

Grade 9 Program

St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary School





St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary School

PRINCIPAL	MRS. MORO
VICE-PRINCIPAL/ IB COORDINATOR	MS. GIARDINA
VICE-PRINCIPAL	MR. AGRO
CHAPLAINCY LEADER	MRS. HARKIN





St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary School

Student Speakers

- Philip Andrea
- Marisa Serafini





St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary School

Ontario Secondary School Diploma

30 credits (graduating class of June 2030)

- **17** compulsory credits
- **13** elective credits
- (4 Religion courses compulsory, 1 in each year)
- 2 Mandatory e-learning credits
- 40 hrs. Community Involvement Activities
- The Provincial Literacy Requirement
- Financial Literacy Requirement





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2-Mandatory E-Learning Credits

- **2-Elearning Credits are required to graduate (unless they opt out)**
- Families that wish to opt-out can opt-out by indicating this in myBlueprint when selecting courses in grade 11.
- A student's graduation status **will not** be affected if they opt-out of the eLearning requirement.
- The opt-out form need only be submitted once. Students may also choose to opt-in at a later date.





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Community Involvement

Minimum 40 hours beginning summer before Grade 9

- Encourages civic responsibility, Catholic values, and importance of volunteering
- Supports career explorations
- Students may begin community hours starting July 1st, 2026
- Ministry and Board Guidelines governing placements



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Compulsory credits

You need the following 17 compulsory credits to get your OSSD:

- 4 credits in English (1 credit per grade)
- 3 credits in mathematics (Grade 9, Grade 10 and 1 credit in Grade 11 or 12)
- 2 credits in science
- 1 credit in technological education (Grade 9 or Grade 10)
- 1 credit in Canadian history (Grade 10)
- 1 credit in Canadian geography (Grade 9)
- 1 credit in the arts
- 1 credit in health and physical education
- 1 credit in French as a second language
- 0.5 credit in career studies
- 0.5 credit in civics and citizenship
- 1 credit from the STEM-related course group

Financial Literacy Requirement

Starting in September 2026, students must earn a new financial literacy graduation requirement as part of their compulsory Grade 10 mathematics course. Students will need to achieve a mark of 70% or higher to pass this new requirement and earn your high school diploma.



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The following apply to compulsory credit selections:

- You can use the Grade **11** English: Understanding Contemporary. First Nations, Metis and Inuit Voices course to meet the Grade 11 English compulsory credit requirement.
- You can use the Grade 9 Expressions of First Nations, Metis, and Inuit Cultures course to meet the compulsory credit requirement in the arts



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STEM-related course group

- Of the 17 compulsory credits, you must complete **1** from the following group:
 - business studies
 - computer studies
 - cooperative education
 - mathematics (in addition to the 3 compulsory credits currently required)
 - science (in addition to the 2 compulsory credits currently required)
 - technological education (in addition to the 1 compulsory credit required)

Optional credits

- You must earn 13 optional credits by successfully completing courses from your school's program and course calendar.
- Optional credits may include up to 4 credits earned through approved dual credit Programs.





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OSSD Literacy Test Requirement

MUST meet Literacy Test requirement to graduate (recorded on OST-transcript)

- Students take the Literacy Test in Grade 10
- Students will receive test support as they prepare to write the Literacy test
- If student is unable to meet standards on first attempt;
 - ✓ Help is available through the after-school Literacy program to prepare them for retaking the test in Grade 11
 - ✓ If you were unsuccessful, you can take and pass the OLC401 course in Grade 12





St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary School

Our School Year

Semester School with 8 courses over two semesters

- 4 courses from September to January
- 4 courses from February to June

Four courses daily (75 minutes each)

Period 1, Period 2, Period 3, Period 4 and period 5

50-minute Lunch Period 3 or 4



6 Compulsories



De-streamed

Locally Developed

English

ENL1W1

ENG1L1

Math

MTH1W1

MAT1L1

Science

SNC1W1

SNC1L1

Geography

CGC1W1

French

FSF1D1

Religion

HRE1O1





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Extended French Certificate

- Earned by completing 7 specific French Courses
 - 4 Extended French Courses
 - **FEF1DF**
 - **FEF2DF**
 - **FEF3UF**
 - **FEF4UF**
 - **CGC1DF** Grade 9 Geography taught in French
 - **CHC2DF** Grade 10 History taught in French
 - **HRT3MF** Grade 11 World Religions taught in French



Grade 9 Electives (Select Two)



AMU101	Music
ADA101	Dramatic Arts
AVI101	Visual Arts
NAC 101	Expressions of First Nations, Metis and Inuit Cultures
BEM101	Building the Entrepreneurial Mindset
GLS101	Learning Strategies
PPL10F	Female Gym
PPL10M	Male Gym
TFJ101	Food and Nutrition
TGJ101	Digital Making and Expression
TXJ101	Cosmetology
GLE101	Learning Strategies Course





Destreamed, Essential or Open?

• Destreamed (D or W)

- Gr 9 Destreamed courses equip all students with the knowledge, skills and work ethic to be successful in academic or applied courses in grade 10. i.e., SNC1W1 or CGC1D1

• Locally Developed (L)

- Developed by HCDSB to meet educational requirements not met by provincial curriculum documents (Grade 9 and 10, Math, Science, English) ["L" Indicates Locally Developed] i.e., SNC1L1

• Open (O)

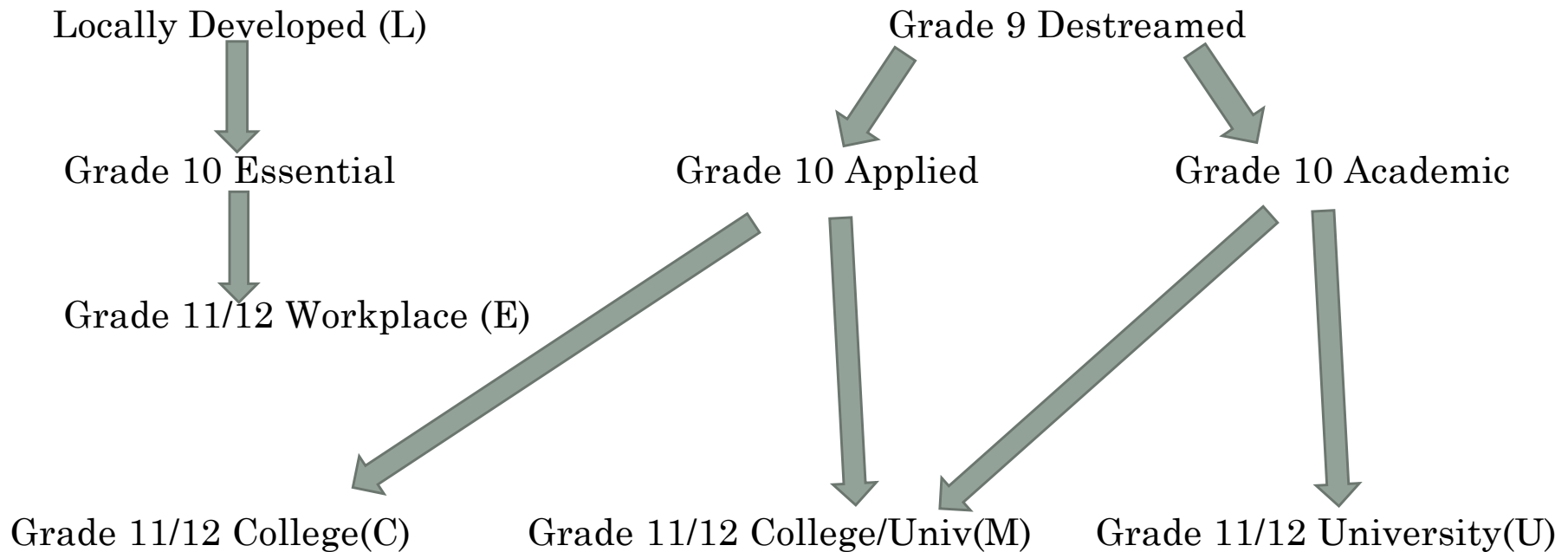
- These courses have one set of learning expectations. Students in all levels are able to take these courses i.e., HRE101, BTT101 ["O" Indicates Open]





St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary School

Grade 11 and 12 Course Types Post-Secondary Destinations



Website

- www.myblueprint.ca/hcdsb



Post-Secondary

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[Workplace](#)

[Programs](#)

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Post Secondary




94 results found for nursing (1 filters used)

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Program Type


College & University



Nursing
Laurentian University / U...




Nursing
McMaster University



Nursing
Nipissing University



Queen's
UNIVERSITY



TRENT
UNIVERSITY



uOttawa
L'Université canadienne
Canada's university

Post Secondary



How do I get into this program?


Admission Requirements


High School Plan

 [Download](#)

Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) 

Grade 12 English (ENG4U) 

One of the following courses: Grade 12 Mathematics of Data Management (MDM4U), Grade 12 Advanced Functions (MHF4U) -or- Grade 12 Calculus and Vectors (MCV4U) 

Grade 12 Biology (SBI4U) 

Minimum Average

Mid 80s



Please carefully review all admission requirements and visit the program website directly to ensure your requirements are consistent with the requirements list.



Post Secondary

Expenses

[Add To Budget](#)

Tuition (In-Province) \$7,423.76 for 1 year(s)

Tuition (International) \$23,500 - \$32,000 for 1 year(s)

Residence Cost \$5,000 - \$8,300

Meal Plan Cost \$2,400 - \$4,000



Work: Job Search

Work

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Search for an occupation or explore below



Type an occupation name or keyword

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Work i.e. Teacher



LTO Teacher - Visual Arts

Peel School District
Brampton, ON



Head of Education

Road Less Traveled
Academy
Port Hope, ON



English Teacher

Carlton Education Inc.
Markham, ON



Science and Mathematics Teacher

Hudson College
Toronto, ON



ESL Teacher or Tutor

Mingde Education Inc.
Toronto, ON



Assistant Teacher- preschool/kinder

Bright Horizons Family
Solutions
Mississauga, ON



Work: Teacher Posting

St. Gabriel School

Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board - Brantford, ON

As a Catholic Learning Community, we provide faith formation and academic excellence, which enable our graduates to live a life of love and service in Christ.

JOB POSTING #GEN-17-41

EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANT ST. GABRIEL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, BRANTFORD

Full Time, 35.0 Hours Per Week – 10 Month Position Effective: Immediately

As a collaborative team member, the Educational Assistant is responsible for the care of and facilitation of the education of students with special needs and exceptionalities in an educational setting.

Qualifications

Successful completion of a post secondary educational assistant program (normally one year), or equivalent, plus a minimum of one year experience working with children;

Relevant additional training is an asset;

Ability and willingness to perform required physical tasks, including toileting and lifting;

A positive and empathetic attitude towards students;

Ability to maintain discretion with confidential information;

Ability to function independently within the framework of a team; and

Basic knowledge in the use of computer software.

My blueprint



- Home
- Who Am I
- High School
- Post-Secondary
- Work
- Money
- Guides
- Favourites

Grade 9 Current Year	Grade 10 Next Year	Grade 11 Plan Ahead	Grade 12 Plan Ahead
+ English	+ English	+ English	+ English
+ Mathematics	+ Mathematics	+ Mathematics	+ Religion
+ Science	+ Science	+ Religion	+ Course
+ French As a Secon...	+ History	+ Course	+ Course
+ Geography	+ Civics	+ Course	+ Course
+ Religion	+ Careers	+ Course	+ Course
+ Course	+ Religion	+ Course	+ Course
+ Course	+ Course	+ Course	+ Course

St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary School

Grade 9 Course Selection Guide for 2026-2027

124 Dorval Dr. Oakville, ON L6K 2W1

Elementary School _____

Student's Last Name _____

Student's First Name _____

Date of birth (YY/MM/DD) _____

Please complete this section guide by circling the course choice. Return with \$65 activity (this fee is an annual voluntary fee that is used to offset costs for school initiatives, materials, and activities that enhance the school experience for our students. In accordance with policy II-47, it is our Board's commitment that every student should have equal opportunity to benefit from the school environment, regardless of financial hardships or barriers. Families who are unable to pay school fees are encouraged to contact the school Principal). Changes to elective courses can be made up to June. Please be advised that some course offerings may be cancelled due to low student interest. Not all course selections are guaranteed.

PART A: Students must **check/highlight (1)** course from each of the following course groupings. Exceptions to this will require Special Education Identification – Please see Part C below.

Grade 9 Compulsory courses – Please circle SIX (6) desired courses. One course per subject area.

RELIGION HRE1O

ENGLISH ENL1W ENG 1L

MATH MTH1W MAT 1L

SCIENCE SNC1W SNC 1L

GEOGRAPHY CGC1W

FRENCH FSF1D

For Extended French Students ONLY: You must select the following to be enrolled in the Extended French program instead of CGC1W and FSF1D.

GEOGRAPHIÉ CGC1WF*

PART B: All Students must **check/highlight two (2)** courses from the following elective areas. Exceptions to this will require Special Education Identification – Please see Part C below.

HEALTH & PHYS. ED.

PPL1OF (Female)

PPL1OM (Male)

ARTS

AMU1O (*Music*)

ADA1O (*Dramatic Arts*)

NAC1O (*Expressions of First nations, Metis and Inuit Cultures*)

AVI1O (*Visual Art*)

BUSINESS

BEM1O (*Building the Entrepreneurial Mindset*)

EXPLORING TECHNOLOGY

TXJ1O (*Cosmetology*)

TFJ1O (*Food Nutrition*)

TCJ1O (*Digital Media and Expression*)

GUIDANCE

GLS1O (*Learning Strategies*)



St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary School

Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM)

- Health Care and Wellness
- ICT (Information Communication Technology)
- Sports
- Construction and Carpentry

The SHSM program offers students the opportunity to explore careers in a specific area of study in order to acquire the skills and expertise that will assist them in their individual pathway.

- Bundled Senior Credits
- Sector-recognized certificates
- Experiential learning (co-op education)



St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary School

Student Success

Supports the individual needs of the students as they move from elementary to secondary school.

Monitoring/support by a caring adult and the school Student Success Team. Our Student Success teachers are Mr.Culina and Mr.McHenry.

Helps student who are;

- performing at level 1 or below, attendance concerns, other?!
- being supported/monitored with no IEP
- Math Help and L2L Tutoring to support student learning

Consider GLS101 Learning Strategies

- Benefit from taking course
- To support other courses



School Based Supports

- Subject specific after school help
- Peer Tutoring
- Student Services
- Special Education
- Resource room lunch time support
- Student Success Team
- Student Resource Team
- Social Worker
- Child Youth Counsellor
- School Chaplain Mrs.Harkin
- RAM mentorship program





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OPTION SHEET PACKAGES

- **Family Of School Students**

- All course selection for grade 8 students will be completed using myBlueprint. Once your child submits courses, they will enter a parent/guardian email address. Parents/guardians will either approve or disapprove these selections

- **From Other Boards**

- Parents/Guardians looking to register their child are asked to register on our Aquinas website <https://secondary.hcdsb.org/sta/students/new-student-registration/>. Once you register online you will be contacted by our student services dept to complete the rest of the registration



Family of Schools

1. Complete course selection using myBlueprint.
2. \$65 Activity Fee. Payment completed online
<https://hcdsb.schoolcashonline.com/>

*Activity Fees are a donation used to enhance a student's school life experience through materials and activities such as athletics, yearbook, agendas, guest speakers etc.

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Grade 9 Registration Package Students From Outside HCDSB

1. If your child is new to our school board, please register at <https://secondary.hcdsb.org/sta/students/new-student-registration/>
2. After you have registered with our school board, please upload all required documents. Some of the required documents will include:
 - Proof of In boundary Address (i.e., Utility Bill)
 - Proof of Immigration status for the student (i.e., Canadian Birth Certificate, Permanent resident card)
3. Mrs. Hayward will then contact you to complete the registration and provide an option sheet



Please Note: The online registration link will be available on November 3rd, 2025



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Applying to IB at STA?

- You must still fill out a regular option sheet
- IB applications will be available on the STA website on Monday November 24th , and they are due by Friday December 5th, 2025.
- Acceptances will be sent out in the new year, and you will be asked to fill out a *new* option sheet then





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Important Deadlines

- Wednesday, December 3rd , 2025 (For Family of School Students)
- Deadline to submit courses using myBlueprint
- Wednesday, December 3rd , 2025 * (For students from other boards)
- *Please note: Families are still able to register after the above dates. However, to ensure students receive the electives they request it is suggested that families follow the suggested deadlines.





Dates to Remember

- Wed. Dec 3rd myBlueprint deadline (HCDSB)
- Wed. Dec. 3rd Registration package due to STA for non-HCDSB students
- February 2026 (Tentative Date) Verification/Amendment forms to students at Associate Schools or mailed for non-HCDSB students
- June 2026 (Tentative Date) Final course selection finalized
- End of August Grade 9 student timetables ready

