

SPECIALIST HIGH SKILLS MAJOR



Ontario.ca/SHSM



Environment RBG ECO STUDIES

Program Overview:

Aldershot School has entered into a partnership with Royal Botanical Gardens (RBG) to develop an exciting and innovative Environmental program called ECO Studies. ECO Studies is an Experiential Education program with an Environmental and Earth Science focus. It is one of the first programs of its kind to offer core courses linked to the Provincial Environment Specialist High Skills Major Certificate.

One of the world's largest urban parks is your classroom for part of one semester. RBG provides access to modern scientific equipment and research facilities and expertise. The 1000 hectare site is one of the most biodiverse locations in Canada, overlapping 5 distinct forest ecosystems, a protected wetland (Cootes Paradise) and the Niagara Escarpment UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve. It is an ecological playground waiting to be explored.

As an RBG ECO Studies student you will have opportunities to experience the following:

- Participate in, and plan habitat restoration and other Environmental Stewardship initiatives
- Learn outdoor leadership and survival skills
- Canoe, snowshoe, hike, climb, camp, and orienteer with GPS
- Use cutting edge technology to undertake environmental projects
- Study local environmental issues and make connections to global perspectives
- View examples of Earth surface processes (erosion and weathering) on and around the RBG grounds
- Engage in a fully digital classroom environment, including student use of a personal iPad for the semester



Course Package:

Semester in ECO Studies:

- 3 Major Credit courses related to the Environment, with a choice of: Outdoor Activities (PAD30 or PAD40), Environment & Resource Management (CGR4M or 4E), Physical Geography (CGF3M), Geographer's Toolkit (CGT3E) or Earth and Space Science (SES4U)
- Grade 11 English - Aboriginal Voices (NBE3U or 3C)

Courses that can be taken at Aldershot or Student's Home School:

- 1 additional Major Credit course related to the Environment
- Grade 12 English
- Grade 11 Math
- 2 credits of Cooperative Education in a placement related to the Environment

Who Can Take the RBG ECO Studies Program:

- Anyone who has completed Grade 10 Science
- Anyone who is passionate about the Environment
- Anyone who is looking for an academic challenge outside of the traditional classroom
- Anyone who wants the experience of a lifetime!

ECO Studies Timetable:

Period 1 In-class learning at Aldershot and 2

Period 3 Lunch

Period 4 Experiential learning at Royal Botanical Gardens, 3 days a week, ECO and 5
Studies Science Lab 2 days a week

Application Details:

For more information on the SHSM Environment RBG ECO Studies program, visit haltonpathways.ca, www.ecostudies.ca or call Aldershot School at (905) 637-2383. To register for the program, go to www.onsorts.ca or visit your school to career guidance counsellor. Finalists may be asked to participate in a personal interview. The top 22 students will have the opportunity to participate in the program.

Program Costs:

Participants in the program will be required to pay a fee to cover the costs associated with our three adventure trips. Students will undertake 3 multi-day trips including a five day canoe trip to Killarney Provincial Park. This fee pays for transportation, campsite use, rental equipment and other associated costs. The program fee is \$350 - \$500, dependent on external funding for the program. Students in financial need can apply for financial assistance or inquire about flexible payment options.

Students will also be responsible to cover the cost of personal equipment and clothing (sleeping bag, rain gear, hiking boots) as well as personal food costs for camping trips.



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Blueprint
education planner
www.haltonpathways.ca