

Transition to High School and Course Selection

2025-2026



INTRO

SECTION A

SECTION B

SECTION C

SECTION D

SECTION E

SECTION F

Student Services @ Auburn

**School Counsellor
for Students A-L**

Ms. Munroe
lmunroe@hrce.ca

**School Counsellor
for Students M-Z**

Ms. Ritcey
lritcey@hrce.ca



- ★ Follow us on  @auburnstudentservices
- ★ Students can make appointments with our student services admin assistant in the student services office

Students can contact their school counsellor with:

- Academic concerns
- Social/emotional problems
- Interpersonal conflicts
- Class scheduling and courses
- Career exploration
- Post-secondary planning
- Connections to community supports

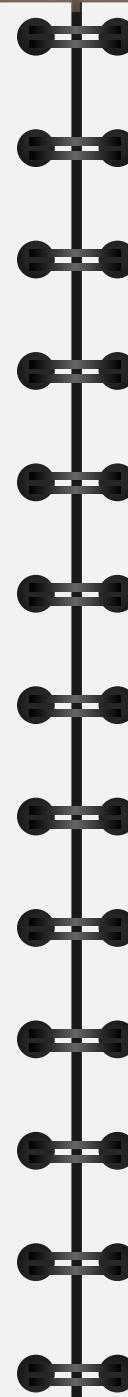


Important Dates

Fr Jan 30: Visit with grade 9's @
Astral Drive jr. High

Mon Feb 2: Visit with grade 9's @ Graham
Creighton Jr. High

Tues Feb 10: Grade 9 Parent Presentation @
Auburn Drive High School @ **6:30pm in**
Cafeteria



Grade 9's To do List:

Feb 20: Course selection should be complete for grade 9's (Powerschool course selection for grade 9's closes)

Feb 24: Course verification sheets are given to students

Feb 28: Signed course verification sheets are due back to Jr. High school counsellors

Why is course selection important?

Smart course selection helps you graduate on time, prepare for the future, and make the most of your high school experience!



- ✓ Helps with a smooth transition from Jr. high to high school
- ✓ Helps you discover and explore interests and strengths
- ✓ Meet graduation requirements (you must take certain courses to graduate)
- ✓ Helps with career and life planning
- ✓ Prepares you for post-secondary plans and admissions

- ★ University
- ★ NSCC
- ★ Private colleges
- ★ Apprenticeship
- ★ CAF
- ★ Workforce

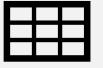
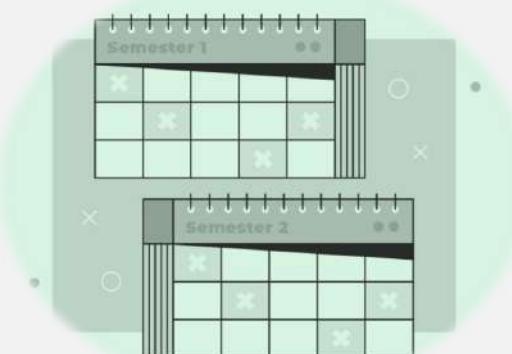


About Auburn:

Semesters

1st semester: September to January (write exams @ the end of Jan)

2nd semester: February to June (write exams @ the end of June)



Courses per year:

Grade 10: 8 courses (4 per semester)

Grade 11: 7 courses/1 study block

Grade 12: 6 courses/2 study blocks



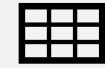
- ★ Students may **request** to 8 courses each year
- ★ Maximum of 21-24 courses in 3 years

About Auburn:

2025-26 Auburn Schedule					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:25-10:40	1(A-B)	2(A-B)	3(A-B)	4(A-B)	
10:50-12:05	2(A-B)	1(A-B)	4(A-B)	3(A-B)	
12:05-12:50	Lunch				
12:55-2:10	3(A-B)	4(A-B)	1(A-B)	2(A-B)	
2:20-3:35	4(A-B)	3(A-B)	2(A-B)	1(A-B)	

Rotating
Schedule

- ★ 4 classes per day
- ★ Fridays alternate through a Monday - Thursday schedule



Attendance:

Attendance is the most important factor in determining student success!



- ★ Attendance is taken every class.
- ★ PowerSchool provides attendance information.
- ★ Phone messenger sent every evening for missed classes.
- ★ Notes or emails for attendance are given/sent to main office

Study/Homework Expectations

Grade 10 - 1.5 hours 4 nights/week

Grade 11 - 2 hours 4 nights/week

Grade 12 - 2 hours 4 nights/week



Programs @ Auburn:

The following programs are offered at Auburn Drive High School:

- ★ English Program
- ★ French Immersion Program
- ★ Africentric Cohort
- ★ Options & Opportunities - 02
- ★ Advanced Placement - AP



French Immersion Certificate:



- ✓ Complete a total of 9 credit in French
- ✓ Complete a min of 2 courses in French each year
- ✓ Successfully complete FLA 10, FLA 11, FLA 12

Suggested Grade 10 French Immersion Credits:

- ✓ Recommended to take at least 4 FI credits in grade 10
 - ★ FLA 10 (required)
 - ★ Sciences 10
 - ★ Mode de Vie Actif 11
 - ★ Arts Dramatiques 10
 - ★ Études Canadiennes Contemporaines 11
 - ★ Biologie 11**

Africentric Cohort

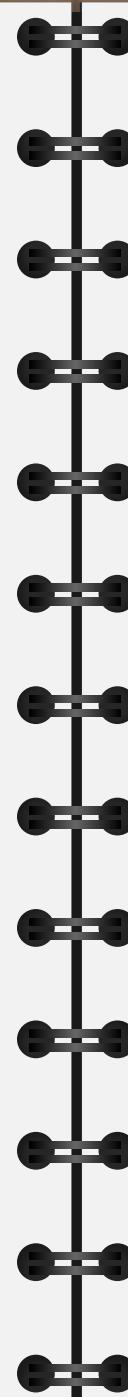
A program for students who:

- Identify as being of African descent.
- Have been recommended by the junior high school.
- Plan to attend a post-secondary institution (university, college, military, etc.)
- Will appreciate instruction that is centered around the student and their cultural heritage.
- Are interested in being in a supportive environment that allows for enriched programming both inside and outside of the classroom.
- Are willing to take part in a mandatory summer institute (early July and/or late August)

**A separate meeting will be held for parents/guardians and students interested in applying to the program.

What is the O2 program?

- ★ The O2 program is offered to 40 students per year through an application and interview process.
- ★ The O2 program is from grade 10-12 and focuses on:
 - Hands on learning
 - Career exploration
 - Work placements
 - Helping students transition to community college, university, or youth apprenticeship



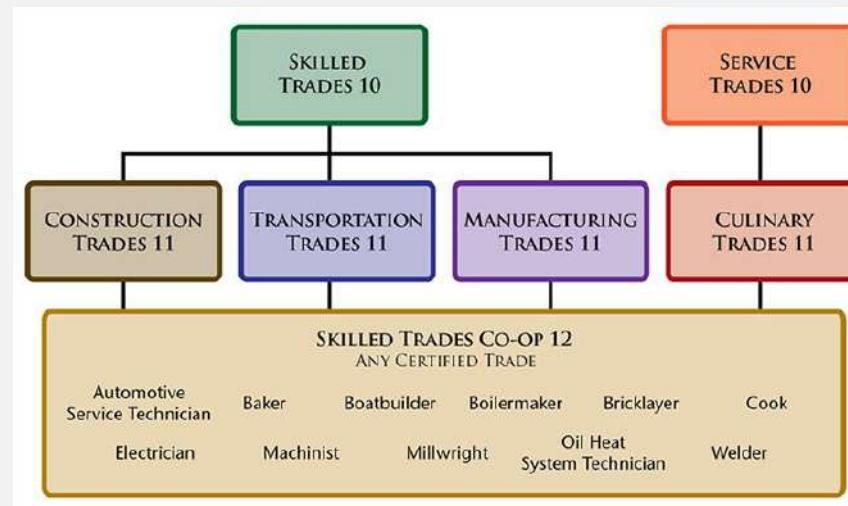
O2 students are students who:

- Are interested in being part of a cohort for three years
- Are interested in exploring careers.
- Are hard working.
- Have good attendance.
- Can benefit from hands on learning experiences.
- Are willing to try new skills and participate in field trips and training opportunities.
- Self advocate and are willing to catch-up on missed work.
- Are considering attending NSCC and/or related program offerings.



Skilled Trades 10

- ★ Limited to 16 students
- ★ Focusses on hand tool use and measurement skills
- ★ Units include carpentry, dry wall, plumbing and electrical



Service Trades 10

- ★ Limited to 16 students
- ★ Focusses on food preparation, food service and hosting
- ★ Class will periodically offer a café which is open to students and staff

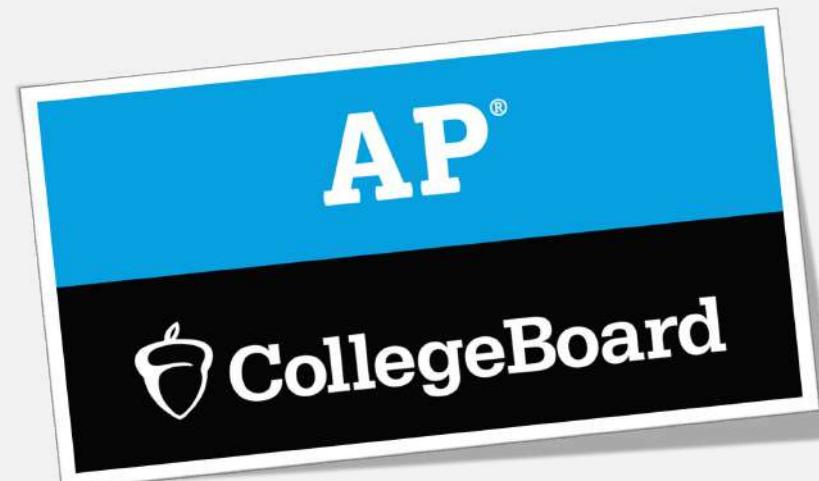


Advanced Placement (AP)

- Advanced Placement courses allow students to pursue university level courses while attending high school.
- The courses follow guidelines outlined by the College Board.
- Students should consider taking AP courses if they have a willingness to meet the challenges of a rigorous academic program.
- AP students can expect to spend an average of 1 hour per night on AP course work!

The following courses may be offered next year:

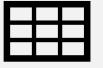
- ★ Biology AP
- ★ Calculus AP
- ★ Chemistry AP
- ★ World History AP



How high school works:

Courses (credits) are identified using the following:

1. Subject Name - English, Math, History, etc.
2. Grade Level - 10, 11, or 12
3. Credit Type
 - a. Advanced Placement: The opportunity to complete university level courses.
 - b. Advanced: Demonstrated exceptional achievement or academic ability
 - c. Academic: Designed for students who expect to enter post-secondary institutions.
 - d. Open: Some institutions may accept these courses when considering admission
 - e. Graduation: Designed for students who plan to obtain a NS High School diploma
4. Credit Value (1.0 – Full Credit/1 semester)



NOVA SCOTIA GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS:

- ★ 18 credits are required to graduate from a Nova Scotia High School
- ★ 13 are compulsory credits
- ★ 5 are elective credits
- ★ Maximum 7 grade 10 credits
- ★ Minimum 5 grade 12 credits



<https://www.ednet.ns.ca/credit-requirements-graduation>

Compulsory Credits :

- 3 English (10, 11, 12)
- 3 Math (10, 11, 12)
- 2 Science
- 1 Other from Technology, Math or Science

- 1 Fine Arts
(Art, Drama, Music)
- 1 Physical Education
(Phys. Ed 10, Phys. Ed 11 Basketball, Physically Active Living 11, Mode de Vie Actif 11, or Yoga 11)

- 1 Canadian Studies
(Contemporary Canadian Studies 11, African Canadian Studies 11 or Mi'kmaq Studies 11, Études Canadiennes Contemporaines 11)
- 1 Global Studies
(Global Geography 12, Global History 12, Global Politics 12, AP World History 12, Geographie Planétaire 12 or Histoire Planétaire 12)

English:

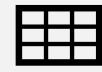
- 3 credits required, one from each grade level.
- All grade 10 students must take English 10.
- In grades 11 and 12 there are multiple levels of English courses available.

Science:

- 2 credits required; a "first science credit" plus any other science course.
- Grade 10 students will take Science 10 - it is a "first science credit".

Other Tech/Sci/Math:

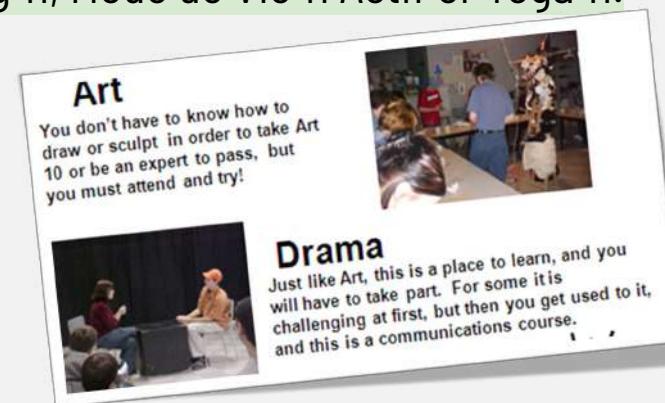
- 1 credit required from either: Technology or Science (beyond the 2 required science credits) or Math (beyond the 3 required math credits).



Compulsory Credits:

Physical Education:

- 1 credit required
- Grade 10 students choose one of the following: Phys. Ed. 10, Phys. Ed.11 Basketball, Physically Active Living 11, Mode de Vie 11 Actif or Yoga 11.



Fine Arts:

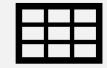
- 1 credit required
- Grade 10 students must choose one of the following: Visual Art 10, Drama 10, Arts Dramatiques 10 or Music 10.

Canadian Studies:

- 1 credit required
- Choose from: Mi'kmaq Studies 11, Contemporary Canadian Studies 11, Etudes Canadiennes Contemporaines 11 or African Canadian Studies 11.
- Can be taken in grade 10

Global Studies:

- 1 required credit
- Choose from: Global Geography 12, Global Politics 12, Global History 12, AP World History 12, Histoire Planétaire 12 or Géographie Planétaire 12
- The Global Studies credit is completed in Grade 11 or 12



Compulsory credits:

Mathematics :

- 3 credits required (10, 11, 12)
- All grade 10 students must take a grade 10 math course.
 - Choose from: Math 10 Academic (full year), Math 10@ Work, Math 10 Essentials

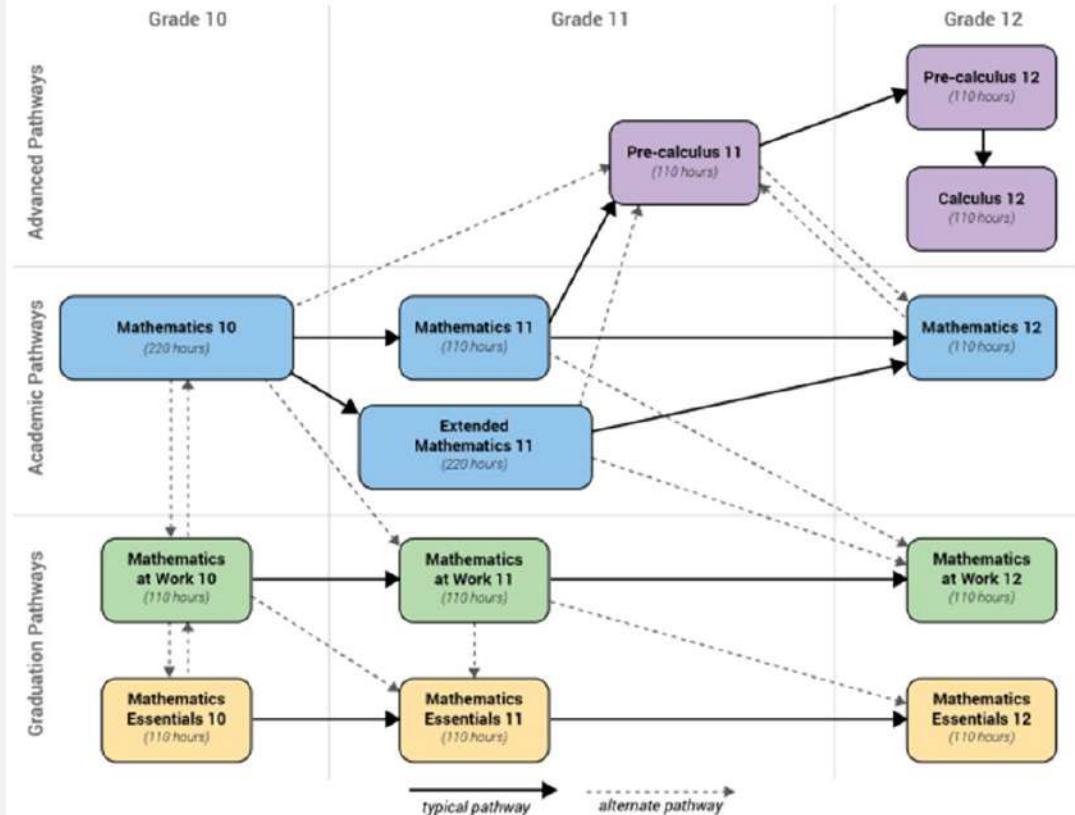
Mathematics 10 (Africentric Cohort):

- is an Africentric academic high school mathematics course designed for African Nova Scotian learners.
- Teachers use cultural characteristics, lived experiences, and perspectives of African Nova Scotia students as a means to teach and assess them equitably and with rigour.

(Note: The Africentric Cohort takes Mathematics 10 (two-credit course) along with the African Canadian Studies 11 and English 10 courses together as a group)

The Nova Scotia mathematics curriculum provides students the knowledge, skills, and understandings for post-secondary programs or direct entry into the workforce. High school mathematics courses are organized into four pathways: Academic, Pre-calculus, Mathematics at Work and Mathematics Essentials with each pathway being organized to provide specific mathematical contexts, concepts and skills. When choosing a pathway, students should choose a pathway that best fits their interests and plans after high school. For students entering Grade 10, Mathematics 10 provides the most flexibility for future courses. This would be a good choice for students unsure of their post-secondary plans. Students, parents, and educators are encouraged to research the admission requirements for post-secondary programs of study as they vary by institution and by year.

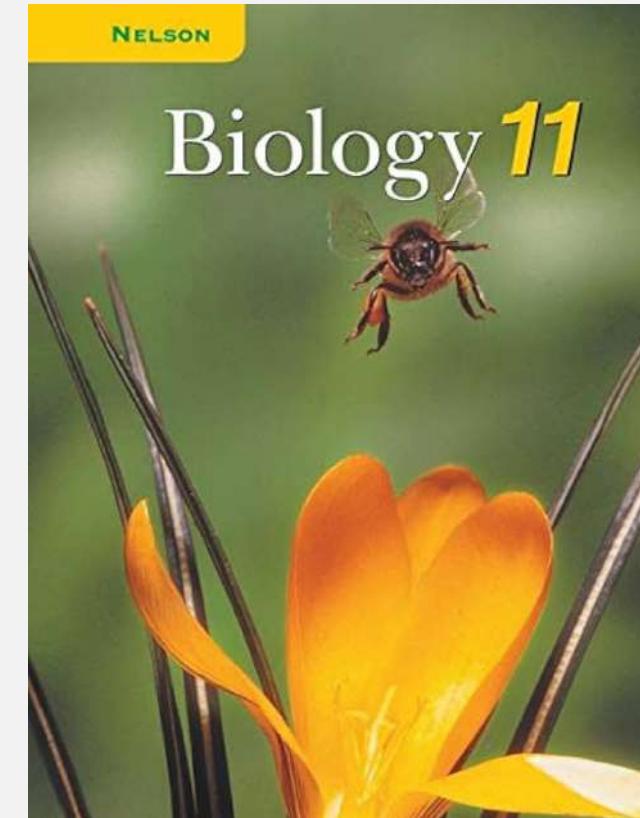
Senior High Mathematics Course Pathways (Effective 2021)



About Biology 11:

- Grade 10 students are able to select Biology 11 as a course request
- Please remember:
 - This is a grade 11 ACADEMIC level science course
 - Student should expect to have homework often (lab reports, student notes, completing work)
 - Student can expect to spend significant time studying and preparing for unit assessments.

It is recommended that grade 10 students that take Biology 11 have good study habits and understanding from Grade 9 science.



Personal Development Credits:

- Students who have successfully completed a course or program in one of three areas: Arts, Languages and Leadership that have been approved by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (EECD) will be eligible for a personal development credit.
- The credit will be entered on a student's transcript and may count toward one of the five elective credits required for graduation; it does not replace a compulsory credit.
- The EECD has developed a detailed set of criteria for approving external providers
- More information:
 - <https://careerpathways.ednet.ns.ca/personal-development-credits>
 - <https://www.ednet.ns.ca/docs/pdc-approved-providers-courses-en.pdf>

Challenge for Credit:

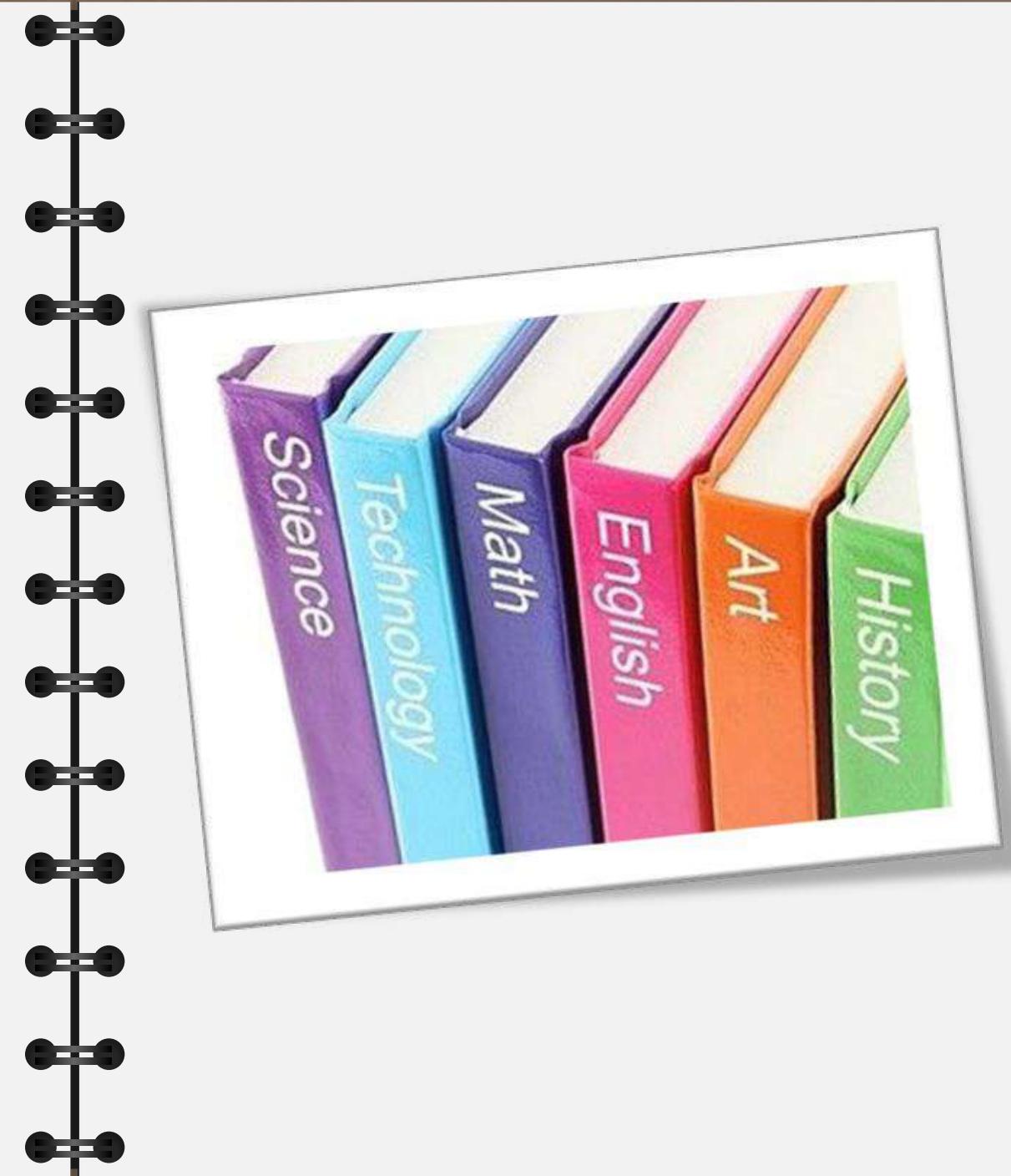
- "The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development recognizes that students may have already acquired the knowledge, skills, and attitudes that an existing course seeks to develop. Challenge for credit provides a process for students to demonstrate that they have achieved learning outcomes as defined in the Public School Programs and the curriculum guide for a directly-related course."
- **The student will have to gather information and evidence that they have met a course outcomes satisfactorily.**
- **The student will have to give this information to and engage in an interview with the school's Challenge for Credit committee.**
- If you think this is right for you, you can start the Challenge for Credit process.
- Challenge for credit involves a four step process:
 - Notice of intent to challenge
 - Consultation
 - Evidence of prior learning
 - Evaluation
- For more information:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZJjA1IIOXK_AbJ6reEMxo5PFQdNAubQ0/view?usp=drive_link

Picking Courses:

It is important that students pick the right courses for them. Students may not be able to change courses once they get their timetable in the fall.

We tell students to pick courses because:

- ★ They are interested in the topic
- ★ They need the course to graduate
- ★ They need the course to complete the French Immersion certificate
- ★ They need the course for your post-secondary plans
- ★ They have the ability to be successful in the course

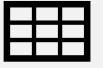


Grade 10 student take 8 credits:

Compulsory/required courses:

1. English 10
2. Math 10 (at the appropriate level)
3. Science 10
4. Physical Education credit (10/11)
5. Fine Art credit (10)
6. Canadian Social Studies (11)

***French immersion students will take the courses listed above + French Language Arts 10



Elective courses:

- A. If you take Math 10 Academic (2 credits) you choose 1 more elective
- B. If you take Math 10@Work or Math 10 Essentials (1 credit) you choose 2 more electives
- C. All students choose 2 alternative choices in case of scheduling conflicts. **Pick the alternates carefully – it may appear on the final schedule!

Notes:

- One of the 8 courses must be at the grade 11 level!
- FI students must choose French Lang Arts 10 as an elective.

What happens next?

Junior High School Counsellors will assist each student in completing their formal course selections. Course verification sheets will be sent home for parental approval and signature once the courses have been entered into PowerSchool.

Parents/Guardians should review the course selection booklets with their children. It is important to make decisions that will allow your son/daughter to experience success.

**Auburn Drive High School - Grade 10 - Course Selection
September 2026 Start Date**

Name: _____ **Junior High:** _____

Parent or Guardian: _____ **Home Address:** _____

Home Phone: _____ **Mother's Work Phone:** _____ **Father's Work Phone:** _____ **Cell:** _____

Parent Email: _____

Please put an 'X' in the appropriate number of courses below. Please consider your choices carefully as no course changes will be permitted. You will be in these courses for the 2026-2027 year.

* French Immersion Students should take 4-5 French Immersion Courses. You must take: Français 10, Sciences 10, Canadienne Contemporaines 11 & 1 or 2 of PAL 11F or Art Dramatique 10.

English	English 10	Sciences 10 (French Imm)
Science - Choose 1	Science 10	Sciences 10 (French Imm)
Fine Arts - Choose 1	Visual Art 10 Drama 10	Art Dramatique 10 (French Imm)
Math - Choose 1	Math 10 Essentials Math 10 at Work	Math 10 Academic (2 Credits)
Phys. Ed - Choose 1	Phys. Ed 10 PAL 11 Phys. Ed 11 Basketball	Yoga 11 PAL 11F (French Imm)
CDN History - Choose 1	Cont. CDN Studies 11 African CDN Studies 11	Mi'kmaq Studies 11 CDN Contemporaines (Fre) 11
French Immersion Only	French Immersion 10	
Electives - Choose 0-2 from the below list:		
Grade 10	Career Development 10 Exploring Tech 10 Food Tech/Prep 10	Geography 10 Learning Strategies 10 Skilled Trades 10 (32 seats) Service Trades 10 (16 seats) Biologie 11 (French Imm) Design 11
Grade 11	Accounting 11 Biology 11 Comm Technology 11 Child Studies 11	
Alternates - Choose 2 from below list (do not duplicate from above):		
Grade 10	Career Development 10 Exploring Tech 10	Geography 10 Learning Strategies 10
Grade 11	Accounting 11 Biology 11 Comm Technology 11 Child Studies 11	Biologie 11 (French Imm) Design 11

School Counsellors: A-L Lindsay Munroe (lmunroe@hrce.ca) and M-Z Lisa Ritcey (lritcey@hrce.ca)
I understand that NO course changes will be permitted.
I will be enrolled in these courses for the 2026-2027 school year.

Parent/Guardian _____ Counsellor _____
Date _____

Thank you!

