

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



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February 1, 2013

To: Vancouver Senate

From: Vancouver Senate Admissions Committee

Re: a. Policy J-52.1: *Admission for Secondary School Applicants following the BC/Yukon Curriculum* (approval)
b. Policy J-53: *Course-specific Minima for Secondary School Applicants* (approval)

a. Policy J-52.1: *Admission for Secondary School Applicants following the BC/Yukon Curriculum* (approval)

Motion: That Senate approve Policy J-52.1: *Admission for Secondary School Applicants following the BC/Yukon Curriculum* to replace Policy V-52 of the same title.

Policy J-52 was discontinued at the December 19, 2012 Okanagan Senate meeting and at the September 19, 2012 Vancouver Senate meeting. At the December 19, 2012 Okanagan Senate meeting and the November 14, 2012 Vancouver Senate meeting, respectively, Policy O-52 and Policy V-52 (which are campus specific versions of attached Policy J-52.1) were approved. Due to the similarity of those two campus specific policies, the Okanagan Senate Admissions and Awards Committee and the Vancouver Senate Admissions Committee decided to bring them together in this Policy J-52.1. Please note that Policy J-52.1 is not substantively different from Policy V-52; rather, it has undergone cursory changes necessary to the creation of a joint policy. The number “J-52.1” was chosen so as avoid confusion between this Policy and the discontinued Policy J-52.

b. Policy J-53: *Course-specific Minima for Secondary School Applicants* (approval)

Motion: That Senate approve Policy J-53: *Course-specific Minima for Secondary School Applicants*.

The proposed policy is intended to address concerns where grades in elective Grade 12 courses (or their equivalents) are used by applicants to mitigate deficiencies in required Grade 12 courses (or their equivalents) by introducing competitive minima for pre-requisite courses. Introducing course-specific minima in the admission decision shifts an applicant's attention from increasing his/her grades in a stronger subject to improving skills in his/her weakest subject to avoid being denied admission

due to a course-specific minimum. This is particularly important considering the tendency of BC students to repeat courses where they have already obtained a high grade, all in the name of increasing their admissibility to university.

The introduction of faculty-specific minima for individual course grades in subjects is of particular importance to ensure first-year success. Course-specific minima will vary by program and should be introduced as competitive requirements similar to an admission average, varying on a year-by-year basis, but not as published University minima. Students who do not meet the course-specific minima may still be considered under Broad Based Admissions (BBA) at the discretion of the Faculty. This change supports the undergraduate admissions principles of fairness and “excellence of fit”.

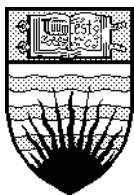
This Policy does not require the use of course-specific minima in any particular program. It provides faculties with the option of introducing course-specific minima if and when they deem them necessary.

The Policy will not come into effect until the Winter Session 2014, as applicants should be given at least one year’s notice for introduction of course-specific minima.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Robert Sparks
Chair Senate Admissions Committee

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



SENATE POLICY: UBC SENATES J- 52.1 senate.ubc.ca

Draft Version 1.4

Number & Title:

J-52.1: *Admission for Secondary School Applicants following the BC/Yukon Curriculum*

Effective Date:

For admission to the 2013 Winter Session and thereafter.

Approval Date:

Proposed for consideration by the *Okanagan Senate* on 27 February 2013 and the *Vancouver Senate* on 13 February 2013 .

Review Date:

This policy shall be reviewed three (3) years after approval and thereafter as deemed necessary by the *Responsible Committees*.

Responsible Committees:

Admissions and Awards Committee of the Okanagan Senate and Admissions Committee of the Vancouver Senate.

Authority:

University Act, S. 37(1)

“The academic governance of the university is vested in the senate and it has the following powers:

(b) to establish committees it considers necessary and, by 2/3 vote of its members present, to delegate to one or more committees those of its powers as it may determine;”

(c) to determine all questions relating to the academic and other qualifications required of applicants for admission as students to the university or any faculty,

and to determine which faculty the students pursuing a course of study must register.”

Purpose and Goals:

This policy is designed to provide a mechanism for more timely and accurate academic assessments of secondary school applicants from the BC/Yukon curriculum applying to *direct-entry undergraduate programs*, including a mechanism to use *final course grades* for *Grade 11 courses* when a *final course grade* for a required *Grade 12 course* is not yet available, and more effective incorporation of English 12/English 12 First Peoples provincial examination results into admissions decisions.

Applicability:

This policy is applicable to *BC/Yukon Secondary School Applicants* to *direct-entry undergraduate programs* offered by faculties of the *University*.

Exclusions:

This policy does not apply to applicants who have another basis of admission.

Definitions:

For the purposes of this policy:

Admission average shall mean the academic average calculated by the University to determine the applicant’s relative academic competitiveness. The *admission average* is based upon at least four (4) completed *Grade 12 courses* as specified for the program to which they are applying.

BC/Yukon Secondary School Applicant shall mean an applicant following a secondary school program of study described and approved by the British Columbia Ministry of Education or the Department of Education of the Government of Yukon.

BC/Yukon Secondary School Curriculum shall mean a secondary school program of study described and approved by the British Columbia Ministry of Education or the Department of Education of the Government of Yukon.

Broad-Based Admission shall mean the consideration of non-academic and academic information (beyond the *admission average* and prerequisite courses) in undergraduate admission decisions.

Course grade shall mean the school-issued percentage grade for a course.

Examination grade shall mean the percentage grade result of the provincial examination.

Direct-entry undergraduate program shall mean a course of study offered by the University leading to a degree to which applicants are generally admitted upon either their secondary school academic performance or transfer from a comparable program at another post-secondary institution.

Extra-Provincial Curriculum or *Extra-Provincial Curricula* shall mean any Canadian secondary school system not following the BC/Yukon Secondary School Curriculum.

Final course grade shall mean the grade issued after the completion of the course. In the case of English 12/English 12 First Peoples, the *final course grade* consists of a 60% weighting on the school-assigned course grade and 40% on the results of a mandatory provincial examination.

Grade 11 course shall mean a course designated by the British Columbia Ministry of Education or the Department of Education of the Government of Yukon to be at the Grade 11 academic level.

Grade 12 course shall mean a course designated by the British Columbia Ministry of Education or the Department of Education of the Government of Yukon to be at the Grade 12 academic level and on the list of approved courses for consideration in calculating an *admission average*.

Interim admission average shall mean an *admission average* that includes one or more *interim course grades* for *Grade 12 courses* or one or more *final course grades* for *Grade 11 course* equivalents under this policy.

Interim course grade shall mean the grade issued for a course that is still in progress at the time of UBC's academic assessment, provided that such a grade is issued after at least 50% of the course material is complete and evaluated.

Policy:

1. Academic criteria, generally as indicated by a calculated *admission average* and the completion of prerequisite courses, are the primary basis for determining admissibility to *direct-entry undergraduate programs*. However, with the approval of Senate, faculties and programs may elect to use *Broad-Based Admission* or other criteria to select from applicants whose *admission average* meets or exceeds faculty or program thresholds for admission which may vary from year to year.
2. An *admission average* or *interim admission average* will be calculated where all *Grade 12 courses* required for admission have been completed or are in-progress and all required verifiable or official *final* or *interim course grades* are available to the University.

3. *Admissions averages* or *interim admission averages* shall be based on at least four (4) *Grade 12 courses* (or the *Grade 11 course* equivalents under this policy) as specified for the program.
4. Where available, *final* or *interim course grades* for *Grade 12 courses* shall be used in calculating an *admission average* or an *interim admission average*; however, notwithstanding point 2. above, should one or more of the required *Grade 12 courses* not have a *final* or *interim course grade* at the time of academic assessment, the *final course grade* for one or more appropriate *Grade 11 courses* will be substituted into the calculation of the *interim admission average* as follows:
 - a. for specified *Grade 12 courses* (English 12/English 12 First Peoples for all programs, or prerequisite Mathematics or Science courses for some programs), a *final course grade* for a *Grade 11* course in the same subject-area shall be substituted; and,
 - b. for other *Grade 12 courses*, a *final course grade* for a *Grade 11* course may be substituted so long as the course meets the criteria for inclusion as a secondary school course in an *admission average* but is at the *Grade 11 level*, and is not in a subject area that is already being used in the calculation of the *admissions average*.
5. *Grade 11 courses* that may be substituted for *Grade 12 courses* shall be set out in the procedures to this policy by the *Responsible Committees*.
6. Offers of admission based on *interim admission averages* that include one or more *final course grades* for *Grade 11 courses* and/or *interim course grades* for *Grade 12 courses* are conditional subject to the satisfactory completion of all required courses and the meeting of any requirements referenced in the letter of admission. Failure to meet any of the requirements referenced in the letter of admission may result in the withdrawal of the offer of admission.
7. Conditions required to retain an offer of admission will be determined by individual faculties on a year-to-year basis, and faculty thresholds may be higher than the published University minima.
8. Offers of admission for applicants who fail to meet the referenced conditions will be reviewed by the admitting faculty on a case-by-case basis.
9. When English 12/English 12 First Peoples is in progress at the point of evaluation, an *interim course grade* shall be used in the calculation of the *interim admission average*.
10. When English 12/English 12 First Peoples has been completed at point of evaluation, the *admission average* or *interim admission average* is calculated on whichever is the higher of the English 12/English 12 First Peoples *final grade* (weighted 60% *course grade* and 40% *examination grade*) or *course grade* alone.
11. In cases where a significant discrepancy exists between the English 12/English 12 First Peoples *course grade* and the *examination grade*, the University reserves the right to use the *examination grade* only. A significant discrepancy

is determined by a difference of no less than 20% between the English 12/English 12 First Peoples *course grade* and the *examination grade*.

12. The *Responsible Committees* shall set out the timing for admission decisions for admission to *direct-entry undergraduate programs* as a procedure to this policy.

Calendar Statements:

Okanagan URL:

<http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/okanagan/index.cfm?tree=2,22,63,0>

[Homepage](#) [Admissions](#) [Applicants Following the BC/Yukon High School Curriculum](#) Admission Requirements

Admission Requirements

[...]

The admission average will be calculated on English 12 or English 12 First Peoples and the three additional UBC Okanagan campus-approved Grade 12 courses from the table below, or the equivalents. Should final or in-progress Grade 12 grades not be available at the time of evaluation, final Grade 11 grades may be used as appropriate.

[...]

Applicants are required to write the final examinations offered by the BC Ministry of Education (BC Provincial Examinations) that are required for graduation. For admission decisions, BC Provincial Examination results will be used if the examination result increases the applicant's admission average. However, in cases where a significant discrepancy exists between the course grade and the examination grade, UBC reserves the right to use the examination grade only.

[...]

Vancouver URL:

<http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/index.cfm?tree=2,22,63,0>

[Homepage](#) [Admissions](#) [Applicants Following the BC/Yukon Secondary School Curriculum](#) Admission Requirements

Admission Requirements

The admission average will be calculated on English 12, or English 12 First Peoples, and the three additional approved Grade 12 courses. Should final or in-progress Grade 12 grades not be available at the time of evaluation, final Grade 11 grades may be used as appropriate.

[...]

Applicants are required to write the final examinations offered by the BC Ministry of Education (BC Provincial Examinations) that are required for graduation. For admission decisions, BC Provincial Examination results will be used if the examination result increases the applicant's admission average. However, in cases where a significant discrepancy exists between the course grade and the examination grade, UBC reserves the right to use the examination grade only.

[...]

Consultations:

Extensive consultation was undertaken outside of UBC: over 300 secondary school counselors from secondary schools on Vancouver Island, in the Lower Mainland, and in the Okanagan; and within UBC: Enrolment Services, Undergraduate Admissions, and UBC Okanagan and Vancouver Deans.

History:

The use of Grade 11 grades in calculating the *admission average*

Up until 1992, the University used both *Grade 11* and *Grade 12 course* grades to render admission decisions for *BC/Yukon Secondary School Applicants*. Following the lead of a number of other Canadian universities (UBC Vancouver Senate Minutes, April 22, 1992), the University Senate approved a revision of requirements for *BC/Yukon Secondary School Applicants* so that the *admission average* would be based solely upon grades in four *Grade 12 courses*. The Okanagan Senate was officially constituted in the fall of 2005.

In 2009, again following the lead of other Canadian universities, the UBC Vancouver and Okanagan Senates approved a pilot project that allowed the substitution of a *final course grade* for a *Grade 11 course* for an unavailable *interim course grade* for a *Grade 12 course* for secondary school applicants following Canadian *Extra-Provincial Curricula*. In 2011, the outcomes of the pilot project were reviewed and it was determined that there were not any significant differences in first-year performance between the students admitted on (a) *final course grade(s)* for *Grade 11 course(s)* and *final course grades* for *Grade 12 courses*, and (b) those admitted on *interim* and *final course grades* for *Grade 12 courses* only. As a result, policy J-51 was approved, allowing for the ongoing use of *final course grades* for *Grade 11 courses* for secondary school

applicants from Canadian jurisdictions outside of BC when an *interim course grade* for a *Grade 12 course* is not yet available.

In March 2012, Policy J-52 was approved, allowing the use of BC secondary school *final course grades* for *Grade 11 courses* as substitutes for missing *interim course grades* for *Grade 12 courses*. Policy J-52 was put in place as a short-term measure to address issues related to *BC/Yukon Secondary School Applicants'* grade collection in light of the job action initiated by the BC Teachers' Federation.

While Policy J-52 was reviewed by both the Okanagan Senate Admissions and Awards Committee and the Vancouver Senate Admissions Committee and deemed appropriate for the extraordinary circumstances in which it was created, it was seen as insufficient as a long-term policy. As such, Policy J-52 was discontinued at the 19 December 2012 Okanagan Senate meeting and at the 19 September 2012 Vancouver Senate meeting. At the 19 December 2012 Okanagan Senate meeting and the 14 November 2012 Vancouver Senate, Policy O-52 and Policy V-52 (which are campus specific versions of this Policy J-52.1) respectively were approved. Due to the similarity of the policies, the Okanagan Senate Admissions and Awards Committee and the Vancouver Senate Admissions Committee decided to bring them together in this Policy J-52.1.

The use of English 12/English 12 First Peoples provincial examination results in the calculation of undergraduate *admission average*.

Up until 2008, if a BC secondary school applicant had already completed English 12 English/12 First Peoples at the point of evaluation for undergraduate admission, the University always used the *final course grade* (composed of 60% school-assigned course grade and 40% provincial examination score) in the calculation of the *admission average*.

In March 2008, the UBC Okanagan Senate decided that the policy requiring *BC/Yukon Secondary School Applicants* to write optional provincial examinations be discontinued. A similar decision was also reached by the UBC Vancouver Senate in May of the same year. Going forward, in cases where a *BC/Yukon Secondary School Applicant* had already completed an optional Grade 12 examination, the *final course grade* (including the examination grade) would be incorporated in the *admission average* in March/April, but only if advantageous to the applicant. Otherwise, the *admission average* would now be calculated on the *course grade* only and the *examination grades* were discarded.

Policy J-52 was silent on whether the same principle should apply when the provincial examination remained mandatory (as in the case of English 12/English 12 First Peoples). In the spirit of both Senates' decisions, it was decided that in practice, the *examination grade* in English 12/English 12 First Peoples would only be incorporated into the *admission average* if it proved beneficial to the applicant.

Related Policies:

J-51: *Admission Based on Interim Grades for Applicants following Canadian Extra-Provincial Curricula*

J-53: *Course-specific Minima for Secondary School Applicants*

Appendix:

N/A

Procedures:

In all cases, a *BC/ Yukon Secondary School Applicant's admission average* or *interim admission average* will be optimized such that the highest possible average is calculated while adhering to the rules outlined below.

Part 1: Calculation of *Interim Admission Averages*

1. The calculation of an *interim admission average* shall be based on the following, with course-by-course substitutions outlined below:
 - the *BC/ Yukon Secondary School Applicant* must have all required courses either in progress, completed, or anticipated to be complete by the end of their ultimate year of secondary school;
 - if one or more of the required or elective *Grade 12 courses* does not yet have a *final* or *interim course grade* then (a) *final course grade(s)* for a *Grade 11 course* shall be substituted into the *admission average* as follows:
 - for required *Grade 12 courses* (English or a prerequisite Mathematics or Science course), only a *final course grade* in a *Grade 11 course* in the same subject-area (i.e., a course that is directly ladder to the *Grade 12 course*) shall be substituted;
 - for elective *Grade 12 courses* (i.e., a course that is UBC-approved as it meets the “Criteria for Including Secondary School Courses in an Admission Average”), a *final course grade* for a *Grade 11 course* may be substituted so long as the course is a) not in a subject area that has already been included at the Grade 12 level (e.g., Biology 12 already included, do not include Biology 11), and b) meets the UBC-approved criteria but is at the Grade 11 level.
2. The calculation of an *admission average* or an *interim admission average* shall be based on the following, with the use of the English 12/English 12 First Peoples examination grade incorporated as outlined below:
 - if the *BC/ Yukon Secondary School Applicant* presents an *interim course grade* for English 12/English 12 First Peoples, the *course grade* is used in the calculation of the *interim admission average*;

- if the *BC/ Yukon Secondary School Applicant* has already completed English 12/English 12 First Peoples at point of evaluation, *examination grades* will be used if the *examination grade* increases the applicant's *admission average* or *interim admission average*;
- in cases where a significant discrepancy exists between the English 12/ English 12 First Peoples *course grade* and the *examination grade*, UBC reserves the right to use the *examination grade* only. A significant discrepancy is determined by a difference of no less than 20% between the English 12/ English 12 First Peoples *course grade* and the *examination grade*.

Part 2: Calculation of Admission Averages

1. The calculation of an *admission average* shall be based upon the following:
 - the *BC/Yukon Secondary School Applicant* must have all required courses completed by the point of evaluation;
 - if the *BC/Yukon Secondary School Applicant* has not yet been admitted, the *admission average* is used to determine the applicant's relative competitiveness for admission;
 - if the *BC/Yukon Secondary School Applicant* has already been admitted (based upon their *interim admission average*), the *admission average* is used to determine whether the applicant meets the conditions of admission referenced with the initial offer of admission. This may include minimum thresholds in both the overall *admission average* and specific prerequisite Grade 12 courses;
 - if these conditions are not met, the original offer of admission may be revoked at the discretion of the Faculty on a case-by-case basis.

Part 3: Timing of Admission Decisions

1. The University will make initial admission decisions for *direct-entry undergraduate programs* based upon data that is available /verifiable as of 1 April each year for the following Winter Session; the *admission average* used for these decisions will be made based upon *final* or *interim course grades* for *Grade 12 courses* (or equivalent *final course grades* for *Grade 11 courses*).
2. An additional round of admission decisions for *BC/Yukon Secondary School applicants* may be made based upon data that is available as of 15 May each year if it is anticipated that space will remain in the program to which the applicant has applied. The *admission average* used for these decisions will be made based upon *final* or *interim courses* for *Grade 12 courses* only.
3. Once a complete set of *final course grades* for *Grade 12 courses* becomes available (usually in the summer), an additional round of

admission decisions for *BC/Yukon Secondary School Applicants* may be made if it is anticipated that space will remain in the program to which the applicant has applied.

4. Once a complete set of *final course grades* for *Grade 12 courses* becomes available (usually in the summer), *BC/ Yukon Secondary School Applicants* who have already been admitted based upon an *interim admission average* will be evaluated to determine if all the conditions of admission (as referenced on the admission letter) have been met.
5. In all instances, if the *BC/ Yukon Secondary School Applicant* has already completed the English 12/English 12 First Peoples BC Provincial Examination, the results will be used as outlined above.

Part 4: Grade 11 Grade Substitutions

Specific substitutions

Viable grade 11 courses

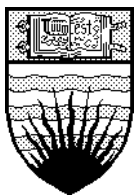
BC/Yukon secondary school curriculum Grade 12 courses that may be used on the calculation of the admission average	BC/Yukon curriculum Grade 11 courses that may be used as a substitute
American Sign Language (ASL) 12	American Sign Language (ASL) 11
Arabic 12 ⁴	Arabic 11 ⁴
BC First Nations Studies 12	BC First Nations Studies 11
Biology 12 ¹	Biology 11
Calculus 12	N/A ³
Chemistry 12 ¹	Chemistry 11
Computer Information Systems 12 ⁴	Computer Information Systems 11 ⁴
Computer Programming 12 ⁴	Computer Programming 11 ⁴
Croatian 12 ⁴	Croatian 11 ⁴
Economics 12	N/A ³
English Literature 12	English Literature 11
English 12 ¹ or English 12 First Peoples ¹ (but not both)	English 11 or English 11 First Peoples (but not both)
Français Langue 12 or French 12 (but not both)	Français Langue 11 or French 11 (but not both)
Geography 12	Social Studies 11 ³
Geology 12 ¹	Earth Science 11
German 12	German 11
Halq'eméylem 12	Halq'eméylem 11
Heiltsuk 12	Heiltsuk 11
History 12	Social Studies 11 ³

Hul'q'umi'num' 12	Hul'q'umi'num' 11
Italian 12 ⁴	Italian 11 ⁴
Japanese 12	Japanese 11
Korean 12 ⁴	Korean 11 ⁴
Kwak'wala 12	Kwak'wala 11
Law 12	N/A ³
Liqwala/Kwakwala 12	Liqwala/Kwakwala 11
Mandarin 12	Mandarin 11
nsíylxcən (Okanagan Language) 12	nsíylxcən (Okanagan Language) 11
Nte?kepmxcin 12	Nte?kepmxcin 11
Nuu-chah-nulth 12	Nuu-chah-nulth 11
Principles of Mathematics 12 or Pre-Calculus 12 ¹	Principles of Mathematics 12 or Pre-Calculus 11
Physics 12 ¹	Physics 11
Punjabi 12	Punjabi 11
Russian 12 ⁴	Russian 11 ⁴
Secwepemctsin (Shuswap Language) 12	Secwepemctsin (Shuswap Language) 11
Shashishalhem (Sechelt Language) 12	Shashishalhem (Sechelt Language) 11
Sim'algaxhl Nisga'a 12	Sim'algaxhl Nisga'a 11
Sm'algyax 12	Sm'algyax 11
Social Justice 12 ⁴	N/A ^{3&4}
Spanish 12	Spanish 11
Sustainable Resources 12 ⁴	Sustainable Resources 11 ⁴
Tsek'ene 12	Tsek'ene 11
Upper St'at'imcets 12	Upper St'at'imcets 11

Notes:

1. Indicates a prerequisite course used by one or more direct-entry Faculties.
2. Social Studies 11 may not be double-counted if both Geography 12 and History 12 are in progress.
3. Course does not have a Grade 11 equivalent.
4. Indicates a course only applicable for UBC Okanagan programs

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



SENATE POLICY: UBC SENATES J-53 senate.ubc.ca

DRAFT VERSION 1.5

Number & Title:

J-53: *Course-specific Minima for Secondary School Applicants*

Effective Date:

For admission to the 2014 Winter Session and thereafter.

Approval Date:

Proposed for consideration by the Okanagan Senate on 27 February 2013 and by the *Vancouver Senate* on 13 February 2013.

Review Date:

This policy shall be reviewed three years (3) years after approval and thereafter as deemed necessary by the *Responsible Committees*.

Responsible Committees:

Admissions and Awards Committee of the Okanagan Senate and Admissions Committee of the Vancouver Senate.

Authority:

University Act, S. 37(1)

“The academic governance of the university is vested in the senate and it has the following powers:

(b) to establish committees it considers necessary and, by 2/3 vote of its members present, to delegate to one or more committees those of its powers as it may determine;”

(c) to determine all questions relating to the academic and other qualifications required of applicants for admission as students to the university or any faculty,

and to determine which faculty the students pursuing a course of study must register.”

Purpose and Goals:

This policy is designed to provide faculties with a mechanism to impose competitive thresholds of performance in prerequisite courses used in the calculation of an admission average for *secondary school applicants to direct-entry undergraduate programs*.

Applicability:

This policy is applicable to all *secondary school applicants* applying to *direct-entry undergraduate programs* at the University.

Exclusions:

This policy does not apply to applicants who have another basis of admission.

Definitions:

For the purposes of this policy:

Admission average shall mean the *final admission average* or the *interim admission average*, as appropriate, used to determine an applicant's relative academic competitiveness for admission to the University or to a *direct-entry undergraduate program*.

Direct-entry undergraduate program shall mean a course of study offered by the University leading to a degree where applicants may be admitted upon either their secondary school academic performance or transfer from a comparable program at another post-secondary institution.

Final admission average shall mean an *admission average* that is comprised solely of final grades in *Grade 12 courses (or equivalents)*, used to make an offer of admission or to confirm an initial offer of admission based on an applicant's *interim admission average*.

Grade 12 course (or equivalent) shall mean a course that is a) academic in nature; and b) approved for consideration in calculating an *admission average*.
Equivalents are determined based upon the curriculum presented by the applicant.

Grade 12 course grade (or equivalent) shall mean the *Grade 12 course grade* used in the calculation of an *admission average*. Equivalents are determined based upon a) the curriculum presented by the applicant; and b) the point in the admission cycle when an evaluation is being conducted.

Interim admission average shall mean an *admission average* that includes one or more *interim course grades* for *Grade 12 courses (or equivalents)*. The *interim admission average* is used to make an initial offer of admission to a *secondary school applicant* who is still working towards completion of their secondary school credential.

Interim course grade shall mean the grade issued for a course that is still in progress at the time of UBC's academic assessment, provided that such a grade is issued after at least 50% of the course material is complete and evaluated.

Prerequisite Grade 12 course shall mean a *Grade 12 course (or equivalent)* that is specified for inclusion in the calculation of the *admission average* for a particular *direct-entry undergraduate program*.

Secondary school applicant shall mean an applicant following a recognized secondary school curriculum whose graduates are eligible for consideration for entry into a *direct-entry undergraduate program* at the University. This includes applicants from secondary schools following sub-national, national, and international curricula.

Policy:

1. The *admission average* is normally determined by the mean grade achieved over *Grade 12 courses (or equivalents)* required for admission, calculated by the University, including *prerequisite Grade 12 courses*, to determine relative academic competitiveness. For some international curricula, the University shall consider the assessment of the applicant's entire credential as the *admission average* used to determine relative academic competitiveness.
2. In addition to considering the *admission average*, the University may also consider the grades in individual *prerequisite Grade 12 courses* as specified by the admission requirements of – and thresholds set by – the particular faculty to determine an applicant's relative academic competitiveness. Applicants with *prerequisite Grade 12 course grades* that fall below the faculty-set thresholds may not be deemed competitive for admission.
3. Conditions required to retain an offer of admission will be determined by individual faculties on a year-to-year basis and may include thresholds for the applicant's *final admission average* and/or their final grades on *prerequisite Grade 12 courses*.
4. Students admitted based upon an *interim admission average* who fail to meet the faculty-set competitive thresholds for either the *final admission average* or the final *prerequisite Grade 12 course grades* will be reviewed by the admitting faculty on a case-by-case basis and may have their offer of admission revoked.

Calendar Statements:

<p>Faculty/School: N/A Department/Unit: Enrolment Services Faculty/School Approval Date: N/A Effective Session: 2014W (To be published in the Academic Calendar upon approval for the purpose of informing prospective students.) Faculty/School: all</p>	<p>Date: 1 January 2013 Contact Person: Andrew Arida, Associate Registrar, Undergraduate Admissions Phone: 604.822.2890 Email: andrew.arida@ubc.ca</p>
<p>Proposed Academic Calendar Entry: Homepage (draft) Admissions Applicants Following the BC/Yukon High School Curriculum Admission Requirements</p> <p>Admission Requirements</p> <p>[15982] Academic averages for the purpose of admission to the UBC Okanagan campus are primarily based on Grade 12 final or in-progress course grades available in the spring; however, an applicant's full academic history (including grades for completed Grade 11 courses) may be considered, particularly where sufficient Grade 12 grade information is not yet available.</p> <p>[...]</p> <p>[95] The admission average will be calculated on English 12 or English 12 First Peoples and the three additional UBC Okanagan campus-approved Grade 12 courses from the table below,</p>	<p>Okanagan:</p> <p>Draft Academic Calendar URL: http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/okanagan/proof/edit/index.cfm?tree=2,22,63,0</p> <p>Present Academic Calendar Entry: Homepage (draft) Admissions Applicants Following the BC/Yukon High School Curriculum Admission Requirements</p> <p>Admission Requirements</p> <p>[15982] Academic averages for the purpose of admission to the UBC Okanagan campus are primarily based on Grade 12 final or in-progress course grades available in the spring; however, an applicant's full academic history (including grades for completed Grade 11 courses) may be considered, particularly where sufficient Grade 12 grade information is not yet available.</p> <p>[...]</p> <p>[95] The admission average will be calculated on English 12 or English 12 First Peoples and the three additional UBC Okanagan campus-approved Grade 12 courses from the table below,</p>

<p>or the equivalents. <u>Certain programs may require a competitive minimum grade in individual prerequisite courses used in the calculation of the admission average.</u> Should final or in-progress Grade 12 grades not be available at the time of evaluation, final Grade 11 grades may be used as appropriate.</p> <p>Proposed Academic Calendar Entry: Homepage (draft) Admissions Applicants Following Secondary School Curricula in Canada, Outside of BC/Yukon Determining Admissibility</p> <p>Determining Admissibility</p> <p>[15692] Academic criteria are the primary basis for determining admissibility to the UBC Okanagan campus; however, many programs consider non-academic information as well. See youbc Okanagan for further information on non-academic admission criteria.</p> <p>[129] Academic averages for the purpose of admission to the UBC Okanagan campus are primarily based on Grade 12 final or in-progress course grades available in the spring; however, an applicant's full academic history may be considered, particularly where sufficient Grade 12 grade information is not yet available. <u>Certain programs may require a competitive minimum</u></p>	<p>or the equivalents. Should final or in-progress Grade 12 grades not be available at the time of evaluation, final Grade 11 grades may be used as appropriate.</p> <p>Draft Academic Calendar URL: http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/okanagan/p/roof/edit/index.cfm?tree=2,23,70,0</p> <p>Present Academic Calendar Entry: Homepage (draft) Admissions Applicants Following Secondary School Curricula in Canada, Outside of BC/Yukon Determining Admissibility</p> <p>Determining Admissibility</p> <p>[15692] Academic criteria are the primary basis for determining admissibility to the UBC Okanagan campus; however, many programs consider non-academic information as well. See youbc Okanagan for further information on non-academic admission criteria.</p> <p>[129] Academic averages for the purpose of admission to the UBC Okanagan campus are primarily based on Grade 12 final or in-progress course grades available in the spring; however, an applicant's full academic history may be considered, particularly where sufficient Grade 12 grade information is not yet available.</p>
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<p><u>grade in individual prerequisite courses used in the calculation of the admission average.</u></p> <p>[...]</p> <p>Proposed Academic Calendar Entry: Homepage (draft) Admissions Applicants Following the American Secondary School Curriculum</p> <p>Applicants Following the American Secondary School Curriculum</p> <p>[14981] Applicants following the American secondary school curriculum must present the following minimum criteria to be considered for admission:</p> <p>[14982]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • graduation from an academic or college preparation program at a US regionally-accredited school; • English to the senior level (not ESL); • at least three other senior academic subjects and prerequisites appropriate for the intended program of study; • three years of mathematics to the junior level; and • either (a) SAT I or (b) ACT plus Writing. <p><u>Certain programs may require a competitive minimum grade in individual prerequisite courses.</u></p> <p>[14983] In countries where the SAT and ACT are unavailable, exemptions</p>	<p>[...]</p> <p>Draft Academic Calendar URL: http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/okanagan/proof/edit/index.cfm?tree=2,327,0,0</p> <p>Present Academic Calendar Entry: Homepage (draft) Admissions Applicants Following the American Secondary School Curriculum</p> <p>Applicants Following the American Secondary School Curriculum</p> <p>[14981] Applicants following the American secondary school curriculum must present the following minimum criteria to be considered for admission:</p> <p>[14982]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • graduation from an academic or college preparation program at a US regionally-accredited school; • English to the senior level (not ESL); • at least three other senior academic subjects and prerequisites appropriate for the intended program of study; • three years of mathematics to the junior level; and • either (a) SAT I or (b) ACT plus Writing. <p>[14983] In countries where the SAT and ACT are unavailable, exemptions</p>
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<p>may be granted.</p> <p>Proposed Academic Calendar Entry: Homepage (draft) Admissions Applicants Following Other International Secondary School Curricula</p> <p>Applicants Following Other International Secondary School Curricula</p> <p>[14985] The following list outlines the minimum standing for admission in terms of educational credentials. All students must present prerequisites appropriate for their intended program of study.</p> <p>[...]</p> <p><u>Certain programs may require a competitive minimum grade in individual prerequisite courses.</u></p> <p>[14987] Because of the differences in world educational systems, satisfactory completion of secondary school is not necessarily an acceptable basis for admission to first year. UBC reserves the right to determine whether or not a student is eligible for admission and to determine what transfer credit, if any, may be granted.</p> <p>[...]</p>	<p>may be granted.</p> <p>Draft Academic Calendar URL: http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/okanagan/p/roof/edit/index.cfm?tree=2,328,0,0</p> <p>Present Academic Calendar Entry: Homepage (draft) Admissions Applicants Following Other International Secondary School Curricula</p> <p>Applicants Following Other International Secondary School Curricula</p> <p>[14985] The following list outlines the minimum standing for admission in terms of educational credentials. All students must present prerequisites appropriate for their intended program of study.</p> <p>[...]</p> <p>[14987] Because of the differences in world educational systems, satisfactory completion of secondary school is not necessarily an acceptable basis for admission to first year. UBC reserves the right to determine whether or not a student is eligible for admission and to determine what transfer credit, if any, may be granted.</p> <p>[...]</p> <p>Vancouver:</p>
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<p>Proposed Academic Calendar Entry: Homepage (draft) Admissions Applicants Following the BC/Yukon Secondary School Curriculum Admission Requirements</p> <p>Admission Requirements</p> <p>[19761] Academic criteria are the primary basis for determining admissibility to UBC's Vancouver campus; however, many programs consider non-academic information as well. Academic averages for the purpose of admission to UBC's Vancouver campus are primarily based on Grade 12 final or in-progress course grades available in the spring; however, an applicant's full academic history (including grades for completed Grade 11 courses) may be considered, particularly where sufficient Grade 12 information is not yet available.</p> <p>[...]</p> <p>[95] The admission average will be calculated on English 12, or English 12 First Peoples, and the three additional approved Grade 12 courses. <u>Certain programs may require a competitive minimum grade in individual prerequisite courses used in the calculation of the admission average.</u> Should final or in-progress Grade 12 grades not be available at the time of evaluation, final Grade 11 grades may be used as appropriate.</p>	<p>Draft Academic Calendar URL: http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/okanagan/p/roof/edit/index.cfm?tree=2,22,63,0</p> <p>Present Academic Calendar Entry: Homepage (draft) Admissions Applicants Following the BC/Yukon Secondary School Curriculum Admission Requirements</p> <p>Admission Requirements</p> <p>[19761] Academic criteria are the primary basis for determining admissibility to UBC's Vancouver campus; however, many programs consider non-academic information as well. Academic averages for the purpose of admission to UBC's Vancouver campus are primarily based on Grade 12 final or in-progress course grades available in the spring; however, an applicant's full academic history (including grades for completed Grade 11 courses) may be considered, particularly where sufficient Grade 12 information is not yet available.</p> <p>[...]</p> <p>[95] The admission average will be calculated on English 12, or English 12 First Peoples, and the three additional approved Grade 12 courses. Should final or in-progress Grade 12 grades not be available at the time of evaluation, final Grade 11 grades may be used as appropriate.</p> <p>Draft Academic Calendar URL: http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/</p>
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<p>Proposed Academic Calendar Entry: Homepage (draft) Admissions Applicants Following Secondary School Curricula in Canada, outside of BC/Yukon Determining Admissibility</p> <p>Determining Admissibility</p> <p>[129] Academic criteria are the primary basis for determining admissibility to UBC; however, many programs consider non-academic information as well. See Personal Profile for further information on non-academic admission criteria.</p> <p>[19142] Academic averages for the purpose of admission to UBC are primarily based on grade 12 final or in-progress course grades; however, an applicant's full academic history may be considered, particularly where sufficient Grade 12 grade information is not yet available. <u>Certain programs may require a competitive minimum grade in individual prerequisite courses used in the calculation of the admission average.</u></p> <p>[...]</p> <p>Proposed Academic Calendar Entry: Homepage (draft) Admissions Applicants Following American Secondary School Curriculum</p> <p>Applicants Following</p>	<p>proof/edit/index.cfm?tree=2,23,70,0</p> <p>Present Academic Calendar Entry: Homepage (draft) Admissions Applicants Following Secondary School Curricula in Canada, outside of BC/Yukon Determining Admissibility</p> <p>Determining Admissibility</p> <p>[129] Academic criteria are the primary basis for determining admissibility to UBC; however, many programs consider non-academic information as well. See Personal Profile for further information on non-academic admission criteria.</p> <p>[19142] Academic averages for the purpose of admission to UBC are primarily based on grade 12 final or in-progress course grades; however, an applicant's full academic history may be considered, particularly where sufficient Grade 12 grade information is not yet available.</p> <p>[...]</p> <p>Draft Academic Calendar URL: http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/proof/edit/index.cfm?tree=2,293,0,0</p> <p>Present Academic Calendar Entry: Homepage (draft) Admissions Applicants Following American Secondary School Curriculum</p> <p>Applicants Following</p>
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<p>American Secondary School Curriculum</p> <p>[17147] Applicants following the American secondary school curriculum must present the following minimum criteria to be considered for admission:</p> <p>[17148]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • graduation from an academic or college preparation program at a US regionally-accredited school; • English to the senior level (not ESL); • at least three other senior academic subjects and prerequisites appropriate for the intended program of study; • three years of mathematics to the junior level; • a minimum final grade of 70% (or equivalent) in either junior or senior year English; and • either (a) SAT 1, or ACT, plus Writing (in countries where the SAT and ACT are unavailable, exemptions may be granted) <p><u>Certain programs may require a competitive minimum grade in individual prerequisite courses.</u></p> <p>Present Academic Calendar Entry: Homepage (draft) Admissions Applicants Following Other International Secondary School Curricula</p> <p>Applicants Following</p>	<p>American Secondary School Curriculum</p> <p>[17147] Applicants following the American secondary school curriculum must present the following minimum criteria to be considered for admission:</p> <p>[17148]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • graduation from an academic or college preparation program at a US regionally-accredited school; • English to the senior level (not ESL); • at least three other senior academic subjects and prerequisites appropriate for the intended program of study; • three years of mathematics to the junior level; • a minimum final grade of 70% (or equivalent) in either junior or senior year English; and • either (a) SAT 1, or ACT, plus Writing (in countries where the SAT and ACT are unavailable, exemptions may be granted) <p>Draft Academic Calendar URL: http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/proof/edit/index.cfm?tree=2,293,0,0</p> <p>Present Academic Calendar Entry: Homepage (draft) Admissions Applicants Following Other International Secondary School Curricula</p> <p>Applicants Following</p>
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<p>Other International Secondary School Curricula</p> <p>[18228] All applicants applying to UBC from a secondary school offering English-medium instruction must present a minimum final grade of 70% (or equivalent) in either junior (Grade 11) or senior year (Grade 12) English. Final grades include both the school grade and mandatory standardized examination results.</p> <p>[17149] The following list outlines the minimum standing for admission in terms of educational credentials. All students must present prerequisites appropriate for their intended program of study.</p> <p>[...]</p> <p>[17151] Because of the differences in world educational systems, satisfactory completion of secondary school is not necessarily an acceptable basis for admission to first year. The University reserves the right to determine whether or not a student is eligible for admission and to determine what transfer credit, if any, may be granted.</p> <p><u>Certain programs may require a competitive minimum grade in individual prerequisite courses.</u></p>	<p>Other International Secondary School Curricula</p> <p>[18228] All applicants applying to UBC from a secondary school offering English-medium instruction must present a minimum final grade of 70% (or equivalent) in either junior (Grade 11) or senior year (Grade 12) English. Final grades include both the school grade and mandatory standardized examination results.</p> <p>[17149] The following list outlines the minimum standing for admission in terms of educational credentials. All students must present prerequisites appropriate for their intended program of study.</p> <p>[...]</p> <p>[17151] Because of the differences in world educational systems, satisfactory completion of secondary school is not necessarily an acceptable basis for admission to first year. The University reserves the right to determine whether or not a student is eligible for admission and to determine what transfer credit, if any, may be granted.</p>
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Consultations:

Extensive consultation was undertaken outside of UBC: over 300 secondary school counselors from secondary schools on Vancouver Island, in the Lower Mainland, and in the Okanagan; and within UBC: Enrolment Services, Undergraduate Admissions, and UBC Okanagan and Vancouver Deans.

History:

Historically, the University has determined a *secondary school applicant's* a) achievement of the minimum admission requirements (as identified in the UBC calendar) and b) relative academic competitiveness (as determined by Faculty on a year-to-year basis) by calculating an *admission average*. In some cases, the University also uses individual course grades to determine admissibility, but only as it pertains to the published university minima for admission. An example would be the Vancouver campus' requirement of a final grade of 70% in either English 11 or English 12 (or equivalent); another would be the requirement of a minimum score of 67% in Pre-Calculus 12 (or equivalent) for admission to the Bachelor of Science program at either campus. But these are viewed as minimum admission requirements, not competitive requirements. In other words, an applicant with a grade of 90% in Pre-Calculus 12 cannot be considered "more competitive" for admission than another with a 75% in the same course; an assessment of relative academic competitiveness can only be made on the overall *admission average*.

Faculties have indicated that this approach does not allow the undergraduate admission process to select applicants who will be the most successful in first year. An applicant can mitigate a weak score in a key prerequisite subject (such as English 12 or Pre-Calculus 12, for example) with a strong score in an elective subject, gaining admission to UBC if their overall admission average is strong. But such a student is likely to struggle in their first year of study if their program requires 100-level coursework in English or Mathematics. Conversely, an applicant with a slightly lower admission average but stronger grades in prerequisite courses is seen as less competitive than the aforementioned student, even though they are more likely to perform better in required first-year coursework.

Related Policies:

J-51: *Admission Based on Interim Grades for Applicants following Canadian Extra-Provincial Curricula*

J-52.1: *Admission for Secondary School Applicants following the BC/Yukon Curriculum*

Appendix:

N/A

Procedures:

1. If the applicant has applied to enter into a Faculty that specifies a competitive minimum threshold in one or more *prerequisite Grade 12 courses*, the

- applicant must meet that minimum threshold in order to be considered competitive for admission; and
2. The competitive minimum threshold required in one or more *prerequisite Grade 12 courses* shall be determined by the individual Faculty on a year-by-year basis.

Timing of Admission Decisions:

1. The University will make initial admission decisions for *direct-entry undergraduate programs* based upon data that is available/verifiable as of 1 April each year for the following Winter Session; the *admission average* used for these decisions will be made based upon *final* or *interim course grades* for *Grade 12 courses (or equivalents)*.
2. Faculties determine a) the *admission average* and b) the minimum threshold on *prerequisite Grade 12 courses* used to assess the relative competitiveness of the applicant.
3. Once a complete set of *final course grades* for *Grade 12 courses (or equivalents)* becomes available (usually in the summer), an additional round of admission decisions for *secondary school applicants* may be made if it is anticipated that space will remain in the program to which the applicant has applied.
4. Once a complete set of *final course grades* for *Grade 12 courses (or equivalents)* becomes available (usually in the summer), *secondary school applicants* who have already been admitted based upon an *interim admission average* will be evaluated to determine if all the conditions of admission (as referenced in the admission letter) have been met.
5. If the faculty requires minimum thresholds on *prerequisite Grade 12 courses* and the admitted student no longer meets those thresholds, then the student may be deemed to have been unsuccessful in meeting the conditions of admission referenced in the admission letter. In these instances, the original offer of admission may be revoked at the discretion of the faculty on a case-by-case basis.