



# VANCOUVER COLLEGE

Program of Studies  
Senior School 2024 - 2025

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**LEAVE HERE A BETTER MAN**

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## A MESSAGE FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

The Senior School at Vancouver College consists of approximately 500 young men in Grades 10-12. As students enter Senior School, the most noticeable difference is the increased focus on independence and responsibility. Upon graduation, each student is expected to “leave here a better man;” however, we expect them to act to be better men every day in our Senior School.

Vancouver College focuses on the formation of the whole person, preparing students for lives dedicated to excellence, leadership and service to the Church and community. The motto “Semper Fidelis” is at the heart of all programming. As a faith and learning community dedicated to the Essential Elements of a Brother Edmund Rice education, remaining always faithful is at the core of our offerings. With this in mind, we require all students to enroll in Religious Studies and Physical Education courses, along with the regular provincial ministry requirements.

Academically, every Senior School student will study a minimum of eight (Grade 10 and 11) or seven (Grade 12) courses, providing him with the opportunity to exceed Ministry of Education graduation requirements and university admission requirements. Although the major focus in the Senior School is on academic rigour, there is a variety of support available through The Learning Centre and our Wellness Centre so that all students may succeed.

Spiritually, the boys will have opportunities to participate in regular liturgies and annual retreats. In addition, many leadership roles are available to the senior students through our very active Campus Ministry, including many that involve service-learning.

Athletically, Vancouver College boasts an excellent variety of sports your son is encouraged to participate in, including some that do not require prerequisite experience. In addition to our Junior Varsity and Varsity teams, students are encouraged to become active through their physical education classes and our recreational program.

I wish all students every success as they continue to grow in body, mind, and spirit while developing their God-given talents.

Semper Fidelis.

**Mr. Tasso Kanavos**

Senior School Assistant Principal



## A MESSAGE FROM ACADEMIC AND POST SECONDARY ADVISING

The VC Course Handbook is designed as a resource to assist students to make well-informed choices for an academic program that will fulfill the Ministry of Education and Vancouver College graduation requirements, provide them with the appropriate prerequisites for their intended post-secondary plans, and allow them to explore areas of interest. Successful course selection follows a careful process of determining one's strengths, weaknesses, plans, and interests and the most suitable courses to reflect this unique constellation.

In February into early March, students and their parents will receive informational presentations outlining course offerings for the next school year, policies, graduation requirements, and general post-secondary prerequisites. Students will then be encouraged to begin an ongoing dialogue with their Teachers, Counsellors, Department Heads, and Parents regarding their choices as they relate to their abilities, current achievement, and future plans. Students in grades eleven and twelve will also be reminded to research post-secondary programs and institutions of interest to determine which prerequisites are required for entrance and success. Finally, students will then make their course selections, via PowerSchool portal by or before the end of March.

The school timetable is constructed from student selections. As a result, it is expected that students will make thoughtful selections following the process outlined above. Course changes are facilitated in the spring, and schedules are considered final in the fall of the following school year. The administration reserves the right to close a course due to low enrollment or for unforeseen scheduling problems.

Teacher, Student Services, and Administrative recommendations regarding course selection and progression are based on a careful assessment of each student's abilities, achievement, and predicted performance. It is essential that these be very carefully considered, otherwise students may find themselves struggling in a particular course to the detriment of their other courses and overall achievement.

Please feel free to contact us with your questions or if you would like assistance.

**Mr. Brian Taggart and Mr. Greg Accili**

Academic and Post-Secondary Counsellors  
Student Services Department

# A MESSAGE FROM THE LEARNING CENTRE

## A MESSAGE FROM THE LEARNING CENTRE

### **Selecting a block of study in the Learning Centre**

The Learning Centre (TLC) helps formalize inclusive support for students with exceptional learning profiles.

When students and their family choose a block of study in The Learning Centre, the student must either have or be in the process of having an IEP. For information on the criteria for a support plan or IEP, please contact The Learning Centre directly.

PEER MENTORSHIP: This year-long commitment of one block.

### **Peer Mentorship Education in with the Learning Centre**

This year-long commitment of one block and it is not for credit. Peer Mentorship is a great leadership opportunity that embraces the spirit of an Edmund Rice school. Peer Mentorship allows students to receive training in order to support a diverse array of responsibilities with students and faculty. Placements are typically either in an academic classroom or small group setting.

Peer Mentors receive their year's service hours as well as reference letters for scholarships and admissions to universities and post-secondary institutions. Most Mentors Current Grade 11s may choose one Peer Mentoring block for their Grade 12 class schedule.

Note: Peer Mentors must commit to 2 to 3 days of training. Dates and times forthcoming.

For additional information, please contact Learning Centre staff and see this page on [our website](#).

# PLANNING GUIDE DIRECTORY

The purpose of this guide is to provide students and parents with the information necessary to make thoughtful course selections. Course selections have implications for post-secondary opportunities. This guide deals exclusively with Vancouver College course related information. The task, for now, is to choose your courses carefully in consultation with parents, teachers, and counsellors to ensure a great start to your next school year.

It is the responsibility of each student to ensure that the appropriate sequence of courses leading to graduation is completed and the entrance requirements of the selected post-secondary institution(s) are met.

*(NOTE: The information included in this book is believed to be accurate at the time of printing and is a useful guide. However, it is highly recommended that students check the current course catalogues of individual post-secondary institutions regarding admissions policies.)*

## SENIOR SCHOOL PROGRAM OF STUDIES

### Course Planning

The staff and administration of Vancouver College wish to ensure that your education is as rewarding as possible. Therefore, plan ahead! While you are still in Grade 10, you should plan the courses you will take for Grades 11 and 12.

All colleges, universities and technical schools require more than just the minimum graduation requirements. Post-secondary institutions have their own requirements. You need to decide now in what general academic direction you are going so that you have options available to you to explore when you leave Vancouver College. Course Planning for each year should be done in consultation with teachers, Department Heads, Student Services, and the Administration of Vancouver College to ensure that a student's program is in the best interest of his educational needs and abilities.

### Course Planning for the Linear System

Vancouver College Senior School operates on a linear system. This just means that the courses chosen to start your program of study in September will remain that way for the entire year through June.

### Planning for Post-Secondary Institution Admissions

Students planning to apply to a post-secondary institution need to plan and select their courses to fulfill the entrance requirements for the institution of their choice as well as their specific program of interest.

### Completing your Timetable

Students in Grade 10 must register in nine courses for a full program of study. Career Life Education 10 will be done in a blended format (partially online) outside the regular eight block rotation and it is a requirement for graduation.

Students in Grades 11 must register in eight courses for a full program of study. Spare blocks will not be automatically granted to any student even if a student completes a course elsewhere (ie. Summer School or Distance Learning). Career Life Connections 11/12 will be started in Grade 11 and integrated into students' academic programs over two years.

Grade 12 students must choose at least seven courses (which may include Peer Mentoring and/or TLC). They have the option of choosing one open block, instead of an eighth course, which we call the "Excellence Block", but this requires parental approval and signed consent. See Appendix 5 (pp.48-49) for more information.

# GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

## BC MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

In order to graduate all students must accumulate eighty (80) credits in Grade 10 to 12 (equivalent to 20 four-credit courses). Fifty two credits (52) are required courses including the following:

- English Language Arts 10 - 4 credits
- English Language Arts 11/Indigenous Content - 4 credits
- English Studies 12 - 4 credits
- Social Studies 10 - 4 credits
- a Social Studies 11 or 12 - 4 credits
- Science 10 - 4 credits
- a Science 11 or 12 - 4 credits
- Mathematics 10 - 4 credits
- a Mathematics 11 or 12 - 4 credits
- Physical and Health Education 10 - 4 credits
- a Fine Arts or Applied Skills 10, 11 or 12 - 4 credits
- Career Life Education - 4 credits
- Career Life Connections - 4 credits

And Elective Courses - 28 credits

1. There must be a minimum of 16 credits at the Grade 12 level, including English Studies 12. All ministry-authorized and board/authority-approved courses (ie. Religious Studies 12) count.
2. To graduate, a student needs 52 credits from the Required Courses list above.
3. In addition, a student needs a minimum of 28 credits (7 courses) from Elective Courses.
4. Many post-secondary institutions require specific courses to be completed in order to be admitted into certain programs. Careful planning is needed to ensure that all courses and credits are completed.
5. Effective the 2023/24 school year, all students working toward a B.C. Certificate of Graduation (“Dogwood Diploma”), in English or French, must successfully complete at least 4 credits in Indigenous-focused coursework. This requirement applies to students in B.C. public, independent, First Nations, and offshore schools. There is no change to the total number of credits required to graduate, which remains at 80.

## CAREER EDUCATION

The Career Life Education and Career Life Connections courses are the final phase of career and life learning and focus on the experiential and applied learning that support students in determining their next steps, post-graduation. Through numerous learning experiences within and outside the classroom, students are expected to develop an integrated post-graduation plan that is connected to a capstone or culminating project, which demonstrates their learning in an area of personal interest. Ideally, the capstone or culminating project will be linked to an area that students are passionate about and anticipate they will be pursuing further education and learning and/or a career in. Students will present their Capstone Projects in an interview in May of their Grade 12 year.

# PROVINCIAL ASSESSMENTS & AP EXAMS

## Provincial Assessments

The new BC Curriculum features three skill-based assessments: a Numeracy 10 Assessment, a Literacy 10 Assessment, and a Literacy 12 Assessment. All students must write these Assessments in order to graduate. VC students are registered to write these in April of their Grade 10 year, and January of their Grade 12 year. For more information about these assessments, go to <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/provincial-assessment>.

## AP Courses and Exams

AP stands for Advanced Placement, and this refers to potential credit students may earn at the college/university level. To get the advanced credit standing, the student must write the AP exam and achieve a score of 4 or 5, depending on the university granting the credit. AP exams test subject matter at a level equivalent to first-year university courses. As such, the exams are very challenging; a score of 4 is considered very good and a 5 is outstanding. AP exams are administered in May through the College Board in cooperation with individual high schools. The exam cost is approx. \$120-\$130, depending on the U.S. exchange rate. This fee will be collected in the fall and indicates the commitment to writing the AP exam.

The purpose of the AP course is to prepare the student to write the AP exam. It is expected that a student requesting an AP course will follow through and write the exam. The student can expect the AP course to be quite rigorous, definitely more challenging than the regular high school course. So if this is a concern, then that student would be advised not to do the AP course. Similarly, if a student cannot commit to taking the AP exam then he would be advised not to take the AP course. Students in AP courses will be asked to pay the AP exam fee in the fall, near the start of the course. Again, students unwilling to fully commit to the AP course and the corresponding exam should not take the AP course, but rather take the regular high school course instead.

Any questions regarding the AP program should be directed to Mr. Accili at [gaccili@vancouvercollege.ca](mailto:gaccili@vancouvercollege.ca)



# GRADE 10 PROGRAM

Course Name	Category	Page
Composition 10	R	10
Literary Studies 10	R	10
Religious Studies 10	R	11
Social Studies 10	R1	11
Science 10	R	12
Honours Science 10	R	12
Mathematics 10	R1	13
Foundations and Pre-Calculus	R1	13
Physical and Health Education 10	R	13
French 10	R1/E	13
Spanish 10	R1/E	13
Theatre Company 10 - Acting	R1	14
Theatre Production 10	R1	14
Art Studio 10	R1	14
Jazz Ensemble 10	R1	15
Senior Concert Band 10*	R1	15
Electronics and Robotics 10	R1	15
Career Life Education	R	16

Note: R= Required, R1 = Required with choice of two (or more) courses, E = Elective, \* = 7:30 am class

*Please refer to Appendix 1 - Student Planning Worksheet for Grade 10 and Appendix 4 - Graduation Checklist*

# GRADE 10 PROGRAM

## ENGLISH

## REQUIRED COURSE

### English Language Arts 10

Students are enrolled in both of the following, for the required 4 credits of English 10

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#### Composition 10

#### Required Course (2 credits)

Composition 10 is designed to support students in their development of written communication through a critical process of questioning, exploring, and sampling. Within a supportive community of writers, students will work individually and collaboratively to explore and create coherent, purposeful compositions. Students will read and study compositions by other writers and consider a variety of styles as models for the development of their writing. Possible areas of focus include:

- narrative, expository, descriptive, persuasive, and opinion pieces
- planning, drafting, and editing processes
- writing for specific audiences and specific disciplines
- how to cite sources, consider the credibility of evidence, and evaluate the quality and reliability of the source

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#### Literary Studies 10

#### Required Course (2 credits)

Literary Studies 10 is designed for students who are interested in the literature of a particular era, geographical area, or theme, or in the study of literature in general. The course allows students to delve more deeply into literature as they explore specific themes, periods, authors, or areas of the world through literary works in a variety of media. Through literary exploration of a variety of texts, students will develop literary skills through close reading, expand development as globally educated citizens, broaden their understanding of themselves and the world, and develop higher level thinking and learning skills. Possible areas of focus include:

- genre-specific studies—poetry, short stories, novels, drama, graphic novels, children’s literature
- Canadian literature
- First Peoples texts
- thematic studies
- specific author studies

*Prerequisite: English 9*

# GRADE 10 PROGRAM

## RELIGIOUS STUDIES

### Religious Studies 10

Required Course (4 credits)

This is a course in Catholic morality, and in what it means to live “the good life.” The message and person of Jesus are studied as the model of conduct and living for each person that wants to respond to the activity of God’s Spirit present in their lives.

Topics covered include: basics of morality, developing an adult conscience, the role of the Church in our moral lives, sanctity of human life, sexuality, war, and justice.

A Christian Service Project consisting of 25 to 40 hours of service constitutes 15% of the grade for this course.

*Prerequisite: Religious Studies 9*

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## SOCIAL STUDIES

### Social Studies 10

Required Course (4 credits)

Building upon the knowledge gained in Socials 8-9, Socials 10 is an ideal course for anyone passionate about becoming a better Canadian Citizen by learning more about our society and rich history from 1914 to present. Students will explore the world of Canadian politics, our levels of government and how the rest of the world views Canadians today. Students will also learn about the major conflicts (WWI, WW2, Korean War, Cold War) and events that shaped the world in the 20th and 21st centuries (The Great Depression, Collapse of the Berlin Wall, 9/11) through the perspective of Canadians as we continue to shape our Canadian Identity and try to answer the fundamental question of “What does it truly mean to be Canadian?” This course is designed to engage students in critical, reflective inquiry into challenges facing Canadians in the 21st century.

*Prerequisite: Social Studies 9*

# GRADE 10 PROGRAM

## SCIENCE

*You must take one of the two Science 10 options:*

### Science 10

Required Course (4 credits)

Satisfying the curricular requirements for Science 10 in the province of British Columbia, this course covers Science 10 Big Ideas in the study of the following major topics:

- Biology: DNA, Genetics, Mutations, and Natural Selection.
- Chemistry: Atomic Theory, Law of Conservation of Mass, and Chemical Reactions, Acid-Base Chemistry and Nuclear Chemistry
- Physics: Types of Energy, Energy Transformations and calculations of Energy.
- Earth and Space Science: Parts of the Universe and Big Bang Theory

In order to continue with Chemistry 11 or Physics 11, it is strongly suggested that the student achieve a minimum grade of 67% in Science 10.

*Prerequisite: Science 9*

## OR...

### Honours Science 10

Satisfying the curricular requirements for Science 10 in the province of British Columbia, this course covers Science 10 Big Ideas more thoroughly, with added hands-on activities (labs, simulations, case studies and projects). Intended for students who would like to pursue post-secondary studies in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM).

In order to continue with Honours Chemistry 11, and/or AP Physics 1 in grade 11, a student must first take Honours Science 10. This course also satisfies the prerequisite for Chemistry 11 and Physics 11.

*Prerequisite: currently under review*

# GRADE 10 PROGRAM

## MATHEMATICS

### Foundations of Mathematics and Pre-Calculus 10

Required Course (4 credits)

The Grade 10 Mathematics curriculum is designed to build on students' mathematics knowledge and enable them to apply this knowledge to everyday life. The major areas of study are polynomials, powers, factoring polynomials, linear functions and equations, arithmetic sequences, trigonometry and financial literacy (gross/net pay).

*Prerequisite: Mathematics 9*

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## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

### Physical and Health Education 10

Required Course (4 credits)

The emphasis of this course is to encourage lifelong participation in physical activity. This course includes activities to continue to refine fundamental movements, goal setting, social and community engagement, healthy and active living and mental well being. The course includes extended runs or walks, and exposure to several sports and physical activities.

*Prerequisite: Physical Education 9*

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## SECOND LANGUAGES

### French 10

Elective Course (4 credits)

In French 10 students use the communicative method to explore both orally and in writing various topics such as family relationships, travel, food and meals, and leisure activities. Students learn to apply new vocabulary and idiomatic expressions and to use basic verb tenses in a meaningful context. Projects, oral presentations, and group activities are part of each unit. Writing skills are practiced daily in the form of sentences, short paragraphs, letters, and journal entries. Evaluations are based on all four language skills as demonstrated in classroom participation, assignments, tests and exams.

*Prerequisite: French 9*

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### Spanish 10

Elective Course (4 credits)

The emphasis of Spanish 10 is to further develop students' listening and reading comprehension, speaking and writing skills. Course work is introduced within a cultural context outlining Hispanic customs and traditions, music, art, cuisine, literature, geography, and history. Students will apply new vocabulary and language structures to extend their communicative skills.

*Prerequisite: Introductory Spanish 9 or challenge equivalency.*



# GRADE 10 PROGRAM

## APPLIED SKILLS AND FINE ARTS

*Students must take a minimum of one (1) Applied Skills and Fine Arts course in their Grade 10 year.*

### Theatre Company 10 - Acting

Elective Course (4 credits)

This course is a fun exploration of the actor's internal and external resources for the creation of character. Students participate in scenes and dramatic exercises with emphasis on awareness, prepared improvisation, speech, and movement. Students gain knowledge regarding key historical and modern acting styles. They will study stage acting and screen acting. Units of study will include Improvisation, Theatre Games, Film and Theatre script study, Choreography, Acting for Film and Television, and Film writing and production.

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### Theatre Production

Elective Course (4 credits)

Theatre Production 10 will introduce the student to the areas of stagecraft and theatrical production. The students will build, paint, climb ladders, change lights, operate tech boards, lift things and handle power tools in this class. The following theatre elements will include: Stage elements, Stage properties, Crews/Assignments, Theatre appreciation, Costumes, Lights/Sound, Set Construction, Stage Management, Scene Painting, and Tools/Equipment. Students will learn theatrical design and act as both technical director and technician in theatre through the rehearsal, performance and post performance process of shows. The idea of this class is to give students an overview of the "behind the scenes" world of performing arts. Everything from plays, concerts, dances, guest speakers, conventions, movies and television...they are all included in the world of technical theatre. This is not an acting class. This is a technical theatre class. This class allows for a maximum number of 25 students from Grades 10-12. If you are not accepted, we encourage you to take Theatre Company 10.

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### Art Studio 10

Elective Course (4 credits)

Art Studio 10 is a continuation of skills and techniques learned in Art 8 and 9. Students will explore a variety of mediums and techniques including drawing (pencil, pen/ink, chalk pastels/oil pastels scratch art) and painting (watercolor, acrylic), and printmaking (linocuts, screenprinting). Students will explore creative problem solving while further developing technical skills that will develop and enhance their natural ability in art. Students are assessed on their effort and development based on their ability level. The studio experience further develops students' ability to work and organize their time in a challenging, active and hands-on learning environment.

# GRADE 10 PROGRAM

## Jazz Ensemble 10

Elective Course (4 credits)

This course is scheduled within the timetable and is open to grade 10 students who have previous musical experience and training on a jazz band instrument: saxophone, trumpet, trombone, piano, guitar, electric bass, stand-up bass and percussion. The focus of this ensemble is skill development and musicianship through preparation and performance of a variety of jazz band literature appropriate for the ability of the musicians. Various genres and style periods are covered. Improvisation skills are an asset and will be continually developed throughout the year. The group performs often at school events, local and regional festivals, and travels each year. Our Christmas and Spring Concerts are mandatory performances.

*Prerequisite: Jazz 9 (preferred) or adequate musicianship demonstrated by audition.*

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## Senior Concert Band 10

Elective Course (4 credits)

This course is open to all Senior School students who have previous musical experience and training on a band or orchestra instrument. Attendance and punctuality are heavily weighted as part of the evaluation process. Students are expected to provide their own instrument and have a means for transporting it to and from school. The focus of this ensemble is skill development and musicianship through preparation and performance of a variety of concert band repertoire appropriate for the ability of the musicians. The group performs often at school events, local and regional festivals, and travels each year. Our Christmas and Spring Concerts are mandatory performances.

*Prerequisite: Concert Band 9 or adequate musicianship demonstrated by audition.*

*Note: This course is taken outside the regular timetable on every day one from 7:15 am until 8:25 am.*

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## Electronics and Robotics 10

Elective Course (4 credits)

This new course introduces students to basic electronics and design planning in building, programming, and possibly competing with a robot. The electronic focus includes an understanding of Ohm's Law, electrical theory and measurement in the context of robotics. Skills around the design process include ideating, prototyping, testing, and making. Emphasis will be placed on the concepts of teamwork and working together towards a common goal, as would be expected in the tech workplace. There is the expectation that technology will be used in both the programming and creation of the robot. Finally, the potential exists for robots to be used in school-based and extra-curricular competitions.

# GRADE 10 PROGRAM

## STUDENT SERVICES

### Career Life Education

Required Course (4 credits)

Students will create their post-graduation plans drawing from other areas of learning and courses, educational and/or life experiences, and through information gathering and research. The articulation of this plan begins in Career Life Education where students are required to ‘create an initial career and education plan, considering financial implications’, and the refinement of the plan happens in Career Life Connections.

At Vancouver College, this course consists of numerous class and grade presentations as well as interactive discussions and an online component.

# GRADE 11 PROGRAM

Course Name	Category	Page
English First Peoples – Literary Studies and Writing 11	R	18
Religious Studies 11/ CWR 12	R	19
Social Studies 12 options	E	19
Mathematics 11 Pre-Calculus Mathematics	R1	20
11 Foundations	R1	20
Life Sciences 11	R1	21
Chemistry 11	R1	21
Chemistry 11 Honours	R1	21
AP Physics 1	R1	22
Physics 11	R1	22
Active Living 11	R1	23
Fitness & Conditioning 11	R1	23
French 11	E	24
Spanish 11	E	24
Theatre Company 11 - Acting	E	25
Theatre Production 11 - Technical Theatre	E	25
Art Studio 11	E	25
Photography 11	E (S)	25
Senior Concert Band 11*	E	26
Jazz Ensemble 11	E	26
Computer Information Systems 11	E	26
Career Life Connections 11	R	27

Note: R= Required, R1 = Required with choice of two (or more) courses, E = Elective, \* = 7:30 am class

Please refer to Appendix 2 - Student Planning Worksheet for Grade 11 and Appendix 4 - Graduation Checklist

# GRADE 11 PROGRAM

## ENGLISH

*Students will be enrolled in English First Peoples - Literary + Writing 11 to meet the English 11 Language Arts requirement for graduation.*

### English First Peoples - Literary Studies and Writing 11

Required Course (4 credits)

EFP Literary Studies and Writing 11 is designed for students interested in studying First Peoples literature and using writing for self-expression and communication in various contexts. Students delve deeply into First Peoples oral and written literature in a range of media to explore various themes, authors, and topics. This provides a foundation for them to think critically and creatively as they continue to explore, extend, and strengthen their own writing. Within a supportive community, students work individually and collaboratively to explore oral and written literature and create powerful, purposeful compositions. Through the study of literature and the processes of experimenting with, reflecting on, extending, and refining their writing, students:

- extend their capacity to communicate effectively in a variety of contexts
- deepen their understanding of themselves and the world
- expand their understanding of what it means to be educated Canadian and global citizens

*Prerequisite: 4 credits of English 10*

*\*\*This course can be used to meet the graduation requirement of at least 4 credits of Indigenous-focused coursework\*\**



# GRADE 11 PROGRAM

## RELIGIOUS STUDIES

### Religious Studies 11

Required Course (4 credits)

The Religion 11 course invites students to learn about the founding, growth and mission of the Catholic Church as it responds to different historical challenges and crises. Through the lens of Catholicism, the student will also learn about other World Religions, considering the following ideas: how religious belief, across time and place, is a common aspect of many human societies; how religion can powerfully shape social, political, legal, and environmental values; how comparing beliefs provides insights into and understanding of diverse global cultures and peoples; and, finally, how an individual's search for existential insight and transcendence can be shaped by a variety of different religious, spiritual, or philosophical traditions.

Exploring the themes and topics of Evangelization, Apostolic Succession, Doctrine, Human Dignity, and Social Justice, students will understand that Church history continues to impact our lives in modern society. Students are encouraged to participate in Pilgrimage, an overnight retreat.

Note: A Christian Service Project consisting of 25-40 hours of service constitutes 15% of the grade for this course.

This course satisfies the requirements for the B.C. Ministry of Education course called Comparative World Religions 12, and will appear as such on student schedules, report cards and transcripts. This is significant since CWR 12 satisfies the Social Studies 11/12 requirement for graduation and also provides students with a Grade 12 academic course for university admission, while satisfying Vancouver College requirements for Religion 11.

*Prerequisite: Religious Studies 10*

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## SOCIAL STUDIES

### Social Studies 12 Electives

Elective Course (4 credits)

After completing Social Studies 10, Grade 11s are permitted to take any of the Socials 12 Electives from the list below. For more information about each course, please see the Grade 12 Socials Studies Section (pages 31-33).

- 20th Century World History 12
- Human Geography 12
- Law Studies 12
- Social Justice 12
- Urban Studies 12

# GRADE 11 PROGRAM

## MATHEMATICS

*Students must enroll in one Mathematics 11 course*

### Pre-Calculus Mathematics 11

Required Course (4 credits)

This course is a continuation of Foundations of Mathematics and Pre-Calculus 10. Particular areas of study include: real number system, powers with rational exponents, radical operations and equations, quadratic functions and equations, linear and quadratic inequalities, trigonometry: non-right triangles and angles in standard position, and financial literacy: compound interest, investments, loans. The general goal is to develop abstract reasoning and the understanding of relationships of mathematical concepts and how they are prevalent in the real world. This course is intended for students who plan to enter a post-secondary degree program which requires Calculus (ie. Sciences, Engineering, most Commerce/Business programs).

*Prerequisite: 65% in Foundations of Mathematics and Pre-Calculus 10.*

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### Foundations of Mathematics 11

Required Course (4 credits)

Foundations 11 examines various forms of mathematical reasoning. Areas of study include angle relationships, graphical analysis, applications of statistics, scale models and financial literacy (compound interest, investments, and loans). This course satisfies the entrance requirements for many universities for admission into Arts, Humanities and other programs NOT requiring Calculus. Students achieving below 65% in Foundations of Mathematics and Pre-Calculus 10 are strongly recommended to select Foundations of Mathematics 11.

*Prerequisite: Credit for Foundations of Mathematics and Pre-Calculus 10*

# GRADE 11 PROGRAM

## SCIENCES

*Each student is required to complete a minimum of one Science 11 course.*

### Life Sciences 11

Elective Course (4 credits)

This course is designed to give students an understanding of, and appreciation for the living world. There is an emphasis on the learning of numerous biological concepts and factual information as well as explaining processes and theories. Lab work involves the use of a microscope as well as several dissections.

Major topics of study include: Introduction to Adaptation and Evolution; Molecular/ Cellular Biology, Evolution at the population level, and Classification/taxonomy of Organisms.

*Prerequisite: Science 10/Science 10 H*

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### Chemistry 11

Elective Course (4 credits)

Chemistry 11 is a course concerned with the identification, characterization and transformations of matter. Students can expect a variety of hands-on activities (labs, inquiry-based, simulations, and projects) to illustrate, reinforce, and consolidate their understanding of the Big Ideas of Chemistry: Atoms and Molecules, The Mole, Chemical Reactions, Solution Chemistry, and a short introduction to Organic Chemistry. Average mathematical skills in arithmetic and algebra are required to be successful in this course.

*Prerequisites: 65% in Science 10. It is strongly recommended that students achieve at least 65% in Foundations of Mathematics and Pre-Calculus 10. Co-requisite: Pre-Calculus 11.*

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### Chemistry 11 Honours

Elective Course (4 credits)

Chemistry 11 Honours is similar to the Chemistry 11 course, but a deeper understanding of the topics presented is expected upon completion, plus additional topics, including Gas Laws, Thermochemistry and different spectroscopic methodologies. This course is required for any student considering taking Advanced Placement Chemistry 12 the following year; however it is open to all grade 11 students with a strong interest in Chemistry, and considering studying sciences or engineering in the future.

*Prerequisites: Science 10 Honors with 86% and Foundations of Mathematics and Pre-Calculus 10 with minimum 86%. Others may be considered with recommendations from current math and Science teachers. Co-Requisite: Pre-Calculus 11.*

# GRADE 11 PROGRAM

## AP Physics 1

Elective Course (4 credits)

AP Physics 1 is an algebra-based, introductory college-level Physics course that includes topics such as Newtonian Mechanics; Work, Energy, and Power; Mechanical Waves and Sound; and introductory, Simple Circuits.

There is a significant number of hands-on activities (labs, inquiry-based, simulations, and projects) that will illustrate, reinforce, and consolidate students' understanding of the 7 Big Ideas.

Students taking this course are expected to write the AP Physics 1 exam in May which is scored out of 5. Students obtaining 4 or 5 can use the result of the exam to obtain standing on their first term introductory Physics course offered in Science and Engineering faculties of most North American universities.

*Prerequisites: Honours Science 10 with 86%. Foundations of Mathematics and Pre-calculus 10 with 86%. Others may be considered with recommendations from current math and science teachers.*  
*Co-Requisite: Pre-calculus 11.*

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## Physics 11

Elective Course (4 credits)

This is a survey introductory course in Physics, which covers the study of energy, forces, and motion in systems, and their connections in the physical world. The topics covered are of particular relevance for careers in physical, biological and health sciences; technology and trades; engineering and other applied sciences.

There are a significant number of hands-on activities (labs, inquiry-based, simulations, and projects) that will illustrate, reinforce, and consolidate students' understanding of the Big Ideas of Physics regarding: Motion, Forces, Momentum, and Energy.

Prospective students should have a good foundation in arithmetic and algebra.

*Prerequisites: Science 10 and Foundations of Mathematics and Pre-Calculus 10, each with a minimum of 65% strongly recommended. Co-requisite: Pre-Calculus Mathematics 11*

# GRADE 11 PROGRAM

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

*Students must take one of Active Living 11 or Fitness & Conditioning 11:*

### Active Living 11

Required/Elective Course (4 credits)

This course offers the students the opportunity to participate in a wide variety of physical and leisure activities. Activities are selected from the following: badminton, volleyball, basketball, lacrosse, handball, racquet sports, field games (football, soccer, and softball), bowling, and golf. The students will have the opportunity to enhance and learn skills in selected activities. Students who are self-motivated and have an interest in all areas of physical activity should select this course.

*Prerequisite: Physical Education 10*

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### Fitness and Conditioning 11

Required/Elective Course (4 credits)

This course is a personalized fitness course with a concentration on weight training and cardiovascular training. The course will run in our Fitness Center. Types of training will include resistance training, medicine ball work, Yoga, Pilates, and running. Students will design their own fitness program and keep a fitness diary.

Learn proper weight training techniques while designing an individualized weight-training program to meet your personal fitness/health goals. Students will be afforded the opportunity to work on a program that will enhance their muscular strength and endurance and in the process, build self-esteem. Additional fees may apply.

*Prerequisite: Physical Education 10*



# GRADE 11 PROGRAM

## SECOND LANGUAGES

### French 11

Elective Course (4 credits)

In French 11 students will improve their communicative skills. They will broaden their comprehension of French by reading authentic documents and literature and by listening to materials from the French speaking world. They will write structured paragraphs on a variety of topics. Participation in group activities and oral presentations in the classroom is mandatory. Evaluations are based on all four language skills as demonstrated in classroom participation, assignments, tests and exams.

*Prerequisite: French 10; it is strongly recommended that students achieve a minimum of 60% in French 10.*

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### Spanish 11

Elective Course (4 credits)

Spanish 11 is an interdisciplinary fusion of topics that are explored to expand on the continuous development of the students' listening and reading comprehension, speaking and writing skills. This course aims to extend student's language acquisition beyond Spanish 9 and 10. The course work investigates aspects of the Hispanic culture by exploring customs, traditions, art, literature, cuisine, geography, music and current events.

*Prerequisite: Spanish 10; it is strongly recommended that students have a minimum of 60% in Spanish 10.*

# GRADE 11 PROGRAM

## APPLIED SKILLS AND FINE ARTS

### Theatre Company 11 - Acting

Elective Course (4 credits)

This course is a continuation of Theatre company 10. Students will learn to apply appropriate resources to the development and playing of characters in performance situations. They will learn specific terminology and vocabulary appropriate to the acting profession. Students will develop an appreciation for the subtle art of film acting. Studying screen acting gives students the ability to manipulate the medium rather than being manipulated by it. Units of study will include Improvisation, Theatre Games, Film and Theatre script study, Choreography, Acting for Film and Television, and Film writing and production.

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### Theatre Production 11 - Technical Theatre

Elective Course (4 credits)

This course is a continuation of the Theatre Production 10 course. Students in Grade 11 will continue to increase their skills in theatrical design, lighting, sound, and construction of a major set build. They will act as both technical director and technician as well as stage manager in our theatre through the rehearsal, performance and post-performance process of all shows and presentations here at Vancouver College.

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### Art Studio 11

Elective Course (4 credits)

Art 11 is a sequential continuation of skills and techniques learned in Art 10. In this course, students will focus on bringing their unique ideas and themes to projects and begin to consider meaning and symbolism in art. Students will learn to creatively problem solve while further developing technical skills that will develop and enhance their natural ability in art. Throughout the course students will explore the styles and themes of artists from a variety of historical and cultural contexts. The studio experience further develops in students the ability to work and organize their time in a challenging, active and hands-on learning environment.

*Successful completion of Art 10 is strongly recommended.*

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### Photography 11

Elective Course (4 credits)

This course allows students to explore and experiment with photography-related ideas and concepts. Digital cameras will be used and computer technology will be utilized to help create new photographic images. It is expected that students are able to spend time outside of class in order to take photos. In addition to art photography, students will practice photojournalism and will take pictures for both the school website and the yearbook. Students who enroll will apply publication theory, design and layout to digitally design and produce the VC Yearbook. Students will learn to use industry-leading software. Before being enrolled in this course, prospective students must arrange to meet with the teacher to discuss commitment and specific roles on the yearbook team.

# GRADE 11 PROGRAM

## Senior Concert Band 11

Elective Course (4 credits)

This course is open to all Senior School students who have previous musical experience and training on a band or orchestral instrument. Attendance and punctuality are heavily weighted as part of the evaluation process. Students are expected to provide their own instrument and have a means for transporting it to and from school. The focus of this ensemble is skill development and musicianship through preparation and performance of a variety of concert band repertoire appropriate for the ability of the musicians. The group performs often at school events, local and regional festivals, and travels each year. Our Christmas and Spring Concerts are mandatory performances.

*Prerequisite: Concert Band 10 or adequate musicianship demonstrated by audition.*

*Note: This course is taken outside the regular time table on every day one from 7:15 am to 8:25 am.*

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## Jazz Ensemble 11

Elective Course (4 credits)

This course is scheduled within the timetable and is open to Grade 11 students who have previous musical experience and training on a jazz band instrument: saxophone, trumpet, trombone, piano, guitar, electric bass, stand-up bass, and percussion. The focus of this ensemble is skill development and musicianship through preparation and performance of a variety of jazz band literature appropriate for the ability of the musicians. Various genres and style periods are covered. Improvisation skills are an asset and will be continually developed throughout the year. The group performs often at school events, local and regional festivals, and travels each year. Our Christmas and Spring Concerts are mandatory performances.

*Prerequisite: Jazz 10 (preferred) or adequate musicianship demonstrated by audition.*

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## Computer Information Systems 11

Elective Course (4 credits)

Students in Computer Information Systems 11 will delve into the evolution of computer technology, covering hardware, software, networks, and the Internet, while also exploring topics such as computer assembly, troubleshooting, preventive maintenance, data security, and operating system installation. Additionally, the course emphasizes computer literacy, incorporating extensive Internet research and discussing themes such as the computer design process, societal impacts, and the appropriate use of technology, including digital citizenship and literacy. Students in this class will be encouraged to participate on the Senior Robotics Team which competes locally and nationally.

*Prerequisite: Electronics and Robotics 10 or Computer Studies 10 with a minimum grade of 80%*

# GRADE 11 PROGRAM

## STUDENT SERVICES

### Career Life Connections 11

Required Course (2 credits)

This course is one of the new graduation requirements and part of the new provincial curriculum plan. It will build on Career Life Education 10, and revolve around the themes of lifelong learning, the evolving workplace, a healthy work-life balance, and exploring career and educational pathways in our changing world. The course will culminate with a capstone project in which students present their growth in different areas thus far, as well as plans for the future.

# GRADE 12 PROGRAM

Course Name	Category	Major Exam	Page
English Studies 12	R		29
Religious Studies 12	R1		29
Religion 12 / Literary Studies 12	R1		30
20th Century World History 12	E		30
Economic Theory 12	E		31
Law Studies 12	E		31
Social Justice 12	E		31
Human Geography 12	E		32
Urban Studies 12	E		32
AP Psychology 12	E	AP	32
Mathematics 12 Pre-Calculus	E		32
Mathematics 12 Foundations	E		33
Calculus 12	E		33
AP Calculus AB 12	E	AP	33
Anatomy and Physiology 12	E		34
Chemistry 12	E	AP	34
AP Chemistry 12	E		34
Physics 12	E	AP	35
AP Physics 2	E		35
Active Living 12	R1		36
Fitness & Conditioning 12	R1		36
Spanish 12	E		37
AP Spanish 12	E		37
French 12	E	AP	37
AP French 12	E		38
Theatre Company 12 (Acting)	E	AP	38
Theatre Production 12	E (S)		38
Jazz Ensemble 12	E		39
Senior Concert Band 12*	E		39
Media Arts 12	E		39
Art Studio 12	E		40
Photography 12	E (S)		40
Computer Information Systems 12	E		40
Career Life Connections 12	R		41

*Note: R= Required, R1 = Required with choice of two (or more) courses, E = Elective, \* = 7:30 am course, (S) = selected students; AP = Advanced Placement Exam*

*Please refer to:*

- *Appendix 3 - Student Planning Worksheet for Grade 12,*
- *Appendix 4 - Graduation Checklist, and*
- *Appendix 5 - Excellence Block*

# GRADE 12 PROGRAM

## ENGLISH

*Each student must take the following course (BC Graduation Requirement).*

### English Studies 12

Required Course (4 credits)

The required English Studies 12 course builds on and extends students' previous learning experiences in ELA 10 and 11 courses. It is designed for all students and provides them with opportunities to:

- refine their ability to communicate effectively in a variety of contexts and to achieve their personal and career goals
- think critically and creatively about the uses of language; explore texts from a variety of sources, in multiple modes, and that reflect diverse worldviews
- deepen their understanding of themselves and others in a changing world
- gain insight into the diverse factors that shape identity
- appreciate the importance of self-representation through text
- contribute to Reconciliation by building greater understanding of the knowledge and perspectives of First Peoples
- expand their understanding of what it means to be educated Canadian and global citizens

*Prerequisite: 4 credits of English Language Arts 11*

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## RELIGIOUS STUDIES

*Students must complete ONE of Religious Studies 12 OR Religion /Literary Studies 12*

### Religious Studies 12

Required Course (4 credits)

Creating social justice, living a Christian lifestyle, probing profound philosophical and ethical questions - these are the hallmarks of an adult's faith formation and the core around which the Religion 12 course is designed. The course uses a historical and philosophical premise to look in depth at identity, spiritual and ethical developments from Eastern and Western traditions, vocation as a call to the Christian lifestyle, and working towards an understanding of Catholic social doctrine as it has developed in recent history. Biblical and historical foundations are examined to establish major themes and how these impact contemporary Christian life and decision-making in a multicultural and postmodern world. Projects include research on social justice. Students are also encouraged to round out their final year in Religion with participation in the Encounter Retreat in October, February, or April.

A Christian Service Project consisting of 25-40 hours of service constitutes 15% of the grade for this course.

# GRADE 12 PROGRAM

## Religion 12 / Literary Studies 12: Catholic Thought and Literature

Required Course (4 credits)

Drawing on a rich body of literature from the ancient philosophers to more modern Catholic writers, this course satisfies the requirements of Religion 12 and provides credit for Literary Studies 12 (the latter will appear on the Ministry transcript, providing another Language Arts 12 credit to strengthen the students' academic profile)

Primary source text reading and discussion will combine with faith formation, prayer, opportunities for ongoing liturgical participation, completion of the Christian Service Project including a focussed study of literature in the Catholic Intellectual tradition such as: Plato, Aristotle, Aquinas, St. Augustine, Dante, CS Lewis, O'Connor and other authors. Interested persons should seek further information from Mrs. Wicken, Religion Department Head, or Mr. Treschow (proposed teacher of this new course offering).

*Prerequisite: 80% in English 11*

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## SOCIAL STUDIES

### 20th Century World History 12

Elective Course (4 credits)

History 12 focuses on the history of the twentieth century from 1919-2001. Topics include: the conclusion of the Great War, the Rise of Communism and Fascism, The Great Depression, World War II, Korean War, Cold War, Vietnam War, Gulf War, the Fall of Communism, and the aftermath of 9/11. There is an expectation to contribute to class discussions on a regular basis and become actively involved in a number of historical topics. Course work includes written responses, primary and secondary source analysis, class presentations, research projects and essays. Students considering this course should understand that there is a considerable amount of reading.

*Prerequisite: Social Studies 10*

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### Economic Theory 12

Elective Course (4 credits)

Economic Theory 12 provides students opportunities to analyze the effects of economic activity on their society, the nation, and the global community, and it gives them a deeper understanding of the principles behind government and social policies. Students study the principles underlying the exchange of goods and services for value both within the market system and in non-market oriented sectors (eg. households, volunteer organizations). This adds a critical dimension to students' understanding of society.

*Prerequisite: Social Studies 10*



# GRADE 12 PROGRAM

## Law Studies 12

Elective Course (4 credits)

Law 12 fosters skills and attitudes that enhance students' abilities to address legal, social, and ethical issues, and reflect critically on the role of law in society. The study of law also promotes the skills and abilities needed to clearly express ideas, argue effectively and logically, and accurately interpret the written word. To meet career challenges, students need to make decisions, think critically, solve problems, work both independently and with others, and recognize their legal rights and responsibilities. This course consists of four parts: Foundations of Law, Criminal Law, Civil Law, and Law and the Family.

*Prerequisite: Social Studies 10*

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## Social Justice 12

Elective Course (4 credits)

Social Justice 12 promotes the pursuit of social justice and encourages students to develop the commitment and ability to work toward a more just society. We will approach Social Justice from the perspective of Catholic Social Teaching in its belief of the dignity of the human person. The goals of Social Justice 12 are to recognize and understand the causes of injustice, apply critical thinking and ethical reasoning skills to social justice issues, understand how to act in a socially just manner and become responsible agents of change. Students will be expected to contribute to class discussions on a regular basis and become actively involved in an issue of their choosing. Students who are considering service/immersion trips to the Bronx, Brownsville and Peru are highly encouraged to consider Social Justice 12. Some of the topics covered in the course will relate directly to the experiences that the trip participants will encounter.

*Prerequisite: Social Studies 10*

*Note: There is an expectation to volunteer with the Door is Open outreach program. Also it is strongly recommended that students attend one of the annual Service/Immersion Trips (Bronx, Brownsville, Peru or Alert Bay) in conjunction with this course.*

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## Human Geography 12

Elective Course (4 credits)

This course will introduce students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of Earth's surface. Students will learn to employ spatial concepts to examine human social organization and its environmental consequences. They also learn about the methods and tools geographers use in their science and practice. To understand population distribution and how it is influenced by physical features and natural resources. In addition to introducing students to the field of Human Geography, this course will teach students how to analyze humans and their environments.

*Prerequisite: Social Studies 10*

# GRADE 12 PROGRAM

## Urban Studies 12 Elective Course (4 credits)

Elective Course (4 credits)

Urban Studies explores issues surrounding urbanization as a global phenomenon, and the design, decision making and planning of cities. In this course, students will understand why people live in cities or suburbs, how the physical environment influences behaviour, and how to address problems from ethical waste management to urban poverty and homelessness. By focusing on cities as distinctive entities and analyzing the meaning and function of cities in the larger society, students will understand the long-term and short-term causes and consequences, and the intended and unintended consequences, of public policy decisions related to urban places.

*Prerequisite: Social Studies 10*

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## AP Psychology 12

Elective Course (4 credits)

Psychology 12 AP examines the continuum of mental health from everyday concerns through to the psychological disorders. Theories, research, self-help, and treatment strategies and paradigms are explored and students are encouraged to reflect upon their own personal experiences and apply relevant coping strategies in their own lives. The course provides a relevant introduction to the field of psychology for students interested in learning more about themselves and those around them, as well as the post-secondary study and practice of psychology. Students taking this course are expected to write the AP exam in May.

*Prerequisite: Grade 12 students only. 90% in Religion 11/ Comparative World Religions 12 and 90% in English First Peoples - Literary + Writing 11*

*Note: AP Psych 12 does NOT satisfy the Social Studies 11 or 12 requirement for graduation*

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## MATHEMATICS

### Pre-Calculus Mathematics 12

Elective Course (4 credits)

This course is a continuation of Pre-Calculus 11. This course focuses on the characteristics of families of functions, using inverse to solve equations and the transformation of shapes and how this extends to functions and relations. More specifically, these topics will be covered: transformations of functions and relations, exponential functions and equations, geometric sequences and series, logarithms, polynomial functions and equations, rational functions, and trigonometric functions, equations and identities.

*Prerequisite: 65% in Pre-Calculus Mathematics 11.*

# GRADE 12 PROGRAM

## Foundations of Mathematics 12

Elective Course (4 credits)

This course is a continuation of Foundations of Mathematics 11. Probabilistic thinking, modelling data, financial planning and exploration of spatial relationships are the major areas of study. Topics will include geometric explorations (construction, conics, fractals), graphical representation of polynomials, logarithmic, exponential, and sinusoidal functions, regression analysis, combinatorics, odds, probability and expected value, and using analysis to make financial decisions.

Students are encouraged to check mathematics entrance requirements for post-secondary institutions before enrolling in this course (it may not be necessary).

*Prerequisite: Foundations of Mathematics 11 or Pre-Calculus 11*

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## Calculus 12

Elective Course (4 credits)

This course follows the provincial curriculum and is recommended for strong mathematics students interested in pursuing a science, engineering or business degree in university. Particular areas of study include: limits, derivatives, applications, and basic integration. The Fundamental Theorem of Calculus will also be explored. This course is a preview to most Calculus 1 courses at post-secondary institutions.

*Prerequisite: 80% in Pre-Calculus Mathematics 11.*

*Concurrent: Pre-Calculus Mathematics 12.*

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## AP Calculus 12 AB

Elective Course (4 credits)

This course follows the curriculum as required by the College Board. Particular areas of study include: functions, graphs, limits, derivatives, related rate problems, optimization applications, and integration. Only the strongest math students should consider taking this rigorous course. This course can be used to replace Calculus I at most post-secondary institutions in Canada and the U.S.. The goal is to prepare students for a successful transition into university calculus. There is an approximate \$125 fee charged by the College Board to write the AP Calculus AB exam; students taking this course are expected to write the AP exam in May. Students will receive an AP Calculus 12 course grade independent of the AP exam.

*Prerequisite: Minimum 86% in Pre-Calculus Mathematics 12.*

# GRADE 12 PROGRAM

## SCIENCES

### Anatomy and Physiology 12

Elective Course (4 credits)

This course is intended for Science students interested in continuing in the study of Life Sciences or Health Sciences at college or university. Topics are covered thoroughly in a relatively short time and contain a great deal of detailed information. In addition, there is an emphasis on understanding the processes and applying them to problem situations. It is necessary for students to have an interest in Biology and that they will devote significant time to reading and making their own notes from lecture notes, activities, and supplementary material. It is also necessary that students have a basic understanding of Chemistry. Topics include: Cytology, Biochemistry, Cell Processes, and a detailed examination of the major body systems in Human Biology. Lab work includes cell and membrane and the dissection of the sheep heart and fetal pig.

*Prerequisite: 65% in Life Science 11 or Chemistry 11*

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### Chemistry 12

Elective Course (4 credits)

Chemistry 12 is intended for Grade 12 students who have shown an aptitude for the subject and plan to take Chemistry and related courses at the post-secondary level. Problem solving and lab work is more challenging than in Chemistry 11, and a good understanding of algebra is essential. The course contains extensive laboratory investigation of five Big Ideas related to Reaction Kinetics, Chemical Equilibrium, Solubility Equilibrium, Acid-Base Equilibrium, and Redox Reactions.

*Prerequisites: Chemistry 11 (Regular or Honours); it is strongly recommended that students have a minimum of 65% in both Chemistry 11 and Pre-Calculus Mathematics 11.*

---

### AP Chemistry 12

Elective Course (4 credits)

The AP course differs qualitatively and quantitatively from the regular Chemistry 12 course. All Big Ideas are all developed in considerable detail (thus students will get their credit for Chemistry 12). There is an additional unit on Thermodynamics and all Honours Chemistry 11 Big Ideas are reviewed and expanded upon as they apply to newer topics. There is a significant number of hands-on activities (labs, inquiry-based, and simulations) that will illustrate, reinforce, and consolidate students' understanding of the Big Ideas.

Students taking this course are expected to write the AP Chemistry exam in May which is scored out of 5. Students obtaining 4 or 5 can use the result of the exam to obtain standing on their first term introductory Chemistry course offered in Science and Engineering faculties of most North American universities.

*Prerequisite: 86% Chemistry 11 Honors, Others may be considered with recommendations from current math and science teachers.*

# GRADE 12 PROGRAM

## Physics 12

Elective Course (4 credits)

This course expands on the study of energy, forces, and motion in systems, and their connections in the physical world which started in Physics 11. Physics 12 is especially important for students wanting to pursue physical sciences, engineering, applied sciences and/or architecture.

A significant number of hands-on activities (labs, inquiry-based, simulations, and projects) will illustrate, reinforce, and consolidate students' understanding of the Big Ideas of Physics regarding: Motion, Forces, Momentum, and Energy with an emphasis on two-dimensional analysis. Additional attention in the later part of the course will be given to Magnetic and Electrical relationships and interactions.

Prospective students should have a good foundation in arithmetic, algebra, and basic trigonometry.

*Prerequisites: strongly recommended: Physics 11 and Pre-Calculus Mathematics 11, both with a minimum of 65%*

*Co-requisite: Pre-Calculus Mathematics 12.*

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## AP Physics 2

Elective Course (4 credits)

This course is an algebra-based, introductory college-level physics course. Students cultivate their understanding of physics through inquiry-based investigations as they explore these topics: fluids; thermodynamics; electrical force, field, and potential; electric circuits; magnetism and electromagnetic induction; geometric and physical optics; and quantum, atomic, and nuclear physics.

There is a significant number of hands-on activities (labs, inquiry-based, simulations, and projects) that will illustrate, reinforce, and consolidate students' understanding of the 7 Big Ideas.

Students taking this course are expected to write the AP Physics 2 exam in May which is scored out of 5. Students obtaining 4 or 5 may use the result of the exam to obtain standing on their second term introductory Physics course offered in Science and Engineering faculties of most North American universities.

*Prerequisites: AP Physics 1 with 80% and Pre-calculus 11 with 86%. Other Physics students may be considered with recommendations from current math and science teachers.*

*Co-Requisite: Pre-calculus 12.*

# GRADE 12 PROGRAM

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

*Students must take one of Active Living 12 or Fitness & Conditioning 12*

### Active Living 12

Elective Course (4 credits)

This course expands on Active Living 11 to include greater mastery of skills in lifetime leisure pursuits plus a leadership development component. Active living will provide students with experience participating in many sports and physical activities with an emphasis on participation, leadership and over all wellbeing.

*Prerequisite: a Physical Education 11*

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### Fitness and Conditioning 12

Required/Elective Course (4 credits)

This course is a personalized fitness course with a concentration on weight training and cardiovascular training. The course will run in our Fitness Center with field trips to various Fitness Establishments. Types of training will include resistance training, medicine ball work, Yoga, Pilates, running and others. Students will design their own fitness program and keep a fitness diary.

Learn proper weight training techniques while designing an individualized weight-training program to meet your personal fitness/health goals. Students will utilize both on and off campus facilities to help develop their own fitness program. Students will be afforded the opportunity to work on a program that will enhance their muscular strength and endurance and in the process, build self-esteem. This school-based course is open to all senior students.

*Prerequisite: Fitness 11 or permission of teacher. This course fulfills the Physical Education 12 requirement and may also be taken as an additional elective.*

# GRADE 12 PROGRAM

## SECOND LANGUAGES

### Spanish 12

Elective Course (4 credits)

Spanish 12 encapsulates an array of interdisciplinary topics to expand on the students' listening and reading comprehension, speaking and writing skills. The topics raised in this course will spark conversation and expand vocabulary. Weekly group and individual presentations allow the students to utilize their acquired Spanish. The Hispanic culture in Latin America and Spain is investigated through customs and traditions, cuisine, art, literature, geography, music and current events. Taking this course prepares students to be able to continue to study Spanish at a post secondary level.

*Prerequisite: Spanish 11; it is strongly recommended that students achieve a minimum of 67% in Spanish 11.*

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### AP Spanish 12 - Language and Culture 12

Elective Course (4 credits)

This advanced Spanish course includes content covered in Spanish 12 but expands upon 6 additional themes: Families and Communities, Beauty and Aesthetics, Global Challenges, Personal and Public Identities, Science and Technology and Contemporary Life. The course forms the basis for complex conversations, in depth reading material and more expressive written pieces. Both the oral and written work is designed to promote an enhanced awareness of Hispanic culture. The curriculum is pre-approved by the College Board. This course is intended for highly motivated students who would benefit from an accelerated pace of learning and a more challenging curriculum. Students taking this course are expected to write the AP exam in May. Students who earn a qualifying score on an AP exam are eligible to receive credit and/or placement into advanced courses at post secondary institutions.

*Prerequisite: Minimum 86% in Spanish 11*

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### French 12

Elective Course (4 credits)

Students are encouraged to communicate predominantly in French. They will practice basic French grammar and idiomatic structures. They will read documents, journalistic prose and literary excerpts. They will practice writing well organized and meaningful compositions based on various aspects of student life such as education, employment, travel, justice, and the environment. These topics will also be explored orally through videos, dialogues and presentations. Evaluations are based on all four language skills as demonstrated in classroom participation, assignments, tests and exams.

*Prerequisite: French 11; it is strongly recommended that students achieve a minimum of 67% in French 11.*



# GRADE 12 PROGRAM

## AP French Language and Culture 12

Elective Course (4 credits)

This advanced French course includes all content covered in French 12 and expands upon 6 additional themes: Beauty and Aesthetics, Contemporary Life, Families and Communities, Global Challenges, Personal and Public Identities, and Science and Technology. The course emphasizes oral and written communication in real-life situations and explores culture in both contemporary and historical contexts. The curriculum is pre-approved by the College Board. This course is intended for highly motivated students who would benefit from an accelerated pace of learning and a more challenging curriculum. Students who earn a qualifying score on an AP exam are eligible to receive credit\* and/or placement into advanced courses at post secondary institutions. Students who complete AP French Language and Culture 12 will be expected to take the AP exam in May at an additional cost of approximately \$130.

*Prerequisite: French 12. Exceptions may be made for students in their Grade 12 academic year who have 86% or higher in French 11 and the recommendation of their French 11 teacher. Students should be in at least their grade 10 academic year to take this course.*

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## APPLIED SKILLS AND FINE ARTS

### Theatre Company 12 - Acting

Elective Course (4 credits)

This course is a continuation of Theatre company 10. Students will learn to apply appropriate resources to the development and playing of characters in performance situations. Students will extend their appreciation for performing on the stage and the subtle art of film acting. Students will direct Grade 11 students in a final production. Units of study will include Improvisation, Theatre Games, Film and Theatre script study, Choreography, Acting for Film and Television, Film writing and production, and Directing.

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### Theatre Production 12

Elective Course (4 credits)

This course is a continuation of the Theatre Production 10 and 11 courses. Students in Grade 12 will mentor the Grade 10 and 11 students in theatrical design, lighting, sound, and construction of a major set build. They will act as both technical director and technician as well as stage manager in our theatre through the rehearsal, performance and post-performance process of all shows and presentations here at Vancouver College.

# GRADE 12 PROGRAM

## Jazz Ensemble 12

Elective Course (4 credits)

This course is scheduled within the timetable and is open to grade 12 students who have previous musical experience and training on a jazz band instrument: saxophone, trumpet, trombone, piano, guitar, electric bass, stand-up bass and percussion. The focus of this ensemble is skill development and musicianship through preparation and performance of a variety of jazz band literature appropriate for the ability of the musicians. Various genres and style periods are covered. Improvisation skills are an asset and will be continually developed throughout the year. A small combo is usually formed from within for interested students. The group performs often at school events, local and regional festivals, and travels each year. Our Christmas and Spring Concerts are mandatory performances.

*Prerequisite: Jazz 11 (preferred) or adequate musicianship demonstrated by audition.*

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## Senior Concert Band 12

Elective Course (4 credits)

This course is open to all Senior School students who have previous musical experience and training on a band or orchestra instrument. Attendance and punctuality are heavily weighted as part of the evaluation process. Students are expected to provide their own instrument and have a means for transporting it to and from school. The focus of this ensemble is skill development and musicianship through preparation and performance of a variety of concert band repertoire appropriate for the ability of the musicians. The group performs often at school events, local and regional festivals, and travels each year. Our Christmas and Spring Concerts are mandatory performances.

*Prerequisite: Concert Band 11 or adequate musicianship demonstrated by audition.*

*Note: This course is taken outside the regular time table on every day one from 7:15 am until 8:25 am.*

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## Media Arts 12

Elective Course (4 credits)

Media Arts 12 focuses on developing the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to create and manipulate various forms of media (images, videos, sound, etc.) using applied designs and media art technology. In this course, students will use images, digital video, computer software, electronic and digital recording hardware, and filming techniques to create a variety of media including 2-D & 3-D projects, sound design, short films (new stories, social media posts, etc.), and long films (interviews, documentaries, promotional videos, etc.). Students should expect to spend personal time outside of class to work on projects and volunteer to film, edit, and document major events around the VC community throughout the school year.

*Prerequisites: Grade 12 students applying for this course should have a basic understanding of computer and digital technologies, cameras, and photo/video software.*

# GRADE 12 PROGRAM

## Art Studio 12

Elective Course (4 credits)

Art 12 is a sequential continuation of skills and techniques learned in Art 10 & 11. Idea development, documenting and sharing artistic works in a variety of contexts, and expressing ideas, values and emotions through art making are all skills that are learned in this course. Students will have the opportunity to build a body of work (portfolio) that can be used to apply for post-secondary art programs. The studio experience further develops in students the ability to work and organize their time in a challenging, active and hands-on learning environment. Students do not need to be planning to pursue an art program in post-secondary in order to take this course.

*Prerequisite: Art 11*

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## Photography 12

Elective Course (4 credits)

This course allows students to explore and experiment with ideas and concepts related to photography. Digital cameras will be used and computer technology will be utilized to help create new photographic images. It is expected that students are able to spend time outside of class in order to take photos. In addition to art photography, students will practice photojournalism, and will take pictures for both the school website and for the yearbook. Students who enroll will apply publication theory, design and layout to digitally design and produce the VC Yearbook. Students will learn to use industry leading software.

*Prerequisite: Minimum 75% in Photography 11*

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## Computer Information Systems 12

Elective Course (4 credits)

Computer Information Systems 12 covers advanced topics building upon the foundations of Computer Information Systems 11, delving into design considerations for the life cycle, including social and environmental impacts, and fostering personal design choices through self-exploration, collaboration, and evaluation. It also explores digital risks, hardware and software troubleshooting techniques, and network management aspects such as security, imaging, backup, and remote access. Additionally, the course emphasizes problem-solving and real-world applications through our Senior Robotics Team which competes against other high schools locally and nationally.

*Prerequisite: Computer Science 11 with a minimum grade of 80%*

# GRADE 12 PROGRAM

## STUDENT SERVICES

### Career Life and Connections 12

Required Course (2 credits)

This course is one of the new graduation requirements and part of the new provincial curriculum plan. It will build on Career Life Education 10, and revolve around the themes of lifelong learning, the evolving workplace, a healthy work-life balance, and exploring career & educational pathways in our changing world. The course will culminate with a capstone project in which students present their growth in different areas thus far, as well as plans for the future.

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# APPENDIX 1: GRADE 10

## STUDENT PLANNING WORKSHEET

Listed below are the courses available to each Grade 10 student. Students with advance credit in a Grade 10 subject may be placed in a Grade 11 course, if a space is available, or placed in another Grade 10 elective course.

Required Courses: mandatory for all students. (Certain exceptions will apply for students in TLC or other circumstances; each is considered on a case-by-case basis. Consult TLC, Academic Counselors and/or Senior Asst. Principal.)

1. English Language Arts 10 (4 credits): Composition 10 (2 credits) and Literary Studies 10 (2 credits)
2. Social Studies 10 4 credits
3. Science 10 OR Honors Science 10 4 credits
4. Physical & Health Education 10 4 credits
5. Math 10-Foundations & Pre-Calculus OR Pre-Calculus 11 4 credits
6. Career-Life Education\* 4 credits
7. Religious Studies 10 4 credits
8. Language 10 (French or Spanish) 4 credits
9. Fine Arts/ Applied Skills Elective 4 credits

Choose one **Fine Arts/Applied Skills** elective from the list below as your 9th course:

- Art Studio 10
- Electronics and Robotics 10
- Jazz Ensemble 10
- Senior Concert Band 10\*\*
- Theatre Company 10 - Acting
- Theatre Production 10

Students in Grade 10 must take a full load of 8 in-school scheduled courses plus Career-Life Education. Senior Concert Band 10, at 7:30 AM, is an extra course and does not count as 1 of the 8 classes in the regular timetable. It is considered an additional Fine Arts Elective with 4 course-credits towards graduation.

\* Career Life Education is an extra course, not in the regular 8-block schedule, it is mostly online and is required for graduation.

\*\* Senior Concert Band is scheduled at 7:30 am, three times per week, in addition to the eight other classes and Career-Life Education.

# APPENDIX 2: GRADE 11

## STUDENT PLANNING WORKSHEET

Listed below are the courses available to each Grade 11 student. Required Studies are mandatory courses which all students must successfully complete as a condition of graduation and general admission to university.

### Required

1. English Language Arts 11 - all students will take English First Peoples - Literary Studies and Writing 11 (4 credits)
2. Religious Studies 11/Comparative World Religions 12 (4 credits)
3. Mathematics (4 credits): Pre-Calculus 11 or Foundations 11 or Pre-Calculus 12
4. Science 11 (4 credits): Minimum 1 Science, from the list below
5. Physical Education 11 (4 credits): Active Living 11 or Fitness and Conditioning 11
6. Language 11 (4 credits): Spanish 11 or French 11 (Language required for direct admission to UBC and SFU)
7. Elective (4 credits) see list below
8. Elective (4 credits) see list below
9. Career Life Connections 11 (2 credits) outside of regular schedule.

**Elective Studies** (Each course is 4 credits) A student in Grade 11 must request a full schedule of eight in-school courses. (Some students will have a TLC block in place of language/elective).

### Sciences

- Chemistry 11
- Chemistry 11 Honours
- Life Sciences 11
- Physics 11

### Fine Arts

- Art Studio 11
- Photography 11
- Computer Information Systems 11
- Jazz Ensemble 11
- Sr. Concert Band 11\*\*
- Theatre Company 10 - Acting
- Theatre Production 10

### Social Studies 12

- 20th Century World
- History 12
- Social Justice 12
- Urban Studies 12

*\*\* Classes scheduled at 7:30 AM, in addition to other eight courses and CLC*

1. English First Peoples - Literary Studies and Writing 11
2. Religious Studies 11/ Comparative World Religions 12
3. a Mathematics 11 \_\_\_\_\_
4. a Science 11 \_\_\_\_\_
5. a Physical Education 11 \_\_\_\_\_
6. a Language 11 \_\_\_\_\_
7. Elective \_\_\_\_\_
8. Elective \_\_\_\_\_

# APPENDIX 3: GRADE 12

## STUDENT PLANNING WORKSHEET

Listed below are the courses available to Grade 12 students. All students take English Studies 12, a Religion 12 course, a Physical Education 12 course, CLC 12, and **at least** one other Grade 12 course. Grade 12 students may also take any Grade 11 course not completed earlier. Gr. 12 students are allowed one open block, called an Excellence Block. They may also designate one block for Peer Mentoring and one block in TLC if required. Students must ensure they meet graduation requirements and their own post-secondary admission requirements. Consult with Mr. Accili or Mr. Taggart if you're not sure!

### Required Studies

1. English Studies 12 (4 credits)
2. Religion 12 (4 credits): Religious Studies 12 OR Religion 12/ Literary Studies 12
3. A Physical Education 12 (4 credits): Active Living 12 OR Fitness & Conditioning 12
4. Career-Life Connections 12 (2 credits) - outside of regular schedule.

*Grade 12s allowed one Excellence block, with parental permission (see Appendix 5)*

### Mathematics

- Pre-Calculus 12
- Foundations Math 12
- Calculus 12
- AP Calculus 12 AB

### Sciences

- Anatomy and Physiology 12
- Chemistry 12
- AP Chemistry 12
- Physics 12
- AP Physics 12

### Social Studies 12

- 20th Century World History
- Economic Theory 12
- Urban Studies 12
- Human Geography 12
- Law Studies 12
- Social Justice 12

### Languages

- French 12
- AP French 12
- Spanish 12
- AP Spanish 12

### Fine Arts

- Art Studio 12
- Photography 12
- Jazz Ensemble 12
- Sr. Concert Band 12\*\*
- Theatre Company 12 - Acting
- Theatre Production 12
- Media Arts 12
- Computer Information Systems 11

*\*\* Classes scheduled at 7:30 AM, in addition to regular eight blocks of class schedule.*

Selected Grade 12 Program of Study (not including CLC 12 or Sr. Concert Band 12)

1. English Studies 12
2. a Religion 12 \_\_\_\_\_
3. a Physical Educ. 12 \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_



# APPENDIX 4: GRADUATION CHECKLIST

The Ministry of Education has the following minimum requirements for graduation. It is your responsibility to ensure that you have completed / will complete each of the following.

## Required Courses (52 credits)

English Language Arts 10	4 credits
English Language Arts 11	4 credits
English Studies 12	4 credits
Social Studies 10	4 credits
a Social Studies 12	4 credits
Science 10	4 credits
a Science 11	4 credits
Mathematics 10	4 credits
a Mathematics 11	4 credits
Physical & Health Education 10	4 credits
A Fine Arts or App.Skill 10,11 or 12	4 credits
Career Life Education	4 credits
Career Life Connections	4 credits

**Elective Courses** (minimum 28 credits) – (minimum\* 12 credits at the Grade 12 level)  
(\* most university programs require more than the minimum credits at the Gr 12 level)

1. Grade 12 level course \_\_\_\_\_ 4 credits
2. Grade 12 level course \_\_\_\_\_ 4 credits
3. Grade 12 level course \_\_\_\_\_ 4 credits
4. \_\_\_\_\_ 4 credits
5. \_\_\_\_\_ 4 credits
6. \_\_\_\_\_ 4 credits
7. \_\_\_\_\_ 4 credits

**Total: 28 credits**

## VANCOUVER COLLEGE ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

### Religious Studies course at Gr. 10, 11 and 12

Religious Studies 10	4 credits
Religious Studies 11(CWR 12)	4 credits
A Religious Studies 12	4 credits

### Physical Education course at Gr. 11 and 12

Active Living 11 OR Fitness & Conditioning 11	4 credits
Active Living 12 OR Fitness & Conditioning 12	4 credits

# APPENDIX 5: EXCELLENCE BLOCK

## Rationale:

Vancouver College is rooted in the Essential Elements of an Edmund Rice Christian Brother Education. One such element is to "Pursue Excellence in All Its Endeavours." Specifically, "Catholic education at Vancouver College develops a curriculum that promotes the harmonious growth of the whole person, fosters the development of higher order learning and prepares its students for lifelong learning."

## Purpose:

The purpose of this block is to provide Grade 12 students the opportunity to:

- Study independently or make other appropriate use of this time
- Acquire post-secondary information and counseling

## Eligibility:

This block is not a requirement. All Grade 12 students may apply for an Excellence block. Approval will be granted if the following requirements are met:

## Requirements:

- Completion of all Grade 10 and Grade 11 courses required for graduation.
- Completion of all Grade 11 courses needed for post-secondary programs of choice.
- Enrollment in courses at Vancouver College that will fulfill Vancouver College and Ministry graduation requirements.
- Enrollment in courses at Vancouver College that will meet the requirements needed for post-secondary programs of choice.

## Conditions:

- Students must abide by the Vancouver College Code of Conduct during this time.
- Students are expected to use this time wisely:
  - Independent study time / homework
  - Participate in school service (teacher assistance, etc.)
  - Conduct post-secondary research and seek postsecondary advising and/or personal counselling in the Student Services Centre (must attend advising sessions when invited)
- Students may leave campus or gather in common areas (cafeteria, courtyard, library, student service center, etc.)
- Students must not join in with any other class in session at that time (eg. Fitness, PE, etc)
- Students that display a pattern of truancy will be withdrawn from this block. A progressive discipline plan will be enacted as stated in the Code of Conduct.

## Process:

- Parents and Students must complete the next page and return it to the administration office as soon as possible, otherwise the Excellence Block will not be scheduled for the student.
- Select the Excellence Block as one of your "Grade 12 Electives" on the PowerSchool course selection page.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## APPENDIX 5: EXCELLENCE BLOCK PERMISSION FORM

### Students

In the spaces below, please list all courses you will take at Vancouver College in grade 12, including TLC and Peer Mentoring if applicable. Make #8 the Excellence Block:

1) Religious Studies 12 or Religion 12/ Lit. Studies 12

2) English Studies 12

3) Active Living 12 or Fitness & Conditioning 12

4) \_\_\_\_\_

5) \_\_\_\_\_

6) \_\_\_\_\_

7) \_\_\_\_\_

8) \_\_\_\_\_

Please circle the reason(s) you require an Excellence Block.

Heavy Course Load      Extracurricular Commitments      Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### Parents

Please note that attendance is not taken for the Excellence Block, and that students will not be directly supervised during this block. They must be accountable for their own conduct and safety should they be off campus during this unsupervised block. Students are asked to sign out at the Senior School office if they intend to leave campus.

### Students & Parents

By signing this form you acknowledge that the requirements and conditions associated with participation in the Excellence block have been read, understood and agreed to. Detach and return this signed and dated form to the Senior School Administration (Mr. Trentadue's) office.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

# NOTES

[illegible]