

Academic and Applied Pathways

What's right for you right now?

Academic	Applied
Leads to the university/college pathway (level changes after Grade 9 if course material is too challenging, Academic English is required for university pathways and some college programs)	Could lead to the college/workplace pathway (level change after Grade 9 if not challenged enough, taking applied <i>math</i> does not eliminate a university pathway)
Assignments will involve a number of creative and critical thinking tasks (essays, seminars and reader responses)	Assignments will focus on a few creative and real-life tasks (news, reports, journals, opinion pieces and presentations)
Students will study a variety of literary texts (novels, Shakespearean plays and essays)	Students will study a variety of print texts (novels, plays, short stories and graphic novels)
Very focused and specific analysis of concepts and ideas	General and broad analysis of concepts and ideas
Challenging curriculum	Engaging curriculum
Critical & abstract thinking, critical analysis required	Guided analysis and prompts
Individual accountability for learning, able to use class-time efficiently without teacher direction, good organizational skills	Monitored learning (homework checks, in-class work checks), needs to keep on task with reminders, working on organization skills
Concept and theory based	Less theory – practical application
Class and group discussions for learning (literature circles)	Teacher led discussion
Oral Comprehension skills required (lecture, verbal discussion, verbal instruction)	Guided lessons and instructions (hands-on, oral and written instruction)
Independent reading (a lot is read outside of class), has a good work ethic, takes initiative in learning, needs little direction	Novel units and short stories read together as a class with explanations throughout (assistive technology and resources provided) needs teacher assistance
Some class time to complete assignments but class work outside the instructional time is expected, more homework expected	Class time provided to complete most assignments
Faster pace	Slower pace
Homework daily (dependent on teacher) 1-3 hours	Homework assigned less often, usually completed in class, 1-2 hours maybe required in the evenings, pair-based work
Good Note-taking skills required (from teacher lectures, whiteboards, etc.) able to create individual notes, group work & assessments, leadership skills	Handouts with notes and worksheets generally provided, working towards independent note taking