learning, and personality.

## OPTION COURSE: VISUAL ARTS

The Grade 11 Visual Arts course focuses on how to move away from the traditional styles of visual representation taught in previous grades and find your own way of working. Creativity is developed via experimental workshops and an exposure to Avant-Garde (front line) trends in Modern and Contemporary Art, such as Cubism, Surrealism, Land Art and Performance Art. In this way the course pairs well with History of the $20^{\text {th }}$ Century. Students are encouraged to find a link between design and matter in their work; for example, actually incorporating earth might suit a work about the land. The result is a unique portfolio of drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, photography and new media. Local field trips complement the studio experience.

Work created in this course is suitable for applying to CEGEP programs that require a portfolio such as: Fine Arts, Illustration \& Design, and Graphic Design. It is also recommended that students take A.P. Studio Art if a career in the visual arts is their long term goal. Students are especially encouraged to make the art room their studio and develop personal interests. Highlights of the year's work are featured at our annual Visual Arts Festival.

## GRADE 11

## OPTION COURSE: MUSIC

Students will continue development on their individual instrument through solo, and ensemble performing. Students will continue to compose while learning to manage a portfolio of their compositions. The students will compose works for their own instrument, as well as, small and large ensembles within the class. A focus will be placed on individuality and creative expression. Students will engage in research pertaining to an artist of their choice.

This class will continue exploration of various genres of music such as: classical, jazz, rock and funk, as well as, discussing and exploring improvisation and creativity in music. Students will transcribe improvised solos of important musical artists in order to analyze and discuss in detail, the creative process at work during musical improvisation. This class also introduces musical notation software and some elements of MIDI and technology in music. Discussion and analysis of the music business and its various career paths will be included. Students will also expand their appreciation for the many dimensions that includes music by continuing to develop their knowledge of music theory, history, and ear training. Mandatory participation is expected for all concerts.

## OPTION COURSE: PHYS ED. LEADERSHIP

The physical education leadership course strives to teach students to take a leadership role in all the physical activities that they are involved in. Understanding the importance of physical activity and taking responsibility for their health is the first step in achieving that goal.

With a focus on fitness and the development of lifetime habits through cardiovascular, resistance and flexibility training, this course provides students with the necessary tools to learn how to stay healthy and active in their lives outside of school. In addition to all of the health-related activities, students will also be involved in advocating physical activity within their community through several leadership initiatives.

## GRADE 11

## OPTION COURSE: AP STUDIO ART

Advanced Placement (AP) Studio Art is an advanced course for students who wish to create a professional portfolio in one of the following three areas:

- Fine Art (drawing, painting, printmaking etc.)
- 2-D Design (graphic design, comics, photography etc.)
-3-D Design (sculpture)
A total of 24 works is required. 12 must investigate a personal visual idea (like having your own show!) and 12 must reveal your understanding of different approaches to visual art in your area. For example, if you were doing 3-D Design, you would need to show that you can carve, construct and model, as well as produce a body of 12 personal works that investigate a particular 3-D idea. This course builds upon (and requires) the observational drawing skills taught in Grade 9 and 10 regular art, such as contour drawing, shading and linear perspective, as well as the ability to move beyond representation and experiment, as explored in the Grade 11 regular art class option. It is therefore highly recommended that you take the regular art class option, in conjunction with the Advanced Studio Art course, in order to succeed. If not, you must seek the approval of the Department Head.

AP Studio Art requires a lot of independent work. Students are encouraged to live like artists, by creating a small studio space at home and by keeping a daily record of ideas and reflections. Students are also required to have regular meetings with the Department Head of Visual Art to advance their ideas and prepare for the final portfolio. Finished works are photographed and mounted to professional standards and sent to the College Board for final accreditation.

NB: A $\$ 150$ supply fee is required to participate in this course.

## GRADE 11

## OPTION COURSE: PHOTO MEDIA

In this course students explore photography and media and learn how to skillfully create an image. Course topics include learning about about lenses, exposure, lighting, composition, aesthetics, Photoshop and digital manipulation. Students shoot and develop black and white film and will develop the ability to properly handle a camera, becoming a master of technology rather than a victim of it. The course will examine the various forms of media from both an historical and contemporary perspective. The evolution of media will be analyzed, and its impact on society, and the individual, will be studied in depth.

During term two, there will be the option for a small group of students to do a media oriented robotics build. The students who decide to take this option will build a remotely controlled camera dolly. For the duration of this term, the students choosing this robotics option will not have to do the regular weekly photography assignments.

## OPTION COURSE: THEATRE ARTS

The Grade 11 Theatre Arts Program teaches students how to synthesize their skills and knowledge of production elements, animation, movement and character, learned in previous years. This level of mastery will be demonstrated throughout the year beginning with public speaking and monologues, where students are given the opportunity to demonstrate their skills as individual actors, followed by an advanced scene study unit. Students will finish their year with a fun movement \& rhythm unit called 'Stomp'. The focus in this class is primarily to continue gaining acting experience, and to become even more confident in front of an audience. Students should be continuously trying to master their skills and strengths.

## GRADE 11

## OPTION COURSE: HISTORY OF THE 20 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ CENTURY

This course focuses on global relations and their impact on states, as well as on ideological movements and their evolution during a time of confrontation and transformation. It examines a wide variety of sources, points of view and various interpretations. By taking these into account, students will develop a more balanced and critical attitude concerning history. Classes are often held in a seminar format in order to facilitate discussion and critical analysis of the material covered. Areas studied are imperialism and WWI, the rise of totalitarianism and WWII, the Cold War and collapse of the Eastern Bloc, and identity movements as a result of decolonization and the fall of the Soviet Union. The course is designed to stimulate and challenge.

## OPTION COURSE: SPANISH

This course builds on the knowledge and skills acquired in previous Spanish classes. Students will cover new themes such as sports, the environment and shopping. Each theme will incorporate not only new vocabulary but also new grammar to improve Spanish communication skills. A great course focused on obtaining more fluency in Spanish.

## OPTION COURSE: VIRTUAL STUDIES

In this course, students embark on an independent course of online study under the guidance of a teacher mentor over the course of the year. This course is designed to give highly motivated and autonomous students the opportunity to undertake a rigorous course of study. Possible subjects include but are not limited to: European, US, or World History, Economics, Creative Writing, and Music Appreciation.

NB: A fee is required to support the enrollment of students with the various course providers (course prices vary between $\$ 450$ and $\$ 650$ ).

# STUDENTS MAY ALSO OPT TO CHOOSE FROM THE FOLLOWING EXTRA ENRICHMENT COURSES 

## EXTRA ENRICHMENT COURSE: FRANÇAIS LANGUE MATERNELLE COACHING

This coaching session is offered to students from the Français Langue Maternelle program who wish to write the MEERS français langue d'enseignement exam at the end of Grade 11. These sessions are given one day per week at lunch or afterschool.

## EXTRA ENRICHMENT COURSE: AP ENGLISH LITERATURE

Advanced Placement English Literature is offered within regular English class time as a substitute for the regular English course. Places are limited.

The goals of this course are to study English Literature in a historical context and to prepare students for the Advanced Placement composition and literature external examination set by The College Board. The course asks students to read widely and provides them with the opportunity to develop the analytical and writing skills of a student who has completed first year university English.

Note: The English Department Head will contact interested students regarding entrance requirements.

## EXTRA ENRICHMENT COURSE: AP PSYCHOLOGY

This Advanced Placement course is optional for those students who wish to seek extra enrichment in the field of psychology. Students who participate in the AP Psychology option may choose to write an examination in May to seek accreditation at the US College Board.

## EXTRA ENRICHMENT COURSE: AP CALCULUS

This enrichment opportunity is offered to students who demonstrate strong competency in the Math 583 course and obtain an $85 \%$ + average on the Math 583 Christmas exam.

In order to determine if they want to write the end of May AP calculus exam, all students in the Math 583 (introductory Calculus) course will be given challenging AP style questions during the first half of the year. This will help them evaluate the difficulty level of the AP Calculus exam even prior to the December exam and instruct their decision to register for the May AP exam should they meet the above requirement for registration.

Students who qualify for the AP Calculus exam will be offered special coaching sessions from January to May, once a week after school. In addition, students who choose to take the AP Calculus exam will focus their class time on AP Calculus exam independent practices during the third semester, while other Math 583 students will continue with the introduction of other advanced topics such as statistics and probability.

Academic Options - Grade 8-11
2016-2017


