



## Complementary Courses: 2024-25

### Key Information

[2024-24 CBE Calendar](#)

#### **First Day of School:**

Thursday August 29<sup>th</sup>:  
Gr. 7: Half the day  
Gr. 8 & 9: Half the day

#### **Key Contacts:**

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[Full Staff List](#)



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### All students at Sir John A. Macdonald will take:

- English Language Arts and Social Studies (Humanities)
- Science and Mathematics (SMATH)
- Physical Education integrated with Health and Life Skills

[Grade 7 At A Glance](#)

[Grade 8 At A Glance](#)

[Grade 9 At A Glance](#)

### **Grade 8 and 9 students:**

- 4 complementary courses:
  - two from September to January
  - two from February to June
- Exception: Full year courses include Band & Yearbook

### **Grade 7 students:**

- Depending on student demand and facility access, our Grade 7 students may be placed in a 'wheel': students will be exposed to multiple complementary courses

### **How do I sign up for my desired complementary courses?**

Current Grade 6 students: Mr. Jensen will be in touch.

Current Grade 7 and 8 students/Future Grade 8 and 9 learners:

Please sign up through PowerSchool: <https://sis.cbe.ab.ca/public/home.html>

- Students must use their own account; the parent account does not provide access to course selections.
- **Deadline: Friday March 1st.** We will strive to connect with your child if they miss this deadline. ***This information helps us to design student timetables and teaching assignments.***

**Note:** due to high demand in several courses and facility restraints, it is impossible to give every student all of their course selections.

# INDIGENOUS EDUCATION

[CBE Supports](#)



**Niihiyyat 7, 8, 9** (no course fee: subject to a field trip activity fee)

This course creates space for students to build relationships with Place and Community. In Niihiyyat (Guide Us), students will learn to understand The Land as teacher, their own personal gifts and explore the 4 Domains of the whole self; Spirit, Heart, Body, and Mind. Students will participate in Holistic and Experiential learning to explore the following questions:

- How can students build respect between self, others, and the natural world to facilitate harmony?
- How can students recognize and model relationships as interconnected?
- In what ways can students foster reciprocity?
- What evidence of renewal can students find on the land and in the world around them?

Throughout the semester, students will be offered opportunities to listen to Indigenous Knowledge Keepers, and Elders. Course Materials and Field Trips: An additional fee may be attached based on opportunities offered.



## FINE ARTS

**ART (VISUAL ARTS):** A safe and welcoming space for students to take creative risks and become artists! No experience necessary; we teach you the attributes to become confident in expressing yourself, in a relaxed, supportive and fun atmosphere. Classroom instruction is student-centered and focused on individual abilities and interests. Experienced artists will be given opportunities for enrichment and growth through personalized instruction.

**Art 7** (\$25.00 course fee in 2023-24; subject to an increase) Designed to introduce students to the elements and principles of art and will focus on creating art using various 2D and 3D materials and processes. This course will aim to build fundamental skills and will allow students to learn the basic techniques behind drawing, painting, printmaking, fiber art and sculpture. Additionally, students will discover how to analyze art, communicate through their art and understand composition. Art is all about experimenting; please do not feel like you need to have “artistic talent” or experience to take Art!



**Art 8** (\$25.00 course fee in 2023-24; subject to an increase) Visual Art 8 will focus on creating art using various 2D and 3D materials and processes at the intermediate level. This course will allow for a deeper understanding and focus on drawing processes, painting techniques, printmaking, fiber art and sculpture. Students will integrate their knowledge of composition and use creative decision-making to communicate ideas with their art. This course does not require a prerequisite so do not be deterred if you did not take Art 7! Art is all about experimenting; please don't feel like you need to have “artistic talent” or experience to take Art!



**Art 9** (\$25.00 course fee in 2023-24; subject to an increase) Visual Art 9 will focus on creating art using various 2D and 3D materials and processes. This course will allow students to direct their own

learning so that they can build upon their skills from previous Art courses. Students will integrate their knowledge of composition and use creative decision-making to communicate ideas with their art. Fundamental skills will still be central to our learning so do not feel intimidated if you have not taken previous Art classes, there are no prerequisites required. Art is all about experimentation and practice; please don't feel like you need to have “artistic talent” or experience to take Art!



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**Choral Music 7, 8, 9** (no course fee) Do you love to sing?! Would you like to develop your vocal skills? The choral class will focus on developing your singing skills both independently and within a group, while learning about the fundamentals of music.

Choral students:

- Learn to sing and develop vocal techniques using unison melodies and two-part harmony
- Learn about different styles of singing.
- Perform with others in a choir.
- Create music and write songs.
- Develop an understanding of the elements of music.
- Learn about the history of choral and vocal music through various musical genres (pop, rock, classical, jazz and more!).

#### **Band (Instrumental Music) 7**

(\$25.00 Course Fee in 2023-24 and Instrument Registration (Rental) Fee \$100)

Do you love music?! Band at SJAM is about learning to play a musical instrument while playing in a Band! No prior musical experience is necessary. **Band is a full year course.**

- learn to play a musical instrument; woodwind (flute, clarinet, bass clarinet) or brass (trumpet, trombone, euphonium, tuba) instrument, with additional percussion performance opportunities.
- perform and listen to a variety of musical genres (pop, rock, classical, jazz and more!)
- create and compose music.
- enjoy annual activities which include; performing in winter and spring concerts, attending concerts and fieldtrips, performing for elementary students and band camp!

**Band (Instrumental Music) 8 and 9** (\$25.00 Course Fee in 2023-24 + Instrument Registration (Rental) Fee \$100)

Band students learn to play a musical instrument while playing in a Band! Band 8 and Band 9 students continue to develop music performance skills started in Band 7 and 8. Prior experience is an asset, but not required. Band is a full year course.

- learn to play a musical instrument; woodwind (flute, oboe clarinet, bass clarinet, saxophone), brass (trumpet, trombone, euphonium, tuba) or percussion. (Percussion is by audition).
- perform and listen to a variety of musical genres (pop, rock, classical, jazz and more!)
- create and compose music.
- enjoy annual activities which include; performing in winter and spring concerts, attending concerts and fieldtrips, performing for elementary students and band camp!

**Guitar 8 and 9** (\$20.00 Course Fee in 2023-24) The guitar class introduces students to the fundamentals of music and playing guitar! No previous musical experience is necessary. However, if you already have experience playing guitar, you will continue building skills from your current playing level. Guitar students:

- Learn about the history of guitar music through various musical genres (pop, rock, classical, jazz and more!).
- play chords, melodies and finger picking technique.
- learn to count rhythms, read and write musical notation and chord symbols, various strumming patterns, as well as develop basic music composition skills.
- listen to different genres of music (pop, rock, hip hop, rap, jazz and more!).
- play independently, with a partner, and within a group.
- apply new skills to learn music of their own choice!

#### **Electronic Music via General Music – Grade 7, 8, 9** (course fee TBD)

Do you like listening to music with electronic sounds – rock, pop, hip hop, rap?! This class is for anyone who would like to learn more about music, without performing in a band or choir, and instead create their own digital music!

Electronic music students:

- create music using the software applications provided.
- learn basic music theory and piano skills.
- develop an understanding of the elements of music, and the ability to critique music



### Drama 7, 8, 9 (no course fee)



This course offers students a wide variety of creative and expressive opportunities. Classes are designed to focus on individual improvement in the disciplines of movement, voice, character development, scene study and structure. Further venture into tech, improvisation, and minimal script work is also developed within the course. The basic skills of performing and audience awareness are explored in this hands-on, creative course. In addition to exploring all aspects of the dramatic arts, the film studies portion of this course is ideal for students who enjoy watching a variety of movies, who want to look deeper into the plot lines of a film and who would enjoy discussion about some of their favorite characters.

### New in 2024-25: Fine and Performing Arts Productions



All students in Drama have the chance to join a significant film or theatre project each school year. In this Club activity, students can take part either as performers or as members of the tech crew. Being involved in productions requires a commitment to an extended school schedule, with rehearsals taking place after regular school hours and performances held in the evenings.

If students are engaged in the 'technical theatre' aspect of the program, they will support in one or more areas:

- Set
- Acting
- Properties (props)
- Make-up
- Sound
- Lighting
- Cinematography
- Management (Stage or Film Set)



# CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY FOUNDATIONS

## Program of Studies



### **Creative Apps 7 and 8 (Computing Science)** (no course fee)

**CTF Occupational Areas:** Computing Science (CSE), Information Processing (INF), Networking (NET)

Working independently and through collaboration with others, students will experience the creative process through project-based assignments. Students will utilize interesting and relevant technology to meet the challenge of using computer applications, both web and desktop based, and understanding network processes to create products and develop skills applicable to everyday and/or workplace practices. This includes typing skills, creating and formatting spreadsheets, manipulating digital photos, making multimedia presentations, and more, through engaging projects like creating a personal class schedule, composing a photo collage about a career, and producing a narrated video presentation about themselves. There will also be creative exploration in Minecraft and an introduction to coding through gaming.



### **Yearbook 9 (Management and Marketing)** (no course fee)

**CTF Occupational Areas:** Management and Marketing, Communication Technology

Working as a team, students will experience the creative process through the creation of our school yearbook. Students will learn the skills and concepts needed to take them from developing a theme for this year's book through to creating and publishing the pages in the finished product. The demands and expectations of this course will bring everyday workplace concepts, like deadlines and delegated responsibilities, to the forefront in a relevant way. Students are also required to commit their time outside of class to fulfill their obligation to photograph three school events/activities for each semester. Upon completion of the yearbook, as a final project students will then go through the creative process again in the creation of the Grade 9 Farewell Video.

**FULL YEAR COURSE.**



### **Film Studies 7, 8, 9** (no course fee)

**CTF Occupational Areas:** Communication Technology, Design Studies, Management and Marketing

The aim of this course is to encourage students to explore their interests and passions in film as they learn about various career possibilities and occupational areas in film that may interest them in the future. Students will have the opportunity to learn about the history of film, film techniques, how to appreciate and analyze film, how to review and write about film, how to write screenplays from different genres, design promotional materials, act, and how to design and create a film set. Students will watch and analyze film clips, short films, documentaries, and full-length films.



### **Construction and Fabrication 7, 8, 9**

**CTF Occupational Areas:** Construction (CON); Fabrication (FAB); Design Studies (DES)

Course fee in 2023-24: \$35

The Construction program provides students the opportunity to work with their hands to design and construct wood, metal, and plastic projects. During their exploration, students will apply elements of design, experiment with different materials, and explore various wood-working and metal-working techniques.





After completing a mandatory machine safety unit, students will have the opportunity to take on projects that will challenge their abilities and extend their skills. Students will learn about the design process and how to plan and construct projects in an efficient manner. The goal in our construction course is to focus on the students' interest in designing and creating, develop technical skills, and expose students to the knowledge and skills required in wood working and metal working industries. Students do not need any prior experience to join our class although it may be an asset.

**Grade 7:** Students will build 3 skill development projects + a mechanics project (something moves) and a design project (that solves a technical problem).

**Grade 8:** In this 'intermediate' level class, students will complete the same basic requirements of grade sevens, but they will be introduced more interesting and challenging projects as well as several new machines, such as wood lathes (bowls, candle sticks), milling machines (traveler's wedges) and more advanced metal work.

**Grade 9:** In this 'advanced' level class, students will complete the same basic requirements of previous courses, however, they will be taking on more advanced projects. Students will have greater freedom to individualize their mechanics and design projects and demonstrate their creativity, originality and their craftsmanship.

**Please Note:** All basic materials and supplies are covered by course fees, however, additional fees may be required if students wish to complete larger projects, use exotic hardwoods, or require specialized materials.

#### **Design Studies 7, 8**

**CTF Occupational Areas:** Communication Technology, Design and Fabrication  
Course fee in 2023-24: \$20

*"Students are the artists, scientists, thinkers, innovators and leaders of the future. They will be tasked with solving the problems of today, while imagining and creating a new tomorrow"* (Alberta Education, 2016). In this course, students will have opportunities to explore the design thinking process, from conception through development. They will be presented with various challenges and problems to solve, through the utilization of a variety of hands-on materials such as LEGO, Little Bits, sewing machines, maker space materials, etc. Students will have the opportunity to use design drawing software and explore connecting their interests and passions to potential careers. This course is for the student who enjoys solving logic problems, building challenges, prototype testing, escape room scenarios, and creative problem-solving.

#### **Electro-technologies/Robotics 9**

**CTF Occupational Areas:** Communication Technology, Design and Fabrication  
Course fee in 2023-24: \$30

Students will learn about different types of sensors, motors, and drivetrain mechanics, as well as how to incorporate these into automated designs which can be programmed. Students will use Arduino microcontrollers to control the movement and actions of their designs with remote controls. They will utilize both basic block-based and text-based coding to learn how to communicate with machines. This course is for students who like building challenges and problem-solving





### **Food Studies 7, 8, 9**

**CTF Occupational Areas:** Human services, Business, Information Processing

Course fee in 2023-24: \$35; projected to increase in 2024-25)

Students examine the role of food, looking beyond consumption to production, visual appreciation, nutrition, meal planning, economics and preparation; and learn the various skills in the cooking trade.

#### **Food Studies 7- Food Basics**

Students learn safe and sanitary food handling procedures, equipment care, comprehension of recipes and the importance of efficient work habits. Students will discover basic recipes with a focus on breakfast foods and Eating Well with Canada's Food Guide. Grade sevens will also prepare some light snacks and baking.

#### **Food Studies 8- Contemporary Baking**

Students develop and demonstrate an understanding of traditional and contemporary baking focusing on basic measuring techniques, preparation methods, role of ingredients and the proper use of equipment for baked goods. Grade eights will also prepare some light lunch items.

#### **Food Studies 9- Snacks & Appetizers**

Students apply the importance of snacks and appetizers related to lifestyle by making nutritious, as well as delicious, snacks and appetizers. Students develop an understanding of planning, preparation and evaluation of balanced, healthy meals. Students will also prepare some dinner items, baking and some multicultural foods.

### **Leadership 7, 8 and 9** (no course fee)

**CTF Occupational Areas:** Enterprise & Innovation, Community Care Services

This exciting course will prepare you to successfully work with people and help you to make a positive impact in your school and home community. The course blends aspects of community volunteerism, mentorship, and leadership into one course that:

- Encourages you to be a leader at SJAM! As part of this course, you will engage in activities such as planning various school events such as spirit days, fundraisers, dances, and assemblies.
- Examines the role of volunteers in a community and performs as volunteers themselves!
- Supports learning about the characteristics of positive mentoring relationships in their personal lives and society. Students will prepare to engage in a mentoring relationship which could include things such as mentoring future SJAM students and reading buddies.
- Explores basic principles of leadership. Create a plan for personal growth- Who do you want to be!?

**Leadership 7:** Listen and learn – Year of Discovery

**Leadership 8:** Key leaders in the support of the SJAM Grade 7 welcome in 2024-25 and support with the Grade 9 Farewell

**Leadership 9:** Lead Pep Rallies and support organizing the Grade 9 Farewell



### **Movie Making 8 and 9 (Communication Technology)** (no course fee)

**CTF Occupational Area:** Communication Technology



Working independently and through collaboration with others, students will experience the creative process through project-based assignments. Students will utilize interesting and emerging technology as a means to meet the challenge of communicating a message through the “canvas” of making movies. Emphasis will be on exploring skills relating to post-production tasks like audio-video editing, digital graphic design, and animation. Major projects include creating a logo graphic and animation as well as editing together a movie trailer, both of which are broken into two main parts; first is learning the skills needed by recreating an exemplar, and second is applying the skills to create their own version.

### **Outdoor Education and Environmental Education 7, 8, 9**

**CTF Occupational Areas:** Agriculture, Environmental Stewardship, Forestry, Primary Resources, Wildlife, Recreation Leadership  
(no course fee: subject to a field trip activity fee)



The focus of the Outdoor and Environmental Education course is to build an awareness and foundation of basic knowledge, skills, and attitudes related to a variety of environmental issues and outdoor pursuits. Students are introduced to safe and responsible outdoor travel, have a chance to apply their new skills on off-site trips, and learn about basic ecological processes and the effects of human lifestyles on the environment. The in-class theory-based learning prepares students with all the required knowledge, skills, proper use of equipment, and experience to ensure safe and enjoyable opportunities for outdoor recreation.



Students will connect to and explore occupations in resource management and extraction, urban planning, parks and protected areas, recreational pursuits and leadership opportunities. Field Trips may include skating, cross country skiing, snowshoeing, hiking, climbing, canoeing, kayaking, field experiences in water testing, ecosystems, forestry, air monitoring and wetlands, and in grade 9, an overnight experience.

**Grade 7:** focus is on land, ecosystems interactions and wildlife in addition to basic survival skills and understanding human impacts

**Grade 8:** focus is on water, watersheds, mapping, interactions of biomes and human impacts, in addition to survival skills, first aid and risk management

**Grade 9:** focus is on outdoor leadership, environmental action, air and energy impacts, outdoor geography, mountains, wilderness first aid and trip planning



### **Tourism 7 and 8** (no course fee)

**CTF Occupational Areas:** Environmental Stewardship, Wildlife, Tourism

Welcome to Tourism! Have you ever thought about traveling the world!? Here is your chance to gain some useful skills to plan the trip you have been dreaming of! In this course we will be investigating the motivating factors for travel and exploring employment opportunities related to tourism. Students will begin by creating a travel package (itinerary, attractions information,

traveler information, etc.) for somewhere in Alberta or Canada. They will then apply the knowledge and skills acquired to an international adventure for themselves and/or others! Assessment will be mainly project based.





# Current Grade 9 Students: Looking Ahead to High School in 2024-25

The CBE and SJAM staff are supportive of the transition of students from Grade 9 to 10. Ms. Billeck, Ms. Bethany, and Grade 9 HUM and SMATH teachers offer valuable guidance and support.

**Please consider exploring these links:**

Designated high schools are based on address/program: [Find A School](#)

- Input your child's primary residential address. A parent/guardian's address must be used.
- Use the "view program options" if you are looking for specialized programs (ie. IB, AP)

[High School in the CBE](#)

Supporting documents:

[Your Intro to High School - Condensed version](#)

[Detailed High School Course Guide](#)

Transfer information (transfer requests based on program, in high schools with capacity: [High School Transfers](#) – **due MARCH 15<sup>th</sup> – firm deadline.**

**Transfers based on program:** Prospective students can apply to schools based on a sequential course sequence (15 credit – 10/20/30 level) that is not offered at their designated high school, assuming the high school they want to attend has room. This requires families to research high school websites for programs that fit this requirement.

Students can also request a transfer based on unique programming:

[Central Memorial: Centre for Performing & Visual Arts](#)

[Spanish Bilingual Programming at Crescent Heights High School](#)

[Jack James High School:](#) Please see Ms. Billeck or Ms. Bethany for access to JJHS.

**[Transfer for Unique Settings:](#)** CBE Learn, Alternative, Discovering Choices, Jack James, Louise Dean – please reach out to Ms. Hornby ([mahornby@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:mahornby@cbe.ab.ca)) or Ms. Billeck ([mibilleck@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:mibilleck@cbe.ab.ca)) for transitional support if you are considering a unique setting.

IB Program [in the CBE:](#) **Expressions of Interest due by March 15** – no extensions.

Advanced Placement Program: at a [CBE High School](#) with space

