



## **Dundas Valley Secondary School Grade 11 Post-Secondary Planning**

### **Why now?**

Grade 11 is a time students need to make challenging decisions. You have not decided what you want to do, but the courses you pick for grade 12 are very important for your future.

In Career Studies, you started to plan your future, keeping an open mind to all of the possibilities. During courses this semester, you have probably discovered more about what you like and dislike, and now it is time to really plan backwards: What will you do following high school? What courses do you need in grade 12? Do you need to change semester 2 grade 11 to get there?

Please read this information, and visit Career Cruising to research and begin your planning now.

***Decisions have to be made quickly at option sheet time (the beginning of semester two), and we want you to make good choices so that you are happy next year.***

- Workplace:** If you plan to go straight to the workplace, a co-op is an excellent experience for you to be able to put on your resume.
- Apprenticeship:** If you plan to do an apprenticeship and take high school co-op, you may find an employer who is willing to take you on as an apprentice, and you can begin your apprenticeship in high school. If you “sign on,” you will begin an OYAP (Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program). You will attain your high school diploma while acquiring apprenticeship hours.
- College:** For college, all programs require 30 credits including ENG4C, but many programs require other high school courses – do your research. Remember that colleges are offering an increasing number of diploma programs where courses can be transferred to degrees, so that you can earn a diploma and degree in a shorter time. Look for “degree transfer” opportunities. Sometimes colleges offer applied degrees as well, and these need very specific grade 12 U and M courses.
- University:** University programs require 6 grade 12 U or M courses including ENG4U. Admission averages include the top 6 grade 12 U and M courses including those listed in the Admission Requirements of each program.
- Fun stuff:** Remember, too, to research scholarships and build your experiences this summer.
- There are many summer camps, exchange programs, experiential programs and credit-earning programs that are fun and rewarding. Information is housed in the guidance office and Guidance Hub Course.

Take advantage of all that there is to offer 😊

## **For Grade 11 Students Planning to do an Apprenticeship**

Generally, after graduation, students find an employer who is willing to take them on as an apprentice, and the student and employer go to the *Ministry of Training, Colleges, and Universities Apprenticeship Office* to register together.

Apprentices spend some time at a college, but the majority of the time, the apprentice works with the employer to acquire hours toward a certificate. Sometimes, the student can complete a college pre-apprenticeship program first, then find an employer. If you are interested in becoming an apprentice,

- read the information in Career Cruising,
- and visit the following websites to learn how apprenticeships and the trades work:  
<http://www.tcu.gov.on.ca/eng/apprentices> <https://www.collegeoftrades.ca/trades-in-ontario>

## **For Grade 11 Students Planning to Attend College**

1. Review your Career Studies materials, re-do the Career Cruising and [www.jobsetc.ca](http://www.jobsetc.ca) tests, and talk to people to figure out which programs might interest you.
2. Research colleges on the Career Cruising website. Go to the guidance office to look at college publications: look at pictures, maps, written information, and brochures. Also, visit [www.ontariocolleges.ca](http://www.ontariocolleges.ca) to compare programs and follow the links to the college websites. You will have 5 choices of college programs, so choose a few options at least.
3. Examine admission requirements to ensure you take grade 12 courses needed for your programs of choice. All programs require ENG4C, but many also require math/science, or recommend high school courses.
4. Visit different colleges' Open Houses to explore their campuses throughout this year. You can also attend the Ontario College Fair next autumn.
5. Examine your finances and explore OSAP ([www.osap.gov.on.ca](http://www.osap.gov.on.ca)), scholarships, and bursaries.

## **For Grade 11 Students Planning to Attend University**

1. Review Career Cruising, re-do the Career Cruising tests, try the [www.jobsetc.ca](http://www.jobsetc.ca) tests, and talk to people to figure out which programs might interest you.
2. Research universities on the Career Cruising website. Go to the guidance office to look at university publications: look at pictures, maps, written information, and brochures. Go to [www.electronicinfo.ca](http://www.electronicinfo.ca) to explore program requirements at various universities. You can select different programs to compare them in a personalized list.
3. Look at different degree programs. When you apply, you will have 3 choices. Additional choices require additional fees.
4. Examine the Admission requirements – note course requirements and minimum averages.
5. Visit different universities' Open Houses to explore their campuses in November and March. You can also attend the Ontario University Fair in Toronto next autumn.
6. Examine your finances and explore OSAP ([www.osap.gov.on.ca](http://www.osap.gov.on.ca)), scholarships, and bursaries.