

The University Transition Program

An Early Entrance to University Program

Initiated in 1993

A Provincial Resource Program since 1995

Tri-Institutional Partnerships

The Vancouver School Board

The University of British Columbia

The BC Ministry of Education

Program Location:

The University of British Columbia

1924 West Mall, 240-D

Vancouver, BC

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the goal of the program? The two-year pre-university program prepares academically gifted adolescents to achieve their goals of early entrance to university and successful studies thereafter. Students complete core academic courses at Grades 11 & 12, write provincial examinations and meet requirements of the Faculties to which they apply in order to achieve the BC Dogwood Certificate and early entrance to UBC.

What is required to achieve success in the program? Student success requires a minimum of 80% in all courses, recommendation from the program of readiness for advanced university studies, and acceptance by a Faculty based on four provincial examinations.

Who can apply to the program? Students who have completed Grade 7, 8, or 9.

How are students identified for the program?

- a. Information sessions for students and parents, large group assessment for all applicants, interview, portfolio of work, demonstrated success from recent report cards and awards.
- b. Psycho-educational assessment.
- c. Criteria include exceptional demonstrated and potential abilities, social-emotional strength, stamina and resilience, and student motivation, work ethic, goals and career interests.
- d. Recommendations discussed with individual students and their parents.
- e. Orientation at UBC location for one week in May.
- f. Summer program option e.g. Global Citizenship Summer Institute.

How are students accelerated?

- a. Academic acceleration utilizes gap-based instruction to build core knowledge and skills, conceptual frameworks to promote higher level critical and creative thinking, compacting of curriculum and faster-paced instruction to support interdisciplinary connections and extend depth and breadth of learning, problem-based learning challenges and rigorous academic standards.
- b. Social-emotional development is supported by the program culture of respect, caring and social responsibility, a focus on local and global citizenship and leadership e.g. Self & Society credit, community service and work experience, Model United Nations.
- c. Career exploration involves Campus Day explorations, UBC mentorship and peer mentors.

What features make this program unique?

Only program of its kind in BC and Canada committed to on going program development

- a. Program integrity: Conceptual framework & research base aligned with program goal & practices
- b. Credibility of identification process: comprehensive, rigorous, equity of access, gender equity
- c. Cohort model maximum of 20 students for each year; continuing relationship with graduates
- d. University location and use of university resources and facilities e.g. libraries, labs
- e. Individual Education Plans to support individual learner profiles
- f. Gifted education leadership and team of VSB teachers and UBC professors
- g. Institutional partnership support from Representational Steering Committee
- h. Success of graduates & support of community of program parents and alumni parents
- i. Faculty of Education liaison, research and support.

THE UNIVERSITY TRANSITION PROGRAM

Information Meeting

Welcome

- Dates:** Tuesday, October 04, 2011 **OR**
Monday, November 28, 2011
- Time:** 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- Location:** Vancouver Education Centre
1580 West Broadway, Room 400 – 4th Floor

MEETING AGENDA

1. Welcome - University Secondary School Principal
2. Welcome - UBC Liaison Professor, Faculty of Education
3. Overview of Program & Application Process
4. Introduction to Teaching Staff
5. Introduction to UBC Professors
6. Program Perspectives from Current Students, Graduates & Parent
7. Questions & Answers, Adjournment

Large Group Assessment for Registered Applicants

- Dates:** Thursday, October 6, 2011 **OR**
Friday, December 2, 2011
- Time:** 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
- Location:** Vancouver Education Centre, Room 400 - 4th Floor

**Please bring a Pen, Pencils, Calculator, Lunch &
a book to read on Assessment Day**

Contact Information:

Vancouver School Board: Manjula Topiwala, Learning Services, Tel: 604- 713-5231
University Transition Program: Dr. Daria Danylchuk, Program Coordinator, Tel: 604-822-1551
e-mail: Daria.Danylchuk@gmail.com

VSB/UBC TRANSITION PROGRAM

Early Entrance to University for Academically Gifted Adolescents

Candidate Application Form for Year 2012 – 2013

1. **Name:** _____ **Date of Application:** _____
(Last Name) (First Name)
- Current Grade Being Completed: _____ Age: _____ BD: _____ Gender: M F
(M/D/Y)
- Mailing Address: _____
- Postal Code: _____ Tel: _____ e-mail: _____
- First Language: _____ Years of speaking English: _____ Years lived in Canada: _____
- Previous Psycho-Educational Assessment: Y N Date: _____ Program Entry Level: Yr I Yr II
- Previous Gifted Education Program Participant: _____
- Areas of personal interest: _____ Career interest: _____
2. **Current School:** _____ Tel: _____ School District: _____
- School Principal _____ Contact Teacher _____
3. **Name of Parents/Guardian:** _____
- Mailing Address (if different from above) _____
- Occupation: Father _____ Mother: _____
- Tel: _____ Fax: _____ e-mail: _____
- Siblings: (Names/Ages): _____
4. **A Portfolio will be required for students who are invited for an interview.** (Copies only, will not be returned).
Suggested elements of the portfolio: Areas of Personal Interest or passion List of Awards & Achievements.
 Copy of 2 Recent Report Cards Student Letter (*reason for application*) Recent Photo
 Psycho-Ed. Assessment (*Previous*), Work Samples: English Mathematics History Science
 Teacher Contact Name/Tel. # for Reference
5. Please indicate if you have previously applied for this program. Yes No Year _____
6. Are you an International Student? No Yes. If yes, when did you arrive in Canada? _____

Parent / Guardian Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

{Parents: Please ensure that your child brings pen, pencil, Calculator, a book to read & lunch to the Group Assessment.}

Fax Application Form to: Manjula Topiwala at Fax: 604-713-5244

Vancouver School Board, Gifted Education - Learning Services, 1580 West Broadway, V6J 5K8

