

Secondary Teaching Prerequisites (Grades 8 to 12)

This sheet outlines requirements for Secondary teaching consideration to the Post Baccalaureate Secondary and Bachelor of Education Secondary Pathway programs. Additionally, the following will satisfy BC Teacher Regulation Branch (TRB) requirements for academic preparation for teaching assignments at the Grade 8 to 12 levels. This academic preparation applies to all ‘professionally certified’ teachers, regardless of Initial Teacher Education Program completed.

Initial Teacher Education Program Specific Notes

Post Baccalaureate (PB) Secondary Applicants:

Applicants must have completed the English prerequisite outline below and have a degree from a recognized post-secondary institution and/or a Red Seal in a trade acceptable in content to the Faculty of Education and the BC Teacher Regulation Branch prior to beginning the program. Applicants should consider having two or more acceptable teachable areas. Additionally, as teacher certification in BC is ‘unrestricted’, we strongly encourage applicants also complete the [Elementary Prerequisites](#).

Post Baccalaureate (PB) Elementary Applicants:

Applicants must have completed the [Elementary Prerequisites](#). However, based on initial degree focus areas, applicants will also meet academic preparation for teaching assignments at the levels of Grade 8 and above outlined as ‘Secondary Teachable Subjects’ below.

Year 1 Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.) Applicants:

Students in this program are encouraged to consider elective course work and/or minors in academic disciplines that meet requirements for the preparation for teaching assignments at the levels of Grade 8 and above, outlined as ‘Secondary Teachable Subjects’ below.

Year 3 Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.) Applicants:

Students in this program are encouraged to consider elective course work in academic disciplines that meet requirements for the preparation for teaching assignments at the levels of Grade 8 and above, outlined as ‘Secondary Teachable Subjects’ below. **Students selecting the Secondary Pathway will be required to have one, preferably two, acceptable teachable areas.**

Initial Bachelor Degree and/or Red Seal Requirement

At a minimum, applicants to the Post Baccalaureate Secondary program must have completed an acceptable Red Seal trade and/or degree with a major or minor (or equivalent) in preferably two teachable subjects recognized by the TRB (see list of subjects below). Applicants with two or more teachable subjects AND in subject areas that support field experience placements as arranged by the Faculty of Education, will be given priority consideration. Red Seal applicants are encouraged to have enough additional academic course work to support a second teachable as outlined in ‘Secondary Teachable Subjects’ below.

English Literature and Composition Requirement

6 credit/semester hours or equivalent of undergraduate English course work with a minimum of 3 credit/semester hours in literature. 6 credit/semester hours in literature is acceptable, 6 credit/semester hours in compositions is **not** acceptable. At VIU, some Liberal Studies (LBST) courses are also accepted, or any two of the following courses:

ENGL 115 *University Writing and Research* **OR** ENGL 117 *University Writing and Research: Indigenous Focus*
 ENGL 125 *Literature and Culture* **OR** ENGL 127 *Literature and Culture: Indigenous Focus*
 ENGL 135 *Literature and Criticism* **Note:** ENGL 204 *Business and Technical Writing* is **not** accepted

Secondary Teachable Subjects

TRB requirements for academic preparation for teaching assignments at the levels of Grade 8 and above must have completed a **minimum of 24 credits of academic coursework** to support a teachable. These studies must be in fields of knowledge that are compatible with BC Secondary curriculum expectations. Applicants' initial degree may include major, minors and/or 24 academic credits supporting the teachables below. Elective course work may also lead towards additional teachables. **Please note individual school districts in BC may have additional requirements.** Teachables generally supported within the Post Bacc. Secondary and B. Ed. Secondary Pathway programs are listed below and are subject to availability within host field experience schools.

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|----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| • Art + | • Dance + | • General Science | • Physical Education |
| • Biology | • Drama + | • Geography | • Physics |
| • Business | • Earth Science | • History | • Social Studies |
| • Chef Instruction * | • English | • Home Economics | • Spanish |
| • Chemistry | • First Nations Studies | • Mathematics | • Technology * |
| • Computer Science | • French | • Music + | (Industrial Education) |

+ at least 6 credits in theory (i.e.: non-studio) * Red Seal preferences are: automotive, carpentry, chef and welding/metal work

Specific Teachable Notes

General Science

The following are recommended within a Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) as academic preparation:

- 12 credit/semester hours from a combination of 3 of the following: *Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Environmental Science or Earth Science*
- additional 18 credit/semester hours in one or a combination of the above or in science related disciplines such as *Geology, Physical Geography, Science, Astronomy; or other courses with a demonstrated science focus.*

Social Studies

The TRB requires the following courses as academic preparation for teaching Social Studies:

- 3 credit/semester hours **each** in *History, Geography and Canadian Studies* (courses must focus on understanding the Canadian experience with the Canadian content being central to the conceptual thesis of the course and the BC Social Studies curriculum; typically "Canada" occurs in the course title)
- An additional 15 credit/semester hours in one or in a combination of *Anthropology, Economics, Geography, History, Political Science and Sociology*. Course work relating to *Classical, Environmental, First Nations, Urban or Women's Studies* may be included provided the course description reveals a relationship to the BC Social Studies curriculum.

Within, or in addition to, the above listed TRB requirements, the Faculty of Education strongly recommends the inclusion of:

- 3 credit/semester hours of *First Nations content AND 3 credit/semester hours of additional History*

French

A major or minor in French, Languages and Culture (Romance Languages) at VIU, is required to teach French as a second language; a teachable subject at the levels of Grade 8 and above

French Immersion

To teach a subject at the levels of Grade 8 and above in French, requires proof of fluency in addition to the required academic preparation (i.e.: a minimum of 24 credit/semester hours)

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FOR COURSE PLANNING AND TEACHER EDUCATION DEGREE COMPLETION

For specific support relating to (but not limited to) the application process, credential/course/degree review, undergraduate degree course planning, and program overview for teacher education (PB and B.Ed.) programs, contact the Faculty of Education Advising office at 250-740-6223; toll free 1-888-920-2221, ext. 6223; from overseas +1-250-740-6223; or visit <https://education.viu.ca/advising-initial-teacher-education>. **Detailed transcript, specific course approvals and/or credential review requires an appointment.**