

Student Application for OPES 9

Application Deadline: January 29th, 2024
Interview dates are on or between
February 5 – 14, 2024

All applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application on or before February 21st, 2024

Complete the one-page application found on the Wood Street Centre website.

Complete letter in English including:

- why you would like to be in OPES
- your interests and what you are curious about
- your personal and teamwork strengths
- how you deal with challenges
- why you are a good choice for the program

Send your letter and one page application, to applications-WSC@yukon.ca

We may contact teachers at your home school for references

Contact Colin Abbott at colin.abbott@yesnet.yk.ca if you have any specific questions.

For more information, please call (867) 667-8413 or visit our website at www.woodstreetcentre.yukonschools.ca/

Student Information

OPES 9 is an integrated experiential program open to all Grade 9 students. Although prior wilderness experience is not a criterion for selection into this program, students should be able to meet the physical demands of the program in remote settings. All outdoor activities and extended field trips are selected with the safety of the students in mind and are appropriate for Grade 9 students who have had little or no prior experience in the outdoors. Class time will be spent preparing students for the extended wilderness trips.

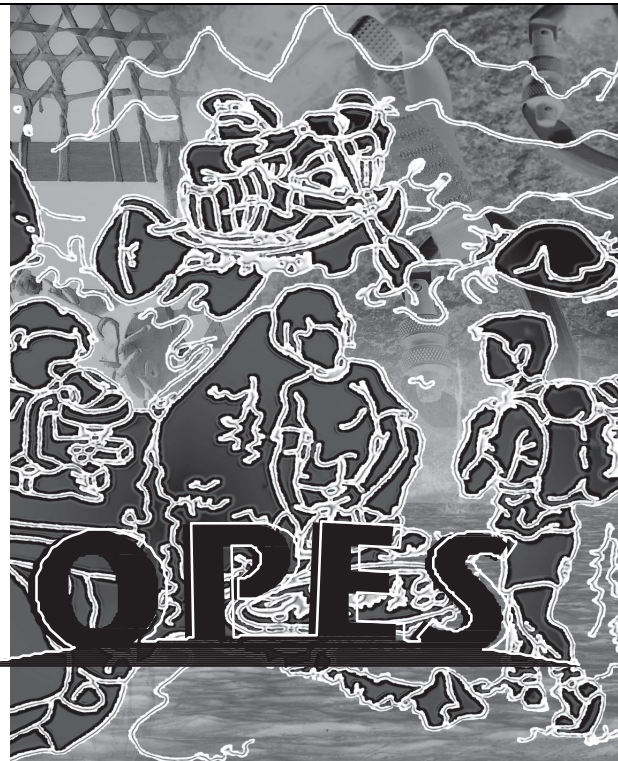
Student Expectations

Class size is limited to 16 students and consideration will be given to students who are trustworthy, conscientious and respectful of others.

- Previous marks are not a criterion for selection.
- Students selecting this program should be committed to participating in the various outdoor and science field trips.
- Regular attendance is therefore essential.

Program Costs

The cost of the program is **\$350**, which will cover costs associated with wilderness trips and a first aid course. Students are not expected to buy a lot of outdoor equipment. Those who already have suitable equipment will be expected to use it. If not, Wood Street is able to provide all equipment necessary including winter sleeping bags, ski equipment, backpacking gear, Trangia stoves, kayaks and canoes. All students are expected to provide their own food (expect approximately the same cost as eating at home).



Yukon
Education

Outdoor
Pursuits &
Experiential
Science

**Understanding our environment
through activity and study**

OPES 9 – Outdoor Pursuits & Experiential Science

General Program Description

Outdoor Pursuits and Experiential Science (OPES) offers a “new” approach to learning for Grade 9 students. This integrated program of studies provides students with opportunities in a variety of exciting outdoor pursuits and enriches the regular science curriculum.

The physical education course is complimented with a variety of outdoor activities focused on lifelong learning and active living. Social Studies will be delivered in the classroom, as well as, through field studies. The use of technology and fine arts medium will round out this full semester integrated program.

Goals and Objectives

To encourage and develop:

- a self discipline and a strong work ethic
- responsible attitudes in learning
- creative thinking and problem solving skills
- self confidence and self esteem through personal challenges
- greater knowledge and appreciation of the Yukon's natural environment
- a sense of stewardship for our environment
- knowledge and skills related to a variety of outdoor pursuits
- cooperative attitudes and positive peer relations
- leadership skills



The Year Overview

OPES 9 will be offered one semester per school year at Wood Street Centre. This facility provides the independence that is necessary to run a successful program. In the alternate semester students will attend regular classes at F.H. Collins Secondary.

OPES Semester

Socials Studies 9
Science 9
Outdoor Pursuits 9
Physical Education 9

Alternate Semester

Math 9
English 9
Second Language
Elective 9

Note: Courses may change depending on the strengths of the instructor.

Safety

The safety and well-being of the students is always the first and most important consideration when taking students into wilderness settings. Students who display inappropriate or unacceptable behaviour that puts themselves or others at risk may result in removal from the field trip at their own expense and/or removal from the program.



Course Content

Outdoor Pursuits 9

This course will provide students with a wide range of exciting, challenging and rewarding experiences. It will focus on the knowledge and skills related to a variety of outdoor wilderness activities. Topics covered in the course will include *avalanche awareness, winter camping, canoeing, kayaking, climbing, wilderness survival, wilderness ethics, first aid and CPR training.*

Science 9

The Science 9 course is a continuation of the Science 8 program which further develops skills, practices and knowledge from the areas of Physical Science, Life Science and Earth Science. These topics include elements, the Periodic Table, compounds, chemical formulas, static electricity, current, electric circuits, cell reproduction, reproduction in living organisms and interactions within ecosystems.

Social Studies 9

This course focuses on political, social, economic and technological revolutions in the 1750-1919 period. Topics include: Nationalism and the development of modern nation states including Canada demonstrate change in ideas and ideologies; Students will know how local, regional and global conflicts influenced our identity and power relations between individuals and societies; Imperialism and colonialism impacts on indigenous populations in Canada and around the world with an emphasis on Yukon First Nation impacts

Physical Education 9

Emphasis will be placed on Active Living and participation in lifelong activities encouraging healthy lifestyles and fitness for fun. Outdoor activities such as aquatics, snowshoeing, skiing, climbing, biking and hiking will be integrated with the field trips and be credited toward the PE mark.