

VENTURE

The Venture Program is an academically challenging program that provides an enriched educational experience for motivated students in grades 8, 9 and 10. Students selected for Venture are grouped in cohorts for their core academic subjects in grades 8 and 9. In grade 10, Britannia students may apply for individual Venture courses as well, depending on their strengths and interests, and with the co-ordinator's approval.

The Venture Program philosophy is based on four key tenets as the building blocks to an enriched secondary school education:

1. Universal Values – an education that includes core values of respect and acceptance for all persons.
2. Global Understanding – an education that teaches how national, linguistic and cultural diversity enriches the world community.
3. Personal Excellence – an academic education which emphasized the pursuit of high goals and encourages each child to achieve their personal best in all facets of school life, with the IB Learner Profile as our guide.
4. Community Service – an education which inspires student to contribute actively to their physical and/or social environment, thereby fostering personal and social responsibility in the global community.

Venture 8-10 offers students thematic curriculum across subject areas, hands-on learning in and out of the classroom, overnight outdoor experiences and community involvement with leadership and personal growth workshops.

The Venture Program is excellent preparation for students intending to apply for the International Baccalaureate Program in grade 11/12.

GRADE 8

English 8 Venture	Social Studies 8 Venture
Science 8 Venture	Mathematics 8 Venture
French 8 Venture	Physical Education
Applied Skills 8	Fine Arts 8

GRADE 9

English 9 Venture	French 9 Venture or Mandarin 9 Venture
Social Studies 9 Venture	Physical Education 9
Science 9 Venture	Two Electives
Mathematics 9 Venture	

**GRADE 10
DIPLOMA and CERTIFICATE OPTIONS AVAILABLE**

Diploma Options

English 10 Venture	French 10 Venture or Mandarin 10 Venture
Social Studies 10 Venture	Planning 10
Science 10 Venture	Two Electives
Mathematics 10 Venture	

Certificate Options

One or more Venture 10 courses. Acceptance will be based upon your academic record in prerequisite courses, permission of the teacher and space available, and approval of the coordinator. You must complete and submit a Venture 10 application.

Additional courses (including Planning 10) to complete a grade 10 program will be required. It is recommended that Diploma Students obtain a grade 11 Fine Arts and/or an Applied Skills credit in their grade 10 year.

VENTURE ENGLISH 8 (MEN—08DC2)

Integrated with the expectations of the regular grade eight program, and designed to prepare the young student for the International Baccalaureate program, Venture 8 English examines facets of English Language and Literature with more scope and depth. The student is challenged to strengthen and develop expressive capabilities and to enhance comprehension and critical skills, through individual and group assignments. Social and interpersonal skills will be developed through a variety of strategies focusing on research, critical thinking and presentations.

VENTURE ENGLISH 9 (MEN--09DC2)

This course emphasizes the study and appreciation of the various forms of literature, including short stories, novels, plays, essays and poetry as social criticism. When appropriate, units are coordinated thematically with other Venture 9 courses. The development and presentation of ideas in written and oral form, creative and critical thinking skills, and the acquisition of research skills necessary for academic success are stressed. Student evaluation is based on achievement in written and oral expression of original argument based on research, organization, reflection and discussion.

VENTURE ENGLISH 10: LITERARY STUDIES & COMPOSITION (MLTST10DC2 & MCMPS10DC2)

Prerequisite: English 9 Enriched or English 9 (teacher recommendation).

This preparatory course for the International Baccalaureate program is strongly recommended for those intending to apply for IB Students not intending to enter the IB program, but who wish enrichment, may also enroll, where class size permits.

This course emphasizes world literature, and selections will be read in translation from several cultural backgrounds and periods of history. A research-based literary essay will be a major component of the course evaluation. As well, several individual and group presentations that compare international literary genres will be completed.

VENTURE SOCIAL STUDIES 8 (MSS--08DC2)

This course offers students an opportunity to explore world history during the time period of the 7th century to 1750. Students will use historical and geographical thinking concepts such as cause and consequence, and patterns and trends to frame their study of the innovations, political systems, cultural shifts, migrations, exchanges and explorations (to name a few) of many cultures. Topics of study may include the Barbarian invasion and the Dark Ages, European Feudalism and the Crusades and the Black Plague, the Islamic and Ottoman Empire expansion, Golden Age of China-Tang Dynasty, Feudal Japan-Edo Period, and Renaissance and Reformation. Students will develop social studies competencies, and critical and political thinking competencies by doing independent studies of current events.

VENTURE SOCIAL STUDIES 9 (MSS--09DC2)

This course offers an in-depth study of significant events, developments, places, and people in the years 1750 to the lead up to WWI in the early 20th century in Canada and around the world. Students will investigate a wide variety of topics that may include discriminatory policies and historical wrongs in Canada, such as the Head Tax and the Komagata Maru incident; revolutions and conflicts (for example: the American Revolution, industrialization, the Chilcotin War); and case studies of nationalism, such as Japan. Topics about Canada that stretch beyond this time period may include Canada's physiographic features and the consequences of colonialism on indigenous people. Students will continue to develop historical and geographical competencies learned in grade 8.

VENTURE SOCIAL STUDIES 10 (MSS—10DC2)

This course examines significant global and Canadian events, developments, people, and places beginning with WWI through the lenses of historical and geographical thinking competencies. Students will investigate topics of interest up to present day that may include Canadian identity, autonomy, economy, and governance; discriminatory policies and injustices in Canada, such as Residential schools and internments; First Peoples' governance in Canada; Truth and reconciliation in Canada; case studies of international and domestic conflict and cooperation (for example: WI, WWII, NAFTA, the Quiet revolution, the Oka crisis; the League of Nations, NATO); climate change; and urbanization.

VENTURE SCIENCE 8 (MSC--08DC2)

In addition to covering material from the Provincial Science 8 curriculum, this course will give students an opportunity for enrichment, individual experiments and to research various topics. Students will develop a variety of laboratory skills, with due regard for personal safety and the environment. All students are required to participate in the Britannia Science Fair. Topics will reinforce the Venture Mathematics 8 course wherever possible. Students will develop critical thinking skills and work habits.

VENTURE SCIENCE 9 (MSC--09DC2)

This course stresses the application and enrichment of science concepts in Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Astronomy. Students will follow the Provincial Science 9 curriculum and do a number of optional units. Students will be given the opportunity to use community resources to produce individual and group projects. Science investigations and critical thinking are emphasized. All students are required to participate in the Britannia Science Fair.

VENTURE SCIENCE 10 (MSC--10DC2)

This course is the preparatory course for the International Baccalaureate program and is strongly recommended for those intending to apply for IB Students not intending to enter the IB program, but who wish enrichment, may also enroll, with teacher permission.

The course will follow the Provincial Science 10 Curriculum and introduce enrichment topics from grade 11 IB science. Students will be introduced to IB style marking for laboratory reports. Project work will enable students to develop skills in experimental design. All students are required to participate in the Britannia Science Fair.

VENTURE MATHEMATICS 8 (MMA--08DC2)

This course will cover material from Mathematics 8 and enrich the coverage of topics with extensions in algebra and geometry. Problem-solving techniques and critical thinking will be highlighted, and the uses of technological tools, such as the graphing calculator, will be explored. Topics will reinforce and enhance the Venture Science 8 course wherever possible. A joint Mathematics/Science field study is also part of this course. All students will write the Canadian National Mathematics League Contest for grade 8 as well as the University of Waterloo's Gauss Contest. Capable students may participate in other contests.

VENTURE MATHEMATICS 9 (MMA--09DC2)

This course is a continuation of Venture Mathematics 8. It centers on a formal approach to beginning algebra, including simplifying expressions, equation solving, inequalities, and graphing linear equations. Wherever appropriate, extensions into Mathematics 10 topics will be included. All students in this course will write the Canadian Mathematics Competition Pascal Contest. A scientific calculator is required.

VENTURE FOUNDATIONS OF PRE-CALCULUS MATHEMATICS 10 (MFMP-10DC2)

Prerequisite: Venture Mathematics 9 or Mathematics 9 with teacher recommendation.

This course is the preparatory course for the International Baccalaureate Program and is strongly recommended for those intending to apply for IB. As such, students will complete all topics from Mathematics 10 but to a greater depth. As time permits, extra study in pre-IB topics will be included. Students not intending to enter the IB program but who wish enrichment may also enroll in Venture Mathematics 10, provided space exists.

All students in this course will write the Canadian Mathematics Competition's Cayley Exam for Grade 10. A scientific calculator is required.

VENTURE FRENCH 8 (MFR--08DC2)

This course is intended for students who have already had some French at the elementary level and who also feel the need for a challenge with the Venture Program.

French 8 Enriched stresses oral communication as well as written and comprehension activities. This course encourages open mindedness about French culture and language.

VENTURE FRENCH 9 (MFR--09DC2)

Prerequisite: Venture French 8 or teacher recommendation.

Those students who are considering entering the IB program in grade 11 are encouraged to enroll in this course. French 9 Venture offers students a greater challenge than the regular course, in particular if the student has had some French in elementary school. Students learn to speak, write, and understand French by using the language in the classroom in authentic situations. The course encourages students to take risks and have fun.

VENTURE FRENCH 10 (MFR--10DC2)

French 10, continues an emphasis on oral communication.

Topics introduced include music, life at home and abroad. At this level, students are challenged with more sophisticated oral, reading and writing activities. Students have many opportunities to explore different aspects of contemporary French culture.

VENTURE MANDARIN 9 (MMAN-09DC2)

This is an introductory course designed for students with little or no experience with the spoken or written Mandarin language. This course emphasizes all four language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. It is expected that students who enroll in this course will be able to express ideas, greetings and introductions, numbers and counting, nationalities, family, dates, time and routine. This course is perfect for students with a penchant for exploring the complexity and richness of Chinese history and culture. Students are strongly encouraged to be active participants in class, to benefit from the fun and to maximize their learning.

VENTURE MANDARIN 10 (MMAN-10DC2)

This course is ideal for students who desire enrichment in Mandarin language. It is also designed to prepare students for the International Baccalaureate program and is encouraged for those with an intention of pursuing IB studies in grade 11. A communicative style of language teaching is adopted that is intended to expose enrolling students to the Mandarin language used in authentic situations. Some of the themes covered in the Venture Mandarin 10 curriculum include: vacations and holidays, daily routines, the house, clothing and colours, socializing and hobbies, the weather, school subjects and school life.