

SENIOR HIGH COURSE SELECTION FAQ

How many courses does my child need to take?

- Grade 10 students should have approximately 40 credits (spares are strongly discouraged).
- Grade 11 students should have approximately 35 credits.
- Grade 12 students must make sure they have at least 100 credits total and that they meet all the requirements of an Alberta High School Diploma (See below for more information on Requirements)

Where can I find more information about the courses that are offered?

The [Course Handbook](#) can be found on the [SCA Secondary School website](#).

What is a prerequisite course?

A prerequisite course must be successfully completed (receive a minimum final mark of 50%) before a student can advance to the course at the next level. For example, a student must successfully complete Social 10-1 before registering for Social 20-1.

How do I know what the requirements are for an Alberta High School Diploma?

[Alberta High School Requirements](#)

What happens if my child fails a core course?

They have 2 possible choices. Students who achieve a final grade of 40% to 49% may repeat the course or take the next level of the course in an alternative sequence. For example, a student who receives a final mark of 42% in ELA 10-1 may either repeat ELA 10-1 or register for ELA 20-2. When they successfully complete ELA 20-2 they will receive retroactive credits for ELA 10-2 even though they did not take the course.

Students who receive a final grade of less than 40% will either need to repeat the course or take the course in the alternative sequence at the same grade level. For example, a student who receives a final mark of 38% in ELA 10-1 may either repeat ELA 10-1 or register for ELA 10-2.

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Why are option courses important?

Option courses are considered in a student's average for the Alexander Rutherford Scholarship. This is a non-competitive scholarship that students qualify for automatically if they meet the criteria. To access the funds, they need to apply after their Grade 12 year and provide proof of registration to a post-secondary program.

Option courses, at the 30-level, may also be considered in the admissions average for some post-secondary programs.

Option courses are also an excellent way for students to explore many different careers and gain valuable skills that they can use on their resumé.

Who can take French 10-9Y?

French 10-9Y is not a beginner French course. Students registering for this course would be most successful if they have completed French in grades 4-9, inclusive.

Can I take a Grade 11 course in Grade 10 or a Grade 12 course in Grade 11?

Next level course requests can be submitted once student schedules have been finalized at the beginning of September. More information pertaining to requesting a next level course will be sent at this time. Please note that priority is given to students seeking current grade level courses necessary for graduation. To be eligible for next level courses, student schedules must include all current grade level core courses that contribute to the Alberta Education graduation requirements.

Do some courses take place outside the regular school day?

Yes. We call these courses 'off timetable'. This means these courses take place before school, after school, and/or during lunch. Detailed information on when these courses will happen off the timetable, will be released in June.

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What are honours classes?

At SCA, students have the opportunity to request being placed into a Math and/or English honours section at the 10, 20 & 30 levels. It has been designed for students who desire to experience a more in-depth exploration in their courses. Both streams follow the same Program of Studies for High School English Language Arts and Math. Both streams use the same criteria and standards for assessment. The assessment in the Honours program is NOT more rigorous than in the regular program. A strong student should be able to achieve a similar grade in either program. It is recommended that students have a 80% or high grade mark in the previous course before they enroll in honours. If there is an oversubscription to a certain section, students will be selected based on their final grade in the prerequisite course.

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Can my child get credits for work they do at their part-time job?

Yes! If they register for our work experience program, they are able to earn up to 15 credits towards their high school diploma. They receive 1 credit for every 25 hours of work. Please contact Mr. Rempel (fred.rempel@eips.ca) for information regarding this opportunity.

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What is the Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP)?

RAP students are both full-time students and registered apprentices, dividing their time between an approved work site and their high school studies. They take regular courses such as English Language Arts, Social Studies, Science and Math in order to earn their Alberta High School Diploma or Certificate of Achievement, as well as receiving credits and apprenticeship hours for their identified trade.

Please contact Mr. Rempel (fred.rempel@eips.ca) for information regarding this opportunity.

What is myPass and why is it important?

myPass is an Alberta Education self-service website for students to:

- Order high school transcripts in English and French
- View diploma exam marks
- Register to write or rewrite diploma exams with online payment
- View and print Detailed Academic Reports (DAR)
- View progress towards a credential (diploma or certificate)
- Order additional copies of an awarded credential in English or French
- Receive notification for important messages

If you do not have a MyPass account please contact [Mrs. Khajavi](#).

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Grade 10

My child struggles in Math. Which course should they register for in Grade 10?

A student who received a failing final grade in Math 9 should register for Math 10-3. Students who received a grade over 50% should take Math 10C.

Students who take Math 10-3 will then continue to Math 20-3, which meets the requirement for an Alberta High School Diploma. However, students are unable to take Math 20-1 and Math 20-2 unless they go back and successfully complete Math 10C. For more information regarding the possible post secondary implications of students completing these courses, please contact our school counsellor, [Dion Matheson](#).

My child struggles in Science. Which course should they register for in Grade 10?

A student who received a failing final grade in Science 9 would be most successful registering for Science 14. Students who received a final grade of less than 60% in Science 9 and who also struggle in Math may want to also consider registering for Science 14.

Students who take Science 14 will then continue to Science 24, which meets the requirement for an Alberta High School Diploma. However, students are unable to take Biology, Chemistry, Physics or Science at the 20 or 30 level unless they go back and successfully complete Science 10.

What is Career & Life Management (CALM) and do I need to take it?

Career & Life Management (CALM) is designed to help students make informed decisions about choices impacting all aspects of their life including: career choices, resource choices and personal choices. Successful completion of this course is required for an Alberta High School Diploma. CALM is offered either as a standalone course or can be done as an online course at our school.

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Grade 11

My child failed a core subject in grade 10. What should they do now?

If they would like to stay in the same academic stream (dash 1 or dash 2) they need to repeat the course that they were unsuccessful in. On the course selection sheet, they should choose both the course that they want to retake and the course at the next level. For example, they should choose both ELA 20-1 and ELA 30-1. If the timetable permits, students would take ELA 20-1 in the first semester and, once they have successfully completed it, they will continue on to ELA 30-1 in semester 2. This would work the same for all core subjects. If they would like to change academic streams (move from dash 1 to dash 2) and they received a final grade of at least 40% in the prerequisite course, they can register for the next level course in the lower stream without repeating. For example, if they received 42% in Math 20-1, they are able to register for Math 30-2.

My child has completed Science 24. What other Sciences are they able to take?

Students who have successfully completed Science 24 have met the Science requirement for an Alberta High School Diploma, but do not have the required prerequisite for entering other Science courses at the 20 or 30 level. Students wanting to take more Science courses must go back and successfully complete Science 10, which is a prerequisite for all other 20-level Science courses.

My child did not take Physical Education 10 in Grade 10. What do they need to do?

Physical Education 10 is a requirement for an Alberta High School Diploma. Students who did not take Physical Education 10 in their Grade 10 year are encouraged to do so in Grade 11.

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Grade 12

Can my child complete high school early?

Yes! A student may complete all the requirements for an Alberta High School diploma early.

Can my child graduate without taking any option courses?

No. Students must complete at least 10 credits of option courses sometime during their high school years in order to meet the requirements for an Alberta High School diploma.

Can my child use ELA 30-1 or 30-2 and Social Studies 30-1 or 30-2 to meet the diploma requirement of “Ten other 30-level credits”?

No. Neither ELA 30-1 or 30-2 nor Social 30-1 or 30-2 can be counted for this requirement. All other courses at the 30-level, both core subjects and option courses, can be used to meet this requirement.

Does my child need to take Math 30-1?

No, they can choose one of three courses for a grade 12 math. However, they should check with the post-secondary institution they plan on attending to determine whether their program requires Math 30-1.

My child has completed Math 20-3 and Science 24. Do they need to complete a 30-level Math and Science course to graduate?

No. By taking Math 20-3 and Science 24 they have met the requirements for an Alberta High School Diploma. Please note that these courses may not meet post-secondary requirements.

My child needs to take an option course for their post-secondary program but did not take the option course in Grade 10. Are they able to take the 10-level course even though they are in Grade 12?

Yes. Students are able to register for 10-level options regardless of their grade level. In some areas, students from all levels are mixed together in the same classroom.