

# ACADEMIC GUIDE

## UMEI CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL

614 Mersea Road 6, Leamington ON N8H 3V8

Office: [office@umei.ca](mailto:office@umei.ca); 519-326-7448

Admissions: [admissions@umei.ca](mailto:admissions@umei.ca); 226-346-6735



@umei\_chs



@umei\_chs



@umeischool

# WHOLE-PERSON EDUCATION



**A Welcome From Our Principal**  
**Mrs. Sonya Bedal**  
**[principal@umei.ca](mailto:principal@umei.ca)**

I'm of the firm belief that you want more from your academic experience than simply deep and intensive classroom instruction. So at UMEI Christian High School we take the idea of a young person's "academic development" a step further.

I lead a dynamic and passionate staff that will help you cultivate your full academic, spiritual, and individual potential.

It's our deeper focus on "whole-person" education and growth, anchored in the Anabaptist tradition, which gives you the opportunity to become a "doer of the word" in your community. Plus I'm passionate about getting to know each of my students both inside and outside of the classroom.

This comprehensive approach builds an atmosphere that creates a tight-knit community, nurtures faith, and fosters long-term friendships.

I would like to extend you an invitation to be part of the next generation of young men and women who will go out into your communities to share the faith, talents, and skills nurtured here at UMEI Christian High School.

So please consider joining us, won't you?



# The Transition

## We Want To Help You Succeed

Making the transition to high school is both exciting and sometimes challenging.

This is a time for you to make new friends, deepen your faith, think outside the box, learn how to problem solve and work collaboratively with others, develop leadership skills, and so much more!

At UMEI, our team of teachers and staff are dedicated to preparing you not only for post-secondary education and the workforce, but for life!

## What Makes UMEI Classroom Learning Unique?

- Small class sizes that allow for personalized attention and individualized goals
- One-on-one support from teachers
- Christian teachers and environment
- "Custom" experience - if students express interest in a certain course, we find a way to offer them
- A sense of belonging and confidence that makes learning more fun and mistakes less intimidating
- Supportive, helpful and caring teachers
- Classes featuring hands-on learning not possible in larger classes

# 4-YEAR COMPARISON

One of the best parts of high school is allowing students to explore the broad scope of education. Taking different types of courses allows a student to expand their thinking, enhance their creativity, and sharpen their knowledge. At UMEI Christian High School, students have the opportunity to take more courses than at other high schools as we have 5 periods per day instead of 4.

	Public High School	UMEI
	<b>11 required</b>	<b>13 required</b>
Grade 9	English 9/10 Math 9/10 French Geography Science 9/10	English 9/10 Math 9/10 French Geography Science 9/10
Grade 10	History Phys Ed Civics/Careers	History Phys Ed Civics/Careers Religious Studies 9/10
	<b>+ 5 options</b>	<b>+ 7 options</b>
Grade 11	<b>3 required</b> English 11/12 Math 11	<b>6 required</b> English 11/12 Math 11 Drama 11 Religious Studies 11/12
Grade 12	<b>+ 13 options</b>	<b>+ 14 options</b>
SUMMARY	<b>13 required 18 options 32 courses</b>	<b>19 required 21 options 40 courses</b>



# ACADEMIC OR APPLIED?

## **Academic/University Courses**

- Course code ends in "D", "U", or "M"
- Draw more heavily on theory and abstract problem solving
- Taught at a faster pace
- Draw conclusions and make predictions from research
- More independent student-directed learning opportunities
- Lead to university or college programs

## **Applied/College Courses**

- Course code ends in "P" or "C"
- Focus more on practical application
- Focus on conducting and reporting basic research
- Teacher-directed, step by step approach to learning
- Lead to college, apprenticeships, and the world of work

## **Destreamed Courses**

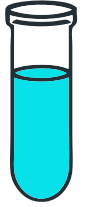
- Course code ends in "W"
- Offered in Grade 9 as a bridge between elementary and secondary education before choosing academic or applied

## **Open Courses**

- Course code ends in "O"
- Expectations are suitable for all students



# SCIENCE



9

## Grade 9 Science

**Units - Chemistry, Ecosystems (Environment), Biology, Electricity, Space**

- Field trips to Solar Farm, Windmill Towers, Point Pelee Marsh canoeing, Woodlots (Two Creeks), Flying over Essex County, Telescope viewing (Royal Astronomical Society)
- Hands-on labs for each unit
- Hands-on assignments and projects

10

## Grade 10 Science

**Units - Chemistry, Biology, Light, Climate**

- Field trips to Henry Ford Museum, Ford Factory Rouge F-150 assembly plant
- Outdoor studies
- Dissection of cow eyes, earthworm, frog
- Hands-on labs for each unit
- Hands-on assignments and projects





11

## Grade 11 Physics

**Units - Motion, Sound, Electricity, Magnetic Fields**

- Field trip to Canadian Aviation Museum in Hamilton
- Testing instruments and sound quality
- Model Rocket construction and testing
- Hands-on labs for each unit using sensors

11

## Grade 11 Chemistry

**Units - Matter, Solutions, Gases, etc.**

- 15-20 hands-on labs during the semester
- Many explosions
- Have you ever seen a snowman blow up?

11

## Grade 11 Biology

**Units - Classification of Organisms, Cell structure, Genetics, Comparison of Digestive, Respiratory, Circulatory systems of various organisms (humans, frog, fish, insects)**

- Field trips to hospitals to see Ultra Sound and X-Ray technology
- Hands-on labs for each units
- Several dissections including frog, fish, fetal pig, pregnant rat
- Assignments and presentations to class

12

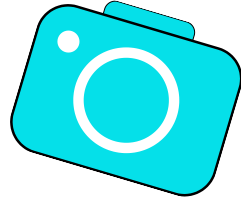
## Grade 12 Physics, Chemistry and Biology

These classes are also offered but let's see if you're interested in science before we excite you about these!





# TECHNOLOGICAL EDUCATION



**Jr.**

## Hospitality and Tourism

- Introduction to the restaurant and tourism industry
- Developing food preparation and service skills in restaurants
- Visits to regional restaurants and tourist sites

**Jr**

## Business Technology

- Introduction to computer technology
- Developing knowledge and skills in word processing using Microsoft Word, Powerpoint and other business related technologies

**Jr.**

## Jr. Communications Technology

- Introduction to photography, design, and Adobe software
- Students learn the basics of digital art and project management

**Jr.**

## Robotics - also see "Enriched Robotics"

- Students learn how to construct and program robots which meet that challenge presented
- Various sensors are utilized to complete tasks
- Students are encouraged to join the First Robotics Club

**Sr.**

## Sr. Communications Technology

- In-depth exploration of photography, Photoshop™, Illustrator™, and design
- Developing skills and portfolios to continue in the field of digital art and design

**Sr.**

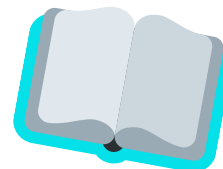
## COMING SOON!

## Computer Engineering Technology

- Preparing students for a career in computer engineering and robotics
- Learn coding languages such as C++ and Java
- Exploring Arduino hardware and software through hands on projects



# RELIGIOUS STUDIES



9

## Grade 9 Religious Studies

Units - Intro and Psalms; Genesis; Exodus 1-19; Exodus 20-40, Leviticus, and Numbers; Beginning of Nationhood; Conflict Transformation; Prophets and Politics; Old Traditions/New Visions; Wisdom Literature; Final Summative Evaluation (God's Grace Pt1)

- A survey of the writings which comprise the Old Testament
- Emphasis on the theme of God working in history and the promise of the Messiah
- This course will provide students with opportunities to explore methods of conflict resolution

10

## Grade 10 Religious Studies

Units - Intro to the New Testament, Jesus' Early Years, Preparation for Ministry, Jesus' Ministry, Salvation and Discipleship, Last Months, Jesus' Death and Resurrection, Post Resurrection and Pentecost (Appearance, Ascension, Holy Spirit), The Church Emerges, The Eschaton, Final Summative Evaluation (God's Grace Pt2)

- A study of the history, philosophy, teachings, and life of Christ
- And the historical overview of the Christian church from Pentecost to the turn of the first century
- Understanding Jesus' ministry, his death and resurrection and what that means for us

11

## Grade 11 Religious Studies - Anabaptist Perspectives In a Global Community

Units - Anabaptist Historical Background; War, Peace, and Non-Resistance; World and Global Awareness; Restorative Justice and Forgiveness; Independent Study

- An overview of Anabaptist-Mennonite history, culture, thought and practice
- The second part of the course will focus on current Mennonite views of War, Peace, and Non-resistance.
- Study world and global awareness with a focus on service and mission

12

## Philosophy

Units - Philosophical Foundations, Metaphysics, Ethics, Epistemology, Aesthetics, Summative

- Enables students to acquire an understanding of the nature of philosophy and philosophical reasoning skills
- Students will develop critical thinking and reasoning skills as they formulate and evaluate arguments related to a variety of theories and questions.

# MATHEMATICS

9

Grade 9 Math, Destreamed

11

Grade 11 Functions  
Grade 11 College Math

10

Grade 10 Math, Academic  
Grade 10 Math, Applied

12

Advanced Functions  
Calculus & Vectors  
Data Management  
Grade 12 College Math

## HOW WE SUPPORT OUR STUDENTS



Confidence is key! Your child's math teacher is consistently available for extra help in the classroom, after school, and via email



Courses are structured to ensure every student has the opportunity to reach their individual potential



Regular one-on-one conversations with the teacher to discuss goals, strategies and next steps

## SUCCESS AND SKILLS



Success in math requires hard work. Appropriate homework is regularly assigned and reviewed



Math Fair and other projects allow students to use problem solving and creativity to demonstrate how math is used in everyday life



# FLIPPED CLASSROOM

Some courses will be taught with a "Flipped Classroom."

This structure allows for even more personalized attention from the teacher, and also provides the opportunity for students to access lessons as many times as needed.

Homework is completed in the classroom which allows for more creative application of learning and the ability for students to get help from their teacher and their peers. Student learning can be readily differentiated.

1. Students watch video of lesson. A handout is provided for them to complete.



2. Handout check - ensures students watched video. If not, students watch video during class.



4. Interactive Activity, Discussion or Presentation.



3. Diagnostic Assessment - questions that assess understanding of the video.



5. Homework completion during class time; students work collaboratively with the teacher available for support, remediation, or extension.





# HUMANITIES



All

## Grade 9-12 English, Academic and Applied

**Units - Novel Study, Shakespeare, Poetry, Short Studies, Media Literacy, Writing (Essays and Others, Presentations)**

- Literature Circles
- Acting out scenes from various books/novels
- Writer's Workshop
- Grade 11/12 English Classes Annual trip to Stratford to see a performance

Sr.

## Sr. World Issues

**Units - World Issues, Global Disparities, Sustainability, Globalization, Continuing Challenges and Social Change**

- Discover and explore significant issues facing people around the world
- Challenge your views and opinions
- Follow current events
- Classroom discussions, classroom debates, case studies and much more!

Sr.

## Sr. Writer's Craft

**Units - Words, Words, Words, the Writer and the Craft, Writing for Media, Writing for Specialized Audiences, Magnus Opus**

- Creative Writing/Writer's Workshop
- Creation of a short book
- In-depth character creation
- Peer revision groups
- Supportive small community of writers
- One-on-one time with teacher revising writing pieces



**Sr.**

## **Sr. Challenge and Change**

**Units - The "Ologies" (Psychology, Sociology, Anthropology), Trends in Canada, Social Justice, Technological Trends**

- Study the "Ologies" and the foundations of each
- Look at current trends and how they are affecting Canadians (immigration, generational challenges, racism, etc.)
- How Social Justice creates barriers within Canada, but also opens the door to great conversation
- Complete a Field Research Report; develop a research question of interest, analyze survey data, and finally report findings!

**Sr.**

## **World History**

**Units - The World Reinvented, Enlightenment and Revolution, Modern Europe, Extremes, Seminars**

- Focus on major events that have happened around the world over the last 500 years!
- Europe is a major focus of the study: the Renaissance, the Enlightenment, inter-country wars, and civil wars
- Hands-on activities such as building an authentic French Revolution scrapbook

**Sr.**

## **Physical Education - Exercise Science**

- A study of the human body, it's anatomy and how it affects the way we play sports
- Study how certain people learn sports skills differently than others
- Numerous activities and labs to get the body moving
- Learn about trajectory, friction, how a baseball curves, etc
- Students get the opportunity to analyze a specific sport skill of their choice, using biomechanical and anatomical principals

**Sr.**

## **Physical Education - Recreation and Leadership**

- Learn about what it means to be a leader in sports and in other aspects of life
- Organize and host 3-4 elementary school tournaments
- Opportunities to lead various groups in a number of different sport activities
- A great course for those who are interested in coaching, looking for a career in management or wish to develop leadership skills





# THE ARTS



**Jr.**

## Jr. Visual Arts

- Students learn many different art processes and techniques - hands-on activities!
- Enhance art knowledge by learning about the elements and principles of design
- Work with a wide range of mediums: oil pastels, acrylic paint, charcoal, pencil, etc.
- Complete weekly sketches using new techniques
- Research famous artists and artwork

**Jr.**

## Jr. Band

- The band had seen amazing growth since its resurrection in 2013
- For students interested in playing fun and challenging music
- Every year, depending on interest and past experience, band class has also incorporated strings (violin, viola, cello, and upright bass)
- Students are allowed to pick new instruments from year to year

**Jr.**

## Jr. Drama

- Onstage performance
- Creation of a character
- Stage and costume design
- Hands-on and active classes
- Special units include monologues, pantomime, tableau and voice



**Jr.**

## Jr. Music - Music in the 21st Century/Guitar Class

- Guitar class is an introduction to music for anyone who had never experienced music education
- Main focus is learning to play the guitar and reading notation
- Along with playing, students study the music of today, and the history of that music from its development in the early 20th century

11

## Grade 11 Drama

- Produce and act in a play with your entire class
- Perform the play to elementary schools and the public
- Learn new skills, gain confidence, and have fun!

Sr.

## Sr. Visual Arts

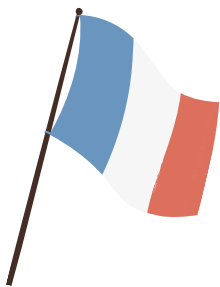
- Enhance art knowledge by learning about the elements and principles of design
- Work with acrylics, sculpting, print making
- Computer projects including sketches, perspective murals, research art periods and artists.

All

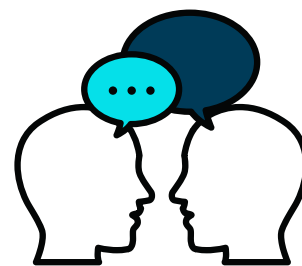
## Vocal Choir

- A cornerstone and long-standing music tradition at UMEI, choir class is a great time to get in tune with your voice and music
- Choir performs fun, challenging, and high level music
- Mass choir festival trip offered every year to choir members (for Mennonite schools across North America)





# FRENCH



Core French, Academic, all 4 years

## WHAT ARE FRENCH CLASSES LIKE AT UMEI?

- Conversation-based with student-centered learning
- Vocabulary and some grammar are sprinkled throughout to reinforce learning
- Based on the key idea that: the more the student listens and reads messages in the target language the more they will acquire!



## HOW ARE CLASSES TAUGHT?

- French classes are taught using the CI (Comprehensible Input method) method of teaching based by researcher and linguist Stephen Krashen
- Comprehensible Input is how we acquire languages
  - Comprehensible= the messages that you understand
  - Input= language that goes into the learner's mind (listening & reading)
  - Output= language that comes out of the learner's mind (writing & speaking)



# MOTIVATING & ENGAGING CLASSROOM STRATEGIES

- Card Talks (discussion with the teacher and classroom)
- Movie Talk\ Picture Talk (discussion about a photo or clip from a film with the teacher and classroom)
- Class survey (ask a question via a survey and discuss the results)
- Special Person Interview (sets of questions are used to generate discussions between the teacher and student/class)
- Shared text/reading (reading of a text/story in class together and individually)
- Writing activities (co-constructed paragraphs about a topic, individual assignments)
- Games (Gimkit and Kahoot are used often, flyswatter on the board, etc.)
- Music and film (Manie Musicale- grades 9 and 10, film/video study- grades 11 and 12).

## FLUENCY THROUGH EXCHANGE OPPORTUNITIES

- All students have the opportunity to participate in an exchange to France, Switzerland or Quebec through International Student Exchange Ontario
- UMEI students are able to keep up easily with all subjects due to increased teacher support and availability online
- Students benefit greatly from the exchange opportunity



# CO-OPERATIVE EDUCATION

UMEI offers expanded programs to help meet the needs and interests of individual students. Our co-op program allows students to customize their high school experience and explore a different learning style. Co-op is a Ministry-approved program that allows students to earn secondary school credits while completing a work placement.

## BENEFITS OF CO-OP

- Experience hands-on learning and test-drive career options
- Build relationships in the community
- Develop essential skills and habits required in the workplace
- Explore interests and skills outside of what is offered in UMEI classrooms
- Gain valuable work experience to build your resume

## UMEI PARTNER BUSINESSES

- Sawatzky Balzer & Wiens Law
- Ricci Enns Rollier Law
- Leamington Mennonite Home
- WONDERfield School
- Essex Animal Hospital
- UniFab
- Erie Shores Health Care
- Wilkinson Electric
- Economy Rental
- 77 Bakery
- Vernon's Tap & Grill
- Dwayne's Auto Service
- Leamington Fire Dept
- Collins Barrow LLP
- C.A. Bailey Ltd.
- Cowlick Studios Graphic Design
- Armando's
- John's Auto
- Highbury Canco
- Seacliff Energy
- J&J Auto
- Southpoint Industrial Supply

# LEARNING SUPPORT & STUDENT SUCCESS

## What is learning support?

- Working with students and teachers to ensure the best possible learning environment for our students, including students with learning exceptionalities
- Through a collaborative approach with teachers, parents, principal and the student, develop strategies and goals to promote growth and enhance learning
- Provide extra support through additional resources, strategies, and practices to struggling students to allow all students to have an equal opportunity for success
- Assist with time management skills, organization, study skills, etc. for all students
- Create and update Individual Education Plans
- Meet regularly with students in need to set goals and provide extra resources if needed
- Monitor the progress of our students and to make certain that all accommodations are being met
- Involve parents through open and regular communication

At UMEI we can veer away from the "one size fits all" model and work towards each student's individual needs.

## Student Success Period

All teachers are available in their classrooms from 3:00-3:30, Monday - Thursday, for extra help. Students can drop in regularly during this time period for personalized instruction, remediation, or other supports that are needed.

Anchored in the  
Anabaptist Tradition,



exists to educate the  
**WHOLE PERSON,**  
cultivating full  
**ACADEMIC, SPIRITUAL &  
INDIVIDUAL POTENTIAL**  
in order to make young people  
**"DOERS OF THE WORD"**  
in the community.

Staff are always happy to help!  
Please contact us with your questions or concerns  
about making the transition to high school, courses  
and academics, or future career goals.



**Mrs. Sonya Bedal**  
Principal/Guidance Head  
principal@umei.ca



**Mrs. Chani Wiens**  
Director of Enrollment & Community  
Engagement  
admissions@umei.ca