

## Option Course Descriptions for Grades 1-9

### Grades 4-9 Online Options (weekly live instruction)

**French (Semester 1 ONLY):** This course provides an introduction and an appreciation for the French language and culture. It allows students to learn to use the target language competently and confidently in a variety of situations. This French program supports instruction in the four areas of communication, listening, speaking and writing. **Weekly live instruction.**

**Spanish (Semester 2 ONLY):** This course provides an introduction and an appreciation for the Spanish language and culture. It allows students to learn to use the target language competently and confidently in a variety of situations. This Spanish program supports instruction in the four areas of communication, listening, speaking and writing. **Weekly live instruction.**

### Print-based Options

See course selection worksheet for grade-level availability.

**Art (Semester 1):** This course encourages students to explore a variety of media. Grade level projects reflect art strands outlined in the Alberta Programs of Study: drawing, painting, photography/technology, print making, sculpture and fabric.

**Careers 1 (Q2 or Q4):** This course is designed to introduce students to the world of work and the efforts and skills required not only to get a job, but also to keep that job. A particular emphasis will be placed on job satisfaction, identifying personal attributes, and work as an extension of gifts and talents.

**Careers 2 (Q1 or Q3): (Prerequisite: Careers 1 required)** Continued exploration will be placed on job satisfaction, identifying personal attributes, and work as an extension of gifts and talents.

**Catholic Religion (Semester 1 or 2):** The main focus of the Religious Studies program is to allow each student opportunities to examine and develop the attitudes and virtues that are necessary to make the profession of faith have a lasting and meaningful impact on their lives. The terms and theologies of Catholicism will become clearer as students learn about the Catholic religion. Students will learn together that what God says is good and generate ways we can live according to God's will.

**Coding 1: Introduction to Coding (Semester 1):** This course consists of seven units exploring computing essentials: Introduction, Binary and Logic, Scratch Adventure, Artificial Intelligence, Sorting and Encryption. **This course is project based.**

**Coding 2: Intro to App Design (Semester 2): (Prerequisite: Coding 1 required)** This course consists of two units exploring how to use Java to solve coding problems and building an App for an Android device. **This course is project based.**

**Current Events (Q2 or Q4):** This course is designed to develop students' understanding of and ability to critically assess current issues and events happening in the societal and worldly contexts. The aim of the course is to foster understanding and develop critical thinking so that students can develop their own positions on each story they cover. **Weekly live instruction.**

**Digital Literacy: Media Balance and Well-Being (Q1):** Students go beyond screen time to explore the impact their digital lives can have on their well-being and relationships while learning to balance media in their everyday lives.

**Digital Literacy: Privacy and Security (Q2):** Students learn how to protect personal information and gain a deeper understanding of their data privacy rights so they can advocate for themselves and others.

**Digital Literacy: Digital Foot Print/Identity (Q3):** Students consider the benefits and risks of online sharing and explore how a digital persona can affect one's sense of self, reputation and relationships.

**Digital Literacy: Relationships and Communication (Q4):** Students reflect on how to build positive relationships, avoid risky online talk, and understand why some topics and conversations can best lend themselves to certain mediums.

**Digital Literacy: Cyber Bulling, Digital Drama (Q2):** Students take on these tough topics and play the active role of upstander to build positive, supportive online communities and combat online cruelty.

**Digital Literacy: News and Media Literacy (Q3):** Students identify credible and trustworthy information sources and reflect on their responsibilities as thoughtful media creators and consumers.

**Jr High Computers (Semester 1):** This course is based on such things as: operating systems, Windows based applications and features, email and Internet basics, spreadsheet and data management, as well as basic software applications. **(This course is a pre-requisite to Multimedia).**

**Jr High Foods (Q2 or Q4):** This course introduces students to food basics such as making wise food choices, proper handling of foods and the importance of safe and efficient work habits. Within this, students will have the opportunity to learn with a hands-on approach to baking, preparing snacks and appetizers, buying and preparing fast and convenience foods. It will also explore customs relating to Canadian Heritage foods and ethnic foods.

**Jr High Special Projects (Full year):** Junior High Special Projects allows students to design their own course that may not be offered by The Centre for Learning@HOME. The project is arranged between student and teacher and may include such areas as animal care, volunteerism, mechanics, carpentry, etc. The course is evaluated using a student portfolio and journal.

**Learning with Minecraft (Q1 or Q3):** This course is designed to teach students the basics of coding and explore a real-world example of Artificial Intelligence.

**Multi-Media (Semester 2): (Prerequisite: Jr. High Computers required)** The following topics are covered in Multimedia: Defining Multimedia, Using Graphics to Send a Message, Animation, Audio and Video as a Tool for Communicating, Presentation Software, Utilizing Text to Communicate Effectively, Independent Project.

**Music (Full year):** Music is designed around the Music learning outcomes listed in the Alberta Programs of Study. Students may choose to play/practice their own instruments or follow posted lessons for the ukulele or recorder online. Students will also be provided monthly, grade level music theory lessons with the option to submit their own theory resources such as RCM or MYC.

**PAT Prep - Provincial Achievement Test Preparation (Semester 2):** This course supports students with extra review of key concepts and study skills needed for grade 9 and final exams.

**Study Skills 1 (Q1 or Q3):** This course is designed to assist students in exam preparation, organization, and academic strategies. This is an excellent course to help students prepare for the demands of junior high and high school and allows students to use daily skills to enhance their academic performance.

**8+Apps for Online Learners (Q2 or Q4):** This course will introduce students to a variety of apps they can use to take their learning to a whole new level. Learn how to create word clouds, infographics, timelines, and a whole lot more that will impress your teachers and your parents.

**Wildlife 1 (Q1 or Q3):** This course introduces a student to "What is Wildlife" and focuses on ecosystems and wildlife conservation and preservation. The course further studies the diversity of wildlife, the structure, behavior and habitat of an Alberta wildlife species. It also compares Alberta's wildlife with that in other parts of the world.

**Wildlife 2 (Q2 or Q4): (Prerequisite : Wildlife 1 required)** This course expands on the knowledge acquired in Wildlife 1. The course further studies the diversity of wildlife, the structure, behavior and habitat of an Alberta wildlife species. It also compares Alberta's wildlife with that in other parts of the world.

#### CTS Options – Grades 8 & 9

**Note:** Upon successful completion of the course, students may bank 1 CTS credit toward their high school diploma if they enroll at The Centre for Learning@HOME in grade 10.

**Word Processing 1 (INF1030) – (Q1 or Q3):** Students are introduced to the proper use of word processing software, including document creation, editing and printing of properly formatted documents.

**Spreadsheets 1 (INF1060) – (Q1 or Q3):** Students develop skills in the proper use of spreadsheet software through general data manipulation and personal recordkeeping.

**Database 1 (INF1050) – (Q2 or Q4):** Students develop skills in the proper use of a database management system by developing flat-file databases and demonstrating their use in personal and business applications.

**Private Law (LGS1010) – (Q2 or Q4):** Students develop skills in the proper use of spreadsheet software through general data manipulation and personal recordkeeping.

**Robotics 1 (ELT1130) – (Q1 or Q3):** Students apply the fundamentals of robotics systems and basic robotics functions.

**Personal Financial Information (FIN1010) – (Q2):** Students explore concepts that affect the finances of an individual, including a code of conduct, the economic environment, acquiring and using financial resources, and the effects of government legislation.

**Visual Composition (COM1005) – (Q2 or Q4):** Students learn to employ fundamental elements and principles of design for various media and gain a strong foundational multidisciplinary experience in preparation for other Communication Technology courses.

**Sewing Fundamentals (FAS1010) – (Q2 or Q4):** Students learn how to safely use and care for sewing and pressing equipment, and apply these skills during project assembly.

**Food Basics (FOD1010) – (Q1 or Q3):** Students learn safe and sanitary food handling procedures, equipment care, comprehension of recipes and the importance of efficient work habits.