

GORE HIGH SCHOOL



YEAR 9 COURSE BOOKLET 2009

YEAR 9 CORE SUBJECTS

ENGLISH - 9ENG

Course Length: One year

Cost: \$10 (Grammar Skills Booklet)

Entry Requirements: Compulsory

Course Outline:

Through the study of English in Year 9, students will have the opportunity to develop their skills in writing, reading, visual language, listening and speaking.

Writing: Students will have the opportunity to write regularly, both in response to texts and to express their own ideas. Teachers will help students to write accurately, with correct punctuation and grammar, and also to develop their ideas by increasing their vocabulary and broadening their use of sentences for effects.

Reading: Students will have the opportunity to read texts for enjoyment and to develop their understanding of how the writer creates the written word. Teachers will help students decode a wide variety of texts and discuss the effects of language and meaning on the reader.

Visual Language: Students will have the opportunity to engage with and respond to a range of visual texts, including static and moving images. Teachers will help students to identify important features of visual texts and discuss the effect of visual texts on the reader.

Listening: Students will have the opportunity to develop their skills as listeners in a range of situations. Teachers will help students develop questioning techniques and suitable responses as listeners.

Speaking: Students will have the opportunity to develop their skills as speakers in a range of situations. Teachers will help students develop their skills as confident speakers through whole class discussions, presentations, group work and individual responses.

These skills are taught through a variety of topics, including: poetry, Shakespeare and his theatre, class novels, short stories, non-fiction texts, drama and film studies. The teacher differentiates the texts to meet the needs of individuals and groups.

Assessment:

- ASTTLE/PAT tests for: reading, comprehension and vocabulary.
- Internal assessment of the achievement objectives.
- Internal end of year examination.

Credits: 160 towards the Certificate of Learning.

Where does it lead? To Year 10 English.

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION – 9HPE

Course Length: One year

Cost: \$12 – (4 Health Books and 1 PE work book).

Entry Requirements: Compulsory

Course Outline: This course is designed to use a variety of activities to allow the students to acquire, develop and refine new skills. The course encourages the students to work both independently and within a team, to self & peer assessment their progress and set goals.

Topics covered are:

Health – Personal identity: getting to know yourself, friendships, positive thinking, Hauora (Physical, Mental, Social & Spiritual well being). Personal Attitudes: communicating effectively, developing positive and healthy relationships, dealing with conflict and listening skills.

Physical Education: Over the year, the students will take part in a number of activities designed to develop and improve the student's physical, mental, social and spiritual well being. These activities include Athletics, Team Building, Unihoc, Basketball, Fitness, Gymnastics, Poi Toa, Climbing, Badminton and Volleyball.

Assessment: Students are assessed using national Achievement Objectives throughout the year and they are designed to show the students ability across a number of areas. In Year 9, students move from Level 4 objectives to level 5 objectives over the year. By Year 10 they will be starting Level 6 objectives. The students' Junior Graduation Points are assessed using the New Zealand Curriculum's five key competencies: thinking, using language, symbols, and texts, managing self, relating to others, participating and contributing.

Credits: 9HPE offers 120 credits towards the Certificate of Learning.

Where does it lead? To Year 10 Health and Physical Education.

MATHEMATICS - 9MAT

Course Length: One year

Cost: Approximately \$12.00 (Homework book)

Entry Requirements: Compulsory

Course Outline: Covers material based on Levels 4 and 5 of the Mathematics in the New Zealand Curriculum Statement. Topics covered are taken from the five strands of Algebra, Statistics, Number, Geometry and Measurement. There is also room for extension activities.

Assessment:

Throughout the year: Assessments noting achievement objective performance, assignments and common tests.

Mid-year report: Based on performance in common tests and selected achievement objectives.

End of year report: Based on performance in exam and common tests 80%: Test 20%: Exam.

Credits: 9MAT offers 160 credits towards the Certificate of Learning.

Where does it lead? To Year 10 MAT.

SCIENCE - 9SCI

Course Length: One year

Cost: Nil

Entry Requirements: Compulsory

Course Outline:

This course follows the New Zealand National Science Curriculum Level 5.

The major strands are:

- (1) The Material World
- (2) The Physical World
- (3) The Living World
- (4) Planet Earth and Beyond

The six topics covered within these strands are: Forensic Science, Living Things, Energy and Light, What's the Matter? Chemical Architecture and Living with Plants.

A good balance is maintained between theoretical and practical work.

Assessment: Students are assessed on both the science curriculum and appropriate essential skills from the New Zealand Curriculum in a variety of ways including tests, project work, practical and an examination at the end of the year.

Credits: 9SCI offers 160 credits towards the Certificate of Learning.

Where does it lead? To Year 10 Science.

SOCIAL STUDIES - 9SOS

Course Length: One year

Cost: approx \$8 for a workbook

Entry Requirements: Compulsory

Course Outline: The aim of Social Studies education is to enable students to participate in a changing society as informed, confident and responsible citizens. The Year 9 programme of work is primarily based around Level 5 of the Social Studies in the New Zealand Curriculum document. Through a variety of topics students will cover the five Social Studies strands (social organisation; culture and heritage; place and environment; time, continuity and change; resources and economic activities), and the Social Studies processes (inquiry, values exploration and social decision-making).

The main topics covered at Year 9 level include: New Zealand Past and Present, Pacific Island Neighbours, India, Take Me to Your Leader, The World of Work. Students will develop a range of skills, ideas and knowledge.

Assessment: Assessment will be by a variety of methods, and will be based around the essential skills of the New Zealand Curriculum. Assessments will include individual and group research, assignments, group activities, tests, achievement based assessment, end-of-year examination.

Credits: 9SOS offers 160 credits towards the Certificate of Learning.

Where does it lead? To Year 10 Social Studies.

YEAR 9 OPTIONAL MODULES

AGRICULTURE - 9AGR

Course Length: Ten weeks

Cost: Field trip - approx \$10.00

Entry Requirements: A liking for plants and animals. An interest in farming life and the rural environment.

Course Outline: Agriculture is about farms, the soil, the plants and animals on them. In Year 9 students learn why farming is important to New Zealand. Students also learn about different types of farms and the different plants and animals associated with them.

Assessment: Written tests, homework tasks and project work.

Credits: 9AGR offers 50 credits towards the Certificate of Learning.

Where does it lead? To further study in Agriculture and also to a better understanding of farms and farm animals.

COMPUTING – 9COM

Course Length: Ten weeks

Cost: Nil

Entry Requirements: None

Course Outline: It is essential that all students have a sound understanding of the use and application of the computer systems at Gore High School. In this course students will develop the skills to collect structure and manipulate information from a variety of sources. May include Power Point, Publisher and Word software programmes plus internet research.

Assessment: Internal.

Credits: 9COM offers 50 credits towards the Certificate of Learning.

Where does it lead? Transferable computer skills.

DANCE – 9DAN

Course Length: 10 Weeks

Cost: Nil possible cost of visiting dance performances

Entry Requirements: None

Course Outline: A new and exciting initiative from the Performing Arts curriculum. This is a practical course with some dance related theory. Students will develop literacy in dance as they learn to choreograph, perform, view and respond to dance across a range of genres (types of dance) and contexts.

Assessment: Performances, project and journal.

Credits: 50 Credits towards the Certificate of Learning.

Where does it lead? Year 10 Dance, NCEA Dance at Year 11, 12, 13 is a possibility.

DRAMA – 9DRA

Course Length: Ten weeks

Cost: May be required to contribute towards visiting artist performances

Entry Requirements: Nil

Course Outline:

Through the study of Drama in Year 9, students will have the opportunity to develop their skills through collaborative group work exploring Drama techniques which may include improvisation, mime, voice, script annotation, theatre games, and movement.

Assessment: Performances, project and journal.

Credits: 40 credits towards the Certificate of Learning.

Where does it lead? To Year 10 Drama.

FRENCH - 9FRE

Course Length: Three terms

Cost: \$8.00 Workbook (approximately)

Entry Requirements: None

Course Outline: Learn to speak fluent French with AIM – the new Accelerated Integrated Method. Wendy Maxwell, a Canadian teacher developed AIM because she was frustrated that her students, who had been learning French for 5-6 years, could hardly say a thing! AIM is a fun method that focuses on speaking and listening first, then moving to reading and writing. Gestures are used for each word and this enhances memory, as the students are all actively involved through listening, speaking and using their hands. The programme also uses stories, drama and music. The main goal of AIM is to help students express themselves fluently and confidently, while they develop a love of language learning.

Assessment: Written tests, oral presentations, play performances, and group work. The four language skills of speaking, listening, reading and writing are assessed. Various aspects of French life and culture are also studied and assessed.

Credits: 9FRE offers 150 credits towards the Certificate of Learning.

Where does it lead? To Year 10 French. This course leads to careers in interpreting, journalism, the hospitality industry, tourism, and international organisations. Some language knowledge is excellent for travel and job opportunities overseas.

FOOD TECHNOLOGY - 9FTE

Course Length: Ten weeks

Cost: \$40.00 includes workbook

Entry Requirements: Nil

Course Outline: Food Technology is one of the seven essential learning areas of the Technology Curriculum. Emphasis is on the basic fundamentals of Food and Nutrition concentrating on students' everyday life experiences. Other areas to be covered include hygiene, food safety and kitchen equipment and management. There will be a balance of written and practical work that enables students to enjoy and become confident in the preparation and completion of a wide range of experiences. All students will be expected to make and taste all recipes.

A fee of \$40 is used to pay for ALL food used throughout the ten weeks plus a student workbook.

Assessment: Students will be internally assessed using achievement based assessment.

Credits: 9FTE offers 50 credits towards the Certificate of Learning.

Where does it lead? Home Economics Year 10 and Year 11. Food and Nutrition Year 12. Career opportunities to various professions e.g. Chef, Lab Technician, Hotel, Hospitality, Catering, Nanny and Dietician. Hospitality Standards Institute units.

GRAPHICS – 9GRA

Course Length: Ten weeks

Cost: \$3.50

Entry Requirements: Nil

Course Outline: Graphics is a stimulating and creative subject that includes elements of basic art, design and technical drawing. These combined elements enable students to develop clear and precise methods of communicating complex topics, in graphical form. Students will use the design process to solve given problems.

Assessment: Work is internally assessed.

Credits: 9GRA offers 50 credits towards the Certificate of Learning.

Where does it lead? To Graphics in Year 10 and then senior courses. Polytechnic and University courses are available – architect, surveyor, product design, media design etc.

LITERACY – 9LIT

Course Length: Ten Weeks

Cost: Nil

Entry Requirements: The option is designed for those who have been identified through assessment results and teacher referrals to improve their literacy skills. Students will be invited to take part in this course.

Course Outline:

- To improve students' reading strategies.
- To improve students' spelling skills.
- To encourage students to read for pleasure.
- To help students choose books that suit them.
- To increase reading confidence and speed.
- To improve reading comprehension.
- To improve writing skills.
- To increase students' vocabulary.
- To improve confidence with a variety of text genres.

Activities: A mixture of activities during the course, including independent and shared reading, comprehension development, and word knowledge, using a variety of resources – books, computer programmes, articles, journals and internet searches.

Credits: 9LIT offers 50 credits towards the Certificate of Learning per term.

Where does it lead? This option leads to improved literacy skills, which facilitate learning across all curriculum areas.

MAORI – 9MAO

Course Length: Three terms

Cost: Nil

Entry Requirements: None

Course Outline: An introduction to the Māori Language targeting achievement objectives at Levels 1-2. Students take ownership of their own learning as they engage in both small and large group activities with a student centred approach, exploring the language and its parameters. As students internalise simple sentence structures such as introducing themselves as well as others, identifying colours in some everyday things, asking for the time, interpreting time and so on they continually expand their range of kupu hou (new words) by listing a new set on a weekly basis. With the Gore High School core values and key competencies as foundations for the students in their learning, they develop a respect and understanding for the significance and importance of not only their own language but the languages of others.

Assessment: Whakarongo – *Listening*, Pānui – *Reading*, Kōrero – *Speaking*, Tuhituhi – *Writing*. Students are assessed in all four areas of learning, end of unit tests (written and oral), individual tasks, small and large group activities, and oral presentations.

Credits: 9MAO offers 150 credits towards the Certificate of Learning.

Where does it lead? Year 9 Māori Language leads to Year 10 Māori Language. Career opportunities in media, interpreting, journalism, teaching, tourism in New Zealand and politics.

MUSIC - 9MUS

Course Length: Ten weeks

Cost: Nil

Entry Requirements: You **must** be learning or have learned an instrument or had singing lessons for at least one year prior to choosing this option.

Course Outline:

Basic concepts, knowledge and skills will be taught in:

- Performance (solo and group).
- Composition.
- Aural skills.
- Reading and understanding music.

An introduction to understanding music within a social/historical context will be given through analysing, performing, composing and researching.

Assessment: Group composition, solo performance, history of music research.

Credits: 9MUS offers 50 credits towards the Certificate of Learning.

Where does it lead?

- Year 10 music.
- Careers in the music industry.
- Knowledge of theory can lead to Trinity or Royal School of Music Theory exams.

MUSICAL APPRECIATION - 9MUA

Course Length: Ten weeks

Cost: Nil

Entry Requirements: Nil. This course is recommended for students who have no music reading skills.

Course Outline:

A brief introduction is given to develop an interest and understanding of the basic concepts and skills of music through:

- Performance (basic keyboard and guitar skills are taught for solo and group).
- Composition.
- Listening skills.
- Basic music reading skills.

It will also include some basic study of music within a social/historical context, e.g. as an advertising tool, or as part of our cultural heritage.

Assessment: Ongoing class assessment of performance, listening, composing and researching tasks.

Credits: 9MUA offers 50 credits towards the Certificate of Learning.

Where does it lead? Year 10 Music. Careers in the Music Industry.

NUMERACY – 9NUM

Course Length: Ten weeks

Cost: Nil

Entry Requirements: The option is designed for those who wish to improve their numeracy skills. Students will be identified by staff and invited to take part in this course.

Course Outline:

- To improve students numeracy basic facts.
- To improve confidence in learning new mathematical strategies.

Credits: 9NUM offers 50 credits towards the Certificate of Learning per term.

Where does it lead? This option leads to improved numeracy skills, which provide the foundation upon which all classroom Mathematics learning relies.

TECHNOLOGY FABRIC – 9TEF

Course Length: Ten weeks

Cost: \$20.00 includes workbook

Entry Requirements: None

Course Outline: Students will be given a common situation and brief and through the design process will arrive at a solution that will then be followed by the practical completion of a designed article. Emphasis will be placed on creativity, individuality along with exploration and use of associated materials and construction methods. Students will gain a basic understanding of techniques and processes required for completion of practical work. Assessments will incorporate written research, knowledge and practical outcomes.

Assessment: Students will be internally assessed using achievement based assessment.

Credits: 9TEF offers 50 credits towards the Certificate of Learning.

Where does it lead? To Technology Fabric Year 10 and Year 11. Clothing and Textiles Year 12. Technology Fabric Years 12 and 13. Fashion Industry, Polytechnic and University Design Courses.

TECHNOLOGY METAL – 9TEM

Course Length: Ten weeks

Cost: \$15.00

Entry Requirements: Nil

Course Outline: This subject is a "hands on" course, where students develop a range of practical and design skills. They will be given at least one design problem and will create a finished project, which solves this. The majority of time will be spent within the workshop environment. A range of processes and skills may be covered to enhance future learning in this subject.

Assessment: Students will be internally assessed using achievement based assessment.

Credits: 9TEM offers 50 credits towards the Certificate of Learning.

Where does it lead? To Year 10 Technology, senior courses and then further study or vocations. For example: mechanical engineering, Fitting and Turning, Sheet Metal Fabrication, Welding, Motorcycle Mechanic.

TECHNOLOGY WOOD – 9TEW

Course Length: Ten weeks

Cost: \$15.00

Entry Requirements: Nil

Course Outline: Students will complete a Workshop Safety Assignment and then design/make a solution which serves at least one particular need or situation. There will be a focus on developing students practical skills which will be further developed at following year levels. The majority of time will be spent in the workshop environment.

Assessment: Students will be internally assessed using achievement based assessment.

Credits: 9TEW offers 50 credits towards the Certificate of Learning.

Where does it lead? To Year 10 Technology and senior courses, further study or vocations, i.e. Construction industry, Polytechnic, University Technology and Design courses.

VISUAL ARTS - 9ART

Course Length: Ten weeks

Cost: \$10 plus Art pack

Entry Requirements: None

Course Outline: An experimental course that deals with techniques involving tone, line, texture, colour and form. Through practical work and a study of others' art they learn to make objects and images, to source and develop ideas and to communicate meaning.

Assessment: Students will be internally assessed using standards based assessment.

Credits: 9ART offers 50 credits towards the Certificate of Learning.

Where does it lead? To Year 10 Art.