**Liberal Arts and Humanities Focus Area**

This Focus Area supports students to develop skills, competencies and knowledge in areas such as history, literature, writing, philosophy, international languages, First Nations studies and geography. Educational experiences include: developing high level communication skills; gaining

a perspective on the present through the study of the past; becoming familiar with accomplishments, ideas and concepts from diverse cultures; and acquiring knowledge in the methods of inquiry used in the humanities and social sciences.

For information about specific occupations related to this Focus Area, including the nature of work, main duties, working conditions and wages, employment prospects, and education and training requirements, go to: [www.workfutures.bc.ca](http://www.workfutures.bc.ca) At this site, use the National Occupation Classification (NOC) feature to view occupations related to: Social Science, Education, Government Service.

For information about BC post-secondary options related to this Focus Area, go to: <http://www.educationplanner.ca/>

**Sample interests, skills and competencies related to this Focus Area**

• Interest in writing

• Interest in other cultures

• Interest in second languages

• Research skills to access information from a variety of sources

• Accessing and interpreting material from a wide variety of primary and secondary sources

• Oral questioning skills

• Presentation of logical arguments in written and oral form

• Writing for a specified audience

• Presentation skills

• Awareness of cross-cultural differences

• Analyzing information

• Reading, writing and speaking in a second language

• Applying knowledge of other cultures to current issues

**Sample options after Grade 12 graduation**

• Employment: Library Assistant

• Employment: Museum Attendant

• Employment: Tour Guide

• Certificate program: Aboriginal Studies

• Certificate program: Community Economic Development

• Diploma program: Applied Urban and Rural Planning

• Diploma program: Liberal Arts

• Degree program: Bachelor of Art, International Relations

• Degree program: Bachelor of Arts, French Studies

• Degree program: Bachelor of Arts, Archaeology and History of Greece

• Degree program: Bachelor of Education

**Sample occupation options**

• Anthropologist

• Librarian

• Language Teacher

• Museum Curator

• Urban Planner

• Communications Officer

• Journalist

• Archivist

• Government Public Service

**Elective courses that best fit this Focus Area**

Ministry Authorized Courses

• French 11 and 12

• Spanish 11 and12

• Mandarin 11 and 12

• Français Langue 11 and 12

• Punjabi 11 and 12

• German 11 and 12

• Japanese 11 and 12

• First Nations Studies 12

• Geography 12

• History 12

• Comparative Civilizations 12

• English Literature 12

• Technical and Professional Communications 12

• Composition 11

• Writing 12

• Journalism 12

• Work Experience 12

Board/Authority Authorized Courses

• Aboriginal Language courses

• Religious Studies

• Aboriginal Studies

• Philosophy

• Global Studies

• Creative Writing

• Journalism

Community Learning

• Post-secondary courses

• Community courses or programs in second language instruction

• Public speaking courses

**Sample course packages for Liberal Arts and Humanities Focus Area**

Student #1

Jessica is in French Immersion and plans to get a Bachelor of Arts in the Humanities. She would eventually like to teach in this area at a university. Her Focus Area courses include Français Langue Seconde Immersion 11 and 12, English Literature 12 and Comparative Civilization 12.

Student #2

Frank wants to go to university but isn’t sure what he wants to study. He enjoys second language courses so he takes two in Grades 11 and 12. His Focus Area courses include French 11 and 12, and Japanese 11 and 12.

Student #3

Arlene has always been interested in writing and she works on the school yearbook. After graduation, she plans to take a two-year diploma program in Applied Communications. She then hopes to work for several years before pursuing a Bachelor of Journalism degree. Her Focus Area courses include Technical and Professional Communications 12, Journalism 12 and two local courses that her school offers: Yearbook Journalism 11 and Yearbook Journalism 12.

Student #4

Stephen is a First Nations student who attends a small rural school. He wants to pursue post-secondary education but isn’t sure what type of program is right for him. His Focus Area courses include instruction in his native language (delivered through his school with his band’s participation) at the Grade 11 and 12 levels. He also chooses BC First Nations Studies 12 and History 12.