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Senior High Academic Program and Course Guide

Introduction

The senior high school academic program is intended to foster the intellectual, physical, emotional, spiritual, and social growth and development of students. To be successful, the program must have enough flexibility to address the interests and needs of all students as they transition from high school to their first post-secondary destination.

In partnering with parents, our aim is to enhance and enrich the education that students are already engaged in at home and in other aspects of their lives. We provide opportunities in which every student is known, celebrated, and encouraged to discover and develop their innate, God-given gifts in an environment that teaches Christ-centred values.

Academic Standards

All high school courses are university preparatory, and the minimum grade to receive a course credit is 60%. Twenty high school (grade 10-12) credits are required to receive a standard graduation diploma. A myriad of courses are offered, including humanities, mathematics, sciences, visual/performing arts, Christian ethics, ESL, and electives.

Additionally, GCS is an Advanced Placement (AP) certified school, allowing students to write any AP exam and providing select AP courses throughout the year.

Academic Transfer

GCS may grant credit to a student for courses provided by a school in PEI or another province/country. The credit granted shall be for the equivalent course offered by GCS if the course is comparable in content and learning outcomes. Transferred course credits should meet the academic standards of GCS courses.

Academic Certificates

Senior high school students who attend GCS for less than one year or only for grade 12 and have emergent level English language proficiency are eligible for the GCS Grade 12 ESL certificate based upon academic performance at GCS.



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Senior High Awards

Senior High students in grades 10-11 are eligible for various awards including:

- Ambassador Award
- Anna Laird School Spirit Award
- Laura Mattson Sports Award
- Jonathan Award
- Dave Wessel Science Award
- Paul Award
- Neil Thompson Social Studies Award
- Timothy Award

Graduation Awards

Senior High students in grades 12 are eligible for various awards including:

- Ambassador Award
- Anna Laird School Spirit Award
- Governor General's Award
- Myrna O'Connor Bursary
- Laura Mattson Sports Award
- Heart of Service Bursary
- Dave Wessel Science Award
- Faithful Steward Bursary
- Neil Thompson Social Studies Award
- Biovectra Award
- Dr. Susanne Huizing Scholarship for English Language Learners
- Pastors' Bible Award
- Roadbuilders Award
- Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award

GCS Graduation Requirements

- 20 total high school credits (including five Grade 12 credits):
 - 3 English credits
 - 2 Math credits
 - 2 Science credits
 - 2 Social Studies credits
 - 3 Christian Ethics credits
 - 1 Creativity/Innovation credit
 - 1 Career Education and Opportunities credit
 - 1 Physical Education credit



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Standard Graduation Diplomas

Standard GCS Diploma

Students who meet the GCS graduation requirements receive the standard GCS diploma.

Standard GCS Diploma with Honours

Students who meet the GCS graduation requirements and achieve an overall average of no less than 80% receive a GCS Diploma with Honours. To be eligible, students must take a minimum of seven courses in their grade 12 year, excluding CWS601A, CWS602A, and all External Credit courses.

Standard GCS Diploma with Honours with Distinction

Students who meet the GCS graduation requirements and achieve an overall average of no less than 90% receive a GCS Diploma with Honours with Distinction. To be eligible, students must take a minimum of seven courses in their grade 12 year, excluding CWS601A, CWS602A, and all External Credit courses; CWS601A/602A also are not included in the overall average calculation.

Course Coding System

Each unique course code is composed of seven characters, with a course title associated with it.

Example: MAT521A - Foundation of Mathematics 11

Subject	Grade	Category	Credit Value	Program
<i>MAT</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>A</i>
<i>MAT = Math</i> <i>HIS = History</i> <i>BIO = Biology</i> <i>etc...</i>	<i>4 = Grade 10</i> <i>5 = Grade 11</i> <i>6 = Grade 12</i> <i>7 = Grade 10/11</i> <i>8 = Grade 11/12</i>	<i>0 = Open</i> <i>1 = Advanced</i> <i>2 = Academic</i>	<i>1 = 1 credit</i> <i>2 = 2 credits</i>	<i>A-D = English</i> <i>S = AP</i> <i>T = Ext. Credit</i>

As such, MAT521A is a Grade 11 academic math course, taught in English, worth one credit.



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Course Descriptions

English

ENG421A - World Literature - Grade 10

This course presents a survey of World Literature from a Christian perspective. You will be exploring and identifying literary terms and different forms of literature from each culture as you critique universal themes. You will read and respond to literature in a variety of ways, as you analyze and create responses you will build your reading comprehension and writing skills as well. Selected pieces of literature introduce different worldviews, aid in the development of critical thinking skills and observe the themes of racism, bias and universal commonalities. Elements of short story and poetry will be reinforced. Vocabulary enhancement as well as grammar, usage, and mechanics will be reviewed. Independent Reading Projects (IRPs) will allow you will discover favourite authors and genres.

ENG521A - North American Literature - Grade 11

This course studies the ideas of national identity and reality as shown through period literature. Students will survey American and Canadian literature, identifying traits of each period and contrasting themes, topics, and opinions inherent in each piece. As well, students will be expected to analyze and contrast American and Canadian pieces and formulate observations regarding national identity based on the literature read.

ENG621A - British Literature - Grade 12

This course is focused on the British works that hold literary or historical value. These are works that are important because they have not only shaped literature that followed, but also have become intrinsic parts of English-speaking culture. Students will be expected to critically analyze the pieces, as well as synthesize and draw relationships between the piece and other literary or historical events to identify larger ideals behind the writing and the writer through written and oral assessments.

ENG621S - British Literature AP (Advanced Placement) - Grade 12

This course has been audited and approved by the College Board as an AP Course, and is designed in a way to help students succeed on their AP Language exams. Students in this introductory college-level course read and carefully analyze a broad range of fiction prose, poetry, and songs as they build their rhetorical awareness regarding how literature deals with societal issues. Students will learn close reading skills that will help them identify information or ideas of importance, and will improve writing skills through frequent practice. Students will read expository, descriptive, analytical, personal, and argumentative pieces, identifying the opinion and purpose that each author had in writing,



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and carefully interpreting meaning using skills such as social historical context, interpretation of symbolism, and identification of tone and mood in writing.

Prerequisite: Course enrollment based on high standing in ENG421A and ENG521A, in addition to teacher/administration approval.

English As A Second Language

ESL701A/B - English as a Second Language 1

ESL701A - This course introduces the English language and helps students adjust to their new cultural environment. Students will use foundational English language skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing for everyday and essential academic purposes; use basic English language structures and phonics, learn spelling patterns, and simple sentence patterns in short conversations; read short adapted texts; and write phrases and short sentences. The course also provides students with survival knowledge and the skills they need to begin to adapt to their new lives in Canada.

Prerequisite: GCS English language assessment.

ESL701B - This course expands students' listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in English for everyday and academic purposes. Students will participate in conversations in structured situations on a variety of familiar and new topics; link English sentences to compose paragraphs; read a variety of texts designed or adapted for English language learners; and expand their knowledge of English grammatical structures, spelling patterns and sentence structures. The course also supports students' continuing adaptation to western school systems by expanding their cultural knowledge of their new province and country.

Prerequisite: English as a Second Language - Level 1 or equivalent

ESL701C - English as a Second Language 2

This course extends students' skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing in English for a variety of everyday and academic purposes. Students will make short classroom and school-wide presentations; read a variety of adapted and original texts in English; and write using a variety of forms of text. Students will also expand their academic vocabulary and their study skills to facilitate the transition to the mainstream school program. This course also introduces students to the rights and responsibilities inherent in global citizenship, and to a variety of current Canadian issues.

Prerequisite: English as a Second Language - Level 2 or equivalent

EAL701D - English as a Second Language 3

This course prepares students to use English with increasing fluency and accuracy in classroom and social situations and to participate in Canadian society as informed global citizens. Students will develop the reading, writing, and oral presentation skills required



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for success in all school subjects. They will study and interpret a variety of grade-level texts; extend listening and speaking skills through participation in discussions and seminars; write narratives, articles, and summaries in English; and respond critically to various print and media texts.

Prerequisite: English as a Second Language - Level 3 or equivalent

Mathematics

MAT421A - Math 10

This is an introductory academic high school math course covering: basic trigonometry (solving triangles with sine, cosine and tangent), factors and products (squares and roots using prime factorization, factoring polynomials, distributive property applications), roots and powers (mixed and entire radicals, rational and negative exponents), relations and functions (representations and properties, interpreting and sketching graphs), linear functions (slope, parallel and perpendicular lines, forms of linear relationships), systems of linear equations in two variables (solve graphically, by substitution and elimination) and, as time permits, measurement (Imperial/metric conversions, surface area and volume of right pyramids, right cones and spheres).

MAT521A - Math 11

This is a second level academic math course covering the following topics: inductive and deductive reasoning (conjectures, validity, proofs), angle properties (parallel line relationships, triangle and polygon relationships), trigonometry (sine law, cosine law, ambiguous case), statistics (measures of central tendency, graphs, standard deviation, normal distribution, confidence), quadratic functions (properties, interpretation, graphing, solving roots) and systems of linear inequalities (graphing, interpreting and optimization).

Prerequisite: MAT421A

MAT621B - Math 12

This is a third level academic math course covering: graphic transformations of six functions (linear, quadratic, cubic, radical, rational and absolute value), polynomial functions (properties, remainder and factor theorems, graphs, interpretation, solving roots), exponential functions (properties, graphs, solving, applications), logarithmic functions (properties, graphs, solving, applications), unit circle and trigonometry (radian measure, arc/angle relationships, trigonometric ratios on the Cartesian plane, solving trigonometric equations, interpretation of graphs and equations of periodic functions) and combinatorics (factorials, permutations, combinations and Binomial Theorem).

Prerequisite: MAT521A



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MAT611B - Calculus

This is a third level academic math course covering: logarithms and exponential functions, transformations, geometric sequences and series, trigonometry, introductory calculus, combinatorics, probability, and Boolean algebra.

Corequisite: *MAT621B*

Science

CHM521A - Chemistry I

This is the first high school science course to deal exclusively with the exploration of chemistry. In this academic course, students will explore: the classification and states of matter; measurement and mathematical applications; atomic structure and the quantum model; the periodic table; chemical bonding; molecular structure; chemical composition and nomenclature; and chemical reactions.

CHM621A - Chemistry II

This academic course builds on the basics of Chemistry I to discuss: stoichiometry; the natures of solids, gases and liquids; intermolecular forces; solutions and calculating measures of concentration; thermodynamics and kinetics; chemical equilibria; acids, bases and salts; redox and electrochemical reactions; and, as time permits, introductions to organic chemistry and nuclear chemistry.

Prerequisite: **Chemistry I**

PHY621A - Physics

This academic physics course focuses on mechanics and dynamics including study in the areas of: measurement and calculation; linear motion, both uniform and accelerated; vectors and scalars; projectile motion; dynamics and forces; Newton's laws; circular motion and Kepler's laws; gravitation; friction; work and energy, both kinetic and potential; and, ideal strings, pulleys and springs; electrostatics; light; and modern physics

BIO521A - Biology I

This introductory biology course presents life as God created it and controls it. Students will study the living world around them: the things they can see, touch and identify. The units of study include: botany, human physiology and anatomy, zoology, biomes, and life sciences.

BIO621A - Biology II

This is the second biology course offered in high school. It builds on the knowledge and skills obtained from Biology I and will provide students with the opportunity to increase their scientific literacy by continuing to develop foundational knowledge and skills and to



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make connections between the life sciences, technology, society, and the environment. In this hands-on, flipped model comprehensive Biology course students explore: molecular and cellular biology, ecology, bio-ethics, cloning, human physiology and anatomy, evolution vs. creation, the complexity of organisms, bio-diversity, taxonomy and forensic science. This course intensively seeks to ask how the study of Biology conflicts with what we believe about our faith.

Social Studies

POL521A - Political Science

This is an inquiry-based course which utilizes a variety of teaching methodology in order to examine why God created government for mankind and how God has an order in the function and process of government in modern society. Students will use individual, shared and group activities to explore the themes of government: role of officials in Canadian local, provincial and national governments; use of political parties to represent diversity of opinion on role of government in citizens lives; creation of a multi-party electoral system; participation in both a model National Parliament and International United Nations. Students will read novels, articles, and online resources to meet learning objectives. Use of oral presentations of current events will be an important weekly component in addition to participation in online forums, in-class debates, and group project activities. Students will have both out-of-class observations and in-class visitors to present roles of government. Students will be strongly encouraged to participate in the Encounters Canada Democracy Week in Ottawa each March and in the annual PEI Rotary Youth Parliament.

LAW521A - Law

The purpose of Law 11 is to allow students to understand that God is the originator of law and that modern law was constructed on a Biblical worldview of right and wrong behaviors. Students will utilize the text book All About Law which will be presented in units covering the nature of law and historical creation of Canada's legal system, the role of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, constitutional and administrative law within the Canadian court system, criminal and civil law practices, and the role of family law in society. Students will create interactive notebooks based on readings and article presentations, analyze case law in various legal areas, work on project-based inquiry questions dealing with creation of constitutions and debates on current topics, visit both the Provincial and Supreme Courts on PEI, and participate in an end-of-year mock trial. Students will be evaluated using both written and oral presentations including critical analysis of media portraits of legal issues.

GEO421A - ESL Canadian Geography

This course explores Canada's distinct and changing character, and the geographic systems and relationships that shape it. Students will investigate the interactions of



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natural and human systems within Canada, as well as Canada's economic, cultural, and environmental connections to other countries. Students will use a variety of geographic tools and technologies, inquiry, and communication methods to analyse and evaluate geographic issues, and to present their findings.

ECO621A - Economics – Grade 12

This is an online, self-directed course which includes a practical entrepreneurship component in partnership with the Junior Achievement Student Venture program. Economics is the social science of decision-making of both macroeconomics and microeconomics. The goal of the course for students to see how God gives freedom of choice to both government and individuals in making wise choices with the resources God has entrusted to mankind. Junior Achievement Student Venture requires the creation, marketing and production of a student's good or service from September to April. Students will also complete an end-of-year research paper on a Canadian family business and its impact on Canada's economy. Course topics covered include: economic models, economic systems, role of government, microeconomics and the circular flow model, supply and demand, and types of business.

HIS621A - Canadian History

Canadian History was developed as an online course to specifically represent an Atlantic Canadian perspective on our national historical narrative. The course is organized into thematic units which address persistent questions in Canada's history. This course emphasizes the importance of student inquiry and research using historiography and the historical method in the examination of Canada's history. Key topics studied through these approaches include, but are not limited to, First Nations, Colonialism, Confederation, World Wars, Free Trade, Constitutional Issues, Canada's Role in the Global Community, Industrialization, Human Rights Issues, and Immigration/Migration. Students will be encouraged to think critically about the historical narrative of Canada and to observe the impact that our history has on the state of our country today.

HIS521A - Ancient and Medieval History - Grade 10/11

This survey course in ancient and medieval history will use student-directed activities to trace the evolution and the principal events in human history. Emphasis will be placed on relating historical events and legacies to the present. Students will be expected to analyze major civilizations based on the attributes of civilization. The course follows a chronological path exploring the ancient civilizations of Mesopotamia and Egypt; the cultural achievements of the Greeks and the Romans; the rise of Christianity, Islam, and other religions; the history of the East; and the Feudal System.



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Christian Ethics

ETH421A - Purpose Driven Life – Grade 10 (Offered every other year)

This course is designed to help students understand why they are alive and God's amazing plan for them. Using the Bible and Rick Warren's book *The Purpose Driven Life* the year will be spent answering the question, "What on earth am I here for?" Students will gain a deeper understanding of who God is and how to develop a more meaningful relationship with Him. Scripture reading and memorization, along with reading of Christian Living Books and the Bible are also part of the course.

ETH421A - Let God be God – Grade 10 (Offered every other year)

This course focuses on the personal development of a Christian Worldview. *Let God Be God* is a study of the nature and character of God. It is based on the premise that the more we know and understand God through a careful study of His Word, the greater will be our personal challenge to maintain a deep relationship with him. Scripture memorization, the reading of Christian Living Books and the Bible are also part of this course.

ETH421A - ESL Christian Ethics – Grade 9-11 - Who is Jesus?

This English as a Second Language course introduces students who have never studied the Bible to new vocabulary, ideologies, and the person of Jesus Christ. Students will gain a deeper understanding of the Christian faith as they study the life, ministry, and grace of Jesus Christ. Vocabulary testing, scripture memorization, the reading of Christian Living Books, group projects, oral presentations and Bible studies are also part of this course.

ETH521A - ESL Christian Ethics - Grade 10-11 - New Testament Survey

This English as a Second Language course introduces students who have never studied the Bible to new vocabulary, ideologies, and the intentional study of the New Testament. Students will gain a deeper understanding of the Christian faith as they study the life, ministry, and grace of Jesus Christ and his impact on the early Christian church. Vocabulary testing, scripture memorization, the reading of Christian Living Books, group projects, oral presentations, interviews with Christians, and Bible studies are also part of this course.

PHL621A - Worldviews – Grade 11/12 (Offered every other year)

This course will introduce students to a comparative worldviews course which focuses on the exploration of Christianity in comparison to Islam, Secular Humanism, Marxist-Leninism, Cosmic Humanism and Post-modernist illustrated in modern-world interactions. Students will be equipped apologetically to understand how their worldview is created and based on their view of reality and how other worldviews compete with



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Christianity for dominance in society and cultural norms. Students will explore each of the six major worldviews present in twenty-first century thinking in light of theology, philosophy, ethics, biology, psychology, sociology and law. Students will engage with visual, oral and written sources of information to think critically about defending their worldview and logically evaluation competing worldviews presented in today's culture. Both historical and contemporary topics will be debated and discussed in both group and class discussion to provide young people with a framework to defend their Christian beliefs in a hostile intellectual and cultural environment. Students who do not possess a Christian worldview will be given opportunity to logically examine the claims of their worldview to test its rationality and aims to influence their view of God, the world and themselves. Students will also memorize Scripture and perform community service each quarter as part of course expectations and evaluated outcomes.

FAM621A - Family Life – Grade 11/12 (Offered every other year)

This course will allow students to explore interpersonal relationships within a Biblical worldview framework. The uniqueness of each individual made in the image of God as either male or female will be emphasized within a comparison analysis to prevalent secular worldviews of gender identification and fluidity. Students will synthesize the Christian principles of accepting and loving themselves as God made them with their own personality characteristics and level of development toward adulthood. The goal of self-development will be given a Biblical context of maturity and self-reliance which still dependent on God's guidance and community mentorship. Students will learn how to relate to the opposite sex before, during and after a dating/counting relationship. Students will see that there is reward in seeking to maintain joy in either a single life of service for God or a long and healthy marriage relationship with the possible blessing of children. Using a variety of methods, students will read and reflect on Biblical and Christian Living sources including a group project focused on the book Cracking the Communication Code between men and women. Scripture memorization, community service and interactive notebooks will be important assessment components to the curriculum.

Creativity

ART401A - Art - Grade 10

This course provides a study of basic art skills such as drawing, painting, printmaking, and creating three-dimensional forms. There is an emphasis on the elements of art, basic colour theory, and development of drawing skills. Students are exposed to art throughout history and will learn to critically view and discuss the visual images they view and create. Students are required to create, collect, record, practice, and reflect in their journal and sketchbook on a regular basis. Students will produce quality art and tasteful



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presentations. Students are expected to purchase their own supplies. This course emphasizes the value of art in the eyes of our Sovereign Creator.

ART621A - Art - Grade 12

This course builds upon the knowledge, skills, ideas, and experiences introduced in ART401. There is an emphasis on the elements of art, texture, form, printing and graphic design. Students are expected to use more sophisticated techniques in their art making. The main focus of the course is to develop originality in their compositions through applying a working knowledge of the elements and principles of art and design, and spatial understanding. Students will learn to critically view and discuss their own compositions while learning to use appropriate vocabulary to examine art throughout history. Students will continue to create, collect, record, explore, and reflect in their sketchbook on a regular basis. Students will produce quality art and tasteful presentations. Students are expected to purchase their own supplies. This course emphasizes the value art in the eyes of our Sovereign Creator.

Prerequisite: ART401A or permission from the teacher (based on level of skill and knowledge)

MUS621A - (Music) - Grade 11/12

This course is designed for the student who has an interest in music. Students will examine music in their lives, its role in culture and the ways that it is experienced. This course will refine and build upon musical concepts, knowledge, and skills students have already acquired that enable students to consider and discuss repertoire using the language of music. Students are expected to be an independent part of an instrumental and/or vocal ensemble. The goal of the course is to teach students about who God is through music, to develop their skills as musicians, to enhance worship in their own lives and to cultivate an appreciation for music.

DRA801A - Drama - Grade 10/11

This course will focus on methods of acting and the technical aspects of theatre productions. Students will develop their skills in movement, improvisation, character development, voice usage, and ensemble performances through a variety of activities. In both small and large groups, students will perform a variety of scenes, working collaboratively to create or develop scene where they will explore how to communicate ideas, experiences, and feelings in a range of dramatic forms. Additionally, students will develop skills in the technical areas of theater as they work together on a class production.

CMP521A - Computer Studies – Grade 11

This is an introductory Computer Science course. It is an academic level course designed to give students an understanding of the computer and its effect upon society. The focus of this course is to develop problem solving skills with various software applications and



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programming and addresses the following computer areas: history of computers, computer hardware, software programming, and introductory robotics.

ROB621A- Robotics - Grade 12

Robotics is composed of technical learning opportunities as well as the scientific knowledge, skills, and technological/societal connections through an automated and radio-controlled robotics design context. This course includes the introduction of automation (computer programming) into the engineering design process along with a greater emphasis on synthesis through open-ended project-based design challenges.

Limited enrollment – approval by instructor. Prerequisite: CMP521A

WRT521A - Creative Writing - Grade 11

This is a comprehensive course in writing which exposes students to various writing styles and gives them practice in using them. News reporting, persuasive writing in the form of editorials, the creation of resumes and cover letters, as well as the opportunity to use various literary techniques in narrative writings are offered. Students have opportunity to partake in the development of a complete work from its first idea to its final publication.

Electives

ACC621A - Accounting Principles – Grade 12

Accounting Principles is an introductory course that includes concepts, procedures, and applications. It is designed for students who plan to take advanced accounting courses at the college or university level. This course will have entrance recognition at Holland College with the curriculum designed to link to post secondary opportunities in the study of Accounting and Business. This course includes the eight steps of the accounting cycle, subsidiary ledger accounting, accounting for a merchandising business & specialized journals.

PED401A - Physical Education and Wellness - Grade 10

The purpose of PED401A is to develop confident and competent students who understand, appreciate, and engage in a balanced, healthy, and active lifestyle. Throughout PED401A, opportunities are provided for students to attain and maintain a healthy mind, body, and spirit. This course will broaden, extend, and reach beyond traditional ideas of fitness and health.

CEO401A - Career Explorations and Opportunities - Grade 10

This is a course which enables students to develop the skills they need to become self-directed individuals who set goals, make thoughtful decisions, and take responsibility for pursuing their goals throughout life. Students will explore a wide range of post-secondary



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education and career options, think critically about health issues and decisions, develop financial literacy skills related to pursuing their education and career goals, and begin planning for their transition beyond secondary school. The course provides relevant and experiential learning opportunities, helping students relate their learning in school to the demands of the working world and the expectations of society.

CWS501A/601A - Cooperative Education - Grade 11/12

Cooperative Education is an experiential method of learning that formally integrates classroom studies with learning through productive work experiences in a field related to a student's academic or career goals. It provides progressive experiences in integrating theory and practice. Each cooperative education course is a partnership among students, schools, and the community, with specified responsibilities for each. Each course consists of a classroom component and a placement component. Prior to the placement, all students must demonstrate an understanding of the pre- placement orientation expectations and participate in the development and implementation of their personalized placement learning plans. These plans outline the specific goals the students, teachers, and employers have regarding opportunities to apply and extend knowledge and practice and refine skills to demonstrate student achievement of placement expectations that reflect current workplace practices and standards.

DOE521T/DOE621T - External Credit (Duke of Edinburgh) - Grade 11/12

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is an international self-development Program, equipping them with life skills to make a difference to themselves, their communities and the world. The Award Program comprises four sections: service to the community, exploration of the great outdoors, development of practical or cultural skills and improvement of physical fitness. There are three award levels - bronze, silver and gold - each requiring an increasing level of commitment and effort. The DOE521T credit is earned by completing the silver level; the DOE621T credit is earned by completing the gold level.

* For other approved external credits, please visit

<https://elsbpei.pbworks.com/w/page/67306838/External%20Credentialing>

** Students can earn multiple external credits; however, only one external credit can be used toward graduation requirements.