In English, ninth grade students study a variety of text types, both literary and non-fiction, further honing their skills of literary analysis. Works studied come from different genres, cultures, and time periods, with an emphasis on the time periods covered in their Modern Civilization class. Through this, students investigate how cultural experiences impact on literature. They analyze thematic development throughout the text, as well as how various texts treat the same themes differently. Ninth grade students use textual evidence, both explicit and implied, to support summary and analysis. Students determine the impact of various authorial choices and analyze texts to determine author’s purpose.

Ninth grade students write routinely over both extended and short time frames for a range of tasks, purposes, and audiences. There is a focus on writing strong thesis statements. They use the writing process to write well-organized texts, with an introduction, a clear thesis statement, relevant supporting details, precise language, formal style and an appropriate conclusion. Their writing incorporates the use of technology during development, collaboration, and production.

Students in ninth grade listen critically to various media, identify and analyze information from a variety of formats, engage in collaborative discussions, and deliver oral presentations. Students pose questions that elicit elaboration, and respond to others’ questions and comments with relevant observations.

In ESL for Speakers of Other Languages (ESL), students engage in activities that develop proficiency in the areas of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. On average, students are in the ESL program for about 2 years, but this can vary depending on students’ proficiency in the language. Students accomplish this goal by providing our students with a balanced program that builds a strong foundation in English for Speakers of other Languages (ESL) is designed to teach students to become socially and academically competent in English. Students who demonstrate beginner and intermediate levels are designated as part of the program. Secondary students are given support based on their individual needs and may receive support in small ESL groups, sheltered classes for science or history, or supported or modified immersion in mainstream grade level classes.

ESL teachers regularly monitor student progress during the year, as students improve, to modify the program according to student needs. This is done through work samples, observations, and official testing. Students are mainstreamed from ESL when they demonstrate an advanced proficiency in the areas of listening, speaking, reading and writing. On average, students are in the ESL program at CAISL for about 2 years, but this can vary depending on background in English and other factors.

In Physics, students establish triangle congruence criteria, based on analysis of rigid motions and formal constructions. They use triangle congruence as a familiar result of rotating a two-dimensional object. They accomplish this goal by providing our students with a balanced program that builds a strong foundation in physical fitness, develops sport performance skills to an advanced level, lead-up games, and sports at an intermediate-to-advanced level of understanding (tautica).

In Spanish, the focus is on developing the following science and engineering practices or skills: Asking questions and defining problems; Developing and using models; Planning and carrying out investigations; Analyzing and interpreting data; Constructing explanations and designing solutions; Engaging in argument from evidence; Obtaining, evaluating, and communicating information.

We develop these skills by studying the following content areas:

- **Physics**: Motion and stability; forces and interactions; Energy: transformation and conservation.
- **Biology**: From Molecules to Organisms; Structures and Processes; Heredity: Inheritance and Variation of Traits.

Grade 9 US Modern Civilizations covers the history of the Modern World starting with the Enlightenment up to Modern Day. Students analyze the impact of the Enlightenment and trace its impact over time. Students will also be able to explain the significance of geopolitics in the Modern world. Topics include: Revolution, Rationalism, Imperialism, World Wars I & II, and Modern China. Emphasis is placed on developing students’ research skills by studying a variety of informational texts and primary sources.

Grade 9 students have three music options – choir, string orchestra, or introductory guitar. Choir is a year-long course with an opportunity to learn and grow in the area of vocal music. Orchestra is only available for advanced string performers with prior consent. Guitar will work on rudimentary skills for a beginner, both as an individual and as a group. All ensembles perform regularly throughout the year.
GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
A minimum of 27 academic credits (1 credit = 1 full year course) during Grades 9-12 is required for graduation, with the following breakdown:

- English — 4 credits
- Math — 3 credits
- Science — 3 credits
- Social Studies — 3 credits
- Foreign Language — 2 credits
- Physical Education — 3 credits
- Computers — 1 credit (credit may be fulfilled by passing a department-issued exam)
- Fine Arts — 1 credit
- Electives — 7 credits (defined as any class taken over the normal subject credit load)