

2021 SUMMER SCHOOL

Grade 8 REACH AHEAD Information

What is REACH AHEAD?

REACH AHEAD is an opportunity for all Grade 8 students registered at a HCDSB secondary school for September 2021 to earn a grade 9 high school credit.

How long is the course?

Summer courses run for 20 days, July 5 – July 30, 2021.

What are the start and end times of the course?

Students are not expected to be on-line at a particular time of day. However, you DO have to log on every school day and complete work provided by your teacher. Plan on working anywhere between 5-6 hours each school day.

Who can take a reach ahead course?

This program is open to **HCDSB** students currently in grade 8 who have registered to attend a HCDSB secondary school in September 2021.

I am a grade 8 student at a public/private school and registered for grade 9 at a HCDSB secondary school in September 2021. How do I register?

Students must register as a non-HCDSB student on the Thomas Merton website.

I don't have a Guidance Counsellor. Who approves my registration application?

The Principal of your elementary school.

Is there a limit to how many students can take a Reach Ahead course?

Registration is open to all HCDSB grade 8 students up until the registration deadline of June 24, 2021 @ 4:00 pm. But courses may be cancelled based on enrollment numbers and/or qualified teacher availability.

How do I register for a reach ahead course?

Current grade 8 HCDSB students must register through MyBlueprint. Please take the time to ensure your email address is correct as this is how you will be contacted.

What is the deadline to register?

The deadline to register is June 24th @ 4:00 pm.

What is the difference between 1P and 1D?

The number indicates the course year (1= Gr.9) and the letter indicates the course type.

1P = Grade 9 Applied

1D = Grade 9 Academic

What grade 9 course can I take?

Grade 8 students can register to take one of the following grade 9 courses in English, and Science.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:

MATHEMATICS

Please be advised that because of the new de-streamed grade 9 mathematics curriculum that is being implemented for the 2021-2022 school year, the **Principles of Mathematics, Grade 9, Academic (MPM1D)** and **Foundations of Mathematics, Grade 9, Applied (MFM1P)** are not available to grade 8 students. These courses are only available to 2020-2021 high school students.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS FOR ENGLISH

English, Grade 9, Academic (ENG1D)

This course is designed to develop the oral communication, reading, writing, and media literacy skills that students need for success in their secondary school academic programs and in their daily lives. Students will analyze literary texts from contemporary and historical periods, interpret informational and graphic texts, and create oral, written, and media texts in a variety of forms. An important focus will be on the use of strategies that contribute to effective communication. The course is intended to prepare students for the Grade 10 academic English course, which leads to university or college preparation courses in Grades 11 and 12.

Prerequisite: None

English, Grade 9, Applied (ENG1P)

This course is designed to develop the key oral communication, reading, writing, and media literacy skills students need for success in secondary school and daily life. Students will read, interpret, and create a variety of informational, literary, and graphic texts. An important focus will be on identifying and using appropriate strategies and processes to improve students' comprehension of texts and to help them communicate clearly and effectively. The course is intended to prepare students for the Grade 10 applied English course, which leads to college or workplace preparation courses in Grades 11 and 12.

Prerequisite: None

COURSE DESCRIPTION FOR SCIENCE

Science, Grade 9, Academic (SNC1D)

This course enables students to develop their understanding of basic concepts in biology, chemistry, earth and space science, and physics, and to relate science to technology, society, and the environment. Throughout the course, students will develop their skills in the processes of scientific investigation. Students will acquire an understanding of scientific theories and conduct investigations related to sustainable ecosystems; atomic and molecular structures and the properties of elements and compounds; the study of the universe and its properties and components; and the principles of electricity.

Prerequisite: None

Science, Grade 9, Applied (SNC1P)

This course enables students to develop their understanding of basic concepts in biology, chemistry, earth and space science, and physics, and to apply their knowledge of science to everyday situations. They are also given opportunities to develop practical skills related to scientific investigation. Students will plan and

conduct investigations into practical problems and issues related to the impact of human activity on ecosystems; the structure and properties of elements and compounds; space exploration and the components of the universe; and static and current electricity.

Prerequisite: None

I registered for the course; will I get a confirmation?

Assume you are registered in the course unless otherwise notified by email. You will be notified by email if the course is waitlisted or cancelled. Please ensure that your contact email address is accurate.

How do I get my Guidance Counsellor approval?

Your high school Guidance Counsellor will review and approve your course request on MyBlueprint. If there are any issues, they will reach out to you.

What if I have an IEP?

You must communicate this to your teacher on the first day with a copy for their review.

How do I login to my class?

You will receive a 'Welcome Letter' with login instructions one week prior to the course start date.

Will I get a report card?

Upon completion of the course an electronic report card will be sent to your prospective high school notifying them that the credit has been completed. Follow up with your high school in September to ensure you have received the credit.

How many credits can I take in Summer School?

Students can only take one (1) reach ahead credit.

Is there a final exam?

No, but all courses require a final assessment (i.e. culminating activity). Teachers will provide further information.