**St. Edmund Campion**  
**Course Information and Overview**

English is a **compulsory** credit: students must take an English course **each year** during their high school career. There are also optional English courses available to students in Grades 10-12. Grade 9 students come from a variety of backgrounds and possess a diverse set of skills. Units begin with a review of basic concepts. Writing activities are usually modeled for students, and often practiced in small groups. Descriptive feedback is provided for students as a strategy for improvement, and students are also required to use metacognitive skills to reflect on their own performance. All grade 9 courses usually begin with tasks or activities which provide teachers with information about students’ prior knowledge and skills. Tasks completed early in a semester help determine if students are familiar with specific concepts and which terms and skills need to be reviewed in more depth.

Currently, Grade 9 English courses are offered at four levels: Pre-Advanced Placement, Academic, Applied or Locally Developed. **Students select a course type based on interest, prior achievement, current performance, work and study habits, post-secondary goals, discussions with parents, and recommendations from Grade 8 teachers.** However, the Ministry of Education has indicated its intention to change the grade 9 program to a “de-streamed” model. For more information, refer to the MOE or DPCDSB websites.

**Pre-Advanced Placement: 1DP**
The Pre-AP English course covers the same Ontario curriculum expectations as the academic level English course. However, students in Pre-AP English classes will work at a quicker pace. Pre-AP English is an enrichment program and is designed to challenge motivated and hard-working students to pursue their love of literature and reading. Students will read a variety of genres from different time periods while analyzing a work’s complexity, to absorb its richness of meaning, and to comprehend how that meaning is embodied in literary form. There is an emphasis on writing which is an integral part of the course intended to increase a student’s ability to explain clearly, even elegantly, what he/she understands about literary works. Students enrolled in this level should be prepared to work diligently to complete numerous assignments, to read independently, and to write critical analysis of texts of recognized literary merit. **This course requires a commitment to academic excellence.**

**Academic: 1D1**
This course emphasizes analytic reading and writing, media literacy, oral communication, and thinking skills. Students will create oral, written, and media texts. Students at this level enjoy reading challenging texts and like to explore ideas and issues presented by authors. They are also eager to complete writing tasks that require a higher level of sophistication in thought and form. Students who are successful at the academic level have developed effective and independent work habits and study skills, and possess the initiative to go beyond expectations. This course will prepare students for senior university level courses.

**Applied: 1P1**
This course emphasizes reading, writing, media literacy, communication skills for daily life, and thinking skills. Students will study literary and graphic texts and create oral, written, and media texts. Students will learn concepts through concrete examples and develop knowledge and skills through practical applications. This course is intended for students who are more successful reading shorter and simpler texts, need more time to work on writing tasks with assistance, and need to further develop their study skills. This course will prepare students for college level courses.

**Locally Developed: 1L1**
This course focuses on developing reading, writing, and speaking skills for daily life. Students will read a variety of graphic and informational texts, and short works of fiction. This course prepares students for workplace courses. Workplace courses prepare students with the knowledge and skills they need to meet the expectations of employers or the requirements for admission to certain apprenticeship and other training programs.

**English Language Learners, English Literacy Development and English as a Second Language Learners: ELL / ELD / ESL**
Dufferin-Peel schools offer classes to students to help them learn English as well as upgrade their academic and English language skills. ESL or ELD classes are offered to students who:

- are born outside Canada in a non-English speaking country
- are born in Canada and who speak a second language or dialect
- have recently arrived and need to upgrade or develop their academic and language skills

At the high school level, students can take up to five ESL or ELD courses which count as credits towards their diploma. Students do not always start at the first level of ESL / ELD classes but instead are placed in the course that is the next step based on their current stage in Grade 8. During their mainstream classes, ESL / ELD students also have access to an ESL Resource Room. Through the ELL Resource Room students are provided with one-on-one academic and language support as needed.

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Have you recently moved to Canada? Do you have questions about settlement (employment, housing, healthcare, citizenship, etc.)? If so, please contact St. Edmund Campion’s Settlement Worker, Zion Mohamed, at (416) 500-3346 or send an email to zion.mohamed@bmccentre.org