



DCSS– SOUTH PEACE

Course Descriptions 2025/26

**Not all courses are offered each year. Please refer to the course offerings page

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

To meet **Grade 10 Language Arts requirement(s) for graduation**, students must choose from ONE of the following:

Literary Studies and Creative Writing 10 (4 Credits) Or
Literary Studies and New Media Studies 10 (4 Credits)

All courses will be focused on key English skills:

1. Comprehending and connecting (reading, listening, viewing)
2. Creating and communicating (writing, speaking, representing)

Literary Studies and Creative Writing 10 (4 Credits)

In this course, **students will explore and apply various writing processes and will be encouraged to express themselves creatively** in a supportive community.

Literary Studies and New Media Studies 10 (4 Credits)

In this course, **students will develop communication skills vital for success in an increasingly complex digital world**. There will be numerous opportunities to demonstrate understanding and communicate ideas through a wide variety of digital and print media.

English Studies 11

This course is required for graduation

The English Studies 11 course is designed to prepare students for English Studies 12, and to develop their core competencies, while providing them the opportunity to represent their learning in a variety of forms, including: spoken word, creative and non-fiction writing and new media options.

English Studies 12

This course or English First Peoples 12 is required for graduation

In this course, students will use oral, written, visual and digital texts to comprehend and connect (reading, listening, and viewing) and create and communicate (writing, speaking, representing) their ideas. They will develop their skills across the language arts, exploring literature of a variety themes and periods while refining their writing and personal expression skills.

English First Peoples 12

The English First Peoples course is an opportunity for students of all backgrounds to explore the perspectives of First Peoples through Literature. The English First Peoples 12 course is equivalent to English 12 for post-secondary entrance. The courses were developed in a collaborative process and are founded on the First Peoples Principles of Learning.

FRENCH DEPARTMENT

French 10

French 10 is based upon the use of stories, drama, and music to help students learn to develop oral and written fluency as quickly as possible. Students will have the opportunity to write creatively and read in French.

French 11

In French 11, students will continue to build on the skills learned in French 11.

French 12

By the end of the course it is expected that students will be able to communicate comfortably in French in a variety of life situations, and express their thoughts with some clarity on topics of interest.

Français Langue Seconde Immersion 10 – required for French Immersion

The aim of the Français langue première (French Language Arts) curriculum is to help students become informed and educated citizens, capable of exerting a positive influence on the society in which they live.

Communication Orale 11 – required for French Immersion

Français Langue 11 is a continuation of the Grade 10 Français Langue course. It is aimed at helping students to refine their skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing French fluently.

Français Langue Seconde Immersion 12 – required for French Immersion

The course Français integrates advanced interpretations of literary works and poetry, by reinforcing abilities to efficiently operate in these following written domains:

- Grammar and Syntax
- Spelling
- Vocabulary
- Style

and by consolidating student skills of listening actively and speaking French effectively and confidently when engaging in the act of communication.

Etudes Autochtones Contemporaines 12 -meets the required Grade 12 social studies credit and Indigenous Education credit for graduation

This course looks at indigenous cultures around the world, as well as the challenges and opportunities they have experienced in both the past and present.

SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

Social Studies 10 / Sciences Humaines 10

Social Studies 10 is a required course for graduation. This course covers Canada and its involvement in world events from 1912 to 2010.

Law Studies 12

Law Studies 12 fulfills the Socials 11/12 requirement for Graduation. The course focusses on understanding how legal rights and responsibilities allow citizens to participate more fully in society.

Genocide Studies 12

Genocide Studies 12 fulfills the Socials 11/12 requirement for Graduation. Students will study the origins and development of genocide from a political, economic, social, and cultural.

The primary themes of GS12 are:

1. Early 20th Century Genocide: Armenia and Ukraine
2. The Holocaust
3. Genocide during the Cold War: Cambodia
4. Late 20th Century Genocide: Rwanda, Yugoslavia, and Darfur

20th Century World History 12

20th Century World History 12 fulfills the Socials 11/12 requirement for Graduation. Students will study the rise and fall of authoritarian regimes, global conflicts, human rights movements, civil wars, and revolutions.

Physical Geography 12 (may or may not be available for 2025/26)

Physical Geography offers students a chance to apply their knowledge towards understanding how our world works. It allows students to explore concepts that will ultimately affect how one will select a place to call home based on the surroundings of a region.

Social Justice 12 (may or may not be available for 2025/26)

Social Justice 12 fulfills the Socials 11/12 requirement for Graduation. The causes of social injustice are complex and have lasting impacts. 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.

Contemporary Indigenous Studies 12

Contemporary Indigenous Studies 12 introduces and explores some of the dominating and controversial themes in the last two centuries as they pertain to Indigenous people. Students will learn about:

- * the “resilience and survival of Indigenous people in the face of colonialism” across the globe.
- * the worldviews, and languages of Indigenous people are renewed, sustained, and transformed through their connection to the land.

- * Social Justice cases will be used to cultivate senior level social studies skills as well as the graduation requirement for a course with an Indigenous Focus.
- * We will use the First Peoples Principles of Learning to provide a holistic, experiential, and reflective learning experience.

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

Science 10

Science 10 is a required course for graduation. It provides the student with a sampling of major areas of science including Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Earth Science.

Life Sciences 11

Biology 11 is a survey of major groups of organisms, which inhabit the earth. Lab work requires several dissections and work involving microbiology techniques.

Physics 11

This course uses graphs and Mathematics to describe the relationships among observable or measurable quantities and to develop methods of prediction how these quantities will behave. **It is recommended that the student has Pre-calculus 10 prior to taking this course.**

Chemistry 11

Chemistry 11 is a survey course that covers many of the basic principles of Chemistry. This course builds upon the knowledge and understanding gained from the Chemistry section of Science 10. Laboratory investigations form a significant part of this course.

Science for Citizens 11

Science for Citizens investigates scientific issues that we encounter in our every-day lives. There will be a focus on inquiry-based learning rather than lecture-style instruction in this course.

Earth Science 11

Earth Science 11 is an academic course, where students learn about the far-reaching branches of science that help us to understand the internal and external forces of change to our planet (including rocks and minerals, tectonics, land formations, and meteorology) as well as our place in the solar system.

Anatomy and Physiology 12

Biology 12 provides the student with a detailed study of cell and human biology. This is an academic course which provides prospective college and university students a sound foundation for advanced study. **It is recommended that students have Life Sciences 11 prior to taking this course. Chemistry 11 is also an asset to students taking this course.**

Physics 12

Physics 12 expands upon the concepts learned in Physics 11 by solving 2- and 3- dimensional problems. **It is recommended students have a minimum of Pre- calculus 11 prior to taking this course.**

Chemistry 12

Chemistry 12 is all about chemical reactions – from a mathematical approach. Excellent algebra skills are essential in this course. **It is recommended students have Pre-calculus 11 and Chemistry 11 prior to taking this course.**

MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

Workplace Mathematics 10

Students must complete a Mathematics 10 course for graduation. **Workplace Math 10 is not suitable for students planning to attend college or university, nor is it an acceptable pre-requisite for all apprenticeship programs.** Please talk to a counsellor if you require more information.

Foundations and Pre-Calculus 10

Students must complete a Mathematics 10 course for graduation. **Foundations and Pre-Calculus Math 10 is the correct choice for students planning to attend post-secondary institutions and for those hoping to pursue apprenticeships in such programs as (but not limited to) electrical apprenticeships, millwright training or power engineering.** Please talk to a counsellor if you require more information.

Foundations of Mathematics 11

Students must complete a Mathematics 11 or 12 course for graduation. Foundations of Mathematics 11 is an appropriate choice for students interested in pursuing post-secondary education in the liberal arts. Please talk to a counsellor if you require more information.

Pre-Calculus 11

Students must complete a Mathematics 11 or 12 course for graduation. Successful completion of Pre-Calculus 11 is a requirement for Pre-Calculus 12 and Calculus 12. Pre-Calculus 11 is an appropriate choice for students interested in pursuing post-secondary education in maths and sciences. It is also pre-requisite for programs such as electrical apprenticeships, millwright certification and power engineering. Please talk to a counsellor if you require more information.

Workplace Mathematics 11

Students must complete a Mathematics 11 or 12 course for graduation. Workplace Math 11 will prepare students for entry into the workforce, and provide math suitable for entry into many of our dual credit programs. Workplace Math 11 is not suitable for students planning to attend college or university, nor is it an acceptable pre-requisite for all apprenticeship programs. Please talk to a counsellor if you require more information.

Foundations of Mathematics 12

Students must complete a Mathematics 11 or 12 course for graduation. Successful completion of Foundations of Mathematics 12 may be a pre-requisite for some post-secondary programs. Please talk to a counsellor if you require more information.

Pre-Calculus 12

Students must complete a Mathematics 11 or 12 course for graduation. Successful completion of Pre-Calculus 12 is a requirement for some, but not all, university programs. Please talk to a counsellor if you require more information.

Calculus 12

Students must complete a Mathematics 11 or 12 course for graduation. Successful completion of Calculus 12 may be a pre-requisite for some post-secondary programs. Please talk to a counsellor if you require more information.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Physical Education 10

Physical Education 10 is a required course for Graduation.

Active Living 11 & 12

This course requires students to participate in a variety of sport and recreational activities to support and encourage to follow a healthy, active life-style.

Fitness and Conditioning 11 & 12

By knowing how our bodies move and function this helps us stay safe during exercise. Students will learn how to follow proper training guidelines and techniques to help them reach their health and fitness goals.

Athlete Development Program 10/11/12

Are you an athlete who is interested in training to excel as an elite athlete?

The Sport Development Class is an optional class that is designed for athletes who want to grow as an athlete on all levels, physically, mentally, and academically. The class will focus on movement orientated dry-land training, and core training while focusing on injury prevention. Athletes will learn to balance academics, training, and performance schedules.

The athletes will receive credit for grade level Physical Education, Sport Performance, as well as Planning 10 or Leadership 11 or 12, and Physics 11.

Outside agencies such as, Physiotherapists (DEEP), Sports Psychology (mental training), and Sports Nutritionist are a significant part of the class. Students will also have the opportunity for coaching certification and officiating certification in their sport, and others.

This class is year-long, 4 days a week, and will take up 3 of the 8 blocks for the year. The cost for this program will be approximately \$150/ month (\$1500 for the year).

Athletes that sign up for this class should be individuals want to do/learn what it takes to compete at high-level events. Any interested participants will need to sign up for this program on the course selection sheet.

A minimum of 20 students is required to ensure program viability.

Career Life Education / Education au Choix de Carriere et de vie

This is a required course for graduation

The Career Life Education curriculum involves students in research, problem solving, and decision making relevant to career planning.

APPLIED SKILLS COURSES

Woodworking 10

Woodworking 10 is a practical course designed to introduce students to a variety of woodworking skills. NO experience is needed! The students are to have their own set of safety glasses and pay for any projects taken home.

Woodworking 11

This is a practical woodworking class where the students build furniture and cabinets from plans of their choice. Cost varies according to the size and the type of wood used in their projects. Some examples of projects are; end tables, coffee tables, TV stands, bookshelves, beds, chests, lawn furniture.

Woodworking 12

This course is a continuation of the Carpentry and Joinery 11 course and is designed to allow students to build more advanced projects. Students will focus their projects towards creating chairs, tables, free standing cabinets, beds and other similar projects. Cost varies according to the size and the type of wood used in their projects. Students could also pursue a creative wood emphasis, creating small projects using the lathe, bandsaw and scrollsaw.

Furniture Cabinetry 12

This is the most advanced woodworking course and is intended for students who would like to take their skills to the highest level. Emphasis for this course will be commercial and non-commercial cabinet making techniques, stile and rail door construction, drawer construction, angled mortise and tenons, and hardware use. Costs for this course can be much higher than other woodworking courses as many projects would include manufactured woods.

Power Technology 10

In Power Technology 10 students learn about internal and external combustion engines, as well as engine components and their disassembly and reassembly procedures. Students will be instructed in the tools required to maintain and repair small engines as well as how to adhere to torque and tolerance specifications during repair or maintenance.

Students will study the transfer and conversion of energy, as well as exploring the historical and potential future impact of energy, power, and transportation systems on society and the environment.

Metalwork 10

The purpose of this course is to provide 3 or 4 quick exposures to the skills and technologies used in the metal and mechanical trades. The main areas covered are; shop safety, layout and design, drilling and tapping, milling, lathe use, filing, cutting and forming, sheet metal, oxy-acetylene welding, aluminum casting, and PlasmaCam use. Projects could include hammer, sheet metal boxes, gas welded projects, machined bat, and PlasmaCam signs for those finished early. Safety glasses are required and a \$20 deposit for metal costs is common. No experience is needed.

Metal 11

For students who want to acquire or improve their basic metalworking skills such as machining and welding. There is an emphasis on Lathe and Milling Machine use and Shielded Metal Arc Welding (Stick). Ideal for students who are considering dual-credit welding or Millwright/Machinist. No experience needed. Bring your own safety glasses and pay for any work you plan to make for yourself.

Metal 12

For students who want a wide range of metalworking skills including Welding and Machining. Projects include hammer, clamp, sheet metal boxes, gas welded projects, machined bat, shop tools, CNC letters and signs, simple machines. Shop coats or coveralls are recommended. Safety glasses are required and a \$20 deposit for metal costs is common.

Art Metal & Jewelry 12

In Art Metal 12 students expand the skills learned in Art Metal 11 or start with no experience. The content of the course is similar to Art Metal 11 except that experienced students should be designing and carrying out more original and inventive artwork. A minimum eight projects in lost wax/silver, aluminum, copper cut and pierce, welded steel, and plasmacam still are required. Safety glasses are required and a \$20 deposit for material costs is common.

Machine and Welding 12

The completion of a major project is required in this course. The course covers advanced machine setups such as MasterCam machining projects; machine lathe threading, boring, between centers turning, vertical mill operations such as; milling, indexing. Other areas covered are hardening and tempering, metallurgy. Shop coats or coveralls are recommended.

Automotive Technology 11/12

This is a hands-on introductory course to basic automotive mechanics. Students are required to have safety glasses, coveralls are a personal choice. No prior automotive experience is needed to enjoy this course. This is not a course intended for those who want to remove engines and transmissions.

Skills Exploration 10

Come and learn selected ITA Level one skills in Carpentry, Drafting, Electrical and Plumbing by building floors, stairs and walls, wiring lights, outlets and switches and creating water supply and drain plumbing. Install a toilet and sink.

Skills Exploration 11A/12A

Come and learn selected ITA Level one skills in Carpentry, Drafting, Electrical and Plumbing by building floors, stairs and walls, wiring lights, outlets and switches and creating water supply and drain plumbing. Install a toilet and sink.

Robotics and Electronics 10

In Robotics level 1, students are following lessons online to learn the basic concepts of coding, a Vex EXP robot using the C++ coding system. Mini projects are completed to teach various robot actions. Students will learn the concept of mechanical advantage and gear trains. Autonomous robot control is the focus of the majority of the course, allowing the student to learn how to move the robot along with controlling an arm and claw to perform various tasks. More advanced functions learned include loops and basic sensors before the students complete a major project where they need to design their own robot to compete against others. Robotics is a course that demands self-motivation as all work is provided online and students work through at their own pace.

Robotics 11/12

In Robotics level 2 and 3, students build upon the skills learned in level 1 to complete various challenges using C++ coding. New instruction includes functions and sensors before students complete in group challenges. Major projects follow the design theory to test the students' ability to research, ideate, design, test, and redesign their project to complete challenges. Robotics is a course that demands self-motivation as all work is provided online and students work through at their own pace. three dimensional drawings, auxiliary views, mechanical drawings, architecture, environmental drawing, orthographic and isometric drawings. They will produce a slide show of their drawings. This is a practical course with very little homework. Students who plan to enter the construction, engineering, architecture, drafting, interior design, machinist, or welding field should strongly consider taking this course as technical drawing is a major part of these fields. The students can also use a CNC router and Plasmacam- machine cutting programs to produce various projects.

FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT

Art Studio 10

The main emphasis of this course is on learning about and incorporating the elements and principles of design into the student's artwork within a supportive art community. Students will be introduced to a wide variety of media and develop skills in drawing, painting, and 3D projects while exploring their unique creative ideas and processes.

Art Studio 11

In Art 11, students will build upon the skills they developed in Art 10 while continuing to develop and refine their creative process. Students will also explore the creative impact of past and contemporary artists and movements. This course will be primarily project-based, driven by each student's particular artistic goals and interests. While experience from Art 10 is recommended as some projects are more advanced, students who want to further their art-based skills and creative thinking are welcome.

Art Studio 12

Art 12 will consist of a series of projects that will stretch and challenge the skills and knowledge that students have developed in earlier courses. They will further explore the areas of two and three-dimensional art, a wide variety of art mediums and elements of art history at an elevated level. Students will be given freedom of choice in projects based on provided criteria to allow for students to fully explore their own interests and preferred media.

Studio Arts 10 3D

In Studio Arts 10 3D, students are given a wide range of creative opportunities to communicate ideas, emotions, and perspectives through three-dimensional forms in a supportive art community. This course is designed to encourage and inspire students to explore their creative interests and concepts while building a solid foundation of skills with a variety of mediums, including textiles, found objects, paper items, and clay, as a key focus.

Studio Arts 11/12 3D

Studio Arts 11/12 3D allows students to further build upon their skills with three-dimensional mediums and student-led exploration of artistic themes and concepts. Students will have the opportunity to explore more advanced artmaking techniques, such as the potter's wheel, glaze application, and hand-building techniques, alongside other sculptural media. Studio Arts 11/12 3D also provides opportunities to collaborate with peers throughout the creative process, providing feedback and support.

Drama: Theatre Company 10

A drama class for actors. Students will study characterization, stage movement, improvisation and learn to be proficient actors. We will work as a team and produce plays in cooperation with Theatre Production, and Directing and Scriptwriting students.

Theatre Company 11: Acting

This course includes theatre skills and creative drama. The material is appropriate for a student interested in acting or who wishes to develop his/her personality and effectiveness as an individual through drama and provides an in-depth expansion of acting techniques. The students will perform a full-scale play as the final project.

Theatre Company 12: Directing & Script Development

This is a course in directing and scriptwriting related to theatrical and studio productions. Topics covered include the rehearsal process and writing a one-act play. Students work independently under teacher supervision.

Music Theatre 10/11/12

This course will bring together the strongest performers in the school to produce the school's annual production in June. Students will act, sing and dance or play a musical instrument in the accompanying ensemble. All students will assist in the production requirements of sets, props, costumes, publicity, etc. The end product will be a professional-quality Broadway musical. Students may enroll in any of the other Music or Drama courses while enrolled in Music Theatre. This course is open to Grades 10, 11, and 12, but students may be asked to audition.

Media Design 10

An introductory course with activities in a state-of-the-art computer lab and fully equipped video production studio will include:

- graphic design
- film and video production
- animation
- multimedia
- web design
- photography

Media Design 11/12

In Media Design 11/12 you will apply techniques and strategies used within industry to work with emerging digital technologies.

Students will work interactively and hands on with the equipment in the classroom and produce projects that are equivalent with what the modern day industry looks for. They will work individually and as groups to master different skills needed in their chosen categories of work and will grow to love the final product in the end.

Computer Programming 11/12

In this class students will learn the basics of programming by learning programming languages through time.

Yearbook 11/12

Yearbook 11/12 is a course that combines both photography and graphic design skills to help the school complete a memoir for students and staff to purchase before the end of the school year. Students will also get a brief taste on how to market their production to the school community.

Film and Television 12

This course will examine filmmaking from its early creation to modern times. Students will learn the various techniques required for filmmaking including camera techniques, acting, editing, scriptwriting, and other important techniques. Students will also get the opportunity to apply these newly learnt skills when they create their very own short film!

Psychology 11

The field of psychology is concerned with the study of behavior. The goal of Psychology 11 is to introduce students to the various aspects of understanding human behavior.

Food Studies 10

In Food Studies 10 students will explore the causes of and consequences of food contamination outbreaks, as well as, the elements of meal preparation, including principles of meal planning and eating practices.

Food Studies 11

In Food Studies 11 students will explore the causes and impacts of food recalls and identify what these may be. They will also work with the components of recipe development and modification.

Food Studies 12

In Food Studies 12 is designed to give students an introduction into the concept of multi- course meal development and preparation, including timing, proportions, originality, temperatures, ingredients, equipment, and methods.

Leadership 10/11/12

This course prepares and motivates students to provide leadership within their school and community. Participation in class activities and volunteer time in the school and community is required.

Academic Assistant 11/12

This is a participatory course that prepares and motivates students to provide leadership and assistance to individuals with a variety of needs. Students will:
work under the supervision of a classroom teacher, assist the teacher with regular classroom activities, provide assistance to individuals and/or small groups and develop skills in communication, leadership and teamwork.

Students must have teacher permission and recommendation and have already successfully completed the course they will be assisting with a mark greater than a B.