



2026-2027 Distinction Program — Cycle 1

Alongside supporting social and academic development, Villa Maria empowers students to pursue enrichment opportunities. Our **Distinction Program** was designed specifically to foster this ambition. The successful completion of this program will be recognized on the student's report card, through a certificate, a special mention upon graduation, and with additional credits recognized by the Ministère de l'Éducation.

The Distinction Program's **extra-credit courses** are additional, non-mandatory courses offered at school after school hours, from 3:10 to 4:10 p.m. Each course consists of four one-hour classes per eighteen-day cycle for the duration of the school year.

The requirements for the Distinction Program include:

- The completion of 3 graded experience periods between Secondary 1-5*
- Maintaining a minimum average of 70% for each experience period
- Maintaining an overall academic average of 80% each year during which the student was enrolled in a graded experience period
 - The calculation will be finalized at the end of Term 2 in Secondary 5

***Please note that students who have successfully completed an extra-credit course, and have achieved a minimum of 70% in the course, prior to the 2026-2027 academic year will receive recognition towards the distinction program.**

Courses begin the week of September 14, 2026, according to the cycle day on the student's schedule.

Courses end the week preceding the June 2027 exams.

Fee: \$375 per course, payable upon registration via the Portal. This amount covers human resources, required materials, as well as administrative fees. The fee is subject to change without notice.

Registration Conditions

- First come, first served
- Only ONE (1) Extra-Credit course permitted per school year
- A student may not take the same Extra-Credit course more than once, except for Wind and Percussion Orchestra

Course Offering

- Each course requires a minimum of 24 registrations in order to be offered
- Maximum of 38 students per group
- Full class: registration is closed; you may add your child to the waiting list via the Portal if case a spot becomes available



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Rules

- All school rules apply, including those regarding lateness and absences
- Students may not miss an Extra-Credit course to attend a sports practice or tryout
- Only absences for official sports games are permitted

Supervision

The school may refuse enrollment or remove a student if it determines that the additional workload may interfere with the student's ability to succeed.

Fees are refundable in accordance with the Act Respecting Private Education if the school removes a student from a course.

Deadlines

March 13, 2026, 9:00 a.m.: registration deadline

September 30, 2026, 4:00 p.m.: deadline for registration from the waiting list

October 13, 2026, 4:00 p.m.: final date to cancel a course and receive a refund

November 14, 2025, 4:00 p.m.: No deregistration will be authorized after this date

Please consult the list of Extra-Credit courses for the 2026-2027 school year and, if you wish, proceed with your child's registration through the Portal.

Please log in to the [Portal](#) using your parent or guardian username and password.

- Click on "**Activities**," then on "**2026-2027**."
- Click on "**Cours Crédits+ | Extra-Credit Courses**."
- To register your child for a course, select the desired course and click on the red cart icon. **Only ONE (1) course may be selected for the school year.**
- Select the **student** to register and click "**Add**."
- Click "**Go to cart**."
- Click on "**Next Step**."
- Check the box under "**Terms of Use**."
- Click "**Place Order**" and complete the required steps to proceed with payment.

If you require assistance with the Portal, please contact Ms. Cristina Cunha at cunhac@villamaria.qc.ca.

Special requests must be addressed to **Mrs. [Marie-Claude Bradette](#)**, Assistant Director of Educational Services and Head of Extra-Credit Courses.

2026-2027 Extra-Credit Courses List

Secondary Level	Course Title	Teaching Language
Secondary 1		
	Math+ 1	French
	Spanish Beginner - Level I	Spanish
	Wind and Percussion Orchestra - Level 1 (OVPVM)	Bilingual
Secondary 2		
	Math+ 2	French
	Spanish Beginner - Level I	Spanish
	Wind and Percussion Orchestra - Level 1 (OVPVM)	Bilingual

2026-2027 Extra-Credit Courses Description

Math+ 1 (Secondary 1 - Course given in French)

Math+ 1 is a mathematics enrichment course for Secondary 1 students. It offers activities that are more complex than the regular program, while being complementary to it. The challenges offered call for creativity and the development of fundamental mathematical reasoning skills. Students are invited to prepare for and participate in local and national mathematics competitions. The course is designed for students who enjoy mathematics and are comfortable with a fast pace of learning in this discipline. Open to students of both languages of instruction. Course given in French.

Math+ 2 (Secondary 2, Course given in French)

Math+ 2 is a mathematics enrichment course for Secondary 2 students. Following the same philosophy as Math+ 1, the course offers complex activities that draw on creativity and the full range of mathematical reasoning skills. Students are encouraged to prepare for and participate in math competitions. The course is designed for students who enjoy mathematics and are comfortable with a fast pace of learning in this discipline. Open to students of both languages of instruction. Course given in French.

Wind and Percussion Orchestra (OVPVM)

The course is designed to bring together students who enjoy playing a wind instrument and wish to develop their instrumental skills in the wind band. All students who are ready for a stimulating and enriching musical experience are welcome. Year-end performance and special events. The musical repertoire will cover various styles, with more advanced pieces at Level 2 (extracurriculars). Course given in French and English.

Mandatory Prerequisite: None

This course is popular, so please register early.

MANDATORY: Specify the instrument you wish to apply for by completing this form: [click here](#)

Here are the chairs that need to be filled for each level:

11 flutes	11 clarinets	2 alto saxophones	1 tenor saxophone	4 trumpets
2 trombones	1 tuba	2 electric basses	4 percussionists	

2026-2027 Extra-Credit Courses Description

SEQUENCE OF SPANISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE COURSES

The course sequence meets the European and internationally recognized basic qualification requirements for Spanish as a second language.

Spanish Beginner Level I (Secondary 1 and 2)

The beginners Spanish level I course **is intended for students who have no prior knowledge of Spanish** and who wish to acquire basic knowledge of the Spanish language. The topics covered seek primarily to generate students' interest in Spanish and hispanic culture and enabling students to develop the essential skills and knowledge required for effective communication. The materials are varied and engaging. The student will participate in several activities and use resources that will allow them to apply the language in different everyday situations. The student will continue exploring certain aspects of the culture of Spanish-speaking countries. Completing hands-on projects will help the student develop critical thinking and autonomous learning. The student will use information and communication technologies to carry out research and complete assignments. [Click here for the course outline.](#)

By the end of this course, and depending on personal commitment, students will be able to:

- Introduce themselves or someone else;
- Ask someone about their well-being and respond;
- Understand conversations about themselves and their family;
- Understand, accept or refuse and carry out very simple instructions.

Spanish Beginner Level II (Secondary 1 and 2)

Spanish beginner level II is a continuation of Spanish beginner level I. Students will have an understanding of the basics of Spanish, participate in a number of activities, and use resources that will enable them to use the language in a variety of everyday situations. Students will continue to explore aspects of the culture of countries where the Spanish language is spoken. Students will develop critical thinking skills and autonomous learning through the completion of a step-by-step project. They will use information and communication technologies to carry out their research and assignments. [Click here for the course outline.](#)

By the end of this course, and depending on personal investment, students will be able to:

- Communicate simple information about family, work, outings, projects, vacations, housing projects, vacations
- Ask a person questions about him or herself and answer the same type of questions
- Talk about his/her daily activities and hobbies
- Communicate simply in everyday life: shopping, restaurants, cafes.