

What is Career Education?

Career Education consists of two courses completed between grades 10 and 12. They are *Career Life Education* and *Career Life Connections*.

- *Career-Life Education* focuses on gaining a clear understanding of career-life development knowledge, skills, and strategies for life's journey into adulthood and is often completed in grade 10.
- *Career-Life Connections* focuses on applying personal career-life management knowledge, skills, and strategies to the one's own personal life journey, and includes designing, assembling, and presenting a capstone to an audience, celebrating the learning journey and next steps toward preferred futures. It is often completed in grade 12.

Are graduation requirements the same as university/college entrance requirements?

No. Students must complete all graduation requirements to receive a 'Dogwood Certificate' or graduation certificate. However, post-secondary institutions set their own entry requirements. Each faculty within these institutions may also require specific courses. Students work with their teacher-counselor to create a plan that meets their individual needs.



VSB

"Graduation Requirements in BC"

This brochure is one in a series sponsored by the VSB SWIS program and produced collectively by a group of ESL/ELL teachers and the VSB MCLW team.



This project is made possible through funding from the Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia.

Graduation Requirements in BC



Important Information about Graduating from Secondary School

What are graduation requirements?

Graduation requirements are the specific grade 10, 11 and 12 secondary school courses that every student must take to get a "Dogwood Diploma" These requirements consist of:

- mandatory, or required courses, set by the Ministry of Education;
- elective courses chosen by individual students; and
- two literacy and one numeracy assessment.

Each course has a set number of credits. A student needs 80 credits to graduate. Most courses are worth four credits. The 80 credits include:

- 52 credits of mandatory courses;
- 28 credits of elective courses.
- Literacy and numeracy assessments must be completed but are not credited.

Which courses are mandatory at each grade level?

The following table shows which courses the Ministry of Education **requires** at each grade level. There are often many options of each type of 'COURSE' depending on grade level. For example Science courses include Biology Chemistry and Physics, among others.

COURSE	GRADE 10	GRADE 11	GRADE 12
Language Arts (English)	Required	Required	Required
Social Studies	Required	One of grades 11 or 12 required	
Science	Required	One of grades 11 or 12 required	
Mathematics	Required	One of grades 11 or 12 required	
Physical and Health Edu.	Required		
Career Education	Required		Required
Other:		A Fine Arts or Applied Skills Class is required at grade 10 or 11 or 12	12 credits of other Grade 12 courses (most courses are 4 credits each)

What are elective courses?

These are courses chosen by students based on interest. The number and kind of elective courses available will vary from school to school. These courses may be developed by an individual board of education, but all are approved by the Ministry of Education.

