



1. What are the requirements for graduation from Secondary School in Ontario?

- 30 credits (see specifics [here](#))
- Passing the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test
- Completion of 40 hours of Community Service

2. What is involved in the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT)?

- It is an English test evaluating reading and writing skills
- Aimed at the level of a Grade 9-10 Canadian English student—see [here](#) for a practice test
- Testing is done online in the fall and spring for all Grade 10 students and any Grades 11 and 12 students new to Ontario
- NCC will facilitate the test—no fee or sign up required

3. How can I complete Community Service hours?

- Hours may be completed prior to arriving in Canada OR while at NCC.
- Hours can be accumulated beginning in the summer after grade 8.
- For hours completed in your home country, please obtain written and signed proof from a supervisor where the volunteer service was completed as well as dates, hours and a description of the service.

4. How many equivalent credits will I be granted when I enrol at NCC?

- The number will depend on your grade and the number of successfully completed courses you have prior to arriving at NCC.
- Please ensure your final reports/transcripts have been sent to NCC as soon as they are available.
- You will be informed of how many credits you have during your course selection appointment.

5. How will I choose courses for the school year?

- You will be informed of how many credits you have during your course selection appointment. A member of the student services team will reach out to you during the summer in order to:
 - Set up an ESL test (if applicable)
 - Set up a course selection appointment (via zoom or alternate format)

- Some students may have course selection appointment upon their arrival depending on timing of the summer

6. How many courses will I take each year?

- The following is the typical course load by grade:
 - Grade 9 - eight courses (2 per quadmester)
 - Grade 10 - eight courses (2 per quadmester)
 - Grade 11 - seven/eight courses (1-2 per quadmester - 2 recommended)
 - Grade 12 - six-eight courses (1-2 per quadmester)

7. How are textbooks obtained?

- On the first day of school, teachers will assist students in locating cost-effective or electronic resources for each course. Students wishing to order textbooks prior to September 9 may order a physical copy or e-copy through our [bookstore](#). In lieu of textbooks, some courses will involve a course fee which will be communicated on the first day by the course teacher (ie. Art Materials fee, Music Instrument rental fee, Civics/Careers 10 course fee, Math requires students to purchase a calculator).

8. Is it necessary for me to write an English Proficiency test (eg. IELTS or TOEFL)?

- NCC recommends that all students whose first language is not English take an IELTS test in grade 11 or 12
- Students who have studied for 3 years or less in Canada will be required to present proof of English proficiency to post-secondary institutions when applying grade 12
- IELTS tests may be offered at NCC during the school year
- Many English speaking students coming from outside of Canada also need to provide English proficiency and are encouraged to also write IELTS