

Eric Hamber Secondary Course Planning

February 2025



LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

With deep gratitude and respect, we are honoured to be learning and unlearning on the ancestral and unceded lands of the x^wməθk^wə́yəm (Musqueam), Sḵwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation) & səlilwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh Nation).



x^wməθk^wə́yəm
(Musqueam)



Sḵwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw
(Squamish Nation)



səlilwətaʔ
(Tsleil-Waututh Nation)

Agenda

Part I: Course Planning

- Graduation Requirements
- External Credits
- Summer School

Part II: Planning for Post-Secondary

Course Selection Timeline

February 4 to 12, 2025 – students select their courses in MyEd

After February 12, 2025 – students will need to see their counsellor for any changes

Course Planning Booklet

<https://media.vsb.bc.ca/media/Default/medialib/hambcoursebooklet2024-2025-final.e6fea070479.pdf>

Sample Timetables

Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
English	English	English	English	English
Math	Math	Math	Math	CLC
Science	Science	Science	Science 11 or 12	Elective
Social Studies	Social Studies	Social Studies	Social Studies 11 or 12	Elective
PE	PE	PE	Elective	Elective
French 8 or Skills	Language Elective	Language Elective	Language Elective	Language Elective
Applied Skills Rotation	Elective	Elective	Elective	Elective
Fine Arts Rotation	Elective	Elective	Elective	Elective
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CLE Off-Timetable • Numeracy/Literacy Assessments 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graduation Literacy Assessment

Required Courses

Language Arts (English) 10, 11, 12

Social Studies 10, 11 or 12

Math 10 and 11

PE 10

CLE 10



CLC 12

Science 10 and 11 or 12

Applied Skills or Fine Arts 10-12

Indigenous course

Graduation Status Report 10-12

	Smith, Clive PEN: 123456789 Grade: 10	 Eric Hamber Secondary 5025 Willow Street Vancouver, BC V5Z 3S1 604-713-8927
Graduation Program: British Columbia Certificate of Graduation (Dogwood Diploma)		
<p>In order to meet graduation requirements and be awarded a British Columbia Certificate of Graduation (Dogwood Diploma), students must earn a minimum of 80 credits and write all provincial assessments of numeracy and literacy. The 80 credits must include 52 credits for required courses and a minimum of 28 elective credits. The 28 elective credits may be from Ministry-Authorized or Board/Authority Authorized (BAA) courses, post-secondary courses or external credentials, but not Locally Developed courses. Students must also complete a minimum of 16 credits at the Grade 12 level, including a required Language Arts 12 course and Career Life Connections. At least 4 credits must have an Indigenous focus. (Indigenous-Focused Graduation Requirements - Province of British Columbia).</p>		
Completed Requirements		16 of 80 credits completed
• Social Studies 10 (4 credits)	• Applied Design, Skills & Tech (4 credits)	
Requirements currently enrolled or currently in progress		
• Language Arts 10 (4 credits)	• Science 10 (4 credits)	
• Mathematics 10 (4 credits)	• Physical & Health Ed 10 (4 credits)	
Requirements yet to complete		
• Language Arts 11 (4 credits)	• Career Life Ed (4 credits)	
• Language Arts 12 (4 credits)	• Career Life Connections (4 credits)	
• Social Studies 11 or 12 (4 credits)	• Indigenous Grad Requirement (4 credits)	
• Mathematics 11 or 12 (4 credits)	• Elective (28 credits)	
• Science 11 or 12 (4 credits)		
Provincial Assessments		
<input type="checkbox"/> Numeracy 10 Assessment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Literacy 10 Assessment	
<input type="checkbox"/> Literacy 12 Assessment		
<p>This document is based on data provided by your school and is not a confirmation of graduation. Your Ministry of Education and Child Care verified graduation status is available to view on your Student Transcripts Service account. Any questions or discrepancies should be directed to your school.</p>		

Indigenous Focused Graduation Requirement

The Indigenous-focused graduation requirement will provide all students with time and opportunity to develop deeper understandings and a broader knowledge base of Indigenous peoples, communities, cultures, histories, and contemporary contexts. This is an important part of the K-12 sector's mandate to develop the Educated Citizen, which can in turn help to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion in our schools and communities

- 4 Options (at Hamber)
- English First Peoples 10
- English First Peoples 12
- BC First Peoples 12 (Social Studies credit)
- Contemporary Indigenous Studies 12 (Social Studies credit)

Language Arts Requirement

English 10	English 11	English 12
Creative Writing	Composition	English
English First People's	Creative Writing	English First People's
Composition	Literary Studies	
Speculative Fiction		

Math Options

Workplace Math	Pre-Calculus	Foundations of Math
Workplace Math 10	Foundations of Math 10	Foundations of Math 10
Workplace Math 11	Pre-Calculus 11	Foundations of Math 11
	Pre-Calculus 12	Foundations of Math 12
	Calculus 12 (AP)	

Languages at Hamber

Hamber offers French, Japanese, Mandarin
and Spanish

Why Study Languages?

- **A Superpower for Travel & Business!** 🌍 ✈️ Knowing French opens doors worldwide, whether you're exploring new places or working in global industries.
- **French = Canada's Other Official Language** 🇨🇦 Speak both of Canada's official languages and connect with more people across the country!
- **Most Countries Expect a Second Language** 🌐 Many places require people to know more than one language—why not get ahead?
- **More Job Opportunities!** 💼 🎨 Learning French can help you land jobs, especially in government, tourism, and international business.
- **Get Ready for UBC & Beyond** 🎓 Planning to go to UBC? French helps you meet their language requirement for a Bachelor of Arts!
- **A Fun Way to Boost Your Future** 🚀 📚 French isn't just useful—it's a great way to meet university requirements while having fun!

Language Challenge Exams

The purpose of the Language Challenge is to permit students to obtain credit for a Grade 11 or 12 course who have already acquired the appropriate learning elsewhere.

Language Challenge Exams: Administered by the Delta School District

Course challenges will be available in the following subject areas:

- French 11/12 • Japanese 11/12 • Korean 11/12 • Mandarin 11/12 (traditional & simplified characters) • Punjabi 11/12 • Spanish 11/12

More information on how to challenge an exam will be available in Fall.

Social Studies Graduation Requirement

Social Studies 10, 11 or 12

Social Studies 10

BC First Peoples
12/Contemporary
Indigenous Studies 12

Asian Studies
12/Comparative World
Religions 12 (offered
in alternating years)

Physical Geography 12

Political Studies
12/Genocide
Studies 12/ (offered in
alternating years)

20th Century World
History 12

Law Studies 12

Philosophy 12

Social Justice 12

Eric Hamber

Senior Social Studies Course Selection Options

See any Social Studies teacher for more information!

PHILOSOPHY 12

Train your minds to think in a more critical, analytical way, better understand your own beliefs.



Investigate meaning and fostering understanding of different ways of thinking.



Examine the fundamental nature of knowledge, reality, and existence.



Probe unacknowledged assumptions, engage in discussion, debate, research, presentation and writing.

BC FIRST PEOPLES 12

Uncover the truth, reflect on the present, become a better you.



Delve into the topics of diversity, depth, and integrity of the cultures of Indigenous peoples in British Columbia.



Address the important and varied scope of the history of Indigenous cultures both pre-and post-contact.



Explore the languages, cultures, and histories of First Nations, Métis, Inuit (FNMI) Peoples.



SOCIAL JUSTICE 12

Broaden your worldview, engage in meaningful and critical discussions, become a change maker.



Become aware of equity and equality in our social systems of Canada and the world.



Acquire the knowledge, skills and an ethical framework to advocate for a socially just world.



Learn how you can take an active role in tackling societal issues.

ASIAN STUDIES 12

Analyze the culturally and historically diverse Asia, broaden your worldview.



Learn about how geography, politics, culture, conflict and colonialism have interacted to shape modern Asia, one of the most dynamic regions of the world.



Explore a broad range of issues affecting modern Asian nations, cultures, regions and ethnicities from the 19th century to the present.



Assess the significance of people, locations, events, or developments, and compare varying perspectives on their historical significance at particular times and places.

COMPARATIVE WORLD RELIGIONS 12

Develop an informed understanding of the diverse world religions, broaden your global view.



Compare insights and understandings of diverse global cultures and peoples and discuss how religion shapes social, political, legal, and environmental values.



Search for existential insight through the study of a variety of different religions and spiritual and philosophical traditions.



Explore religions, mythology, spirituality, and beliefs across time and place.

EXPLORATIONS 11

Explore multiple facets of Social Studies, gain a well rounded repertoire of knowledge.



Examine how political decisions and social justice initiatives influence individuals, societies, and the world.

Learn about 20th century major revolutions and contemporary issues drawn from concepts in Social Justice and Political studies.



Analyze systems, ideologies and institutions, as well as social, economic and political rights.

20TH CENTURY WORLD HISTORY 12

Understand historical perspectives, obtain a global view and be historically aware.



Examine the forces that have brought about two world wars, the growth and decline of political ideologies, and the establishment of international organizations to reserve world peace.

Gain an understanding of decision made in the past, and how, in many instances, these decisions continue to affect events of the present day.



Make reasoned ethical judgments about controversial actions in the past or present, and assess whether we have a responsibility to respond.

GEOGRAPHY 12

Analyze natural processes, better understand our globally connected world.



Examine the human interactions with the Earth's environment; these studies focus on how the environment is used, misused, and altered.



Study the many characteristics and processes of the physical components of the Earth's surface.



Evaluate how particular geographic actions or events affect human practices or outcomes.



GENOCIDE STUDIES 12

Learn from the past, work as modern societies towards a better future.



Study various cultural and physical genocides which have happened around the world.



Examine the origins, conditions, stages and strategies employed in the promotion and carrying out of genocide.



Explore what movements, organizations and laws are in place to minimize the possibility of such atrocities recurring.



LAW 12

Better understand your rights and responsibilities as citizens, be a force for change.



Obtain knowledge and understanding of legal rights and responsibilities, allowing citizens to participate more fully in society and enhance performance within society.



Assess and compare the significance and impact of legal systems and employ research methods appropriate to the discipline of law.



Learn the essential components of Law, Court System, and Canada's Charter of Rights and Freedom.

POLITICAL STUDIES 12

Understand how political decisions are made, become an informed and engaged citizen.



Make reasoned ethical judgments about the actions of individuals or groups that affect events, and multiple consequences.



Assess the significance of political issues, ideologies, forces, decisions, or developments, and compare varying perspectives on their significance



Analyze major ideologies and political systems, election processes, and how media, government, and political power influence public opinion.



Applied Skills and Fine Arts – Why?



One Fine Arts or Applied Skills 10-12 is required for graduation



Add breadth and depth to your education experience



Build hands-on skills for personal development



Explore areas with career opportunities



Creativity is an important core competency



Enhance personal wellness by fostering a balanced timetable

Applied Skills and Fine Arts

BUSINESS EDUCATION:

Entrepreneurship and Marketing 10, Web Development 10, Accounting 11, Accounting 12, Marketing 11, E-Commerce 12, Economics 12

COMPUTER STUDIES

Computer Studies 10 (intro), Computer Science 11 (intro), Computer Programming 11 (Intermediate), Computer Science 12 (Advanced)

TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION:

Drafting 10-12, Electronics and Robotics 10, Electronics 11-12, Jewelry 10-12, Metal work 10-12, Woodwork 10-12
Yearbook 10

HOME ECONOMICS:

Textiles 10 (Beginners), Textiles 11 (for students who have taken Textiles 9), Culinary Studies 10-12

Fine Arts Electives

ART

Drawing and Painting, Ceramics, Media Arts, Photography

BAND

Concert Band Intermediate; Concert Band Symphonic; Jazz Band

CHOIR

Concert Choir; Chamber Choir

DRAMA

FILM AND TELEVISION

MUSIC COMPOSITION AND PRODUCTION

DANCE

GUITAR

STRINGS

Advanced Placement Courses at Humber

- AP Biology
- AP Calculus
- AP Chemistry
- AP English
- AP Physics
- AP Psychology
- AP Statistics

Work Experience 11/12

Why WEX?

“But I already have a job. Why do I need to enroll in Work Experience?” WEX is not just about a part-time job: it is about exploring career options, connecting with employers, and building employability skills such as communication, teamwork, and personal management

Some WEX placements lead to paying continuing employment

What is WEX?

4 credits, 2-year course (grade 11 and 12)

off-timetable

90 WEX hours in your area of career interest such as Business, Sciences, Humanities, Tourism, Hospitality & Food Services, or Engineering, Technology & Trades

How do I enroll in WEX?

sign up for WEX 11 (XAT--11WEX) during course planning

submit the application form to the WEX teacher (ejames@vsb.bc.ca)

Concurrent Post-Secondary

UBC: has a non-degree studies option for high school students. They need a letter from the principal and a superior academic record.

<http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/index.cfm?tree=2,22,66,0>

Langara: BC secondary students entering or currently in Grade 12 who have demonstrated academic excellence may apply for limited admission to Langara's university-transfer or open career courses while attending secondary school

Other post-secondary institutions may have similar opportunities

External Credits

Music

Lifeguard

Driver Education

Athletics

Coaching

Dance

Second Language

Credits can be obtained for outside of school activities

Consult government website:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/support/graduation/getting-credit-to-graduate/external-credentials>

To add these to your transcript, bring documentation to your school counsellor

Service Classes

BA Community Service 11 (TA)

Application/approval process –see your counsellor

BA Library Services 11

Please see Ms. Lemmon

BA Peer Tutoring 12 (TA)

Application/approval process-see Mr. Tso

BA Peer Counselling 12

Application/approval process- see Mr. Smith

Service Classes –new course

Math Peer Tutoring - This is special section of the Peer Tutoring course that is open to mature grade 11 and 12 students who are interested in helping others specifically in math. Students will be placed in a math class to assist students, and will meet off timetable with a math teacher to develop their communication and interpersonal skills, as well as deepen their understanding of mathematics. Skills developed during this course are beneficial to those who are interested in tutoring or teaching. Please inform Ms. S. Chan if you are interested in taking this course.

Part II: Post-Secondary Preparation

Future Planning

– What if I don't know what to do?

- Remember that first years of post-secondary are exploratory years
- look for cooperative and study abroad programs, enroll in WEX
- Useful tool:
<https://www.sfu.ca/students/admission/admission-requirements/compass.html>

Identify your strengths:

- What do you think you are good at?
- What do you love to do?
- What comes easily to you?
- Are there any activities that make you lose track of time?
- What does the world need?

STEP ONE: Researching Post-Secondary Options

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- University and College websites:
Ubc.ca, sfu.ca, langara.ca
- Career and Education Planning websites:
Myblueprint.ca, www.educationplannerbc.ca
- University and College Virtual Tours and Information Sessions
cuebc.org/for-students/

STEP TWO: PREREQUISITES

- Ensure that you have the prerequisites for program that interest you. It is your responsibility to do your research
- Can take additional courses through summer school or on-line
- Choose courses so that you have a strong foundation to succeed at university**
- Many programs are looking beyond minimum requirements and consistency between Grade 11 and 12 courses**
- Some competitive programs such as Engineering at the University of Toronto will ask students why they are taking courses online or have retaken courses.**
- There are no bonus points for Admission at many universities for AP-universities are looking for the course not just the exam mark**

Faculty of Arts prerequisites BC Universities

Admission Requirements – High School Graduation

English 12

Pre-Calculus 12 (if you plan to major in Economics)

Other Grade 11/12 courses in the following subject areas:

- Language Arts (English)
- Mathematics and Computation
- Second Languages
- Social Studies
- Visual and Performing Arts

[Canadian high schools - UBC | Undergraduate Programs and Admissions](#)

Faculty of Commerce prerequisites BC Universities

- English 12
- Pre-Calculus 11 and 12
- Science 11
- Social Studies 11 or 12
- Economics 12 Recommended
- Business Courses Recommended - Accounting and Marketing
- Calculus 12 mandatory or recommended

Faculty of Science Prerequisites

- English 12
- Completion of **Pre-Calculus 12**.
- Completion of **Chemistry 11**.
- Completion of **Physics 11**.
- Completion of **at least two of the following Grade 12 courses**:
 - Anatomy & Physiology 12
 - Chemistry 12
 - Physics 12

Faculty of Commerce prerequisites BC Universities

- English 12
- Pre-Calculus 11 and 12
- Science 11
- Social Studies 11 or 12
- Economics 12 Recommended
- Business Courses Recommended - Accounting and Marketing
- Calculus 12 mandatory or recommended

STEP THREE: CONSIDERING ALL THE OPTIONS

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College and transfer options

- Langara, Douglas, Kwantlen, Cap U
- Admission requirements for many programs: high school graduation
- Certificates, Diplomas, Associate Degrees, Degrees
- University Transfer Programs – 2 years
- Lower tuition fees, smaller classes, more support
- Application often opens on October 1st – first come first serve

Laddering your Studies

- Start with a certificate, finish with a degree
- Some programs (BCIT, VCC and others) allow you to advance your education by laddering one credential into another— shortening your overall classroom time and getting you into your career more quickly.



Vancouver Career Programs

Apply in Grade 11

<https://www.vsb.bc.ca/career-programs/page/11419/program-offerings>

[Aircraft Maintenance Engineer](#)

[Automotive Collision and Refinishing Technician](#)

[Automotive Service Technician](#)

[Baking and Pastry Arts](#)

[Carpentry](#)

[Cisco and IT Networking](#)

[Early Childhood Educator](#)

[Electrical](#)

[Hairstylist](#)

[Health Care Assistant](#)

[Heavy Mechanical Trades](#)

[Job Training](#)

[Metal Fabricator](#)

[Millwright](#)

[Motorcycle Technician](#)

[Painting and Decorating](#)

[Plumbing and Sprinklerfitting](#)

[Professional Cook 1](#)

[Trades Discovery](#)

[Tupper Tech Explore Trades Sampler](#)

US Applications

- Register for SAT exams on collegeboard.com.
- Use Common Application for most
- Set up account – send invitations to two academic teachers, counsellor

STEP FOUR: CREATING YOUR PERSONAL PROFILE

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Personal Profile

– Not Just
Marks....

*reflect on your
experiences
and start
collecting
stories*

- Areas to Consider:
 - Life experiences
 - Extracurricular involvement
 - Teams
 - Clubs
 - Work/Volunteer
 - Leadership
 - Reflection on these topics
- Using your experiences, how can you set yourself apart?

Personal Profile – Sample Questions

- Explain how you responded to a problem and/or an unfamiliar situation. What did you do, what was the outcome, and what did you learn from the experience?
- Give us an example of how the pandemic has changed your involvement in the community or group most important to you. What have you learned from this experience?
- Tell us about who you are. How would your family, friends, and/or members of your community describe you? If possible, please include something about yourself that you are most proud of and why.
- What is important to you? And why?
- Describe up to five activities that you have pursued or accomplishments achieved in one or more of the following areas. Please outline the nature of your responsibilities within these activities:
 - Club, Family/community responsibilities, Creative or performing arts, Work/employment, Athletics, Volunteer, Service to others, Other(s)
- Tell us more about one or two activities listed above that are most important to you. Please explain the role you played and what you learned in the process. You will be asked for a reference who can speak to your response.

Common Misinformation About University Admissions

- **"You need perfect grades to get in."**
- Truth: Many universities consider a holistic application (extracurriculars, essays, references).
- **"Certain programs guarantee high-paying jobs."**
- Truth: Success depends on skills, experience, and industry trends.
- **"Only prestigious universities matter."**
- Truth: Many employers value practical skills and experience over school names.
- **"You have to choose a career at 18."**
- Truth: Many students change majors or career paths after university.

Volunteer Hours – recommended not required

- currently incorporated in the Capstone requirement (Grade 12)
- help to build core competencies such as communication, creativity and critical thinking.
- Contributing to the community also helps develop self-knowledge, create purpose and a sense of well-being.
- Keep a record of hours and ask for letters documenting volunteer work for scholarship, university and job applications

VSB Summer School

Information about summer school opportunities will be posted on this site

summer.vsb.bc.ca

Review courses (4 weeks) for students who have received between 40-49%

Completion courses- Grades 10-12

-6 weeks

-Retake a course if you have less than 40% or complete the next level of the course

Questions?

Contact

Nimi Sandhu (Grade 8) nsandhu@vsb.bc.ca

Albert Kwok (Grade 9) akwok@vsb.bc.ca

Fanny Chung (Grade 10) fchung@vsb.bc.ca

Clive Smith (Grade 12/7) csmith@vsb.bc.ca

Jill Polukoshko (International Students)

jlpolukoshko@vsb.bc.ca

Deborah Gomes (ELL Department Head) dgomes@vsb.bc.ca

Melina Poon (Challenge Studio Program) mpoon@vsb.bc.ca

Grade 11 (all counsellors)

**THANK YOU
FOR YOUR TIME**
