

# Course Descriptions

## *Burnaby Central*

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### ELL

#### **ELL LEVEL 1: LANGUAGE & LITERACY**

Students will develop basic skills in reading, writing, listening and speaking through conversation, classroom expression, and with words and structures needed for communication. Initially students focus on familiar, concrete themes and connections to family and communities. This is a non-credit course.

#### **ELL LEVEL 1: CULTURAL STUDIES**

Cultural Studies explores the interaction of students and their communities. Students focus on familiar, concrete environments of family and communities. Emphasis is placed on scaffolding language to support critical thinking. Exploration of current events plays a key role in connecting immigrant students to their community. This is a non-credit course.

#### **ELL LEVEL 1: SCIENCE APPLICATIONS**

Students focus on topics that are concrete and familiar. Emphasis is placed on scaffolding language to support critical thinking. The major streams of life science, physical science, earth and space science are explored through essential questions: What is science? What is life and how is it sustained? What is energy and how is it transferred? What is matter and how does it behave? How are landforms created and how do they change? What is Earth's relationship to the universe? This is a non-credit course.

#### **ELL LEVEL 1: TECHNICAL & APPLIED LANGUAGE**

This course supports students in their curricular areas through the acquisition of the cultural and linguistic knowledge. Teachers use real life materials and situations to provide adequate context for students. Students will understand text features, comprehend basic content vocabulary, make predictions from text, and use words and phrases in social routines.

#### **ELL LEVEL 2: LANGUAGE & LITERACY**

As students' linguistic abilities increase, topics extend to more abstract concepts that apply in both local and global communities. Emphasis is placed on scaffolding language to support critical thinking. A wide range of literary and factual genres including short stories, novels, poems and plays, biographies and expository writing are included to develop an understanding of how authors use language to communicate effectively with their intended audience. This is a non-credit course.

#### **ELL LEVEL 2: CULTURAL STUDIES**

Topics in level 2 cultural studies extend to less familiar national and international communities. The major themes of society, politics and law, economy and technology and environment are explored through essential questions: What makes a good citizen? How does physical location affect what you can and cannot do? How do we get power? What is culture? This is a non-credit course.

## **ELL LEVEL 2: SCIENCE APPLICATIONS**

The purpose of level 2 science applications is to support literacy development for ELL students enrolled in regular science courses. Emphasis is placed on the development of all four language strands—listening, speaking, reading and writing. Teachers introduce or reinforce a literacy strategy or skill to inform practice and application to content. This is a non-credit course.

**ELL SPOKEN LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION 10 (4 Credits - For English Language Learners Only)** This course is specifically for ELL students who are transitioning out of ELL Level 2 into the regular academic English stream. Students will read a variety of text forms and have the opportunity to build on their communication skills (speaking and writing). They will receive specific English language instruction with an emphasis on understanding correct grammatical structures and improving the clarity and precision of their work.

**CULTURAL EMPOWERMENT THROUGH LANGUAGE 11 (Elective - For ELL Students Only)** This elective course is designed for level 3 and 4 ELL students who want additional support and practice with their literacy skills beyond their required English course. The course is designed to build students' skills and confidence in academic tasks across the curriculum and enhance their ability to apply their growing range of strategies. Students will read a variety of text forms and have the opportunity to build on their reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills. In addition, students will gain awareness of their own identity and cultural contributions to Canadian culture and society by using more complex vocabulary and sentence forms.

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