

## APPLIED DESIGN, SKILLS & TECHNOLOGIES 8

### **ADST 8 - DIGITAL LITERACY 8**

This full-semester course allows students to experience, explore and develop the exciting topics of entrepreneurship and marketing, computers, and digital literacy. Students will display their creativity by constructing a business plan for a product that they will prototype, test, make and share. Students will develop computer skills that will benefit them throughout high school, including, Word, Power-Point, Excel, introduction to computer coding, and key-boarding techniques. Additionally, students will examine the critical topics of Internet safety (Cyberbullying), digital self-image, and research techniques.

### **ADST 8 - HOME ECONOMICS/TECHNOLOGY 8**

**Home Economics:** For the first 20-21 classes. Students will focus on Textiles Design. Students will learn hand-sewing skills and machine skills. They will complete 3 projects and have the opportunity to do a small scale personalized image on their apron and create their own pocket design. Students will also learn the properties of fibres, the importance of colour and the appreciation of proportion and texture in the Fashion Industry. Upon completion of the Textiles Design component, students will then move into the Foods lab for the remaining 20-21 classes. Here, students will learn the basics of food safety and food preparation. Labs include: cookies, muffins, pizza, French toast, smoothies and quesadillas. Kitchen basics, the role of ingredients and nutrition will be introduced.

**Technology Education:** This is a half a semester course which provides the opportunity to learn the safe uses of a variety of hand and machine tools. The course will also cover the processes involved in working with a number of different materials such as wood, plastics, metals, fabrics, etc. In addition, students will build functional electronic components, use computers in the design process and design their own solutions to a variety of technological problems.

### **FINE ARTS**

Students will choose one of the following options for their fine arts elective in their grade 8 year. Fine arts electives alternate through the year with PE. Students choosing Art/Drama will have Art one day alternating for PE with one semester and Drama alternating with PE in the other semester. Students choosing Band or Beginner Band will have their music class on one day, alternating with PE throughout the year. Students choosing Choir as a 9th course will attend this class on alternate days through the school year at 7:20 in the morning.

### **MUSIC 8: CONCERT BAND**

Intended for students who have already taken Elementary Grade 7 Band course. The course will involve instrumental technique, performance, theory, music history and music appreciation as they relate to the repertoire studied.

### **MUSIC 8: BEGINNER BAND**

This course is an introduction course in which students are introduced to the technique, rudiments, and maintenance of a selected band instrument. Concepts such as articulation, embouchure, blend, balance, tone and style are introduced to form a foundation of musical awareness that encourages expression, reflections and performance. Students should choose Beginner Band 8 if they have no previous experience with an instrument.

### **ART 8**

An introductory course for students to explore a variety of materials in 2-D and 3-D image making, develop basic drawing skills and study the work of selected artists.

### **DRAMA 8**

This introductory course provides students with opportunities to experience, understand, and value the language and art of both drama and dance. Drama encourages students to trust themselves and others while learning the fundamentals of theatre and the elements of basic acting. Students will explore the elements of drama through warm up games, improvisation, and role-playing. As well, students will learn the general rules of the stage, such as staging, blocking, voice, gestures and movement. In the Dance portion of the course, students will explore movement; build rhythm, strength, coordination and flexibility through daily warm-ups, exercises and combinations. Through dance, students will reflect on experiences and explore creative expression while being introduced to dance vocabulary, as well as techniques from different styles of dance, such as hip-hop, jazz, tap, etc.

### **CHOIR 8 (7:20am alternate mornings all year)**

Choir 8 is intended as an introductory choral experience. The course will cover basic singing technique, music reading, repertoire understanding, performance and the responsibilities, which go along with working in a group situation. As with all music activities, members of this class should expect that part of their learning situation will involve a commitment to regular home practice and extra-curricular activities. Students will be required to attend all scheduled extra-curricular rehearsals and performances as part of the course expectations.

### **CAREER & HEALTH EDUCATION 8**

This is an unscheduled course offered through a series of topics integrated into curricular areas.

### **GRADE 8 REQUIRED COURSES**

**Students enrolling in Grade 8 are expected to take the equivalent of eight full courses throughout the school year.**

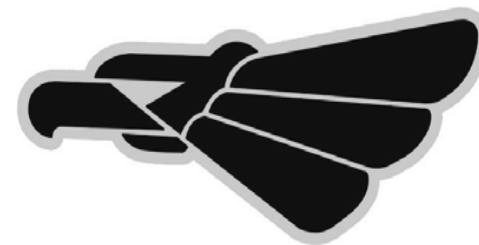
#### **COURSES FOR GRADE 8**

1/2	Humanities 8: English/Socials
3/4	Scimatics 8: Math/Science
5	French 8
6	Physical Education 8
7	A Fine Arts 8 Elective
8	An Applied Skills 8 Elective

# ÉCOLE ALPHA SECONDARY SCHOOL

---

## GRADE 8 COURSES



4600 Parker Street, Burnaby, BC

Phone: 604-296-6865 Fax: 604-296-6868

[www.alpha.sd41.bc.ca](http://www.alpha.sd41.bc.ca)

### ALPHA'S COHORT MODEL

Alpha offers a unique cohort model for core academics at the grade 8 level. Students take English and Socials every day with the same teacher in a blended curriculum, Humanities. As well, Mathematics and Science, Scimatics, are taught through the same format every day throughout the year with one teacher. This interdisciplinary model allows students to explore language arts and social sciences in an integrated manner, and offers a cohesive exploration of the interrelationship between math and science. Through this model students develop strong relationships with their teachers, echoing the elementary school experience. We also offer extended support within the cohort model as a learning support specialist teacher, in addition to the classroom teacher, may address individual student needs within the classroom. Further, Alpha offers an honours version of each Humanities and Scimatics called Discovery. Students interested in an enriched and/or accelerated grade 8 experience may choose to apply to either Discovery Humanities 8 or Discovery Scimatics 8, or both in their grade 8 year.

### HUMANITIES 8: English/Social Studies

Students will explore the rise and fall of several major civilizations while developing their understanding of the diverse world of cultures that surround us. Students develop their skills at assessing documents (writings, drawings, records) for bias in order to understand history as more than a collection of facts. Students will also study short stories, poetry, novel(s), drama, and essays. Assignments will require that students write in a variety of formats and for a variety of purposes, and study skills will be addressed. Coherent paragraph development will also be emphasized, as well as an introduction to the essay.

### DISCOVERY HUMANITIES 8: English/Socials Honours

The Alpha Discovery program is an enriched honours program. It is designed for students who are interested in and capable of pursuing a more challenging course of study. Classroom instruction and activities focus on the examination of broad and compelling themes or ideas that are relevant to many areas of study in the Social Sciences and Humanities. While students who are accepted into this program need to be reasonably strong writers and enthusiastic readers, the curiosity and desire to explore ideas through engaged discussion and other activities are key qualities. Hands-on classroom activities, field trips (one or more each month) and guest presenters are significant components of the program. **Admission to the Discovery Honours Cohort is through an application process including completion of an application form, grade 7 teacher reference, and an assessment. Applications are due at Alpha by February 16<sup>th</sup>. The writing sample assessment is scheduled for 12:30 Friday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> at Alpha Secondary.**

### SCIMATICS 8: Mathematics/Science

The objectives of Scimatics are to develop effective work habit strategies, scientific experimentation methods and problem solving skills. The course will utilize a variety of learning strategies including laboratory work, projects, and individual and small group work. Math topics will include: algebra, geometry, graphing, and an introduction to trigonometry; while the Science component will include: cells and body systems, optics, fluids and dynamics, and water systems on Earth. Students will also receive field experiences to enhance their learning in both curricular areas.

### DISCOVERY SCIMATICS 8: Mathematics/Science Honours

The Alpha Discovery program is an accelerated honours program covering Math 8, Science 8, and Science 9 curriculum. It is designed for students who are interested in and capable of pursuing a more challenging course of study at an accelerated pace. Classroom instruction and activities focus on the examination of broad themes or ideas that are relevant to many areas of study in both Mathematics and Science. The Math 8 curriculum will be covered with in-depth enrichment exercises. Students will cover the Science 8 and Science 9 curriculum in one year. The science curriculum will include enrichment with specialized field trips and presentation of a Science Fair project. Hands-on classroom activities, projects and guest presenters are significant components of the program. This course may include dissection of preserved or fresh biological specimens. If you have any questions or, if for any reason you would prefer your son or daughter not participate in this particular experiential component, please contact the classroom teacher. **Admission to the Discovery Honours Cohort is through an application process including completion of an application form, grade 7 teacher reference, and an assessment. Applications are due at Alpha by February 16<sup>th</sup>. The mathematics and science assessment is scheduled for 12:30 Friday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> at Alpha Secondary.**

### FRENCH 8

This course builds upon the background students have acquired at elementary school. Basic vocabulary and grammar structures are reviewed and reinforced as a basis for communication in situations drawn from real-life. Students are taught to use language learning strategies to help them understand spoken and written French. They will be expected to participate in short conversations, give presentations and exchange information about their interests and activities. Language is taught within the context of age appropriate themes, with a large emphasis on listening and speaking.

### PHYSICAL & HEALTH EDUCATION 8

This course will introduce students to a wide variety of sporting, recreational, and fitness activities enabling them to further develop their fundamental movement skills and contribute to their physical growth and development. Students will also have the opportunity to participate in alternate environment activities to build their understanding and appreciation for the components of active living such as skating, bowling and a year-end trip to Cultus Lake Waterpark. In addition, students will be introduced to health literacy units such as factors that promote healthy eating choices, the anatomy of bones and muscles and will read/discuss case studies about bullying and cyberbullying. These educational experiences will allow each student to learn and understand the importance of fundamental movement skills may transfer to different activities, concepts of being healthy, and the importance of mental health.

### FRENCH IMMERSION

#### **HUMANITÉS 8 (Français Langue et Sciences Humaines)**

The *Français Langue* component of this course continues with the development of the linguistic skills - speaking, listening, reading and writing - begun at the elementary level. Students will have the opportunity to be creative and exercise their critical thinking skills through different means. Using the writing process, students will develop their composition abilities. They will learn techniques to enable them to communicate effectively and clearly when writing in French. Grammatical points will be reviewed and/or introduced as an integral part of the writing and speaking processes. These skills are taught together with meta-cognitive strategies that will enable students to become stronger listeners, readers, writers and speakers.

The *Sciences Humaines* component of this course parallels the *Social Studies* component of *Humanities 8*.

#### **SCIMATIQUES 8 (Mathématique et Sciences Naturelles)**

The *Mathématiques* and *Sciences naturelles* components of this course parallel the *Mathematics* and *Sciences* components of *Scimatics 8* (in English). In addition, the French Immersion teachers will provide second language acquisition strategies to promote learning.

#### **ANGLAIS 8 (English 8)**

The aim of this course is to develop students' communication skills (oral and written) and to experience a variety of genres in literature. Students will develop critical thinking skills through enjoying, understanding, and responding creatively to literature and media. Students continue to develop writing skills in a variety of forms and for varied audiences and purposes. These skills are taught together with meta-cognitive strategies that will enable students to become stronger readers and writers.