

ÉCOLE GEORGE ELLIOT SECONDARY  
GRADE 10-12 COURSE DESCRIPTIONS  
2026-2027



VISION STATEMENT

**Love, Learn, Thrive**

Non Nobis Solum - *"Not For Ourselves Alone"*

Principal: Mr. R. Aviani  
Vice Principals: Mrs. J. Hall & Mr. C. Mayer  
Counsellors: Mr. B. Sookochoff & Mr. B. Shaw

10241 Bottom Wood Lake Road, Lake Country, B.C. V4V 1Y7  
Phone: (250)870-5102  
[www.ges.sd23.bc.ca](http://www.ges.sd23.bc.ca)

# WELCOME

The purpose of this guide is to provide students and families with information about courses and programs available at George Elliot Secondary School. It is important to know that the final responsibility for course selection remains with each student and their parents/guardians. Please read this guide carefully. For further information, please contact Mr. Shaw ([bruce.shaw@sd23.bc.ca](mailto:bruce.shaw@sd23.bc.ca)) at George Elliot Secondary (250-870-5102).

## FOR FURTHER ASSISTANCE:

<i>Contact the school counsellors:</i>	<i>Mr. Sookochoff (students entering grade 9) Mr. Shaw (students entering grades 10-12)</i>
<i>Contact your Vice-Principal:</i>	<i>Mr. Mayer (students with last name A-K) Mrs. Hall (students with last name L-Z)</i>
<i>Contact the Principal:</i>	<i>Mr. Aviani</i>
<i>General Inquiries:</i>	<i>Mrs. Robinson (Head Secretary) Mrs. Komant (Student Records)</i>

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## THE GRADUATION PROGRAM

The Graduation Program requires all students to successfully complete 80 credits in grades 10, 11, and 12, and write graduation assessments in Literacy and Numeracy. For more information on these assessments, please visit the school website at [www.ges.sd23.bc.ca](http://www.ges.sd23.bc.ca).

The new Graduation Program and the redesigned curriculum has an emphasis on “the kinds of skills that build better students and better citizens” (<http://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/graduation>) by developing students’ Thinking, Communicating, and Personal and Social Identity Competencies, while continuing to focus on essential literacy and numeracy skills.

\*\*\* Grade 10 + Grade 11 + Grade 12 = 80 Credits Minimum \*\*\*  
 \*\*\* A Minimum of 16 Credits must be at the Grade 12 Level \*\*\*

GRADE 10	GRADE 11	GRADE 12
English 10 Social Studies 10 A Math 10 Science 10 Careers Life Education 10 An Applied Skill or Fine Arts 10 Physical Health Education 10 Elective	English First Peoples 11* A Social Studies 12 A Math 11 or 12 A Science 11 Careers - CLC 12 A & MSTX 12 Additional Electives	English 12 Careers - CLC 12B or AP Inquiry Seminar 12 Capstone Presentation Additional Electives
Numeracy Assessment + Literacy Assessment		Literacy Assessment
Minimum of 8 classes must be taken within the timetable	Minimum of 8 classes must be taken within the timetable	Minimum of 7 classes and a careers class. Students may have a spare after completion of careers in consultation with administration.

*\*All students must complete one 4 credit course with an Indigenous emphasis for graduation. At École George Elliot, all students will be enrolled in English First Peoples 11 to meet this requirement.*

Every effort will be made through this handbook to provide the required information for course selection. It must be emphasized that the final responsibility for course selection remains with each student and their parents or guardians. Please read this guide carefully. For further information please contact Mr. Bruce Shaw at GESS.

# *Part 1: Core Subjects*

## ADVANCED PLACEMENT COMBINATIONS

**AP Passion To Action 11-12 (10 Credits):** In this course, you will learn more about yourself and what you care about by exploring your interests, curiosities, and potential future pathways. You will personalize your learning journey by selecting and embracing a variety of opportunities which will include experiential learning on the land to foster a deep connection to this place, and planning field studies which align with your personal growth. You will also have ongoing opportunities for self/group-directed inquiry research in your passion areas. You will connect with community experts and local Elders and Knowledge Keepers to take action and create positive change for yourself, your community, and/or this place. Through school and community mentorship, you will weave together a comprehensive and meaningful exploration of the world to share with others.

*This course satisfies the Indigenous course graduation requirement. Please note that we may ask for funds for field studies that will support us with learning on, with, and from the land. This course will run all year for half a day every other day.*

This course satisfies the following courses towards graduation:

- AP Seminar 11-12
- English First Peoples 11-12 *OR* Social Justice 11-12
- Career Life Connections A/B

## INDIGENOUS STUDIES

**Indigenous Studies 11 (8 credits):** This course is taught in community for grades 11-12, merging English and Social Studies. Students will explore global issues, and engage in perspective-taking through an Indigenous focus. There will be a strong emphasis placed on student safety and well-being. This course will embrace diverse learning styles, aiming to cultivate critical thinking, empathy, and readiness for a multifaceted world through Indigenous contexts. The program will provide a safe learning environment for students to be who they are in order to engage deeply and meaningfully in the process towards truth and reconciliation. In turn, students will develop a strong connection with our school and community.

This course satisfies the following courses towards graduation:

- English First Peoples 11
- BC First Peoples 12

**Indigenous Studies 12 (8 credits):** This course is taught in community for grades 11-12, merging English and social studies. Students will explore global issues and engage in perspective-taking through an Indigenous focus. There will be a strong emphasis placed on student safety and well-being. This course will embrace diverse learning styles, aiming to cultivate critical thinking, empathy, and readiness for a multifaceted world through Indigenous contexts. The program will provide a safe learning environment for students to be who they are in order to engage deeply and meaningfully in the process towards truth and reconciliation. In turn, students will develop a strong connection with our school and community.

This course satisfies the following courses towards graduation:

- English First Peoples 12
- Contemporary Indigenous Studies 12

## INTEGRATED STUDIES

**Integrated Learning 10 (10 Credits):** In this integrated class, you'll earn credits in Science, Social Studies, and Career Education, while exploring big questions about the world, your community, and your future. This course is hands-on, land-based, inquiry-based, and student-driven, meaning your interests help shape what and how you learn.

You'll study topics like climate change, ecosystems, identity, social justice, history, and decision-making, not in isolation, but as connected systems that affect people and the land. You'll spend time learning outside and on the land across the Okanagan (at least once a month), working with local experts, Elders, Knowledge Keepers, and community mentors.

This course is for students who:

- Like learning by doing, not just listening
- Want their learning to connect to real issues and real places
- Care about the environment, community, and future possibilities
- Want more voice, choice, and independence in their learning

You'll build skills that matter beyond school (communication, teamwork, leadership, research, reflection, and goal-setting) while exploring careers and pathways that align with who you are and what you care about.

By the end of the course, you won't just have credits, you'll have a stronger sense of who you are, where you're going, and how you can make a difference.

*This course runs all year (for a half-day every second day).  
Field study fees may apply.*

This course satisfies the following courses towards graduation:

- Science 10
- Social Studies 10
- Career Education 10

# ENGLISH

## GRADE 10

**Literary Studies & Composition 10 (4 Credits):** Literary Studies 10 is designed for students who are interested in the literature of a particular era, geographical area, or theme, or in the study of literature in general. The course allows students to delve more deeply into literature as they explore specific themes, periods, authors, or areas of the world through literary works in a variety of media.

## GRADE 11

**English First Peoples 11 (4 Credits):** Literary Studies and Oral Language English First Peoples (EFP) will explore First Peoples' traditional and contemporary literature and oral texts in a variety of contexts, genres, and media. This course is grounded in the understanding of how texts are historically and culturally constructed, and how information is shared. Students will work individually and collaboratively to broaden their understanding of themselves and the world, within a supportive community and will utilize a variety of techniques for sharing their understanding.

**Indigenous Studies 11 (8 credits):** *SEE DESCRIPTION ABOVE.*

## GRADE 12

**English 12 (4 Credits):** This course is designed to provide students with the language skills necessary to make the transition from secondary school to post-secondary institutions. This course deals with all aspects of communication with an emphasis placed on the analysis of literature and on the formal essay.

**English 12 AP (4 Credits):** This course is designed as a first year college course, and is intended for students who are interested in delving deeper into literary studies or wish to prepare for the rigour, critical thinking, and writing skills of college and university. In this course, we will continue to be looking at a variety of texts, covering the period of the 16th century to modern day, gaining an appreciation for the role that literature plays in our lives. We will continue to develop reading and analysis strategies in order to think and write critically about text. There is an optional AP exam (fee TBA) which can provide a university credit. In addition to the AP exams, students will prepare for and write their English 12 literacy assessment. This course requires high work ethic and commitment outside of the time table.

**English First Peoples 12 (4 Credits):** English First Peoples 12 is an academic alternative English 12 course that is based on the study of literature that represents authentic First Peoples voices. Such text includes oral, visual, and film texts as well as written works. The course is designed to appeal to students who are interested in gaining a background in First Peoples worldviews as well as an understanding of the interaction between First Peoples and European cultures. It takes a thematic approach to First Peoples literature and addresses a variety of topics important to First Peoples. As an English 12 equivalent, English First Peoples 12 also focuses on the practice and improvement of students' written and oral communication skills.

**Indigenous Studies 12 (8 credits):** *SEE DESCRIPTION ABOVE.*

# SOCIAL STUDIES

## GRADE 10

**Social Studies 10 (4 Credits):** This course has three main themes of study: Government and Law, Global Issues, and 20th century Canadian History. Topics include: Ideologies, WW2, Canada in the post war years, Canada's relationships with other countries and its role within a global construct as well as an introduction to the structure and functioning of government, including First Peoples, and an introduction to human geography. The Social Studies 10 curriculum places emphasis on developing disciplinary thinking skills through six major historical thinking concepts: significance, evidence, continuity and change, cause and consequence, perspective, and ethical judgment.

## GRADE 11

**Indigenous Studies 11 (8 credits):** *SEE DESCRIPTION ABOVE.*

## GRADE 12

**20th Century World History 12 (4 Credits):** Are you curious about the forces that have shaped our present-day world? Do you think history can repeat itself? If you said "yes" then 20<sup>th</sup> Century World History is for you. In this course, you will explore how events such as civil rights movements, human rights violations, the revolutions of Russia and China, World War II, and the Cold War shaped not only the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, but also their impacts on today. You will gain a deeper understanding of the forces that influence the world today, and the skills and knowledge you develop can be applied in any number of ways beyond school such as business, education, law, or journalism.

**Genocide Studies 12 (4 Credits):** In Genocide Studies you will explore how genocides have shaped our world and the value we place on human life. You will examine several genocides from the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries, including the Holocaust, Cambodia, Rwanda, Holodomor, and Armenia and among Indigenous peoples. You will also examine the stages of, and strategies used to commit genocide; survivor stories; and the recognition and responses to genocide. At the same time, emphasizing the concept of hope. We will use various materials, including novels, graphic novels, picture books, articles, guest speakers and documentaries.

**Indigenous Studies 12 (8 credits):** *SEE DESCRIPTION ABOVE.*

**Law 12 (4 Credits):** Law takes students on a journey through the Canadian legal system and how different cases impact society. Field Studies to the courthouse allow observation of judges, lawyers, and sheriffs in action, while real citizens experience justice. Participation in mock trials allow students to feel what it's like to be an attorney, key witness, or juror. Guest speakers include: an RCMP dog trainer, a judge, and a crown attorney. Projects motivate students to research real life criminals and create their own societies with laws they feel are the most important. Current criminal cases and controversial laws are debated in class, and sometimes it gets heated! Knowledge gained in this course is practical and useful throughout life beyond school.

**Philosophy 12 (4 Credits):** "Who am I?" "What is the meaning of life?" "What is right and wrong?" Philosophy discusses these questions. Philosophy is as old as humanity itself and is associated with well-known thinkers such as Socrates, Confucius, Buddha, Sartre, and Marx. This course embraces a wide range of topics from both Western and Eastern influences, such as: logic, metaphysics, epistemology, ethics, and aesthetics. Students will use their critical and creative thinking and engage in discussions, debates, written essays, and projects.

**Physical Geography 12 (4 Credits):** Physical Geography 12 explores how our Earth's physical features work together. We'll dive into topics like landforms, ecosystems, extreme weather, and natural dangers. We'll learn about things like earthquakes, erosion, and weather patterns to understand how they create the world around us. We'll also look at climates, different types of environments, and how water moves on Earth. Further, we'll consider the impact of human activities on the physical environment emphasizing the importance of sustainable practices. Through a mix of hands-on activities, field study, online simulations, research, inquiry, and learning, we'll gain a deep understanding of our physical Earth and our role in keeping it healthy.

**Social Justice 12 (4 Credits):** The Dalai Lama, Martin Luther King Jr., Greta Thunberg... and you. It's not just the most influential people in humanity's history that have impacted the story of social justice. You impact it too - every day. Do you have a passion for global issues, justice and activism? This course is your chance to explore issues like race and racism, human rights, homophobia, sexism, poverty and globalization in an open, inquiry-based learning environment. Emphasis will be placed on making sure that all students feel connected and safe in a classroom community so that everyone can participate in thoughtful, informed discussions. This course has no final exam, it is project-based.

# MATHEMATICS

## GRADE 10

**Foundations of Math & Pre-Calculus 10 (4 Credits):** This course introduces students to the mathematical understandings and critical-thinking skills further developed in the Foundations of Mathematics and Pre-Calculus pathways. Topics include: algebra, measurement, number and relations and functions. The seven mathematical processes (communication, connections, mental mathematics and estimation, problem solving, technology and visualization) are interwoven throughout the mathematical topics.

**Workplace Math 10 (4 Credits):** This course is real-world math skills. Topics include: algebra, geometry, measurement and number sense. The seven mathematical processes (communication, connections, mental mathematics and estimation, problem solving, technology and visualization) are interwoven throughout the mathematical topics.

## GRADE 11

**Foundations of Math 11 (4 Credits):** Topics include logical reasoning, geometry, measurement, relations and functions, and statistics. The seven mathematical processes (communication, connections, mental mathematics and estimation, problem solving, technology and visualization) are interwoven throughout the mathematical topics.

**Pre-Calculus 11 (4 Credits):** Topics include algebra, number, relations and functions and trigonometry. The seven mathematical processes (communication, connections, mental mathematics and estimation, problem solving, technology and visualization) are interwoven throughout the mathematical topics.

## GRADE 12

**Apprenticeship Mathematics 12 (4 Credits):** Topics include financial literacy, mathematics in the workplace, 3D objects, area of 2D shapes, surface area and volume of 3D shapes, right-angle trigonometry and measurement including unit conversions. Students will be encouraged to apply flexible and strategic approaches to solve real world problems. This course replaces Workplace Math 11.

**Calculus 12 (4 Credits):** Calculus deals with the analysis of quantities, which are changing with time. The two major ideas are the Derivative and the Integral. Calculus is also the starting point to most post secondary studies in Mathematics and Sciences. The problems that are done in Calculus also involve extensive use of algebra, geometry, and trigonometry; therefore, students taking Calculus 12 should have already completed Pre-Calculus 12 or be taking it concurrently.

**Foundations of Math 12 (4 Credits):** Topics include financial mathematics, logical reasoning, probability, relations and functions and mathematics research project. The seven mathematical processes (communication, connections, mental mathematics and estimation, problem solving, technology and visualization) are interwoven throughout the mathematical topics.

**Pre-Calculus 12 (4 Credits):** Topics include binomial theorem, combinations, permutations relations and functions and trigonometry. The seven mathematical processes (communication, connections, mental mathematics and estimation, problem solving, technology and visualization) are interwoven throughout the mathematical topics.

# SCIENCE

## GRADE 10

**Science 10 (4 Credits):** Science content and scientific literacy are developed through the core competencies that provide students with the ability to think critically, solve problems, and make ethical decisions; to communicate their questions, express opinions, and challenge ideas in a scientifically literate way; and to exercise an awareness of their role as an ecologically literate citizen, engaged and competent in meeting the responsibilities of caring for living things and the planet. Science 10 is a study of genetics, chemistry, energy transformations and the formation of the Universe. Theory and hands-on experiences will be used to learn each topic.

## GRADE 11

**Chemistry 11 (4 Credits):** Chemistry 11 enables students to gain content knowledge, learn the skills and processes associated with scientific problem solving, and develop a deeper understanding of chemistry concepts. There is a strong numeracy component which links the concepts with calculations. Numeracy concepts include the metric system, significant figures, scientific notation and calculations involving unit cancellation. These skills lay the foundation for the focal concepts of mole theory and stoichiometry. Hands-on activities and labs are designed to further illustrate and reinforce content, as well as provide students with opportunities for collaboration and problem solving.

**Environmental Science 11 (4 Credits):** Environmental Science 11 is the study of how living organisms, soil, air, water, and energy are interconnected and interdependent.

**Life Science 11 (4 Credits):** Life Science 11 is a challenging course that focuses on the theory of evolution, the classification of living organisms, the study of plants, viruses, bacteria, invertebrates and vertebrates. It will include lectures, projects, case studies and dissections.

**Physics 11 (4 Credits):** Physics 11 introduces the student to the fundamental principles of a branch of science, which many believe to be the foundation of all the sciences. Major units include the study of motion and the forces that cause motion, energy, and circuits. units include nuclear, wave motion, light and optics, and relativity.

**Science For Citizens 11 (4 Credits):** Science for Citizens 11 is an alternative to the traditional senior sciences, and emphasizes a hands-on approach towards developing the essential skills, which helps students address the personal, societal, and environmental challenges ahead. *Note: Science for Citizens does not meet the Science requirement for direct entry to University from Grade 12.*

## GRADE 12

**Anatomy & Physiology 12 (4 Credits):** This course focuses on human biology from the cellular to the system level. Units covered include: Molecules of Cells, Molecular Basis of Inheritance, Cell Membranes and Transportation, Enzymes and Metabolism, the Human Digestive System, Circulatory and Lymphatic System, Respiratory System, Excretory System, Nervous System and Reproductive System. The knowledge from these units is intended to increase one's appreciation for the complexity of the human body and to supply a foundation for increasing curiosity about maintaining the body's health, and for examining dietary and exercise fads with skepticism.

**ASPIRE Chemistry 12 (10 Credits):** ASPIRE is a full-year applied sciences program that combines Chemistry 12, Advanced Post-Secondary Lab Prep, Environmental Science 12, and Careers 12. Designed for students interested in university pathways in Science, Health, Engineering, or related fields, the course builds the knowledge, lab experience, and confidence needed for post-secondary success. Students apply their learning to real-world problems, collaborate with community partners, and develop core scientific practices. The program includes off-campus learning experiences, career exploration, and opportunities to engage in authentic research and field-based investigations. Students also earn all volunteer hours required for graduation through mentorship, and benefit from the UBCO BRIDGE Mentorship Program, where they are paired with UBC Okanagan undergraduate mentors for support, guidance, and post-secondary insight.

**Chemistry 12 (4 Credits):** The focus of Chemistry 12 is developing scientific curricular competencies, such as questioning and predicting, planning and conducting, and processing and analyzing, in order to make sense of the impact of Chemistry on today's world. Topics range from reaction kinetics and solubility principles to acid base equilibria and redox reactions. The concept of dynamic equilibrium serves as the unifying theme throughout this course. Strong numeracy skills are required in this course. Students develop hands-on practical laboratory skills used in analytical chemistry labs today, such as precipitate identification and separation, and titration procedures, in order to apply their learning to solve real world Chemistry related problems.

**Physical Lab Science 12 (4 Credits):** This course is intended for those students with an interest in science and a desire to pursue science at the post-secondary level. The focus of this course is the completion of a series of laboratory investigations based upon first year university labs in which students will acquire basic laboratory skills and learn techniques which will be required in university/college courses. They will also reinforce their pre-existing knowledge and expand upon it. Students should also gain a better understanding of the role of the science lab in real world applications and be better prepared for success in first year university science labs. *This course is only available through ASPIRE Chemistry 12.*

**Physics 12 (4 Credits):** Physics 12 covers many of the same topics that were introduced in Physics 11, but in greater depth. Vectors are used to analyze two dimensional forces, motion, and fields. Circular motion, torque/equilibrium and gravitation are topics in Physics 12 and 40% of the course deals with electricity and electromagnetism. This course is mathematically rigorous, and it is strongly recommended that Physics 12 students take Math 12 before or concurrently with this course.

## MODERN LANGUAGES

### GRADE 10

**French 10 (4 Credits):** French 10 is an academic elective designed to further develop the student's reading, writing, speaking and listening skills through purposeful use of the language.

### GRADE 11

**French 11 (4 Credits):** French 11 is an academic elective with an emphasis on further developing communication skills, therefore, both oral and written elements of the French language will be enforced.

**Intro Spanish 11 (4 Credits):** Intro Spanish 11 is an academic elective. This course is intended to be an introduction to Spanish and is designed to develop the student's reading, writing, speaking and listening skills through purposeful use of the language.

**Spanish 11 (4 Credits):** Spanish 11 is an academic elective. This course is a continuation of Spanish 10 or Intro Spanish 11. This course is designed to further develop the student's reading, writing, speaking and listening skills through purposeful use of the language.

### GRADE 12

**French 12 (4 Credits):** French 12 is an academic elective. This course is a continuation and elaboration of previous years. French 12 is for those who were successful in French 11 and are willing to engage in challenging themselves.

**Spanish 12 (4 Credits):** Spanish 12 is an academic elective. This course is a continuation and elaboration of previous years. Spanish 12 is for those who were successful in Spanish 11 and are willing to engage in challenging themselves.

## FRENCH IMMERSION

### Grade 10

*All students enrolled in French Immersion must take the following 3 courses:*

**Français Langue 10 (4 Credits):** This course encourages students to develop their own unique bilingual identity, while also considering the cultural diversity they experience by studying authentic Francophone works. Through the analysis, exploration and understanding of a variety of these sources, students will be able to communicate effectively and thoughtfully. Speaking, reading, writing and listening skills will all be highlighted through various learning activities. Students will use these abilities to critically consider the role of personal identity and cultural appreciation, and how they affect the world in which we live.

**Sciences Humaines 10 (4 Credits):** This course has three main themes of study: Government and Law, Global Problems, and Canadian History 1919-2000. Topics include: Ideologies, WW2, Canada in the post war years, Canada's relationships with other countries and its role within a global construct, as well as an introduction to the structure and functioning of government, including First Peoples, and an introduction to human geography. The Social Studies 10 curriculum emphasizes developing disciplinary thinking skills through six major historical thinking concepts: significance, evidence, continuity and change, cause and consequence, perspective, and ethical judgment.

**Éducation au Choix de Carrière et Vie 10 (4 Credits):** The Career Education curriculum supports students in the process of becoming successful, educated citizens by providing them with opportunities to explore a variety of careers and options for their future. Career Education helps students to discover a bridge between classroom learning and workplace and post-secondary realities, and is intended to make their learning meaningful and relevant. Students will explore work-life balance, support systems, lifelong learning, economics, and career planning. *This course will be taught in French.*

## Grade 11

All students enrolled in French Immersion must take the following 2 courses:

**Français Langue 11 (4 Credits):** Students will discover and explore the linguistic diversity, traditions, and customs of Francophones in BC, Canada, and the world at large. In addition, they will develop an awareness of the diversity of French-speaking communities. Through a variety of study topics, students will put into practice their language competencies while exploring and deepening their understanding of various Francophone areas.

**Éducation au Choix de Carrière et Vie 12 (4 Credits) [CLC 12A & MSTX 12]:** Throughout the course students will deepen their understanding of who they are and what their skill sets include and then apply those fundamentals towards building strong career planning foundations. The objective is to determine a sensible post-secondary starting point as they transition beyond high school. Additionally, students will be introduced to financial literacy where students explore living costs, credit, vehicle financing, etc, and also workplace foundation opportunities associated with essential workplace skills, entrepreneurship, safety and safe work practices. *This course will be taught in French.*

The material completed culminates in student creation of an e-portfolio which is intended to form a solid foundation for their required Capstone project in grade 12.

## Grade 12

All students enrolled in French Immersion must take the following course:

**Français Langue 12 (4 Credits):** Students will culminate their exploration of their bilingual identities during this final course in their studies in French Immersion. An emphasis will be placed on perfecting the skills that they have learned in understanding and producing the French language, in preparation for the Grade 12 French Literacy Exam and the B2 DELF exam. A focus will be made to celebrate their linguistic and cultural development over the past thirteen years, and to explore where they can apply this learning in the French communities, both locally and globally.

# PHYSICAL & HEALTH EDUCATION

## Grade 10

**Physical & Health Education 10 (4 Credits):** In this course students will gain an understanding of their strengths, weaknesses, and personal preferences by trying a variety of physical activities and creating goals for life-long fitness. Additionally they will explore healthy choices, and how they influence well-being.

**High Performance Volleyball 10 (4 Credits):** Designed for motivated athletes who are interested in high level skill development moving towards playing on competitive teams. This PE option involves sport specific fitness training and skills designed for the student athlete.

**High Performance Basketball 10 (4 Credits):** Designed for motivated athletes who are interested in high level skill development moving towards playing on competitive teams. This PE option involves sport specific fitness training and skills designed for the student athlete.

**Lifetime Fitness 10 (4 Credits):** This course is designed for those who want to improve their physical fitness and remain physically healthy as a lifelong pursuit. Class activities like yoga, walking, fitness training, and a variety of other workouts will be the main focus. Some traditional and minor games will also be included. Healthy lifestyle choices, nutrition, positive self image, and ways to improve mental wellness will be discussed. This class can cover the graduation requirement for Physical Education 10.

## Grades 11-12

**Active Living 11-12 (4 Credits):** In this course students will develop an understanding of how physical activity is an important part of their health and well-being and will participate in a variety of recreational activities. Additionally, students will learn about safety and injury prevention.

**Lifetime Fitness 11-12 (4 Credits):** This course is designed for those who want to improve their physical fitness and remain physically healthy as a lifelong pursuit. Class activities like yoga, walking, fitness training, and a variety of other workouts will be the main focus. Some traditional and minor games will also be included. Healthy lifestyle choices, nutrition, positive self image, and ways to improve mental wellness will be discussed. This class can cover the graduation requirement for Physical Education 10.

**High Performance Volleyball 11-12 (4 Credits):** Designed for motivated athletes who are interested in high level skill development moving towards playing on competitive teams. This PE option involves sport specific fitness training and skills designed for the student athlete.

**High Performance Basketball 11-12 (4 Credits):** Designed for motivated athletes who are interested in high level skill development moving towards playing on competitive teams. This PE option involves sport specific fitness training and skills designed for the student athlete.

Physical Health Education 10 is a required course for graduation, and students will be able to gain this credit by successfully completing any one of the above and below courses.

## ATHLETIC ACADEMICS

**Soccer Academy 10-12 (4 Credits):** This course includes 3 to 4.5hrs/week of intense training that will focus on individual skill development. Team and game concepts will be discussed throughout the course. Students will travel to and from the Vernon Toyota Indoor Sports Centre during the pre-spring break period and all post-spring break classes will take place at Beasley Fields. See Mr. Vicaretti to find out more about possible financial assistance opportunities. *To secure your spot a \$100 deposit is due to the office or on-line by March 9, 2026 and full payment is required by June 3, 2026. Total Cost—\$400*

**Hockey Academy 10-12 (4 Credits):** This course will take place at the Winfield Arena 2-3 times per week during Semester 1. Hockey Academy focuses on various on-ice skill development with accredited instructors. Students will have the opportunity to improve their skill development, individual game, and build confidence moving forward in Hockey. *To secure your spot, a \$100 deposit is due to the office or on-line by March 9, 2026 and full payment is required by June 3, 2026. Total Cost—\$725 (Goalies pay \$360).*

Online payment plans for academies can be set up at the main office. Please call Ms. Polson (Bookkeeper) at 250.870.5102. Please note, as per Board Policy 425R: Students will not be excluded from any educational program due to financial hardship.

## OUTSIDE THE TIMETABLE PHYSICAL ED.

**Fitness 10-12 (4 Credits):** This year long class gives students access to the GESS weight room after school. Students are expected to create a work-out plan and maintain a log of their workouts throughout the year. Regular attendance and check-ins with the teacher are required.

## CAREER PROGRAMS

### GRADE 10

**Career Life Education (4 Credits):** The Career Education curriculum supports students in the process of becoming successful, educated citizens by providing them with opportunities to explore a variety of careers and options for their future. Career Education helps students to discover a bridge between classroom learning and workplace and post-secondary realities, and is intended to make their learning meaningful and relevant. In this course students will explore work life balance, support systems, lifelong learning, economics and career planning.

### GRADE 11

**Career Life Connections 12 (4 Credits) [CLC 12A & MSTX 12]:** Throughout the course, students will deepen their understanding of who they are and what their skill sets include, and then apply those fundamentals towards building strong career planning foundations. The objective is to determine a sensible post-secondary starting point as they transition beyond high school. Additionally, students will be introduced to financial literacy where students explore living costs, credit, vehicle financing, etc, and also workplace foundation opportunities associated with essential workplace skills, entrepreneurship, safety and safe work practices.

The material completed culminates in student creation of an e-portfolio which is intended to form a solid foundation for their required Capstone project in grade 12.

### GRADE 12

**Career Life Capstone (2 credits) [CLC 12B – Graduation Requirement]:** In order to fulfill Graduation Program requirements, every grade 12 student must complete and present their Capstone project detailing his/her transition plan for life after high school, a budget for that plan, and a healthy living plan. Students must complete 30 hours of volunteer work or career explorations during grades 11 & 12. *This course can also be completed outside of the timetable for those students who cannot fit this requirement into their schedules.*

*Part 2: Electives,  
Academies, Dual-Credit, &  
Work Experience*

## ARTS EDUCATION

### GRADE 10

**Ceramics & Sculpture 10 (4 Credits):** Students new to the 3D world of clay will learn studio safety, tools and equipment, terminology, and basic hand-building methods – coil, pinch and slab work – to create both decorative and functional pieces. Students who have taken the course at least once before will learn advanced techniques including wheel-throwing, and have more opportunity for self-direction in their project work. There will be focus on the elements and principles of design, creative and critical thinking, and personal imagery as they pertain to both functional and decorative applications in ceramics.

**Concert Band 10 (4 Credits):** This course is a further expansion of repertoire and reading skills. Participation in all concerts, festivals, and a Spring tour is expected. In addition, small ensemble playing and composition units will be emphasized. *This is an all-year linear course paired with a linear English 10.*

**Commercial Music 10 (4 Credits):** Commercial Music focuses on developing practical performance skills within a collaborative ensemble setting. Students learn to make music together through guided group instruction, exploring contemporary styles while building skills in rehearsal techniques, arranging, and songwriting. Emphasis is placed on teamwork, musicianship, and preparing music for performance.

**Contemporary Music 10 (4 Credits):** Contemporary Music emphasizes musical inquiry through performance and composition. This student-centred course supports self-directed projects, allowing students to explore musical ideas, styles, and technologies based on their interests. Learning is driven by creative process, experimentation, reflection, and individual or small-group outcomes.

**Drama 10 (4 Credits):** Drama 10 builds on foundational performance skills, challenging students to deepen their understanding of physical and verbal techniques. Students will explore more complex scenes, skits, and character development while refining their use of tone, movement, and stage presence. Through collaborative and individual projects, this course fosters creativity, confidence, and a deeper appreciation for the art of storytelling. Perfect for aspiring actors and performers, Drama 10 offers opportunities for growth on and off the stage.

**Guitar 10 (4 Credits):** Guitar 10-12 focuses on how to play and perform with the guitar. You will learn to read notes, tabs, and chords, which are needed to know how to play your favourite songs. This class is perfect for beginners, or those who have some experience. School instruments are provided, but students are encouraged to have their own instrument. This course is open to musicians of all abilities.

**Photography 10 (4 Credits):** See the world through a different lens. In Photography 10, we welcome everyone at all levels ready to pick up their first dedicated camera. This course focuses on the foundational art of the image—exploring lighting, framing, and genres like portraiture and street photography. You'll learn to turn your vision into reality using industry-leading editing platforms, such as Lightroom and Photoshop, while shooting with professional-grade equipment. It is a creative, expressive environment where new students can learn the ropes and experienced students can refine their technical skills. The course provides cameras for students to use. No prerequisite required for enrolment.

**Studio Art 10 (4 Credits):** This course will focus on the elements and principles of design as they apply to a variety of drawing, painting, printmaking and sculptural mediums and techniques. Students will learn about and use a wide variety of traditional and repurposed art materials, while creating a body of work reflective of personal imagery, and creative and critical thinking. Students will also be introduced to art and artists from around the world, both contemporary and historical, to learn from their experience and find new ways to incorporate conceptual ideas into their works. There is no fee for this course; however, students may wish to buy extra paint, substrates, or drawing supplies.

**Textiles 10 (4 Credits):** Do you love making things with your hands? This course is all about creating, experimenting, and connecting through crafts like claywork, beading, weaving, felting, printmaking, embroidery, sewing, wire work, and other craft forms you are curious to explore. This course will be co-designed with students, who will help shape studio directions, project themes, materials used, and how learning is shared. Choice and voice are central, which will allow you to pursue crafts that matter to you while developing confidence, independence, and creative agency. With a close-knit community of makers, you will be encouraged to follow your interests, experiment, take risks, and develop personal projects that reflect your ideas, emotions, stories, and lived experiences. If you want a relaxed, creative space where you can learn real skills and make meaningful work, this course is for you.

## GRADE 11-12

*Students in Gr. 11 can select Gr. 12 course if a Gr. 11 version isn't offered:*

**Ceramics & Sculpture 11-12 (4 Credits):** Students new to the 3D world of clay will learn studio safety, tools and equipment, terminology, and basic hand-building methods – coil, pinch and slab work – to create both decorative and functional pieces. Students who have taken the course at least once before will learn advanced techniques including wheel-throwing, and have more opportunity for self-direction in their project work. There will be focus on the elements and principles of design, creative and critical thinking, and personal imagery as they pertain to both functional and decorative applications in ceramics.

**Concert Band 11 (4 Credits):** This course is at the senior level of instrumental and theory instruction. Improvisation, composition, and arranging will be included and students will be required to attend extracurricular rehearsals as part of the course. *This is an all-year linear course paired with a linear English First Peoples 11.*

**Concert Band 12 (4 Credits):** This course is a continuation of Band 11. Improvisation, composition, and arranging are components of this course in addition to performance. *This is an all-year linear course paired with a linear English 12.*

**Commercial Music 11-12 (4 Credits):** Commercial Music focuses on developing practical performance skills within a collaborative ensemble setting. Students learn to make music together through guided group instruction, exploring contemporary styles while building skills in rehearsal techniques, arranging, and songwriting. Emphasis is placed on teamwork, musicianship, and preparing music for performance.

**Contemporary Music 11-12 (4 Credits):** Contemporary Music emphasizes musical inquiry through performance and composition. This student-centred course supports self-directed projects, allowing students to explore musical ideas, styles, and technologies based on their interests. Learning is driven by creative process, experimentation, reflection, and individual or small-group outcomes.

**Drama 11-12 (4 Credits):** Drama 11-12 invites students to take their performance skills to the next level by focusing on advanced techniques in character development, voice work, and physical expression. Through collaborative projects, scripted scenes, and improvisation, students will explore the dynamics of storytelling and stagecraft. Emphasis is placed on refining acting skills, understanding dramatic structure, and building confidence as performers. This course encourages creativity, critical thinking, leadership, and teamwork, providing a strong foundation for those interested in theatre or public presentation.. This course is ideal for those seeking to refine their craft and pursue theatre beyond high school.

**Guitar 11-12 (4 Credits):** Guitar 10-12 focuses on how to play and perform with the guitar. You will learn to read notes, tabs, and chords, which are needed to know how to play your favourite songs. This class is perfect for beginners, or those who have some experience. School instruments are provided, but students are encouraged to have their own instrument. This course is open to musicians of all abilities.

**Photography 11-12 (4 Credits):** Master the frame. Designed for students who want to develop a professional-level eye, Photography 11/12 offers a deeper exploration of technical precision and artistic intent. Whether you are just beginning, or a returning photographer, students of all levels are welcome and we'll challenge you with advanced studio lighting, conceptual portfolio work, and high-end post-processing. This course bridges the gap between "taking a picture" and "creating art," using the full Adobe Creative Suite, including industry-leading editing platforms such as Lightroom and Photoshop, and professional-grade equipment to help you define your personal style. The course provides cameras for students to use. No prerequisite required for enrolment.

**Studio Art 11-12 (4 Credits):** This course will focus on the elements and principles of design as they apply to a variety of drawing, painting, printmaking and sculptural mediums and techniques. Students will learn about and use a wide variety of traditional and repurposed art materials, while creating a body of work reflective of personal imagery, and creative and critical thinking. Students will also be introduced to art and artists from around the world, both contemporary and historical, to learn from their experience and find new ways to incorporate conceptual ideas into their works. There is no fee for this course; however, students may wish to buy extra paint, substrates, or drawing supplies. Each year as students progress through studio art courses, they are given more responsibility and independence to push their ideas and their final projects in more challenging directions.

**Textiles 11-12 (4 Credits):** Do you love making things with your hands? This course is all about creating, experimenting, and connecting through crafts like claywork, beading, weaving, felting, printmaking, embroidery, sewing, wire work, and other craft forms you are curious to explore. This course will be co-designed with students, who will help shape studio directions, project themes, materials used, and how learning is shared. Choice and voice are central, which will allow you to pursue crafts that matter to you while developing confidence, independence, and creative agency. With a close-knit community of makers, you will be encouraged to follow your interests, experiment, take risks, and develop personal projects that reflect your ideas, emotions, stories, and lived experiences. If you want a relaxed, creative space where you can learn real skills and make meaningful work, this course is for you.

## APPLIED DESIGN, SKILLS, AND TECHNOLOGIES

### GRADE 10

**Digital Design 10 (4 Credits):** Students will use industry-standard programs to create digital art in all mediums, whether for a professional career or just as a hobby. We will learn design principles and elements, while exploring ways to create seriously cool projects, art, and products. Beyond artistic creation, students will explore how to create minimalist posters, or alter reality with photos. Simply put, this course is a lot of fun if you are interested in creating and working with people who do, too.

**Architecture and 3D Design 10 (4 Credits):** The first half of this course introduces 3D Solid Model Design using the latest software. Students then Design, 3D Model, and 3D print a cool and mechanized project. The second half is about Architectural Design, where students design their own house, including making blueprints and building a scale model. Students wanting to pursue Architecture or Engineering are strongly recommended to take this course. Employable Skill Development is a major part of this course. No previous drafting experience is necessary.

**Entrepreneurship and Marketing 10 (4 Credits):** This course examines the Entrepreneurial mindset, product & service ideation, and theorizing & validating an idea. Additional business topics covered include: finance & the stock market, economics, marketing, crowdfunding, establishing a social media presence, and pitching your business idea to actual businesspeople. This course uses the framework of SD23's iGen Challenge ([igc23.com](http://igc23.com)) so students can apply their learning to an actual business they have created. This course is highly recommended for students considering a career in business and/or looking to expand their understanding of finance.

**Food Studies 10 (4 Credits):** This course gives students the opportunity to prepare a variety of exciting dishes while learning new culinary techniques. includes the evaluation and planning of foods and meals from each food group, sanitation and food safety, environmental concerns and consumer issues. This is a lab-oriented course where students are involved in collaborative and cooperative teamwork. This is a fun course for students who enjoy cooking and would like to develop their cooking skills. Attendance and completion of all labs and assignments are mandatory for success in this class.

**Leadership 10 (4 Credits):** Leadership is for students who are inspired to make a difference in their school and community through hands-on activities, training, presentations, event organization, fundraising, and service. This course will focus on school and global initiatives with some participation in activities outside of the regular class times.

**Metalwork 10 (4 Credits):** This course is an introduction to all things metal. Students will learn welding, machining, and blacksmithing. A wide variety of fabrication techniques are used, and skills developed, in the fabrication of a variety of projects including: soft jaws, a machinist's hammer, a collapsible shovel, a model motorcycle, a blacksmithed hook and more. There is often opportunity for self-directed projects as well. This course is a solid Level 1 foundation for Metalwork. Employable skill development is a major part of this course. No previous metalwork experience necessary.

**Video Production 10 (4 Credits):** Start your journey behind the lens! Whether you've never held a camera before or you're already a practiced content creator, Video Production 10 is the place to build your foundation. Students will learn to create films from start to finish—covering everything from the basics of scriptwriting and filming to green screens and visual effects. You'll use professional cinema cameras and the Adobe Creative Suite, including industry-standard editing platforms such as Premiere Pro and After Effects, to bring your imagination to life in a high-energy, creative environment. This course is designed to be accessible for newcomers while offering the professional tools and space for experienced students to push their limits. The course provides cameras for students to use. No prerequisite required for enrolment.

**Woodcraft 10 (4 Credits):** This course teaches the skills and techniques required to safely use hand tools and power equipment in the construction of an agreed upon start up project, such as, an end table, coffee table and/or clock. The student will then design and construct a project within their ability level using various construction techniques. Minimum 90 hours productive shop time required. Students will be required to pay for materials for projects they opt to do beyond the basic course requirements.

## GRADE 11-12

*Students in Gr. 11 can select Gr. 12 course if a Gr. 11 version isn't offered:*

**Animation 11-12 (4 Credits):** The 2D program uses industry-standard cartoon creation software. Further, 2D students will have opportunities to learn from resources provided *directly* from animators who have worked on classic cartoons. Students will learn everything from basic modeling and shape creation to rigging, lighting, and movement. As more studios move to the Okanagan, now is the perfect time to enter animation!

**Architecture and 3D Design 11 (4 Credits):** The first half of this course teaches advanced Parametric 3D Solid Model Design using the latest software. Students then Design, 3D Model, and 3D print a cool and complex mechanized project. The second half is about 3D Architectural Design, where students design and draw their own multi-story house, including blueprints, animated walk-through videos, and a scale model. Students wanting to pursue Architecture or Engineering are strongly recommended to take this course. Employable Skill Development is a major part of this course. Students who have not taken Drafting 10 are always welcome and will complete projects according to their skill and ability.

**Architecture and 3D Design 12 (4 Credits):** The first half of this course teaches advanced 3D Design using the latest software. This course provides a solid foundation for those pursuing Architectural Design, as well as Mechanical Engineering, and Civil and Structural Engineering. The second half of the course is 3D Architectural Design, where students design, draw, and print full blueprints for an exotic multi-story luxury house, including component creation, terraforming, blueprints, animated walk-through videos, and a scale model of their house. Employable Skill Development is a major part of this course. Students who have not taken Drafting 11 are always welcome and will complete projects according to their skill and ability.

**Digital Design 11-12 (4 Credits):** A large portion of this course will take a deep dive into Photoshop. We will also continue working with Illustrator and other industry-standard programs. Students can follow along with the course or choose to study various aspects of design independently/ in small groups. Without noticing it, humans interact with design decisions every day with everything we use! Come explore how you can leave your mark on the world.

**Entrepreneurship 12 (4 Credits):** This class will dive deeper into the world of business and entrepreneurship, and provide both theoretical and practical business experience so students will be able to come up with an actual business idea and execute that idea for monetary gain. This course uses the framework of SD23's iGen Challenge ([igc23.com](http://igc23.com)). This class is a must for students interested in self-employment as a career option and/or who are looking to go into business in the future.

**Food Studies 11-12 (4 Credits):** This is a fun and in-depth course in the study of foods and nutrition. Units of study include: advanced food preparation methods, nutrition updates, career possibilities, and preparation for independent living. This is a lab-oriented course, and students will engage in cooperative teamwork to explore their culinary skills and manage a successful kitchen. Students interested in pursuing careers in the food service industry, the health sciences, and the tourism industry – as well as students interested in eating a varied and nutritious diet – are encouraged to take this course. Completion of all assignments and labs are mandatory for success in this class.

**Leadership 11-12 (4 Credits):** Leadership is for students who are inspired to make a difference in their school and community through hands-on activities, training, presentations, event organization, fundraising, and service. This course will focus on school and global initiatives with some participation in activities outside of the regular class times.

**Marketing & Promotion 11 (4 Credits):** Expanding on topics covered in Entrepreneurship & Marketing 10, this class will dive deeper into the world of business with a primary focus on marketing and promotions. Marketing techniques, branding, pricing, promotion, target marketing, and production will all be examined. This course uses the framework of SD23's iGen Challenge ([igc23.com](http://igc23.com)) so students can apply their learning to an actual business they have created. This course is highly recommended for students considering a career in business and/or looking to expand their understanding of how to make money.

**Mechanics 11 (4 Credits):** This course teaches students the engine and engine support systems such as: the ignition system, cooling system, and fuel system. Students will rebuild and test automobile engines, perform routine inspection and maintenance of engine support systems, and learn how to inspect a car prior to purchase as well as how to properly maintain their own car. It is recommended (but not required) that students have their own car to work on. Students completing this course have much greater confidence when working on their own cars, choosing a career path in automotive, or even making informed decisions when taking their own vehicle in for service. No previous automotive experience necessary. *Appropriate footwear is required.*

**Mechanics 12 (4 Credits):** This course goes beyond basic maintenance, and teaches students driveline, brakes, suspension, steering, electrical, and emission controls. Students will rebuild automobile transmissions, do a brake job, perform a wheel alignment, and perform maintenance and overhaul. In all areas, students learn what to look for in a used car to drive the price down. It is recommended (but not required) that students have their own car to work on. Students completing this course have a much greater foundation of skills. If you plan on a career in Automotive Repair, you should take this course. Students who have not taken Auto Mechanics 11 are always welcome and will complete projects according to their skill and ability. *Appropriate footwear is required.*

**Mechanics 12 - Advanced (4 Credits):** This course explores modifications: increasing engine performance, lifting and lowering, balancing and blueprinting, turbocharging and nitrous oxide, as well as limited slip differentials. Students will rebuild an automatic transmission, a differential, and perform testing, overhaul, and modifications on vehicles. It is recommended (but not required) that students have their own car to work on. Students completing this course have much greater confidence when working on their own cars and are much more aware of what a mechanic does in servicing their cars. If you plan on a career in Automotive Repair, you should take this course. Students who have not taken Auto Mechanics 12 are always welcome and will complete projects according to their skill and ability. *Appropriate footwear is required.*

**Metalwork 11 (4 Credits):** This course provides deeper and more challenging design and fabrication. A wide variety of fabrication techniques are used, and skills developed, in the fabrication of a variety of projects including: a drill bit sharpening gauge, a fabricated scriber, a steam engine, a nutcracker, a blacksmithed BBQ fork, a CNC-Plasma-cut sign, as well as opportunity for self-directed projects. This course is a solid Level 2 foundation for Metalwork. Employable skill development is a major part of this course. Students who have not taken Metal 10 are always welcome and will complete projects according to their skill and ability.

**Metalwork 12 (4 Credits):** This course is about Design and Prototyping. Students design and fabricate their own midget go kart or chopper bicycle, solving design challenges along the way. Alternate projects can be done in consultation with the Instructor. A solid skill foundation is required to have success in this course. Employable Skill Development is a major part of this course. Students who have not taken Metal 11 are always welcome and will complete projects according to their skill and ability.

**Video Production 11-12 (4 Credits):** Step into the director's chair. This course is designed for both the curious beginner and the aspiring filmmaker looking for a deeper dive into the craft. While we cover the essential pillars of production, 11-12 students will explore advanced storytelling and post-production techniques, and industry-practiced cinematography. Whether this is your first time in the studio or you're looking to master professional editing and lighting, students of all levels are welcome and you'll have the freedom to produce high-level projects that reflect your unique creative voice. Gain fluency with professional writing techniques, equipment, and the Adobe Creative Suite, including industry-standard editing platforms such as Premiere Pro and After Effects, to take your skills and portfolio to the next level. The course provides cameras for students to use. No prerequisite required for enrolment.

**Woodcraft 11 (4 Credits):** This course will build upon the skills learned within Wood Craft 10. Along with the skills developed using stained glass and sandblasting, students will also have the opportunity to use CNC machining, steam bending and vacuum forming to create curved elements to their projects. Having a curved drawer front, table leg, rounded box or musical instrument allows the craftsperson to bring a new layer of interest to their project. The course will focus on students developing custom wood product designs, creating the necessary drawings to complete a cutting list, and incorporating sound construction techniques. Students will be required to pay for materials for projects they opt to do beyond the basic course requirements.

**Woodcraft 12 (4 Credits):** This course will build upon the skills learned within Wood Craft 11. The focus of this course will be on more advanced joinery and building techniques. Students will develop an original or modified design and research new industry standard building styles. Projects are completely student driven so students must be self-motivated and be able to take initiative to problem solve with instructor guidance. Students will be required to pay for materials for projects they choose to build.

## GENERAL ELECTIVES

**Creative Writing 10-12 (4 Credits):** This course provides students with the opportunity to improve their creative writing skills by studying writing mechanics, critically analyzing texts, and experimenting with genres and forms, including fiction, non-fiction, poetry, and screenplay. Peer feedback is a key component, and students will engage in the process of a writer's workshop prior to each major submission to develop their unique voices as writers, and learn to craft compelling narratives. This course aims to help students grow as confident writers supported by an encouraging community.

**Outdoor Education 10-12 (4 Credits):** Outdoor Education is a hands-on, active course designed for students who want to build real outdoor skills while exploring the natural spaces in our region. You'll learn practical skills such as hiking, camping, navigation, shelter-building, and basic first aid, and you'll take part in activities like snowshoeing, rock climbing, and multi-day trips. The course also includes meaningful community and environmental projects, as well as opportunities to learn from local Indigenous knowledge keepers through land-based experiences that deepen your understanding of place. Throughout the year, you'll build confidence, reduce stress, strengthen teamwork and communication skills, and develop a deeper connection to the outdoors. Whether you're new to outdoor activities or already passionate about them, this course offers challenge, growth, and adventure.

**Peer Tutoring 11-12 (4 Credits):** This course is ideal for students who are interested in working with other students. Students will give one-to-one assistance with academics, learn to communicate with others, become more aware of learning differences, and will be able to make accommodations for individual differences. Peer Tutors will be placed in classes based on teacher request, classroom need, and the ability of the Peer Tutor. Logs and self-evaluations will be required in addition to the peer tutoring class.

Enrollment in Peer Tutoring 11 is limited to students who are self-motivated, mature, and have a responsible attitude and the ability to work without direct supervision. A strong work ethic is required. Peer-tutoring cannot be selected during course selection. Students interested in Peer-Tutoring can pick up an application from Mr. Shaw in the Career Centre.

**Psychology 12 (4 Credits):** Have you ever wondered why teenagers love so ferociously? Or why some people take charge and others are the slackers in group projects? Psychology seeks to answer these questions, and so many more. Psychology is the scientific study of behavior and mental processes. This course covers: defining Psychology, its history, the six major psychological perspectives, the future of psychology, and potential careers in the field. Some topics included are: psychological disorders, memory, cognition, language & intelligence, motivation & emotion, the stages of human development, and sensation & perception. The course is focused on student choice and project-based learning.

## OUTSIDE OF THE TIMETABLE ELECTIVES

**Choir 10-12 (4 Credits):** In Choir 10-12, you will explore the fundamentals of vocal performance while developing your skills in music theory, sight-singing, and ensemble singing. This course is designed for students with varying levels of choral experience, from beginners to those with previous vocal training.

**Jazz Band 10-12 (4 Credits):** Jazz Band is a course for Grade 10-12 students offered outside of the schedule that places instrumental music students in a “Big Band” performing group. The musical styles of Jazz, R&B, and Funk are emphasized. Preferred instruments are trombones, trumpets, saxophones, flutes, guitar, piano, bass and drums. *Because this course is outside of the timetable, it can be taken in addition to a regular full-time course load.*

**Theatre Production 10-12 (4 Credits):** This is an after-school course for students passionate about bringing a play to life on stage. Working to produce and perform a full-scale production for the general public, students can specialize in either technical elements—such as costumes, props, lighting, and sound—or audition for acting roles in the show. Students will explore the creative and technical aspects of theatre, develop teamwork and problem-solving skills, and experience the thrill of live performance.

**Yearbook 10-12 (4 Credits):** This course will take place at lunch during school hours; punctuality and attendance is a must. Students must be prepared to work independently outside of that time frame to complete assignments, to “cover” school functions, and to take photos. The yearbook is a reflection of our school and of a year in the lives of our students and staff. Students will learn about graphic design elements and principles, creative layout design, journalism, and photography techniques. We create our yearbook online. *This course is only offered outside of the timetable during lunch hours.*

## ACOUSTIC GUITAR ACADEMY

**Acoustic Guitar Making 11 (4 Credits):** No previous woodwork experience is necessary to take this course. Students will explore the art, science, and craftsmanship involved in designing and building an acoustic guitar from raw materials to a playable instrument. Students will build a functional hand-crafted solid wood guitar comparable to a Larrivee OM model Valued at \$1300.00 that reflects both technical proficiency and personal artistry. Students will develop advanced skills in tool use, project management, and creative expression. This is a full-year after-school course, offered on Thursdays from 3:20 to 5:30. Please contact Mr. Tambasco if you have questions or schedule conflicts that might occur within a portion of the year. *To secure your spot a \$100 deposit is due to the office or online by March 9, 2026, and full payment is required by June 3, 2026. Total Cost—\$395*

**Acoustic Guitar Making 12 (4 Credits):** No previous woodwork experience is necessary to take this course. Students will explore the art, science, and craftsmanship behind designing and building a fully functional acoustic guitar from raw materials to a finished, playable instrument. Students will build a solid wood guitar that will be at minimum comparable to a Larrivee OM model Valued at \$1300.00. The course encourages students to independently shape their instrument through creative choices such as inlays, rosettes, binding, and personalized detailing. By the end of the course, each student will have produced a high-quality, handcrafted guitar that showcases both technical mastery and individual artistic expression. This is a full-year after-school course, offered on Thursdays from 3:20 to 5:30. Please contact Mr. Tambasco if you have questions or potential schedule conflicts that might occur within a portion of the year. *To secure your spot a \$100 deposit is due to the office or online by March 9, 2026, and full payment is required by June 3, 2026. Total Cost—\$395*

## ACADEMY OF ART & DESIGN

The GESS Academy of Art & Design is an intensive and immersive program for students in Grade 11 and 12 which will intentionally guide and encourage students to focus on their creative goals, while honing a variety of skills and developing a diverse body of works for their portfolios for post-secondary entry.

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

- Art Foundations 12 4 Credits
- Career Life Connections 12B 2 Credits
- Digital Design & Animation 12 4 Credits
- Film & Photography 12 4 Credits
- Independent Studies 12 2 Credits
- Work Experience 12 (optional) 4 Credits

The fee is \$350, which covers the cost of specialized supplies, equipment, and printing needed to create the physical body of work in the student's portfolio. **A \$50 deposit is due by March 9, 2026.**

**Art Foundations 12 (4 Credits):** This course will encourage students to expand their personal creative voice through meaningful, thoughtful, conceptual exploration. Students will explore artistic possibilities and take creative risks using a variety of drawing, painting, print-making, and 3D mediums through project work which supports their understanding of the elements and principles of design in conjunction with image development strategies.

**Career Life Connections 12B (2 Credits):** Students will explore careers and post-secondary programs connected to the field of art and design. Focus will be on transferable skills students need for success, as well as strategies for branding and marketing themselves and their work.

**Digital Design & Animation 12 (4 Credits):** Design-focused students will engage with more advanced techniques and theories, and continue to hone their skills with digital tools. Students will consider ethical dimensions of design, and how choices affect our society. Animation-track students will expand their skill set working with industry-standard 2D animation software; they will also experiment with techniques such as traditional 2D and stop motion.

**Film & Photography 12 (4 Credits):** Students will immerse themselves in the world of conceptualizing, shooting, and editing both still and moving frames parallel to the professional settings. This will range from fundamental to abstract/creative techniques to capture the world around them. Throughout the course, students will use: DSLR, mirrorless and cinema cameras, soft boxes, LEDs, and filtered lights, various stabilizers and mounts, and more. Editing will be done using industry-standard software.

**Independent Studies 12 (2 Credits):** Students will create an individual or collaborative project to pursue through the semester, working outside of the curriculum while still receiving credits. This includes mentorship by a teacher in the program, and is meant to provide students the chance to learn or master something of their own choosing.

**Work Experience 12A, 12B (4 Credits):** *SEE DESCRIPTION BELOW.*

## FIREFIGHTING ACADEMY

Are you interested in becoming a FireFighter? The George Elliot/Lake Country Fire Department (LCFD) Firefighting Academy offers an exciting opportunity for students ready to commit to a unique and engaging program. **This program is out of the timetable in the Spring semester** - students will learn both theory as well as hands-on skills, during mandatory Monday and Thursday evening classes (4:00-6:00 pm) at the LCFD Station. Students will get a head start learning the required knowledge, communication skills, work-ethic, teamwork skills, and attitude necessary to further pursue additional Fire Training at various NFPA recognized training programs throughout Canada and the US. This could also lead to an exciting career in any other emergency services.

Students will have opportunities to become involved in the Lake Country community, build self confidence, improve interpersonal skills, experience job interview scenarios, and make connections with the community. LCFD will lead initiatives such as public education at schools, fundraising, and fire prevention week campaigns. The program is available for students in grade 11 or 12, and grade 10 upon special circumstance.

Through this course, students will receive: certification in emergency First Aid through the Red Cross (BLS First Responder, AED, and CPR training); B.C. Wildfire Service Forest Fire Suppression Fundamentals and Safety and Fire Behavior (S100, S185, ICS 100); and will participate in Live Fire training at North Okanagan Fire Training Centre. Additional coursework, such as saw awareness, maintenance, and safety through Ryder Ventures and BC Wildfire may also be included. 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.

## WORK EXPERIENCE

**Work Experience 12A, 12B (4 Credits):** The primary goal of work experience is to help students prepare for the transition from secondary school to the world of work. Through work experience, students have the opportunity to observe and practice generic employability skills required in the workplace, as well as, technical and applied skills relating to specific occupations or industries. Other goals include helping students to:

- Connect what they learn in the classroom with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed in the workplace
- Gain the knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed to be successful in the world of work
- Develop job readiness skills for specific occupations and careers
- Understand the similarities and differences in behaviour standards between the workplace and school

To earn credit for Work Experience you must consider the following requirements...

- Register your work experience placement(s) with the Career Centre. Paid work placements will only be accepted if they take place in British Columbia and the worker is covered by the Worker's Compensation Board in the event of an injury or accident.
- Work Experience 12A – Accumulate at least 100 hours of paid or unpaid work experience. The hours can include volunteer work and part time jobs. Work Experience 12B – An additional 100 hours beyond those used for Work Experience 12A.
- Complete a post-work experience evaluation and report and submit it to the Careers Coordinator.

For more information, please visit the Career Centre. Please note, work experience is done outside of the timetable.

## SD23 DUAL CREDIT PROGRAMS

### Entry Level Trades (Okanagan College) - Gr. 12 Students

- Aircraft Maintenance Engineer-Structures
- Aircraft Maintenance Engineer-Category "M" Mechanic
- Auto Collision Repair & Refinishing Diploma
- Auto Service Technician Foundation
- Carpentry Foundation
- Carpenter Joiner Foundation
- Culinary Arts (PC-1) Certificate
- Electrical Foundation (Okanagan College)
- Hairstylist (MBSS)
- Heavy Mechanical Foundation
- Pastry Arts Certificate
- Plumbing & Piping Trades Foundation
- Refrigeration & A/C Mechanic
- Recreational Vehicle Technician
- Sheet Metal Worker Foundation
- Welder Foundation

### Heavy Equipment Operator (West Kelowna) - Gr. 12 Students

### Trades Sampler - Construction & Motive - Gr. 10-12 Students

### Engineering Sampler Program (Evenings and Weekends) - Gr. 10-12 Students

### Health & Social Development - Gr. 12 Students

- Dental Office Administrative Assistant
- Early Childhood Education (ECE)
- Education Assistant Certificate (EA)
- Health Care Assistant Certificate
- Medical Device Reprocessing Certificate
- Medical Office Assistant Certificate
- Nursing Unit Assistant Certificate
- PNUR 113 Human Anatomy and Physiology

### Health Sampler (Evenings and Weekends) - Gr. 11-12 Students

### Administrative Assistant & Office Assistant Certificates - Gr. 12 Students

### Computer Information Systems Administration (CISA), Cybersecurity - Gr. 12 Students

SD23 students are encouraged to take the following IT courses prior to the CISA program:

### Technology Sampler - Gr. 10-12 Students

Are you interested in increasing your technology skills? Do you want to know more about career opportunities in technology and coding? This course will provide you with skills and knowledge related to the growing technology sector.

### Video Game Prototyping Micro-Credential - Gr. 11-12 Students

Learn the process of creating a simplified, early version of a video game to test and validate design concepts, gameplay mechanics, and overall feasibility before investing significant time and resources into full-scale development.

Forestry: Utility Arborist (RSS) - Gr. 11-12 Students

Emergency Medical Responder (RSS) - Grade 11-12 Students

Skilled Trades BC Youth Work (Apprenticeship)

If you are a secondary school student 15 -18 years of age working in a trade area, you may already be eligible to participate in the Skilled Trades BC Youth Work Program while in high school and qualify for a \$1000 Award Scholarship from the Ministry of Education and Child Care and SkilledTradesBC.

Centre for Arts & Technology (Evenings and Weekends) - Gr. 11-12 Students

DesignXcel (Interior Design)

SoundStart (Audio Engineering)

Academic Dual Credit - Okanagan College Transfer Courses - Gr. 12 Students

Academic Dual Credit - Water Engineering Technology (WET125) - Gr. 12 Students

Academic Dual Credit - UBCO

APSC 171: Engineering Drawing and CAD/CAM APSC 169: Fundamentals of Sustainable Engineering Design Please note that UBC-O selects which course to offer SD23 each Fall.

\*\*Students interested in programs need to connect with Mr. Frechette or Ms. Youngberg in the Career Center for assistance with their application.

All program details can be found at <https://dualcredit23.sd23.bc.ca/dual-credit-programs>

**Global & Intercultural Experience 12 (4 Credits):** This is an outside the timetable course open to all Grade 10, 11, or 12 students, in which students can earn credit for intercultural experiences outside of school. Acceptable experiences include, but are not limited to: international travel, hosting an international student, being an international student, and local cultural events.

Students will develop communication competencies and an appreciation for effective, open, and respectful interactions across cultures. Students will demonstrate their learning in a final presentation based upon three intercultural experiences. The gathering of information and developing reflective practice is practiced throughout the year as students work toward their year-end presentation.

Students interested in this course will cross-enroll to take it at Mount Boucherie Secondary, and are able to attend classes virtually. This course satisfies the "Elective" graduation requirement. This is one of the required courses for students pursuing a certificate in Global and Intercultural Skills.

For students interested in taking this course who will be hosting an international student during 2026-2027, please let your school counsellor know, and also email [homestay@sd23.bc.ca](mailto:homestay@sd23.bc.ca).

### **COURSE SELECTION 2026 - IMPORTANT DATES:**

Parent Information Night	February 12
Grade 12 Course Selection Assembly	February 11
Grade 11 Course Selection Assembly	February 10
Grade 10 Course Selection Assembly	February 10
On-line Course Selection Opens	February 18
On-line Course Selection Closes	March 9
Academy Deposits Due	March 9
Course Selection Verifications Sent	Prior to Spring Break