

# David Thompson Secondary Course Planning Grade 10 to Grade 11

**DTCOUNSELLING.CA**

---



If you have questions,  
contact Ms. Tsui in  
person or at  
[satsui@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:satsui@vsb.bc.ca)

# Importance of Course Planning

- You inform the school about which courses to run, low enrollment courses are cancelled
- You take responsibility for planning your high school graduation
- You take responsibility for planning your post-secondary school admission requirements
- You choose courses that support your interests, development, and future goals
- This year's course planning is especially important because you are, in a way, planning for two years (what you take in grade 11 determines many of the courses you can take in grade 12)



# Career Planning

---

- Right now, it is not necessary to know what you want to do for the rest of your life
- Most people have several different careers in their lifetimes
- Choose courses that will keep your options open
- At this point, it is okay to know a general path you want to pursue:
  - Arts and Social Sciences
  - Sciences
  - Engineering and Applied Sciences
  - Computers and Info Tech
  - Business and Commerce
  - Fine Arts (Music, Theatre, Film & TV)
  - Trades and Technical Studies

Find the magical  
spot and you will  
find satisfaction  
in your work and  
study program

---



# How Do I Discover My Skills + Passions?

- Take chances and try new things - get out of your comfort zone
- Volunteer
- Find a job
- Take as many courses as you can - high school is your last chance to learn for free!
- Talk to people
- Research - use tools like [www.educationplannerbc.ca](http://www.educationplannerbc.ca)
- Persevere - keep at it and know that growth is hard and often uncomfortable
- Be curious, plan and act

# Graduation Requirements

---

- 80 credits to graduate (52 from required courses, 28 from electives)
- Required courses are:
  - two 2-credit Language Arts 10 courses
  - a Language Arts 11
  - English Studies 12
  - Social Studies 10
  - a Social Studies 11 or 12
  - a Math 10
  - a Math 11 or 12
  - Science 10
  - a Science 11 or 12
  - Physical and Health Education 10
  - Career Life Education (usually taken in grade 10)
  - Career Life Connections and Capstone (usually taken in grade 12)
  - an Arts Education 10, 11, or 12 or an Applied Design, Skills & Technologies (ADST) 10, 11, or 12
- Of the 80 credits for graduation, at least 16 must be at the Grade 12 level, including English Studies 12
- At least 4 credits must be in an Indigenous-focused course (e.g. an English First Peoples course, BC First Peoples 12)
- You will also need to write three graduation assessments:
  - Numeracy Assessment in grade 10
  - Literacy Assessment in grade 10
  - Literacy Assessment in grade 12

# REQUIRED COURSES

## Grade 10

- English 10 (2 + 2)
- Socials 10
- Math 10
- Science 10
- PE 10
- Career Life Ed 10

\*Literacy 10 exam

\*Numeracy 10 exam

## Grade 11

- Any English 11
- Any Social Studies 11 or 12
- Mathematics 11
- Any Science 11 or 12

## Grade 12

- English Studies 12 or EFP 12
- CLC & Capstone

\*16 credits at Grade 12 Level

\*Literacy 12 exam

## \*\*\*INDIGENOUS COURSE CREDIT\*\*\*

YOU MUST HAVE 1 of the following

**BCFP 12** – BC First Peoples 12 (Socials)

**EFP 12** – English First Peoples 12 (English)

# Graduation Assessments

---

- For information on how the graduation assessments will look like and how you can prepare for them, visit <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/provincial/assessment>
- A four-level proficiency scale will be used to report your result
  - Emerging (1)
  - Developing (2)
  - Proficient (3)
  - Extending (4)
- Your results will appear on your transcript
- Currently, UBC applicants need to score a Proficient in their Literacy 12 assessment to maintain their offer of admission; if a Proficient is not obtained, UBC will review their offer
- Students may retake a graduation assessment to improve their score



# StudentTranscripts Service (STS)

---

- You will be given the chance to check your credits in grades 11 and 12
- The purpose of checking is to help you make sure you are on track to graduate
- If you want to start checking now, you can do so on StudentTranscripts Service, an online service provided by the BC government
- Go to <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/support/transcripts-and-certificates/order-a-high-school-transcript-or-certificate> for info and to create your account
- Your graduation assessment results can be seen with STS

# Summer School

---



- Summer school is another way to earn grad credits
- If you failed a required course this year, summer school is recommended to earn that credit
- Completion courses cover all the competencies and is for students who want to earn advance credit
- Remedial courses (max 60%) covers the core topics and is for students who failed during the regular year
- ELL students may want to take an ELL course in the summer to improve their English
- Check Teams in the spring for info on the program and registration
- **If you take a summer course and want to take the next level, assume you will pass and select the next level course. THIS IS CRUCIAL in creating SPACE in classes**
  - **e.g. If you register for Pre-Calc 11 Completion in summer school, enter Pre-Calc 12 as a course request for next year**

# English 11 Options

---

## New Media 11

- Media and film studies, globalization of the media industry, influence of media on people's perceptions, documentaries in the age of new media
- Journalism and publishing/digital communication

## Literary Studies 11

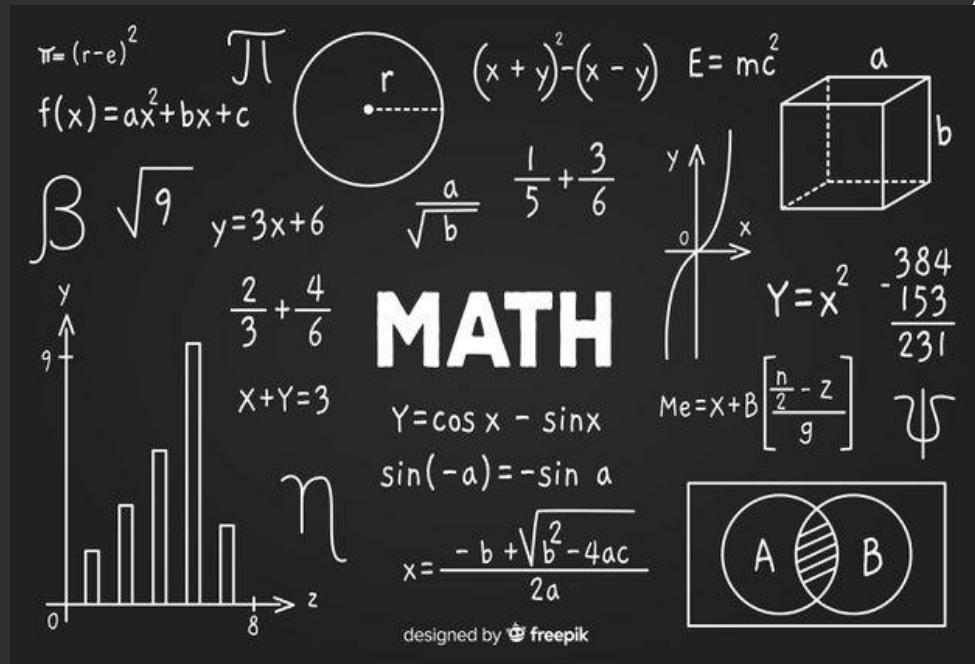
- Increase literacy skills through close reading of appropriately challenging texts
- Expand development as education global citizens
- Develop balance and broaden understanding of themselves and world
- Develop higher level thinking and learning skills

• **\*REQUIRED for AP ENGLISH\***

## Creative Writing 11

- Contemporary creative forms such as slam poetry, oratory rap, song, graphic novels, creative non-fiction, historical fiction
- Multi-modal creative forms that combine visual, written and oral texts

# What Math Course is for me?



Sample Future Plans	Suggested Relevant Math
College Trade School/Technical Training Direct Entry to Work Social Sciences/Arts	<b>Workplace Math 10, 11, 12</b>
Math Commerce/Business Science Applied Science/Engineering	Foundations and Pre-Calculus 10 followed by <b>Pre-Calculus 11 AND 12</b> Calculus sometimes preferred as well; will make university calculus easier
Social Sciences Humanities Fine Arts	Foundations and Pre-Calculus 10 followed by <b>Foundations of Math 11/12 or Pre-Calculus 11</b>

# MATH OPTIONS

## FOUNDATIONS MATH 11

Built for students heading to post Secondary programs that require statistics and analyze graphical functions and financial literacy rather than advanced theory.

Topics Include:

- Inductive and deductive logic
- Geometric proofs and constructions
- Graphical analysis of quadratic functions and systems
- Statistical applications
- Scale representations
- Financial literacy

## PRE-CALCULUS 11

Provides the heavy theoretical groundwork necessary for university degrees in STEM or Business.

Topics Include:

- Real number system
- Algebra will be worked into several topics
- Rational equations and operations on rational expressions
- Quadratic functions and quadratic equations
- Polynomial functions and factoring
- Trigonometry

## WORKPLACE MATH 11

Focuses on practical skills for students entering the trades or the workforce directly.

Topic Include:

- Slope as a rate of change
- Probability and statistics
- Interpreting graphs in society
- Angles and scale diagrams of 3D objects
- Drawing views of 3D Images
- Financial literacy
- Personal budgeting

# Modern Language Options at DT

- Another language course is not required to graduate high school
- UBC and SFU are not requiring a Language 11 for Sept 2026 start date
- David Thompson's Modern Languages Dept offers:
  - Mandarin
  - French
  - Punjabi
  - Spanish
- New Punjabi students should pick up an assessment form from the counselling centre. Mr. Grewal will use the info to determine an appropriate Punjabi course placement
- You may be able to take a Language Challenge exam (<https://www.deltasd.bc.ca/schools/secondary/challenge-exams/>) to earn credit for a language course
  - Look for an announcement in Sept for more info

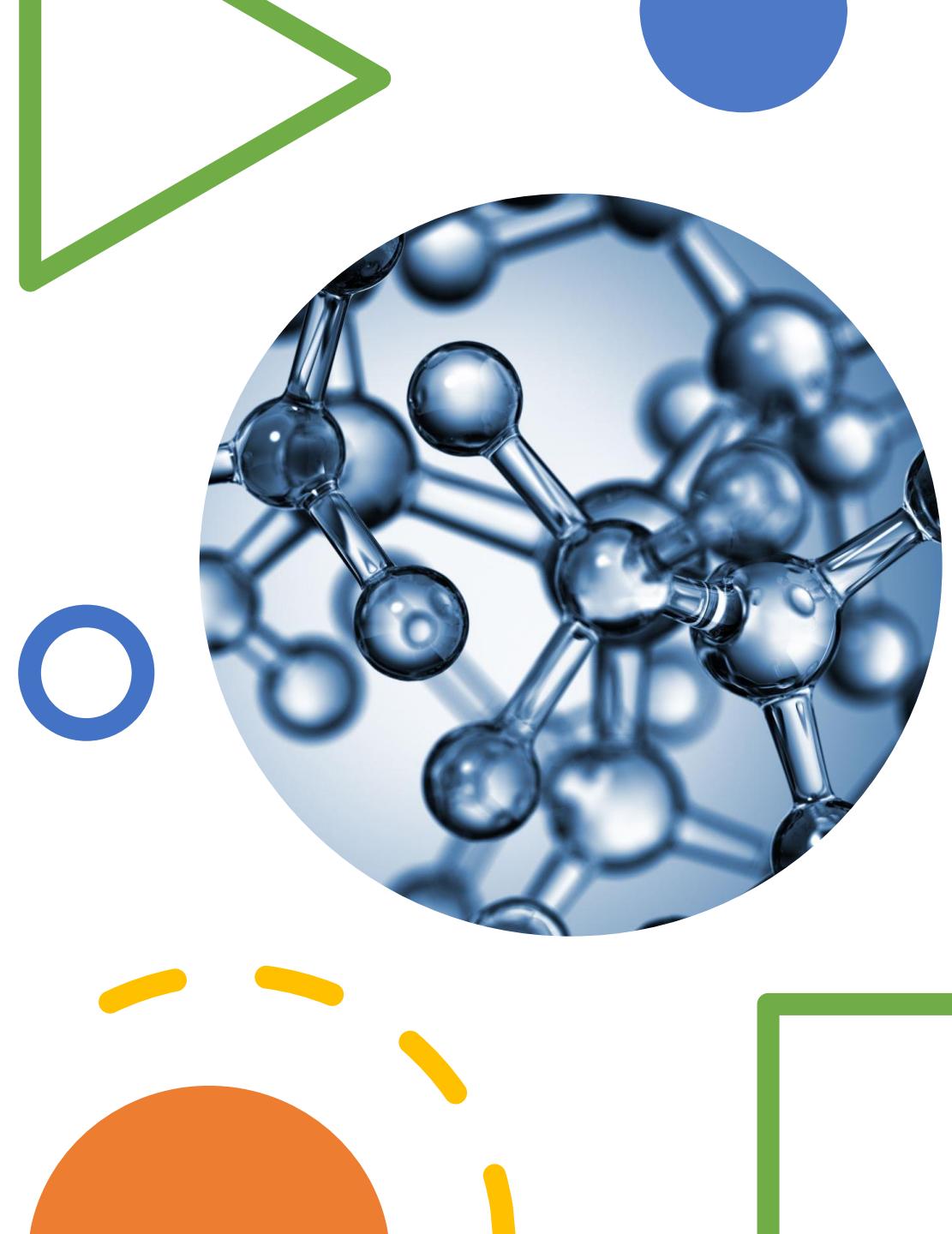
# Social Studies Options

- Social Studies 11 Explorations is optional
  - if you pass Social Studies 10, you can take a grade 12 Social Studies course
- World History 12
- Law Studies 12
- Philosophy 12
- Human Geography 12
- Social Justice 12



# Science Options

- Life Sciences 11
- Anatomy and Physiology 12
- Chemistry 11/12
- Physics 11/12
- Environmental Science 12
- Science for Citizens 11



# DT Offers a Wide Variety of Electives

---

- Departments offering electives include: Business Education, Fine Arts, Music, Home Economics, Modern Languages, Technical Education, PE, Work Experience
- Strive for balance and choose electives you love
- Please read through DT's Course Planning Guide to:
  - get a description of each course
  - find out what you will be learning in each course
  - see if you have the recommended prerequisites to be successful
- The Course Planning Guide is available on the school's website or at the DT Counselling department's website: [www.dtcounselling.cs](http://www.dtcounselling.cs)
- Remember, you need 28 elective credits (7 courses) to graduate

# How Should I Choose My Courses?

---

- Before you pick your courses, think about what you are good at, what you enjoy learning, and what you want to try. Exploring new things is being a good lifelong learner!
- Be prepared to commit to your choices because changes might not be possible. DT builds its timetable based on your student course requests
- Start going to the websites of the post-secondary schools you are thinking about attending and check out what high school courses are required for admission. Each post-secondary school and their programs will have their own admission requirements

# Do's and Don'ts for Choosing Courses

- **Do pick courses based on your:**

- Curiosity and wanting to learn something new
- Interests
- Past Successes
- Future Goals
- Ability

- **Don't pick courses because of:**

- Friends
- What is “easy”
- The teacher – teachers’ courses change every year
- What your siblings/cousins/friends took (your experience will be different because you are a different person)

# AP (Advanced Placement) Courses

---

- The AP program makes college and university courses available for students while they are still in secondary school
- If you take AP courses and do well enough on the AP exams, you can earn credit for university level courses
- The following AP courses may be offered at DT:

AP Calculus AB

AP Calculus BC

AP Biology

AP Physics 1

AP Chemistry

AP Human Geography

AP Psychology

- Whether AP courses run at DT depend on whether enough students request them and teachers' qualifications to teach them

# VSB Career Programs

---



- Want to start training in a trade while you are still in high school? If yes, then a VSB Career Program is right for you! There are many benefits:
  - Earn dual credits (high school and post-secondary) at the same time
  - Free tuition for the first level of your trades training. Yes, free money!
  - “Hands On” training
  - Work experience in a direct career path
  - Pursuing a passion and building skills to transition to work in your chosen field
  - Build professional skills that are required in the workplace
- Check out this link to see what trades you can start training in while you’re in high school: [Career Programs](#)
- To learn more, check out this video (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vlJ6D0D8poQ>) or see Ms. Tsui
- Career Program Advisors are at DT every Wednesday Morning in the Counselling Suite

# Post-Secondary Pathways

- High school → Workforce
- High school → College
- High school → Trade School/Technical Training
- High school → University
- High School → College → University



# When applying for post-secondary schools...

---

- **It is your responsibility to know what the requirements are to apply for the programs you are interested in. Visit their websites and look for Admission Requirements**
- Contact their admissions/recruitment advisors
- Most universities are now looking at grade 11 and 12 marks
- Many post-secondary schools are looking at the whole student, not just marks. To get to know you, a broad-based application is needed:
  - UBC (all programs) requires a personal profile (<https://you.ubc.ca/applying-ubc/how-to-apply/personal-profile/>)
  - SFU's Beedie School of Business requires a Supplemental application (<https://beedie.sfu.ca/programs/undergraduate/bba-major/requirements/supplemental-application-high-school>)
- Broad-based applications include your demonstrated core competencies, activities, accomplishments, challenges and **WHAT YOU LEARNED FROM THEM**

# General vs. Program specific requirements

General requirements are required by all faculties of a school

- e.g. UBC and SFU require graduation from high school
- e.g. UBC requires minimum 70% in grade 11 or grade 12 English
- e.g. SFU requires minimum 70% in English Studies 12
- e.g. SFU and UBC have English language requirements
- e.g. SFU has a Quantitative/Analytical skills requirement

Program specific requirements are those required by a particular faculty

- e.g. UBC Fine Arts requires a portfolio or audition
- e.g. UBC Dental Hygiene has an online interview
- e.g. UBC Applied Science requires Pre-Calc 12, Chem 12 and Physics 12
- e.g. SFU Business requires a supplemental application
- e.g. UBC Sauder School of Business requires an interview, an English 12 course, Pre-Calc 12

# Direct Entry to University from DT: Some examples of programs & courses you need to apply

University and program	Admission Requirements
<b>UBC Arts (minimum six grade 12 level courses)</b>	English 11 (70% minimum)  English 12 (70% minimum)
<b>UBC Science (minimum six grade 12 level courses)</b>	English 11; Chem 11; Physics 11; Pre-Calculus 11  English 12; Pre-Calc 12; one of Anatomy & Physiology 12, Chem 12, or Physics 12
<b>SFU Arts (minimum five approved grade 12 level courses)</b>	English 11, an approved Science 11; Foundations of Math 11 or Pre-Calc 11; an approved Social Studies 11 or 12  English 12; an approved Math 12 or Science 12 course; an approved Social Studies 12 course; two approved grade 12 level courses
<b>SFU Science (minimum five approved grade 12 level courses)</b>	English 11; Chem 11; Physics 11; Pre-Calc 11; approved Social Studies 11 or 12  English 12; Pre-Calc 12; two approved Science 12 or Math 12 courses; one other approved grade 12 academic

# UBC Vancouver Entering Program Averages for 2025

Degree Program Vancouver Campus	Mean Entering Average	Minimum Entering Average	Degree Program Vancouver Campus	Mean Entering Average	Minimum Entering Average
Pharmaceutical Sciences	95	89	Music	90	75
Engineering	97	95	International Economics	94	89
Commerce	95	85	Fine Arts	90	72
Kinesiology	94	85	Media Studies	91	71
Science	96	85	Design	95	91
Applied Biology	92	85	Arts	92	85
Food & Nutrition	91	85	Dental Hygiene	92	83
Urban Forestry	88	80	Indigenous Land Stewardship	82	74
Natural Resources	90	79	Food and Resource Economics	91	86

Mean entering ranges are approximate.

# Colleges offer lots!

Examples of colleges include Langara, Douglas, Kwantlen, Justice Institute, VCC

They offer many credentials: certificates, diplomas, associate degrees, full bachelor degrees, and trades certification

They offer university transfer programs

- Take university equivalent courses, earn university credits
- If your marks are high enough, transfer to university to continue your studies
- See [www.bctransferguide.ca](http://www.bctransferguide.ca) to learn how transferring works and equivalent courses between post-secondary schools

# Benefits of College then University



In most cases, you can enter college and take university level courses with high school graduation alone (easier to get in compared to universities)



Smaller class sizes – College class sizes of 35-40 vs University class sizes of 400



College tuition is much cheaper than university tuition

Langara cost per credit: \$111.97

UBC cost per credit: \$206.69

A full-time student takes about 30 credits per year (do the math to calculate your savings each year)



You will get more support from professors and teaching assistants



If you transfer from college to university and successfully complete your degree, your degree is from the university and NOT the college

# Career and Trades Programs

---

- Offered at technical institutes or polytechnic schools like BCIT, Kwantlen, and Vancouver Community College
- **These programs are great because they offer lots of practical learning and direct job training. You will be able to work in your field during and immediately after your program**
- Credentials you can earn include a certificate, diploma, or degree
- There are hundreds of career programs and trades you can study
  - Applied & Natural Sciences
  - Business & Media
  - Computing & IT
  - Engineering
  - Health Sciences
  - Trades & Apprenticeships
- Because there are so many programs, the requirements to get in vary a lot
- You need to visit the websites of the institutions that offer the programs you want or go to [www.educationplannerbc.ca](http://www.educationplannerbc.ca) to start your research



# Timeline for Entering Course Requests

---

- Feb 6: Ms. Tsui to present course planning
- Feb 5-20: MyEd open to start entering course requests.
- You can change/post your courses until Feb 20
- Make sure you:
  - can access **MyEd** now
  - **ALL INFO** is here: <https://dtcounselling.ca>
  - **Research** using: [EducationPlannerBC](https://EducationPlannerBC)

\*\*\*many of your questions require research on your part, not mine\*\*\*

# Please remember to...

## Breathe and relax

- You are choosing courses for next year, not planning your entire life

## Slow down and share

- Talk to trusted adults and friends about your plans

## Get curious, explore and research

- Use online tools and talk with those who can answer your questions

## Make a plan and act on it

- e.g. update my resume so I can find a volunteer job; research how much an accountant makes in Canada on [www.educationplannerbc.ca](http://www.educationplannerbc.ca); check out UBC's Science entrance requirements; visit BCIT's Forensics program website to learn where I can work after the program

# DTCOUNSELLING.CA

1. Course Guide (course booklet)
2. Course Code List
3. Grad Requirements
4. Course Planning Powerpoint
5. Course Planning worksheet
6. MY ED instructions on how to enter courses

