



Academic or Applied

Academic and Applied Courses (Grades 9 and 10)

Academic (fifth course code character is the letter 'D') and applied (fifth course code character is the letter 'P') type courses set high expectations for all students. Academic and applied type courses differ in the balance between essential concepts and materials, and in the balance between theory and application.

Academic Courses

Academic type courses focus on the essential concepts of the discipline and also explore related concepts. Academic type courses develop students' knowledge and skills by emphasizing theoretical, abstract applications of the essential concepts of the course and incorporating practical applications as appropriate.

Applied Courses

Applied type courses also focus on the essential concepts of the discipline, but develop student' knowledge and skills by emphasizing practical, concrete applications of these concepts and incorporating theoretical applications as appropriate.

Applied and Academic – Key Differences

| | Academic | Applied |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| Teaching Learning Strategies | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More abstract • More student initiated • Independent activities based on essential skills • Additional requirements – emphasis on theoretical, abstract application | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More hands on • Concrete • More directed activities and teaching • Focus on essential skills by emphasizing practical, concrete applications • Tasks are more defined |
| Assessment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More emphasis on abstract, theoretical | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports, projects, based on application |
| Strengths of Learner | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-motivated • Reads well and comprehends material • Enjoys/values reading • Benefits from more independence • Likes to explore beyond related learning • Completes tasks in a directed environment as well as independently • Readily understands concepts • Enjoys learning by doing and by more extensive theoretical work • Recognizes need for daily homework and review • Has good time management | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reads for specific purpose • Benefits from more structure • Likes to learn and master essential skills and knowledge • Completes tasks in a directed environment • Enjoys learning by doing and by some theoretical work |

ENGLISH

| Academic (ENG 1D0) | Applied (ENG 1P0) |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Analyze</u> information, ideas and elements to make inferences• Locate and <u>evaluate</u> information and ideas from sources• <u>Select</u> narrative styles and appropriate level of language to suit the form, audience and purpose of the work | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Describe</u> information, ideas, opinions and themes• Locate and <u>record</u> information and ideas from sources• <u>Identify</u> the specific audience for each piece of writing |

GEOGRAPHY

| Academic (CGC 1D0) | Applied (CGC 1P0) |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Distinguish</u> between the characteristics of urban and rural environments• <u>Recommend</u> ways in which individuals can contribute to the quality of life• <u>Analyze</u> different perspectives on a geographic issue | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Identify</u> characteristics of rural and urban environments• <u>Compare</u> Canada's quality of life with that of other countries• <u>Identify and evaluate</u> different perspectives on a geographical issue |

SCIENCE

| Academic (SNC 1D0) | Applied (SNC 1P0) |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Formulate</u> scientific questions related to reproduction• <u>Gather and record</u> qualitative and quantitative data using an appropriate framework• <u>Plan ways</u> to model and/or simulate an answer to questions asked about the motion of celestial objects | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Identify</u> a current problem or concern relating to reproduction• <u>Organize and record</u> information gathered• <u>Formulate</u> scientific questions about a problem or issue in space exploration |

MATH

| Academic (MPM 1D0) | Applied (MFM 1P0) |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students will learn the essential concepts of math and explore related materials• Emphasis will be on theory and abstract thinking as a basis for future learning. Successful students are usually independent learners with learning skills at the 'good' to 'excellent' level• Students more readily understand mathematical concepts and require less teacher direction• Grade 9 academic math moves at a quicker pace than applied math and requires work outside of class | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students will learn the essential concepts of math• Emphasis will be on the practical and hands-on applications of the concepts• Students are generally more dependent learners and require greater teacher direction and instruction in learning math• Grade 9 applied math provides students with more time to learn and apply the concepts in class than in the academic course |

STUDENT LEARNING ATTRIBUTES

| Academic | Applied |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Generally a student will be working consistently at a Level 3 or higher (70% or higher)▪ A student has a learning style suited to theoretical, abstract thinking▪ A student is self-motivated and requires less teacher direction▪ A student enjoys completing assigned work at school and at home | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Generally a student will be working consistently at a Level 1 or 2 (between 50-69%)▪ A student has a learning style suited to hands-on, practical learning▪ A student requires more specific, teacher-directed instruction▪ A student prefers to complete tasks at school rather than at home |