

French Immersion Program

École Alpha is one of three schools in Burnaby that offer Secondary French Immersion. This program is a continuation of either early immersion or late immersion (grades 6 and 7). In grades 8, 9 and 10, students will take 50% of their courses (4 courses) in French. In grade 11 they will take 2 courses in French in their first semester, and Français Langue 12 which has a required Provincial Exam in the second semester; completing the requirements for their Dual Dogwood by the end of the grade 11 year. All other courses will be taught in English. In May of their grade 12 year, immersion students will have the opportunity to challenge the AP French exam.

Teachers in this program collaborate to make the curriculum of each subject exciting and challenging for students. Classroom activities promote cultural knowledge and understanding, communication, and the use of authentic materials. Students are also offered a variety of extracurricular activities enabling them to develop leadership skills and enhance learning, such as contests, field trips, participation in clubs and school wide events.

The French Immersion Program at Alpha begins at the Grade 8 level with 50% of courses taken in French. In Grade 8 students receive instruction in the French language in the following four courses:

- Français Langue (French Language)
- Sciences Humaines (Social Studies)
- Mathématiques (Mathematics)
- Sciences Naturelles (Science)



Students will continue to take 50% of their grade 9 & 10 courses in French. The remainder of each student's course load is taken in the English program.

In the grade 11 year, students will complete Français Langue 11 and Sciences Humaines 11 in the first semester leading into Français Langue 12 and AP French Language & Culture in semester two; completing the French course requirements to fulfill the Dual Dogwood prior to grade 12.

HUMANITÉS (Français Langue 8 & Sciences Humaines 8)

Students will take Français Langue and Sciences Humaines every day from the same teacher and work on a blended curriculum. This interdisciplinary model will allow students to explore the French language and social studies in a unique way. Students will develop language skills while reading, writing, listening and speaking French. French is the only accepted language in class, and it is crucial that students express themselves in French as often as possible while in the classroom. Learning activities include discussion, role play, presentations, singing, watching movies and reading various literary genres. All students will also be asked to take part in the Concours d'art oratoire (Public Speech Contest). Students will also explore the rise and fall of several major civilizations while developing their understanding of the diverse world of cultures that surround us. Students develop their skills at assessing documents (writings, drawings, records) for bias in order to understand history as more than a collection of facts. Français Langue 8-12 courses are mandatory for French Immersion students in order to fulfill the Double Dogwood Diploma requirements.

SCIMATIQUES 8 (Mathématique et Sciences Naturelles)

Students will take Math and Science from the same teacher. The course will utilize a variety of learning strategies including laboratory work, projects, and individual and small group work. Students will also receive several field experiences to enhance their learning in both curricular areas. Math topics will include algebra, geometry, graphing, and an introduction to trigonometry, while the Science component will include: cells and systems, optics, fluids and dynamics, and water systems on Earth.

FRANÇAIS LANGUE 9

Students will continue to build language skills, with a focus on precision in their written and verbal communication. As their grammar skills advance, students will be able to use verb tenses and complex grammar elements to explain themselves with greater clarity and efficiency. Students will put these skills to use in class debates, discussions, presentations and speeches, as well as creative writing. Various essay-writing techniques will be explored, and students will focus on synthesizing (comparing and contrasting) ideas found in various works of literature, as well as songs and films. Readings will include short stories, a novel, a play and an assortment of poetry from around the world.

SCIENCES HUMAINES 9

Sciences Humaines 9 takes students out of the Renaissance and throws them into a world of turbulent ideas; the result is a series of revolutions that changed the Western World forever. Students will examine these, and weigh the pros and cons of radical change and its effect on society. In doing so, students will compare and contrast the different elements that led to these changes, and discuss whether or not revolution is necessary. As they explore these events, students will also explore the geography, of the regions affected, as well as the movement of people and the ways colonization has affected First Nations people. Throughout the course, students will discuss the weekly news; current events not only help us imagine our future, but also prove that the history we study often repeats itself.

ANGLAIS 8: ENGLISH

Anglais 8 provides the French immersion cohort of students instruction in English 8 curriculum. Students will explore the rise and fall of several major civilizations while developing their understanding of the diverse world of cultures that surround us. Students develop their skills at assessing documents (writings, drawings, records) for bias in order to understand history as more than a collection of facts. Students will also study short stories, poetry, novel(s), drama, and essays. Assignments will require that students write in a variety of formats and for a variety of purposes, and study skills will be addressed. Coherent paragraph development will also be emphasized, as well as an introduction to the essay.

MATHÉMATIQUES 9

This is the standard Mathematics course for entrance into all three of the senior mathematics pathways. The course includes the study of algebra, geometry and graphing, and an introduction to trigonometry.

SCIENCES NATURELLES 9

This course has four major units: Life Science –cell growth and reproduction; Physical Science – properties of matter, atomic theory, chemical names and formulas; Physics –static and current electricity; Space Exploration – solar system and exploration of the universe. The course will utilize a variety of learning strategies such as laboratory work, projects and small group work. This science course may include dissection of preserved or fresh biological specimens. If you have any questions or, if for any reason you would prefer your son or daughter not participate in this experience, please contact the classroom teacher.

FRANÇAIS LANGUE 10e

This is the first of two pre-AP years of French language and literature study. Students who wish in their Grade 12 year (Français langue 12e) to challenge the AP French exam will be able to do so. In order to prepare students, we will continue to build grammar skills and vocabulary, and put these to use in written work, oral presentations and debates. Students will read a variety of short fiction, poetry, novels and plays, including at least one period piece. Students will learn to synthesize various sources of information, both written and audio, and offer opinions that integrate all sources of information. Each student will have the option of choosing to complete an Honours Portfolio for this course, leading to a Français langue 10e honours certificate. This course will be followed by Français langue 11e, and Français langue 12e.

SCIENCES HUMAINES 10e

This course follows the Gr. 10 Socials curriculum, examining how Canada formed and grew as a nation. Students will examine the different communities who helped build our country, including First Nations, various immigrant groups, and their conflicts and struggles as Canada became a cultural mosaic. Students will examine the geography

of Canada and British Columbia, and the transformations that took place in order to create a united and economically viable country. Each student will have the option of choosing to participate in the Social Studies Honours Portfolio program, receiving, upon successful completion, an honours designation in this course. Sciences humaines 10e will be followed by Sciences humaines 11e. In Grade 12, students will have the option of pursuing various Social Studies electives in English, including History 12, Geography 12, Law 12 and Social Justice 12.

MATHS : FONDEMENTS ET PRÉ-CALCUL 10

This course is intended for students who wish to continue their education after graduation in the fields of Science, Engineering, Language Arts, Fine Arts and other courses offered at post-secondary degree and diploma granting institutions. The basis of this course is both theoretical and applied mathematics focussing on algebra, number systems, relations and functions, and measurement. (The Honours course includes an enrichment component). There is a provincial exam which is 20% of the final course mark.

SCIENCES NATURELLES 10

Sciences Naturelles 10 completes the curriculum for grade 10 science with four major units: Ecology: biomes, energy flow, nutrient cycles and ecosystems; Physical Science: atomic theory, chemical reactions and radioactivity; Physics: velocity acceleration, direction and positioning; and Energy Transfer: earth's atmosphere, climate change, and plate tectonics. *A compulsory Sciences Naturelles 10 Provincial Exam will account for 20% of the final mark.*

FRANÇAIS LANGUE 11

In 2015-2016, French immersion students in Grade 11 will be completing their Grade 11 and 12 credits in Français langue. In semester 1, students will complete course work for Français langue 11e, and in semester 2 they will complete 12e and write the mandatory Français langue 12e provincial exam in June 2016. All students will also have the option of writing the AP French Language and Culture exam in May 2016 for an Advanced Placement credit. Course work will continue to focus on developing the four basic areas of language fluency: reading, writing, listening and speaking. As well, students will examine different literary styles in a variety of plays, novels, articles and poems. Students will work to develop their own writing style through different components of their writing portfolio.

SCIENCES HUMAINES 11e

All French immersion students entering Grade 11 must take Sciences humaines 11e. This course is exactly the same as Social Studies 11, except that it is taught entirely in French. immersion students need this course if they wish to receive full immersion credit upon graduation. For further course information, please see the Social Studies 11 course description in this booklet. *All Sciences humaines 11e students must write the French language version of the Social Studies 11 provincial exam worth 20% of the overall grade..*

FRANÇAIS LANGUE 12e/AP

In 2015-2016, French immersion students in Grade 12 will be completing their Grade 12 and French AP credits in Français langue. Students will complete Français langue 12e and write the mandatory Français langue 12e provincial exam at the end of their Français langue 12e semester. All students will also have the option of writing the AP French Language and Culture exam in May 2016 for an Advanced Placement credit. Course work will continue to focus on developing the four basic areas of language fluency: reading, writing, listening and speaking. As well, students will examine different literary styles in a variety of plays, novels, articles and poems. Students will work to develop their own writing style through different components of their writing portfolio.