

Welcome Grade 11s!

GESS Grads

2027

TODAY:

**Planning for
Grade 12**



Overview

- ★ Course Policies
- ★ Future Planning
- ★ Graduation Requirements
- ★ Academic Course Options
- ★ Elective Course Options
- ★ Things to Consider
- ★ Questions



Course Policies



GES Course Policy

Grade 10: 8 courses inside timetable
NO SPARES

Grade 11: 8 courses inside timetable
NO SPARES

Grade 12: 8* courses inside timetable
* includes a mandatory Capstone course, which, when completed, becomes a spare.

**Online courses are 'extra' & not part of timetable course count.

Future Planning



PLANNING for Post-Secondary

Lots of Options available to you!

UNIVERSITY ACADEMIC

ie: UBC, UVIC, SFU, etc.

UNIVERSITY TRANSFER

ie: Okanagan College

HANDS-ON & SKILL BASED

ie: BCIT, SAIT

✓ Power Engineer

✓ Radio Broadcasting

CREATIVE PROGRAMS

ie: CATO, MC College

✓ Make-Up

✓ Sound Engineering

TRADES

ie: Okanagan College, BCIT

ie: SD 23 Dual Credit Programs

PLANNING for Post-Secondary

DO YOUR RESEARCH!



www.educationplannerbc.ca

Explore post-sec options in BC, careers, where programs are offered, projected income, and apply to post-secondary institutions

Remember to check the institution websites too!



Dual Credit Programs

Career & Life Programs Coordinator:
MR. TIM FRECHETTE

ADVANCED ACADEMIC CREDIT

Available to all *Grade 12*
secondary school students

Okanagan College

Students can enroll in 1 to 2
first-year, university
transferable courses

UBC Okanagan

First year Engineering
Course (when available)

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Nursing Unit Asst.
Dental Office Asst.
Medical Office Asst.
Medical Device
Reprocessing
Office Admin.
Early Childhood Ed.
Health Care Sampler (11-12)
Practical Nursing 113 (OC)
Admin Asst.
Educational Asst.(CEA)
Health care Asst.

TRADES AND TECHNOLOGY

Okanagan College

All Entry Level Trade Programs(OC)
Water Tech Engineering (12)
Sampler Programs
Trades (10-12)
Gateway to Tech (10-12)

CATO

Interior Design (11-12)
Audio Engineering (11-12)
Vet Essentials (10-12)

School Based

Hairdressing (MBS)
Computer Information Systems
Administration (RSS)
Forestry (RSS)
EMR (RSS & Justice Institute of BC)
Apprenticeship (ITA Youth Work)

PLANNING for Post-Secondary

University Entrance

ENGLISH 12

(70% ↑)

+

3-5 Grade 12

**courses [approved by
the institute you choose
to attend]**

*Some programs also require
Gr. 11 courses*

It is important to Research the Universities you are interested in.

PLANNING for Post-Secondary

Start at a college & transfer to a university

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS

*Take 1 or 2 years at college
& transfer to university to
complete Arts degree.*

ENG 12 60% ↑

*College transcript then used
for university transfer*

ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCES

*Take 1 or 2 years at college
& transfer to university to
complete Science degree.*

ENG 12 60% ↑

P.Calc 12 50% ↑

*College transcript then used
for university transfer*

Graduation Requirements



GRADE 10	GRADE 11	GRADE 12
→ English 10**	→ English 11	→ English 12**
→ a Math 10**	→ a Math 11**	→ _____ 12 **
→ SS 10/ Sciences Humaines 10*	→ a SS 12 (or 11)**	→ _____ 12 **
→ Science 10	→ a Science 11**	→ _____ 12 **
→ a PHE 10**	→ Careers 11/ Education au Choix de Carrière et Vie 12*	→ Career Life Connections 12B/ Capstone
→ Career Education 10/ Education a la carriere 10*	→ Elective** / Français Langue 11*	→ Elective** / Français Langue 12*
→ Elective**/ Français Langue 10*	→ Elective**	→ Elective**
→ Elective**	→ Elective**	→ Elective**

** = Choices to be made * French Immersion Requirements

→ NOTE- All students must have at least one 4 credit Indigenous Studies course.

Graduation = 80 credits
Acquired in Grades 10, 11, & 12

Graduation Overview

Provincial Examinations required for graduation

- Exams in numeracy and literacy are included in the graduation program.
- Results based on proficiency scale (4 point scale)
- Reported on transcript but separate from any specific school course mark.

GRADE 10	GRADE 12
→ Numeracy	
→ Literacy	→ Literacy

Capstone- CLC 12B

- Inquiry driven, self paced passion project where students showcase who they are, their skills and what they are interested in.
- Creating and preparing students for their final Capstone presentation in May.
- Paired with the students spare, and once project is complete, a full spare will be earned.

Possible Project Formats:

- 1.) Tangible Project
- 2.) Inquiry
- 3.) Entrepreneurship
- 4.) Career Passport
- 5.) Hosting an Event
- 6.) 4 Food Chiefs



How do I get my 30 hours for Graduation?

Career Exploration and Career Volunteer hours help you gain the 30 hours you need for graduation. You can accumulate these hours in Grades 10 - 12. There are lots of possibilities - see below for some examples!

Explore

- Job Shadows
- Career Fairs
- Job Fairs
- Experience OC
- Experience UBC-O
- CAT Student for a day
- OC Student for a day
- Program Shadows
- GO ENG Girl
- Fire Boot Camp
- KGH Health Care Conference
- Spotlight Classroom Presentations
- Class Field Studies



It's easier than you think!

Volunteer

- Summer and Spring Break Camps
- Monster Bash
- Scarecrow Festival
- Christmas Light Up
- Downtown Christmas Market
- Kettlebells & Poppies
- Food Drives
- YLW Ambassador
- KGH/Interior Health
- YMCA
- SPCA
- Foodbank
- Art Gallery
- Church
- Sports



Visit your Career Centre for more information!

Academic Programs



English

➤ English 12

It will contain elements of literature, poetry, and short stories. Original composition, synthesis of texts, and oral presentation are developmental skills.

➤ English First Peoples 12

English 12 First Peoples is an academic English course which can be taken in place of English 12. English 12 First Peoples interactive and engaging course with an emphasis on writing, both in expository and creative forms, and on the study of First Nations literature. There is a strong emphasis on the development of writing skills.

Taken in conjunction with Contemporary Indigenous Studies 12 - a SS 12 as part of Indigenous Humanities.

Course offerings dependent upon # of participants.

English AP

AP classes are based on First-year university courses. Students who successfully complete these will receive credit for Grade 12 English and the AP course (8 credits total)

Student will have the opportunity to write the standardized AP exam and if a high enough score is obtained may get a first-year credit at the College or University they attend.*

**assignment of credit is at the discretion of the college or university and not guaranteed*

NOTE: There is a cost for the AP exam which will need to be covered by the student.

Course offerings dependent upon # of participants.

Social Studies

Students will choose a Social Studies 12 course during grade 11 or 12 to meet graduation requirements.

- Law 12
- Genocide 12
- Physical Geography 12
- 20th Century World History
- Social Justice 12
- Philosophy 12
- BC First Peoples 12 (taken in Indigenous Studies 11)
- Contemporary Indigenous Studies 12 (taken in Indigenous Studies 12)



Course offerings dependent upon # of participants.

Science

Grade 11/12

Science for Citizens 11- *A non-academic science. Does not meet university entrance requirements but works for graduation.*

Life Science 11- *A survey course on various biology topics with a focus on plants.*

Chemistry 11- *Strong math background needed! Foundations/Pre-cal Math 10 minimum!*

Physics 11- ***Strong math background needed!*** *Foundations/Pre-cal Math 10 minimum! Recommended take Pre-calculus 11 before or concurrently with Physics 11.*

Environmental Sc 11- *The study of how living organisms, soil, air, water and energy are interconnected and interdependent.*

Science

Anatomy and Physiology 12

A&P 12 focuses on structures and functions of the human body

Chemistry 12

Strong math background needed! Must have Chem 11 credit prior to this course.

Physics 12

Strong math background needed! Must have Physics 11 credit prior to this course. Recommended take Precalculus Ma 12 before or concurrently with Physics 12.

Course offerings dependent upon # of participants.

ASPIRE

Applied Sciences for Purposeful, Innovative, Real-World Experiences
In partnership with UBCO



What is ASPIRE?

- An Applied Sciences program that combines:
 - Chemistry 12
 - Advanced Post-Secondary Labs
 - Career-Life Connections 12
 - Environmental Science 12
- Designed for students interested in post-secondary pathways in Sciences, Engineering, Medicine, Nursing, Business, and more
- Hands-on, real-world, community connected
- Full year - 10 CREDITS



Why ASPIRE?

Post-Secondary Readiness

- Exclusive access to **post-secondary labs and learning experiences**
- **UBCO faculty visits** for program and post-secondary insight
- One-on-one support through the **UBCO BRIDGE Mentorship Program**
- **Advanced labs** that build the skills and confidence needed for first-year sciences, engineering, and more
- **Personalized, interest-driven Capstone** supported by mentors and community experts (not limited to science)



Why ASPIRE?

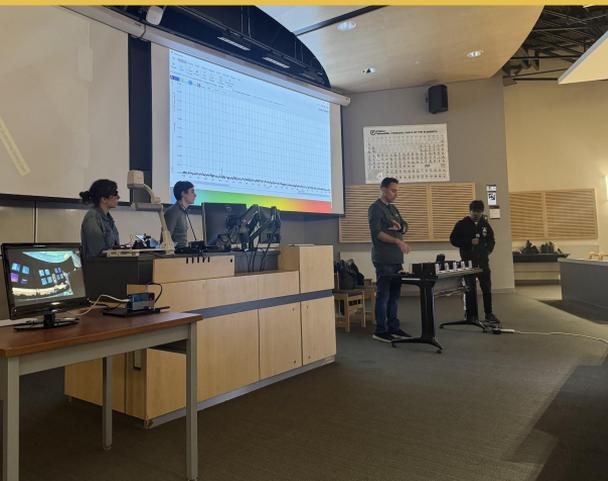
Real World. Real Science. Real Impact.

- Real-world investigations through ChemCorp community partnerships
- Field studies outside the classroom that connect you to real issues
- More than worksheets and tests — use your knowledge and skills to solve problems and make a difference
- Graduate with all volunteer hours completed through mentorship and a network already built
- More time and space to learn in a supportive, like-minded community





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Math

WORKPLACE 10



APPRENTICESHIP
MATH 12

- ✓ Graduation
- ✓ University Transfer ARTS (OC) & ARTS @ UBC-O
- ✓ Business Degree (OC)
- ✓ Many trades

COMMON MATH 10

Foundations/Pre-Calculus 10



Foundations 11

- ✓ Graduation
- ✓ University Transfer ARTS (OC)
- ✓ ARTS @ UBC-O, SFU, & UVIC *** see below



Foundations 12

- ✓ Business Degree (OC)
- ✓ ARTS @ UBC-O, SFU, UVIC (strongly recommended for course pre-requisites)

Pre-Calculus 11

- ✓ Graduation
- ✓ University Transfer ARTS (OC)
- ✓ ARTS @ UBC-O, UBC-V, UVIC, & SFU



Pre-Calculus 12

- ✓ SCIENCES & BUSINESS DEGREES @ UBC-V, UBC-O, UVIC, & SFU, OC

Math

Important notes:

✓ ALL Math course paths are valid & “good” courses.

✓ Consider your skills, your interests, & your path

✓ Pre-Calculus leaves maximum options for post-secondary but is it the right path for you?

✓ Talk to your teachers!

Foundations 12

✓ Business Degree (OC)

✓ ARTS @ UBC-V, & SFU & UVIC

Foundations 12 is NOT an approved grade 12 course for calculation of university entrance at UBC.

Pre-Calculus 12

✓ SCIENCES & BUSINESS @ OC, UBC-V, UBC-O, UVIC, & SFU



Calculus 12

✓ Strongly recommended for science or math and some business programs in post-secondary

Course offerings dependent upon # of participants.

Elective Programs



Remember:

ELECTIVES

Open to all grade 12 students regardless of prior experience.

Some exceptions apply (ie: Band, languages)

Look for more detailed information on courses in the Course Description Booklet

Languages

French

- French 9 through 12



Spanish

- Introductory Spanish 11, Spanish 11 and Spanish 12.

- 2nd Language to gr 11 level needed to go straight to university in some cases (Introductory 11 courses do not count)
- Language to gr 12 level needed for graduation from some university programs (particularly ARTS based)

Course offerings dependent upon # of participants.

Physical Health Education

Any of these courses can count
as your Grade 10 PHE
requirement for Graduation.

- Active Living 11-12
- Lifetime Fitness 10-12
- Fitness & Conditioning 10-12**
- Hockey Academy 9-12
- Soccer Academy 9-12
- High Performance Volleyball 10-12
- High Performance Basketball 10-12

**this class takes place after school in
the weight room.

Physical Education ACADEMIES

Soccer Academy	\$400	DEPOSIT: \$100 DUE: March 13th REMAINDER DUE: June 5th
Hockey Academy	\$725	
Goalies	\$360	

WHY TAKE OUTDOOR EDUCATION?

Learn Real Skills

Want to know how to hike, camp, navigate, build shelters, or handle basic first aid? You'll learn all of it - for real, not just in theory.

Do Awesome Stuff Outside

Hiking, snowshoeing, camping, rock climbing... we're out there doing the fun stuff!

Explore Your Backyard

Get to know the forests, lakes, and wild places around us. We'll talk about sustainability and how to take care of the places we love.



Who should sign up?

EVERYONE!

Whether you've never set foot on a trail or you're already an outdoor pro, this class is made for you.

If you're confident, you'll get chances to lead the way. If you're brand new, you'll have a super supportive crew to learn with and a safe space to try things out.

Outdoor Ed is for anyone who wants adventure, good people, and a chance to push themselves in the best way.

Psychology 12

Psychology is the scientific study of behavior and mental processes.

Some topics included are: psychological disorders, memory, cognition, language & intelligence, motivation & emotion, the stages of human development, and sensation & perception.

The course is very focused on student choice and project-based learning.





~ Band

~ Commercial Music

Drawing & Painting~



~Ceramics & Sculpture

~ Guitar

Fine Arts

~ Creative Writing

-this does not replace your English class

~ Drama



~ Photography



Course offerings dependent upon # of participants.

S.C.R.A.P. Studio 10-12

Sew. Create. Reuse. Art. Purpose.

Curious about fashion, design, or DIY projects?

In this course, you'll learn to sew using machines and by hand, and try knitting, embellishment, and other making techniques. You'll redesign, repair, and upcycle.

The course culminates in a student-led personal project, where you choose your focus and create something meaningful that reflects your ideas and style.

No experience required



Academy of Art & Design

What is it?

- a program for students who are passionate artists and interested in pursuing the arts after graduation, either professionally or at post-secondary. You will get to spend the whole semester working with other similarly passionate and artistic students.

Who is it for?

- grade 11 or 12 students passionate about the arts (any or all of the following: drawing, painting, filmmaking, photography, animation, design, etc.). Especially students who have practiced a lot in arts classes or extensively at home.
- students will spend an entire semester focused on what they love and building a portfolio they get to take with them.

Course offerings dependent upon # of participants.

Classes:

- Foundation Arts 12
- Photography/ Video Production 12
- Design/Animation 12
- Arts-based Careers 12
- *Independent Study
- *Work Experience

*these are the types of courses that have been offered in the past.

Cost:

- \$350

This will cover the costs of your portfolio and other materials needed for the program. It also will cover part or all of any field trips around the Okanagan and potentially further. For families who need support, the school will work with you on a case-by-case basis.

GES ACADEMY OF ART & DESIGN



SCARLETT SERGENT, 2019



FEDERICO VACCA, 2020

The academy is an arts-based, intensive and immersive program that will intentionally guide and encourage students to focus solely on their creative goals while honing a variety of skills and developing a diverse body of works for their portfolios.

In a single semester, students will take the following 4 credit courses:

Art Foundations 12 Careers 12
Film & Photography 12 Independent Studies 12
Digital Design & Animation 12 Work Experience 12 (optional)



MARCELLA YOUNG, 2020

Students will take these classes as a cohort to encourage development of innovative ideas, hone skills, allow students to become experts in their chosen area of study, and apply that expertise in individual and collaborative settings. Students will collaborate and learn alongside like-minded creatives in a collegiate atmosphere modeled after the post-secondary fine arts experience.

A portfolio and equipment fee of \$350 is required, but special considerations and options are available.

Contact your school counsellor for more information.

BE WHO YOU ARE. REALIZE YOUR CREATIVITY.

Excited?

This Academy is meant to be the dream semester for passionate and experienced Arts students who want to:

- Work with passionate people.
- Learn more skills while honing existing ones.
- Build your portfolio.
- Meet industry professionals.
- Get a solid start for a life in the arts after high school.

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BE WHO YOU ARE. REALIZE YOUR CREATIVITY.



Leadership



**Woodcraft,
Metal**

Applied Skills

**Video
Production,
Digital
Design,
Animation,
Drafting**



Auto Technology 11/12

Foods



Course offerings dependent upon # of participants.

Acoustic Guitar Making Academy

**NO previous woodwork classes or experience
needed for Acoustic Guitar Making 11 or 12**

**Full Year - After School
Thursdays from 3:30 to 5:30.
Total Material Cost \$395.00**

Please contact Mr. Tambasco if you have questions or potential
schedule conflicts that might occur within a portion of the year.

**Your solid wood acoustic guitar will be
comparable to a Larrivee OM valued at \$1300.00**



Launching Tomorrow's Entrepreneurs



Entrepreneurship and Marketing 10
Marketing and Promotion 11
Entrepreneurship 12

These courses will offer students hands on experience with all phases of owning a business. Students will have the opportunity to participate in SD23's IGen Challenge.

Course offerings dependent upon # of participants.



AP PASSION TO ACTION 11/12

YOUR VOICE MATTERS!

Join Us!!!

Find your people.

Find your voice.

Discover what matters.

Do good.

Fitness and Conditioning

Jazz Band

Outside of the Timetable

Yearbook

Theatre Production

Work Experience

Courses run before and/or afterschool and do not take the place of a course within your schedule. See the course description booklet for more information

Course offerings are dependant on the number of participants

George Elliot Jr Firefighter Bootcamp in Partnership with Lake Country Fire Dept.



March 16-20, 2026
8:00am-4:30pm
Lunch provided each day
Cost: \$75



Firefighting Academy

- Outside of the timetable in Semester #2.
- Sessions are Mondays and Thursdays from 4-6 pm at LCFD and attendance is mandatory.
- Minimum Grade to apply is Grade 10, preference given to older students.

Certifications and School Credits

4 credits for school

Enrolled into the Red Cross;
BLS (First Responder), AED, CPR, Spinal MR

B.C. Wildfire Service Forest Fire Suppression Fundamentals and Safety and Fire Behavior (S100, S185, ICS 100),
Participate in Live Fire training at North Okanagan Fire Training Centre.

Upon completion of the course, students will receive a syllabus with job performance skills and a record of achievement to support their future career goals and job placement opportunities.

Cost \$300

Things to
consider



Online Education



Be realistic!

This is NOT the 'easier' way to take a course!

**Gr 12: online courses required for graduation must be on track for completion by middle of May.

**Gr 12: check with your prospective Universities regarding their rules around online completion dates.



Plan Carefully!

Changing courses will NOT be simple and extra space in any course is not guaranteed.



Oh no!
I changed my
mind about
Foods and now
there is no room
in Video!

Get more information:

Further Course Descriptions can
be viewed at:

GESS School Website

<http://www.ges.sd23.bc.ca>

(Student tab - Course Selection)

MyEd Course Selection

Course selection will occur online for all students.

You will be able to log in to MyEd between the dates of Feb 12th to March 1st.



MyEd Course Selection

Some hints for successfully selecting course on MyEd

1. KNOW YOUR USERNAME AND PASSWORD!!!!
2. Use a computer, NOT your phone! The site is not designed for cell phones.
3. Use the link to the MyEd site on the GES webpage to ensure you have the correct one.
4. Please ensure you pick alternate courses when asked to, in case your primary choices don't work.
5. A tutorial/helpful presentation on how to do course selection on Myed, as well as this presentation and the 2026/27 course description booklet can be found at <https://ges.sd23.bc.ca/course-selection-students>



Questions?

*About Courses;
Contact Mr. Shaw*

*About MyEd;
Contact the school*