



KITSILANO SECONDARY SCHOOL

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Kitsilano School French Immersion Department Handout

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Information about French Immersion and the Grade 10 TREK program at Prince of Wales Secondary

From the VSB for 2011-12: "French immersion students should both speak with their current school counselor for new developments and review the current information about TREK provided by the VSB French immersion program online at:

<http://kitsilano.vsb.bc.ca/trek/kits-frim-trek-info.pdf>

French Immersion (FI) at grade 10 includes four full year FI courses in French (including French immersion language arts). FI grade 11 has only two full year courses in French. FI grade 12 has only one full year course in French. Each of these courses has French conversational elements. The optional FI Secondary school sanctioned educational trip to France also happens in grade 10 (due to grade 11 and 12 students preparing to write final exams in courses where the marks are important for university entrance applications).

French immersion – Trek students are welcomed back into the FI program in grade 11 even though they have missed the grade 10 courses. French immersion courses will continue to appear on their transcript and this information will be available to universities and employers. However they will not graduate with the bilingual dogwood diploma unless they complete alternative work. The required alternative work was revised in January 2009. A description of the requirements is provided by the VSB French immersion program at:

<http://kitsilano.vsb.bc.ca/trek/VSB-dogwood-requirements.pdf>

Note: an update for the January 2009 requirements is that a UBC Summer 2010 French course was permitted as an alternative to the Quebec options."

In 2008-9 The TREK program was organized so that first term at school students were doing Spanish as their language elective and second term at school students were doing French as their language elective. This organization ensured all the French immersion students were in the same grade 10 core French class, thus facilitating helping them work together at their level.

For French immersion students going to the TREK grade 10 program at Prince of Wales Secondary and planning to return to French immersion grade 11, it is advised that they organize by themselves to take a French course with a conversational element outside of the TREK program. Returning to grade 11 French immersion without having taken more than the grade 10 core French at Prince of Wales during TREK may prove too difficult for some students.

Alliance française in Vancouver offer supplementary courses for French immersion students, see:
<http://www.alliancefrancaise.ca/immersion.html>

Canadian Parents for French (CPF) Vancouver North lists other local French associations at:
<http://www.cpf.bc.ca/vannorth/index.php/links>
scroll down to 'Vancouver FSL Resources'

VSB web page about TREK
<http://www.vsb.bc.ca/programs/trek-program-prince-wales>

