



Important Information – Please Translate

這是一份重要資訊 — 請找人為您翻譯 這是一份重要信息 — 請找人為您翻譯

Mahalagang Impormasyon - Paki salin sa sariling wika

Thông tin quan trọng - Xin tìm phiên dịch

ਮਹੱਤਵਪੂਰਨ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ-ਮਿਹਰਬਾਨੀ ਕਰਕੇ ਅਨੁਵਾਦ ਕਰੋ/ਕਰਵਾਓ

महत्वपूर्ण जानकारी - कृपया अनुवाद करें

Información importante - Por favor traducir

重要な情報-翻訳してください

중요한 정보 - 번역 부탁드립니다

معلومات مهمة - الرجاء الترجمة

Monday October 31, 2022

Dear Grade 11 Parents and Students of New Westminster Secondary School,

As part of the provincial government's commitments to Truth, Reconciliation and Anti-racism, the Ministry of Education is implementing an Indigenous-focused graduation requirement for students who will be graduating beginning 2023/24. As such, our current Grade 11 students will be required to enroll in a **mandatory** course related to Indigenous studies as part of their graduation requirements in British Columbia. The new requirement will build on the education sector's work to date, to integrate Indigenous content into the provincial K-12 curriculum, and support students to graduate with deeper understanding and knowledge of First Peoples perspectives, histories, and cultures. Please click [here](#) for a comprehensive overview of this new graduation requirement.

At New Westminster Secondary School, we are taking a proactive approach to support our students to get a head start on meeting this new Indigenous-focused graduation requirement.

In the Spring of 2022, we had communicated the new Indigenous-focused graduation requirement information via a [parent letter](#) and [video](#) in hopes of giving our NWSS parents and students a better understanding of this graduation requirement and how a student may want to update their 2022-2023 course request. We also took a poll to give parents and students the opportunity to voice their interest.

We are excited to share that in Semester 1, we are currently piloting two sections of English First Peoples 11. Upon successful completion of this course, the students enrolled in these two sections will meet both the English 11 and Indigenous focused graduation requirements. If your child is enrolled in one of these sections with Ms. Hansen, there is no further action needed at this time. However, your child is encouraged to take additional Indigenous course electives in their Grade 12 year if they wish to further their knowledge and understanding.

We would like to offer our the rest of our Grade 11 students the choice to meet this graduation requirement in semester 2 or to complete it in their Grade 12 year. By offering this choice now, we can make the necessary timetable adjustments before semester 2 begins.

Options for Grade 11 Students to Complete the Indigenous-focused Graduation Requirement

Grade 11 students enrolled in a **Semester 2 English Language Arts** course:

- Composition 11 (4 credits)
- Creative Writing 11 (4 credits)
- Literary Studies 11 (4 credits)



Option 1:

Replace your current semester 2 English Language Arts course with:

- English First Peoples Literary Studies and Writing 11 (4 credits)
- *Every effort will be made to replace your English 11 course with the English First Peoples 11 course in the same block and not impact your Semester 2 timetable*
- Complete this [Microsoft Form](#) to inform NWSS to add the above course to your Semester 2 timetable

Option 2:

In **Grade 12**, select to take one of the following choices:

- An English First Peoples Social Studies 12 (4 credits) or
- An English First Peoples Language Arts 12 (4 credits)

Grade 11 students currently **enrolled in a Semester 1 English Language Arts** course:

- Composition 11 (4 credits) with Ms. Kelly or Mr. Chafe
- Creative Writing 11 (4 credits) with Ms. Kelly
- Literary Studies 11 (4 credits) with Ms. Kelly



Option 1:

In Grade 11 semester 2, **select** to take:

- English First Peoples Literary Studies and Writing 11 as an **additional elective**
- Complete this [Microsoft Form](#) to inform NWSS to add the above course to your Semester 2 timetable

Option 2:

In Grade 12, select to take one of the following choices:

- An English First Peoples Social Studies 12 (4 credits) or
- An English First Peoples Language Arts 12 (4 credits)

It is important to note that our Grade 11 students must fulfill this Indigenous focused graduation requirement during their Grade 11 or Grade 12 year.

Grade 11 students currently enrolled in International Baccalaureate will fulfill the Indigenous-focused graduation requirement over their Grade 11 and 12 year through their required IB Language and Literature course.


The NWSS Administrative Team will be hosting a Grade 11 student assembly on **Wednesday, November 2nd at 11:45am** in the school gymnasium. We encourage our Grade 11 students to attend this important and informative session for you to gain a better understanding of the Indigenous-focused graduation requirement.

The NWSS Administrative Team will be hosting a Grade 11 parent virtual information session on **Wednesday, November 2nd at 6:00pm** via Microsoft Teams. We encourage our Grade 11 parents to attend this important and informative session for you to gain a better understanding of the Indigenous-focused graduation requirement.

New Westminster Secondary School is always here to support our wonderful students. **If Option 1 is your choice to fulfill the Indigenous-focused graduation requirement, please ensure you complete the [Microsoft Form](#) before November 10th.** Please contact your child's Counsellor or Administrator if you have any questions and/or require support.

Warmly,

NWSS Administration Team

<p>Microsoft Form to be completed before Nov. 10th</p>	<p>Grade 11 Student Assembly to learn more about the Indigenous-focused graduation requirement</p>	<p>Grade 11 Parent Virtual Information Session to learn more about the Indigenous-focused graduation requirement</p>	<p>NWSS information video about the Indigenous-focused graduation requirement</p>
	<p>Wednesday, November 2nd at 11:45am in school gymnasium</p>	<p>Wednesday, November 2nd at 6:00pm via Microsoft Teams</p> <p><u>Click here to join the meeting</u></p> <p>Meeting ID: 246 903 086 699</p>	