



RICHMOND CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

EST. 1957

Second Language Options - Grades 9-12

Process Rationale

Richmond Christian School offers French from Grades 1 to 12. At times, staff, parents and/or students inquire about the possibility of a French exemption at the Middle Campus, typically to support a student's management of course load demands in other subject areas and/or to make space in the student's schedule for the remediation and support of literacy and numeracy skills. While French exemption is sometimes in the best interest of a student, it has academic, social, and emotional implications that must be carefully considered by staff, parents, and students.

At the Secondary Campus, Mandarin and Spanish are offered as second languages in addition to French. Students in Grade 9 may continue their studies in French or elect to switch from French to Mandarin 9 or Spanish 9, both of which are introductory courses that do not have a pre-requisite. Students who have been French exempt at the Middle Campus must elect to enroll in a Learning Assistance block, Mandarin 9, or Spanish 9 class to attain a full timetable. Due to the nature of the Grade 9 timetable, Learning Assistance block, Mandarin 9, or Spanish 9 are the only available alternatives to French 9.

Ideally, students in Grade 9 are given the opportunity to remain in a second language with the support of adaptations to the language learning standards. One academic consideration that needs to be highlighted is a student's possible need to have a second language for post-secondary education. This document outlines transitional and additional post-secondary considerations that require thoughtful decision making in the best interests of students at Richmond Christian School.

Level	Language Options			Alternative	Comment
Gr. 9	French 9 Pre-req: French 8	Spanish 9 Introductory Course	Mandarin 9 Introductory Course	Learning Assistance	See course catalogue: https://myrcs.ca/000-curriculum-course-info/
Gr. 10	French 10 Pre-req: French 9	Spanish 10 Pre-req: Spanish 9	Mandarin 10 Pre-req: Mandarin 9		
Gr. 11	French 11 Pre-req: French 10	Spanish 11 Pre-req: Spanish 10	Mandarin 11 Pre-req: Mandarin 10	Elective	Students applying to some post secondary programs require a second language 11*
Gr. 12	French 12 Pre-req: French 11	Spanish 12 Pre-req: Spanish 11	Mandarin 12 Pre-req: Mandarin 11	Elective	Students completing an Arts degree may require a second language 12 or equivalent**

Post-secondary Considerations

*Students applying to post-secondary schools are advised to review institution specific academic requirements. Depending on the school and faculty of interest, students may or may not need a second language. For example, Kwantlen, Langara, and UVIC do not require a Language 11 to be admitted, however both SFU and UBC requires a second language 11 to be admitted. Some students may qualify for a language waiver, requiring a Psych Ed report, typically conducted within 2-3 years prior to high school graduation and post-secondary application, and necessary documentation for application to the Accessibility Center of a post-secondary institution.

**Furthermore, some programs require specific credits of a second language at the undergraduate level. For example, UBC's Bachelor of Arts requires 12 credits of a second language at the undergraduate level OR a second language 12 (from high school). Students who have French, Spanish or Mandarin 12 would have met the undergraduate level language requirement.

Additional Considerations

Transition Planning from the Middle to Secondary Campus

For Grade 8s who are already exempt from French at the Middle Campus, a conversation will take place in the year-end IEP meeting regarding plans for the Secondary Campus. The MC ESS team will communicate this plan to the SC ESS team, who will either recommend a Learning Assistance block or discuss necessary second language classroom supports.

Newly Admitted Grade 9s

Grade 8s who are already exempt from a previous school may enroll in Mandarin 9, Spanish 9, or a Learning Assistance block. In requiring a Learning Assistance block, the following will occur:

- a. A documented conversation between the SC Principal and parent, outlining the implications, particularly as they pertain to post-secondary options.
- b. A plan developed by the ESS department, parents and students, regarding the goals of the second language block (typically done in the context of an IEP).

Language Placement Assessments are also available each year in February, around the time of Course Selection, to secondary students who have second language immersion back ground. Further details can be found on our online course catalogue: <https://myrcs.ca/000-languages/>

Helpful Post-Secondary Links:

RCS Graduation Webpage: <https://myrcs.ca/graduation/>

Education Planner: <https://educationplannerbc.ca/>

Post-Secondary BC: <https://www.postsecondarybc.ca/institutions/>

Langara's Accessibility Services: <https://langara.ca/student-services/accessibility-services/index.html>

Kwantlen's Accessibility Services: <https://www.kpu.ca/access>

BC Degree Partnerships Between Colleges and Universities: <https://www.bctransferguide.ca/transfer-options/search-programs/>

SFU Admission Requirements: <https://www.sfu.ca/students/admission/admission-requirements/canadian-highschool/bc-yukon.html>

UBC Admission Requirements: <https://you.ubc.ca/applying-ubc/requirements/canadian-high-schools/#british-columbia>

UBC's Faculty of Arts Second Language Requirements: <https://www.arts.ubc.ca/news/how-the-language-requirements-work/>

UVIC: <https://www.uvic.ca/undergraduate/programs/undergraduate-programs/index.php>