



GRAD 2026

Course Planning from Grade 11 to Grad!
A Mr. Van Survival Guide





Land Acknowledgement



x^wməθk^wəyəm
Musqueam
First Nation



Skwxwú7mesh
Úxwumixw
Squamish Nation



Tseil-Waututh Nation
PEOPLE OF THE INLET

With deep gratitude and respect, we are honoured to be learning and unlearning on the ancestral and unceded lands of the x^wməθk^wəyəm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation) & səlilwətaɬ (Tseil-Waututh Nation).



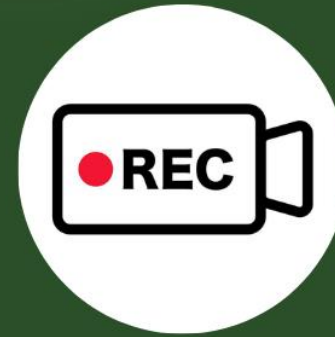
WELCOME!



**MICS WILL BE MUTED &
CAMERAS DISABLED**



**PLEASE ASK QUESTIONS
IN THE CHAT AT THE END**



**PRESENTATION WILL BE
RECORDED & SLIDES
POSTED**



Continuing Down The Graduation Track!

- ▶ We will continue to work towards the 80 credits required to graduate. This is the equivalent of 20 full time courses at the grade 10, 11, and 12 level.
 - ▶ Hopefully, by the end of this year, you will already have sixteen or more courses from Grade 10 and 11.
 - ▶ In Grade 12, you have only two required courses.
- ▶ The course selection form will show you a typical track of courses towards graduation.
- ▶ It's important that you take a serious interest in your graduation and post-secondary planning. If not you, who will?
- ▶ Always ask questions as we cover the content! 😊



Our Courses



Your Requirements From Grade 11

- ▶ All students will need the following courses at the grade 10 level to graduate:
 - ▶ An English 11 (Composition, New Media, Creative Writing, or English First Peoples).
 - ▶ A Math 11 (Pre-Calculus, Foundations, or Workplace)
 - ▶ A Science 11 or 12 (Almost always an 11)
 - ▶ [Optional] Social Studies 12 (Usually taken in Grade 11)
- ▶ On track? If you're concerned, talk to Mr Van 😊





School Programs



- ▶ French Immersion, Flex Humanities, LAC, and Summit all continue in Grade 12.
 - ▶ If you were in a program in grade 11, it's assumed you're continuing in grade 12.
 - ▶ If you were not in one, you'll continue to not be unless you apply and are accepted (subject to room).

Courses For Next Year's Programs:

- ▶ French Immersion (1 course): Francais Langue 12 (Counts as an Academic 12)
- ▶ Flex Humanities (1 course): Philosophy 12 (Counts as an Academic SS12)
- ▶ LAC (3 courses): Math, Science, & Humanities
- ▶ Summit (1 course): Career Life Connections 12 (Counts as your CLC 12)



Numeracy & Literacy Assessments

- ▶ Students need to complete three province-wide assessments to graduate.
 - ▶ **Literacy 10** (Retake in April if you missed it before)
 - ▶ **Numeracy 10** (Retake on Tuesday, January 21st if you missed it before)
 - ▶ **Literacy 12** (Taken in Early November of Grade 12)
- ▶ French Immersion Students also have one French language assessment in Grade 12 as well.
- ▶ All of these are marked on a four-point proficiency scale, like with your Grade 8 and 9 marks.
 - ▶ Students can do two additional attempts at zero penalty.
- ▶ The assessments are NOT tied to any class, but to skills you've built.
- ▶ Grade 10 assessments are NOT used by any post-secondaries.
- ▶ In Grade 12, you will write a Literacy 12 assessment, which is used by UBC.
 - ▶ Students must receive a "3" (Proficient) or "4" (Extending) for their application.
 - ▶ About 75% of BC students get that score, so it's not a significant barrier.
- ▶ More information about the assessments and what they look like:
 - ▶ Grade 10 Literacy Assessment [HERE](#).
 - ▶ Grade 10 Numeracy Assessment [HERE](#).
 - ▶ Grade 12 Literacy Assessment [HERE](#).





Indigenous Grad Requirement

- ▶ Starting in the 2023-2024 school year, the Ministry of Education requires students to take **at least one** course with an Indigenous focus to graduate.
 - ▶ Great news: This is easy at Van Tech as our English, Socials, and French Immersion departments have multiple options!
 - ▶ Courses that meet the criteria for 2025-2026:
 - ▶ English First Peoples Literary Studies & Writing 11
 - ▶ English First Peoples 12
 - ▶ BC First Peoples 12 (*Socials course*)
 - ▶ Contemporary Indigenous Studies 12 (*Socials course*)
 - ▶ Peuples Autochtones de la BC 12 (*French Immersion Gr 11 option*)





Course Planning for After Graduation Through Your Personal Lens

- ▶ Mr Van will go through a lot of important information in the next few slides, but remember everyone will have their own goals, so take an ACTIVE role in:
 - ▶ Asking questions (whenever they come up).
 - ▶ Using online resources to make informed decisions:
 - ▶ MyBluePrint (VSB Login)
 - ▶ FIT Office Hours with Mr Van
 - ▶ Reading through Post-Secondary website requirements





myBlueprint

- ▶ MyBluePrint is something generally introduced in the CLE 10 course. It is a FANTASTIC way to plan out your post-secondary goals. It helps you build potential futures where you can see how your course choices affect your post-secondary options.

High School

Plan Courses

Van's Test View Plans

| Grade 10 Current Year | Grade 11 Next Year | Grade 12 Plan Ahead | Additional Plan Ahead |
|--|--|--|--------------------------|
| English 10 MEN-10 • 4 Credits | English 11 MEN-11 • 4 Credits | English 12 First Peoples MEFP-12 • 4 Credits | + Course |
| Foundations of Mathe... MFMP-10 • 4 Credits | Pre-calculus 11 MPREC11 • 4 Credits | Career Life Connections MCLC-12 (CLC) • 4 Credits | + Course |
| Social Studies 10 MSS-10 • 4 Credits | Geography: Asian Stud... MGEO-12SC1 • 4 Credits | Automotive Technolog... MAT-11 • 4 Credits | + Course |
| Science 10 MSC-10 • 4 Credits | Chemistry 11 MCH-11 • 4 Credits | French 12 MFR-12 • 4 Credits | + Course |
| Physical Education 10 MPE-10 • 4 Credits • 90% | Physical Education 11 MPE-11 • 4 Credits | Chemistry 12 MCH-12 • 4 Credits | + Course |
| Career Life Education CLE (MCLE-10) • 4 Credits | French 11 MFR-11 • 4 Credits | Physics 12 MPH-12 • 4 Credits | + Course |
| Drama: Theatre Comp... MDRAC10 • 4 Credits | Social Studies 11 MSS-11 • 4 Credits | Graduation Transitions MGTY-10 • 4 Credits | + Course |
| French 10 MFR-10 • 4 Credits • 73% | Physics 11 MPH-11 • 4 Credits | + Course | + Course |

Graduation Indicator

Planned ————— 76
Earned ————— 4
Required ————— 80/80
Total Credits ————— 96

View Progress

Pathway Eligibility

Apprenticeship ————— 118
College ————— 2363
University ————— 1230
Workplace ————— 133



English 12 [Required Course]

- ▶ In Grade 12 you choose one of the following three courses:
- ▶ English First Peoples 12
- ▶ English Studies 12
- ▶ AP English Literature & Composition 12
 - ▶ This is a double credit course.
 - ▶ This is an Advanced Placement course.
 - ▶ Students are strongly recommended to have 86% or better in their last completed English course.





Career Life Connections (CLC) 12

[Required Course]

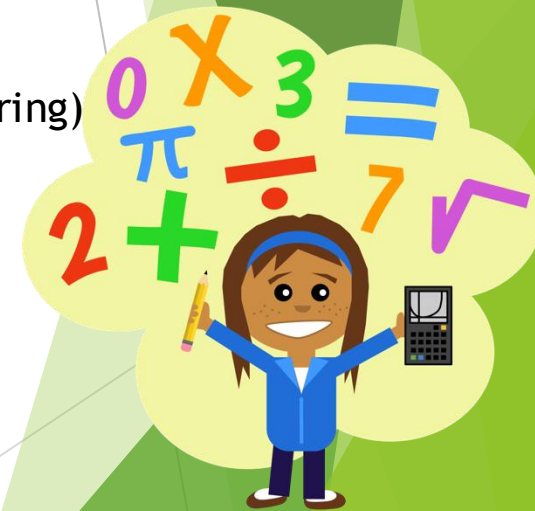
- ▶ All Grade 12 students take this course across the province.
- ▶ CLC 12 includes a Capstone, which is a passion project you spend at least 30 hours on.
- ▶ Students can complete this course in two ways:
 - ▶ On Timetable
 - ▶ Taken for one semester.
 - ▶ You attend every second school day, alternating with a study block.
 - ▶ Off-Timetable
 - ▶ Taken all year.
 - ▶ Meet one to two times a week, likely after school.



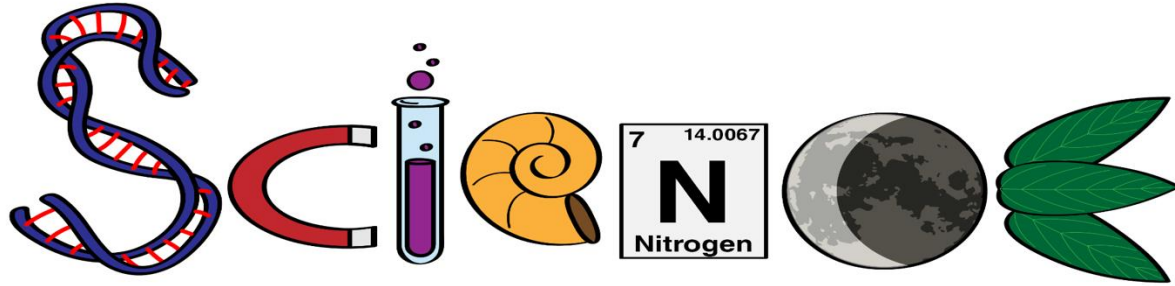


Math 12

- ▶ Grade 11 is the last required math year.
- ▶ Van Tech offers the following Grade 12 courses:
 - ▶ Workplace Math 12
 - ▶ Foundations of Math 12
 - ▶ Pre-Calculus 12 (Required for University Science, Math, Comp Sci, Business, & Engineering)
 - ▶ Calculus 12 (Valuable for Science, Math, Comp Sci, and Engineering)
 - ▶ AP Calculus 12
 - ▶ Statistics 12
 - ▶ AP Statistics 12
 - ▶ Computer Studies 12 (Combined with Computer Programming)



Science 12



- ▶ You'll need a Science 11 OR 12 to graduate. Some post-secondary programs need more.
- ▶ In Grade 12 we offer:
 - ▶ AP Biology 12 (*Includes 2 courses: AP Bio 12 & Bio 12 Regular. You can't split them up*)
 - ▶ Astronomy 12 (*Does not count as an academic 12 for universities*)
 - ▶ Biology 12: Anatomy & Physiology
 - ▶ Chemistry 12
 - ▶ Physics 12
- ▶ ***Please note: Students exploring science-based university programs generally need Physics 11, Chemistry 11, and at least one (sometimes two) Grade 12 science courses.***



Social Studies 12

[Optional if Completed in Grade 11]

- ▶ Students need a Socials 12 for graduation, so make sure you have one.
- ▶ Here are the current options:
 - ▶ 20th Century World History 12
 - ▶ African Decent History 12 (*Off-Timetable, locally developed course*)
 - ▶ Asian Studies 12
 - ▶ BC First Peoples 12 (*Meets Indigenous grad requirement*)
 - ▶ Comparative Cultures 12
 - ▶ Contemporary Indigenous Studies 12 (*Meets Indigenous grad requirement*)
 - ▶ Economic Theory 12 (*Only offered in even years*)
 - ▶ Law Studies 12
 - ▶ Philosophy 12
 - ▶ Political Studies 12 (*New course, offered in odd years*)
 - ▶ Social Justice 12





Language Courses & Skills



▶ Language Courses:

- ▶ Language courses are optional for all university programs starting in 2026 or later across Canada (*exception of Quebec, where some have French requirements*).
- ▶ **A language Grade 12 makes for an excellent academic 12 course for university.**
- ▶ Some humanities-based UBC degrees have a requirement to take a second language in university, so previous knowledge can help.

▶ Skills Blocks:

- ▶ If you are a student with a designation (such as a Learning Disability) you are automatically permitted to take the course.
- ▶ All other students - including students who may have taken one in grade 8-11 must be accepted to take a skills class through a conversation with Mr Van, Mr Ofreneo, or the learning support teaching team.



Electives!

- ▶ We are INCREDIBLY lucky in that Van Tech is a big school with keen teachers. We have a massive catalogue of courses, especially electives.
 - ▶ Use the course choices guide Mr Van is providing and ask as many questions as you like.
- ▶ Grade 12 Applied Skills & Fine Arts courses are usually combined with Grade 11s.
- ▶ Students DO NOT need to have taken a lower grade elective to do the higher level one. Example: You can take Foods 11 without having taken Foods 9 or 10.
 - ▶ Exceptions: Accounting 12 (needs Accounting 11) and Art/AP Art 12 (needs Art 11)
- ▶ Students can receive credit in both years if they select a course area both years.
- ▶ Students can also sign up to be a “CS” with a teacher for a block.
- ▶ Students can meet with Mr Van to discuss being a Peer Tutor.





Off-Timetable Courses

- ▶ Van Tech has many Off-Timetable courses that happen before school, during lunch, or after school. Here is the list for your reference:
 - ▶ *African Decent History 12 (Elective Social Studies course; Wednesdays after school)*
 - ▶ *Chamber Choir 12 (Morning; audition required)*
 - ▶ *CLC 12 (Graduation requirement that can be done this way; likely twice a week)*
 - ▶ *Concert Choir 12 (Lunch, no audition)*
 - ▶ *Leadership 11-12 (Twice a week, including a morning)*
 - ▶ *Mental Health Leadership 10-12 (Wednesdays after school)*
 - ▶ *Orchestra/Strings 12 (Tuesday/ Thursday after school)*
 - ▶ *Queer & Trans History of BC 12 (Elective Social Studies course; Mondays after school)*
 - ▶ *Retail Business 10-12 (New course! Thursday 7:30-8:30 and one lunch every two weeks)*
 - ▶ *Vocal Jazz 12 (Morning; audition required)*



Study Blocks!

- ▶ Grade 12s can APPLY, with caregiver backing, for a study block.
 - ▶ This takes the place of one of your eight blocks.
 - ▶ You complete a form provided by Mr Van with your caregiver(s).
- ▶ Remember that many universities are asking for DEPTH of study, not just great marks, so students are encouraged to take a wide variety of courses.



How is my schedule shaping up?

| Mainstream | French Immersion | Flex Humanities | LAC | Summit |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| English 12 (Pick a flavour) | English 12 (Pick a flavour) | English 12 (Pick a flavour) | LAC English & Socials 12 | English 12 (Pick a flavour) |
| CLC 12 (On or off timetable) | CLC 12 (On or off timetable) | CLC 12 (On or off timetable) | CLC 12 (On or off timetable) | CLC 12 (As a cohort) |
| Elective class | Francais Langue 12 | Philosophy 12 (As a cohort) | LAC Science 12 | Elective class |
| Elective class | Elective class | Elective class | Elective class | Elective class |
| Elective class | Elective class | Elective class | Elective class | Elective class |
| Elective class | Elective class | Elective class | Elective class | Elective class |
| Elective class | Elective class | Elective class | Elective class | Elective class |
| Elective/study block | Elective/study block | Elective/study block | Elective/study block | Elective/study block |
| Off timetable courses? | Off timetable courses? | Off timetable courses? | Off timetable courses? | Off timetable courses? |

Use the Course Choices list provided to pick all the courses you want!

More Questions? More Problems!

Help is Available 😊

| Semester 1 Times | Semester 2 Times |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| Tuesday, January 21 st (Afternoon FIT) | Tuesday, February 18 (Afternoon FIT) |
| Wednesday, January 22 (Lunch Time) | Monday, February 24 (After School) |
| Friday, January 24 th (Morning FIT) | Monday, February 24 (Morning FIT) |
| Tuesday, January 28 (9:00AM - 11:30AM) [No Regular Classes - Turn Around Day] | Tuesday, February 25 (Afternoon FIT) |

Afternoon FIT Sessions are in the Breakfast Club Room
Morning FIT Sessions are in Mr Van's Office
Lunch & Turn Around Day option is in Mr Van's Office



DUE DATE

Due Date for Course Planning Form

- ▶ Is your English Class in Semester 1?
 - ▶ Monday, February 3rd
- ▶ Is your English 11 Class in Semester 2?
 - ▶ Wednesday, February 26th
- ▶ No English Class at Tech this school year?
 - ▶ Wednesday, February 26th
- ▶ A student who does not get their form in by their due date will not have the same chance of getting a course as a student who does (no continued access for changing).



Summer School, Fails, & Getting Ahead

- ▶ Students may make up courses they haven't passed in summer school. Students can also use summer school to get ahead in certain courses.
 - ▶ Summer school applications open in early May.
 - ▶ Mr Van will post information about signing up when we're in April.
- ▶ Many students may choose to get AHEAD in their courses by taking a grade 12 course in summer school. Doing so means you can take an extra elective of your choice in the next school year.



Secondary Course List

| Title | Type | Dept | Date |
|---|------------|------------|-------------------------|
| 20th CENTURY WORLD HISTORY 12 | Completion | Humanities | July 3 - August 2, 2024 |
| ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY 12 | Completion | Science | |
| ASIAN STUDIES: 1850 - PRESENT 12 | Completion | Humanities | |
| BA AFRICAN DESCENT HISTORY IN BC 12 | Completion | Humanities | |
| BC FIRST PEOPLES 12 | Completion | Humanities | |
| CHEMISTRY 11 | Completion | Science | |
| CHEMISTRY 12 | Completion | Science | |
| COMPOSITION / LITERARY STUDIES 10 | Completion | Humanities | |
| COMPOSITION 11 | Completion | Humanities | |
| CREATIVE WRITING / LITERARY STUDIES 10 | Completion | Humanities | |
| CREATIVE WRITING 11 | Completion | Humanities | |
| EFP LITERARY STUDIES AND WRITING 11 | Completion | Humanities | |
| ENGLISH FIRST PEOPLES 12 | Completion | Humanities | |
| ENGLISH STUDIES 12 | Completion | Humanities | |
| EXPLORATIONS IN SOCIAL STUDIES 11 | Completion | Humanities | |
| FOUNDATIONS OF MATH AND PRE-CALCULUS 10 | Completion | Math | |
| FOUNDATIONS OF MATHEMATICS 11 | Completion | Math | |
| FRENCH 10 | Completion | Humanities | |
| FRENCH 11 | Completion | Humanities | |
| LAW STUDIES 12 | Completion | Humanities | |
| LIFE SCIENCES 11 | Completion | Science | |
| LITERARY STUDIES 11 | Completion | Humanities | |
| MANDARIN CHINESE 11 | Completion | Humanities | |
| PHYSICAL AND HEALTH EDUCATION 10 | Completion | Phys. Ed | |
| PHYSICS 11 | Completion | Science | |
| PHYSICS 12 | Completion | Science | |
| PRE-CALCULUS 11 | Completion | Math | |
| PRE-CALCULUS 12 | Completion | Math | |
| SCIENCE 10 | Completion | Science | |
| SOCIAL JUSTICE 12 | Completion | Humanities | |
| SOCIAL STUDIES 10 | Completion | Humanities | |
| WORKPLACE MATHEMATICS 10 | Completion | Math | |
| WORKPLACE MATHEMATICS 11 | Completion | Math | |
| ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 8 | Preview | Humanities | |
| ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 9 | Preview | Humanities | |
| MATHEMATICS 8 | Preview | Math | |
| MATHEMATICS 9 | Preview | Math | |
| SCIENCE 8 | Preview | Science | |
| SCIENCE 9 | Preview | Science | |
| ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 8 | Review | Humanities | |
| ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 9 | Review | Humanities | |
| MATHEMATICS 8 | Review | Math | |
| MATHEMATICS 9 | Review | Math | |
| SCIENCE 8 | Review | Science | |
| SCIENCE 9 | Review | Science | |
| SOCIAL STUDIES 8 | Review | Humanities | |
| SOCIAL STUDIES 9 | Review | Humanities | |
| COMPOSITION /LITERARY STUDIES 10 | Remedial | Humanities | |
| FOUNDATIONS OF MATH AND PRE-CALCULUS 10 | Remedial | Math | |
| SCIENCE 10 | Remedial | Science | |
| SOCIAL STUDIES 10 | Remedial | Humanities | |
| WORKPLACE MATHEMATICS 10 | Remedial | Math | |
| ELL READING AND WRITING (GRADES 8-12) | ELL | ELL | |

Sample Summer School Class List (From 2024)



Your Family Needs to be Involved

- ▶ It's vital that you talk with your family about your course requests. That's why you need them to initial and sign your sheet before we lock in our courses.

If you are planning to take summer school, please indicate which course(s) you are intending to take

1. _____ 2. _____

Parent/guardians must initial the following:

____ I have looked at the Van Tech course planning guide with my student.

____ I have considered post-secondary ramifications, if appropriate.

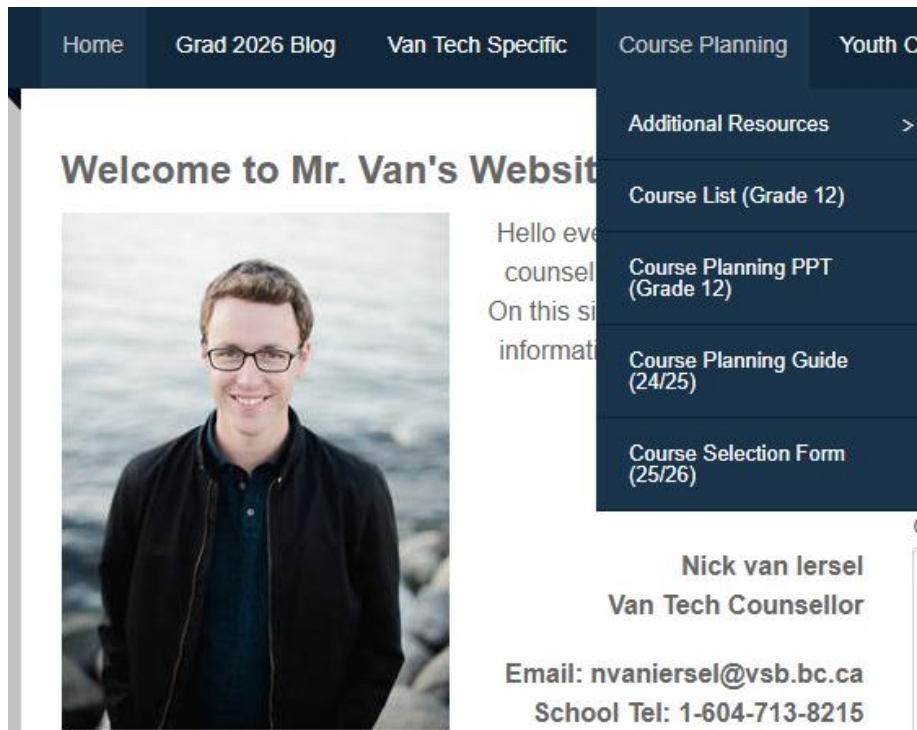
Any questions for the counsellor? _____

Students and families must sign declaring their interest in these courses:

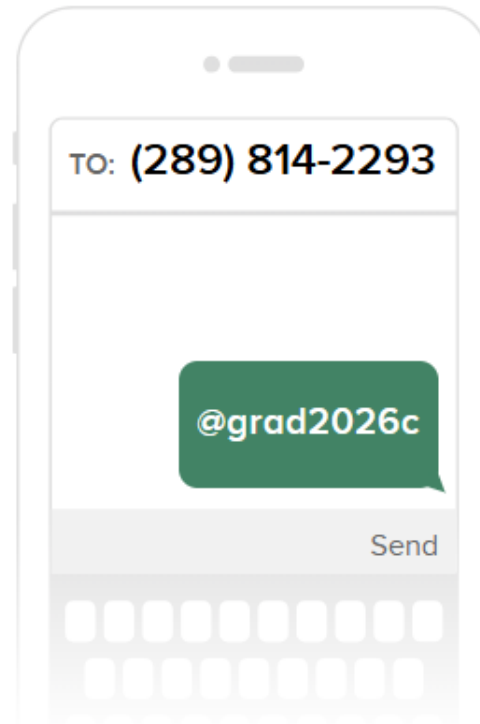
Student Signature: _____ Parent Signature: _____

Resource Reminders

- ▶ I post all the key things students and families need on www.mrvan.org
- ▶ You can always email me at nvaniersel@vsb.bc.ca
- ▶ I run a text notification service on the 'Remind app'. Sign yourself up today!



The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of a website with links for Home, Grad 2026 Blog, Van Tech Specific, Course Planning, and Youth C. Below the navigation is a dark blue sidebar menu with the following items: Additional Resources, Course List (Grade 12), Course Planning PPT (Grade 12), Course Planning Guide (24/25), and Course Selection Form (25/26). The main content area features a 'Welcome to Mr. Van's Website' header, a profile picture of a man with glasses, and a brief introduction: 'Hello everyone, I am your Van Tech counsellor. On this site you will find all the information you need.' Below the photo, the name 'Nick van Iersel' and title 'Van Tech Counsellor' are displayed, along with contact information: 'Email: nvaniersel@vsb.bc.ca' and 'School Tel: 1-604-713-8215'.





Life After High School - Many Paths!

- ▶ **Trades Training** - See Mr Van if you don't already know about the Youth in Trades program that gets free first year apprenticeship schooling.
 - ▶ Lots more info here: <https://www.vsb.bc.ca/career-programs/page/11419/program-offerings>
 - ▶ Most programs have application deadlines of March 1st, 2025 (Grade 11).
- ▶ **College** - First-come-first-serve, smaller classes, pathways to university, and more.
- ▶ **University** - Degree-based programs. Pathways to Masters/Doctorate degrees.
- ▶ **Upgrading/Adult Education** - See Mr Van if you want to upgrade your marks after graduation.
- ▶ **Straight to Work** - Life is expensive. If you want to get money saved for more education, it's a great plan.
- ▶ **Gap Year** - Build some personal awareness, see the world, and 'defer' your post-secondary offer for a year.



Being Honest about UBC

UBC Vancouver Entering Program Averages for 2024

| Degree Program | Mean Entering Average | Minimum Entering Average | Degree Program | Mean Entering Average | Minimum Entering Average |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Pharmaceutical Sciences | 94 | 86 | Music | 91 | 70 |
| Engineering | 95 | 91 | International Economics | 93 | 80 |
| Commerce | 94 | 80 | Fine Arts | 91 | 70 |
| Kinesiology | 92 | 86 | Media Studies | 89 | 70 |
| Science | 95 | 91 | Design | 95 | 70 |
| Applied Biology | 91 | 86 | Arts | 91 | 80 |
| Food & Nutrition | 90 | 86 | Dental Hygiene | 91 | 70 |
| Urban Forestry | 86 | 80 | Indigenous Land Stewardship | 79 | 80 |
| Natural Resources | 88 | 80 | Midwifery | 87 | 70 |



University Transfer Programs

- ▶ Over the last decade+ universities and colleges have started working together.
 - ▶ Universities have high drop out rates in year one and two and want to fill seats.
 - ▶ Colleges want to get more students by offering extensions to their diplomas.
- ▶ University transfer is the process of doing a year or two at a college and then transferring over for year and four.
- ▶ Advantages:
 - ▶ Cheaper tuition while in college.
 - ▶ Smaller class sizes for year one and two.
 - ▶ Softer landing leaving high school.
 - ▶ Better chance of getting in overall (compared to straight out of high school)





Post-Secondary, Scholarships, & Graduation Family Evening - Sept 2025

- ▶ In September of Grade 12, Mr Van and the wonderful VT staff will offer a big caregiver and student night that is strongly recommended to attend.
- ▶ There will be three major focuses:
 - ▶ Graduation - What's happening at Van Tech and when.
 - ▶ Post-secondary applications - Everything you need to know.
 - ▶ Scholarships - The three types and how to apply.
- ▶ Watch for a date at the beginning of September.





Getting Ahead: BC Student Transcripts

- ▶ Students share their official transcripts with post-secondaries they want to apply for throughout Grade 12.
- ▶ Students can get ahead of this process by making an account any time.
 - ▶ Just make sure you know your Personal Education Number (PEN).
 - ▶ Check a report card to see yours or ask Mr Van. It's a 9-digit number starting with 1.
 - ▶ Link: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/support/transcripts-and-certificates>
- ▶ Doing this early means you can see and look over your transcript early. It's rare, but it's always possible a mistake is on there.





Entering your course selections - Now Mr Van is your hired help!

- ▶ To help ensure accurate information, all course entry will happen through Mr Van. This means students will not directly use the MyEd software.
- ▶ **Each student will drop off their course selection form to Mr Van at the required time.**
 - ▶ **Semester 1 students: Feb 3rd**
 - ▶ **Semester 2 students: Feb 25th**
- ▶ Not getting your form in on time means less chance of getting the classes you want.
- ▶ Want to make a change to your course choices? Email Mr Van or come on by his office.