

Welcome Parents!

TODAY:

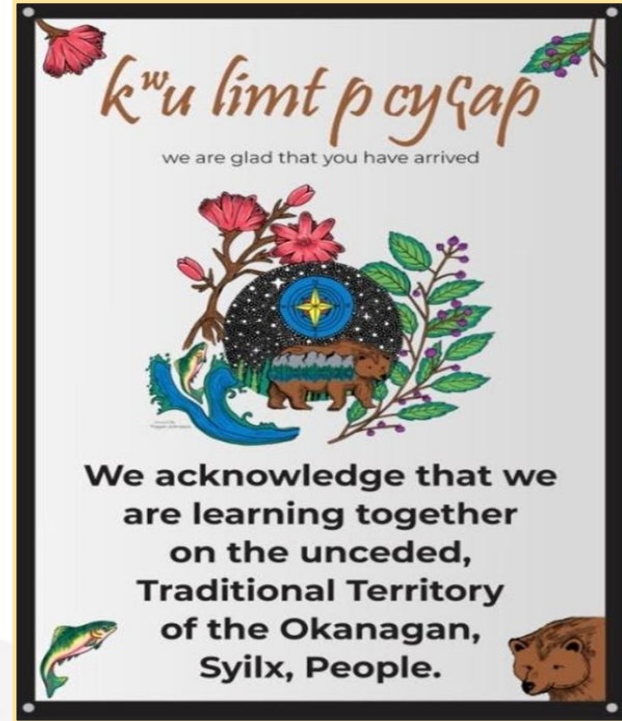
**Planning for
2026-2027**



łi kwu swiwi-numax
We are beautiful

łi kwu sukna?qínx
We are Okanagan

łi axa/ L/tmxwula/xw
**Because our land is
beautiful**



Overview

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



Graduation Requirements



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

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.

Academic Programs



English

- ▶ English 10 - all students take English 10
- ▶ English 11- all students take First People's English 11
-this satisfies the Indigenous course graduation requirement.
- ▶ English 12- Choose between; AP English, English Studies 12 or First People's English 12
-all meet University entrance requirements

See the Course Description Booklet online for course information.
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.

Indigenous Studies

Contemporary Indigenous Studies 11-12

Will be a combination of First Peoples English and an Indigenous focused SS course depending on grade

Social Studies

➤ Social Studies 10

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 12
- Social Justice 12
- BC First Peoples 12 (taken as part of Indigenous Studies)
- Contemporary Indigenous Studies 12 (taken as part of Indigenous Studies)



Course offerings dependent upon # of participants.

Science

Grade 10 - all students take Science 10

Grade 11 - to Graduate students must take a Science 11 or 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 Math 10 minimum! Recommended take Pre-calculus Ma 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.*

Course offerings dependent upon # of participants.

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.

INTEGRATED LEARNING

GRADE 9/10 SCIENCE, SOCIALS, & CAREERS

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 the future
- Want more voice, choice, and independence in their learning
- Like to learn on the land



THIS ISN'T A
SIT-AND-LISTEN CLASS

It's hands-on, inquiry-driven,
and shaped by you!



**Find your voice.
Then use it!**

**Discover what you
care about. Then
do something
about it.**

**NEW
COURSE**



AP PASSION TO ACTION 11/12

YOUR VOICE MATTERS!

Join Us!!!

Find your people.

Find your voice.

**Discover what
matters.**

Do good.

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



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 10-12 students regardless of prior experience.

Some exceptions apply (ie: Automotive, 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.

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.



Physical Health Education

Any of these courses can count
as the 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.



~ Band

~ Studio Art



~ Guitar

~ Commercial Music



~ Ceramics &
Sculpture

Fine Arts



~ Creative Writing

~ Photography



~ Dice and Dragons:
Adventures in Tabletop
gaming

~ Drama/Theatre Production

See the Course Description Booklet online for course information.

Course offerings dependent upon # of participants.

Indigenous Art & Textiles

9/10

This creative, hands-on class explores Indigenous art, with a focus on textiles and natural materials. Students will create art through projects such as beading, fibre work, clay, natural dyes and paints, and mixed media..

This is designed as an entry point into studio-based art courses. It provides a foundation for students interested in continuing into S.C.R.A.P. Studio or other senior art classes.



No experience required

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 SERGEANT, 2019



FEDERICO VACCA, 2020



MARCELLA YOUNG, 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)

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.

GES ACADEMY OF ART & DESIGN



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Film & Photography 12

Digital Design & Animation 12

Careers 12

Independent Studies 12

Work Experience 12 (optional)

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 counselor for more information.

BE WHO YOU ARE. REALIZE YOUR CREATIVITY.



**Woodcraft,
Metal**



Leadership

Applied Skills



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



Auto Technology 11/12

Foods



Course offerings dependent upon # of participants.

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.

Leadership-OT

High Performance
Volleyball-Basketball

Theatre Production

Outside of the Timetable



Fitness and Conditioning

Jazz Band

Choir

Yearbook

See the Course Description Booklet online for course information.

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**



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

Work Experience 12

SEE MR. FRECHETTE FOR ENTRY!

- **Outside of timetable!**
- **present job, not PAST employment**

Requirements:

- Register work placement with Career Centre
- Accumulate 100 hours of work experience (paid or unpaid)
- Complete a post-work experience report



External Credits

A student can earn school credits for some specific programs:

For Example;

- Driver Training Course
- Girl Guides / Cadets
- Provincial & National level sport teams
- NLS & Bronze Cross (swimming)
- Royal Conservatory Music levels

*** Credits are given for SPECIFIC levels of participation as determined by the Ministry of Education.**

Check with a counsellor!



Future Planning



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!



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*

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)

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>

Some of the helpful people at GESS!

Administrators

Rob Aviani- Principal

Colin Mayer- VP for students last names A-K

Jennifer Hall -VP for students last names L-Z

Counsellors

Brent Sookochoff- Grade 9

Bruce Shaw- Grades 10-12

Learning Assistance

Joanne Vammen - Students last names A-G

Nicola Patrick- Students last names H-Z



Behaviour Support

Kathy Lafontaine- Grade 9

Angie deKergommeaux - Grades 10-12

Indigenous Support

Lexea Drouin -Students last names A-K

Femi Vrtar - Students last names L-Z

Christina Silzer -Academic support



Questions?

About Courses;
Contact Mr. Shaw

About MyEd;
Contact the school