

# SPECIALIST HIGH SCHOOL MAJOR (SHSM)

## What is a Specialist High Skills Major?

A Specialist High Skills Major enables students to customize their high school experience to suit their skills and interests while meeting the requirements of an Ontario Secondary School Diploma

The SHSM will help students to prepare for a successful postsecondary transition to apprenticeship training, college, university, or the workplace. An SHSM enables students to gain sector-identified preparatory skills and knowledge and to make informed career decisions.

Ursuline College offers Specialist High Skills Majors in **Manufacturing** and **Health and Wellness**.

## What are the focuses of the Manufacturing SHSM Program?

The Manufacturing SHSM Program builds on a strong design component and problem solving approach to manufacturing. Students have the opportunity to develop the skills necessary to be successful in both metal and wood manufacturing. Individual and community projects are designed and completed using welding, sheet metal fabrication, CNC and both types of machining. Students will also have an opportunity to participate in the Dual Credit Program at St. Clair College.

Students will earn three compulsory certifications in Standard First Aid, Level A/C CPR and WHMIS. Students will earn three other certifications that may include CWB (Flat), Fall Protection, Lift Truck Safety Awareness, Lockout/Tag Safety and CAD/CAM.

## What are the focuses of the Health and Wellness SHSM Program?

The Health and Wellness SHSM Program focuses on Leadership Development, Exercise Science and Personal Physical Fitness. Based on a strong athletic and fitness program at UCC, students are exposed to various training methods to achieve personal goals and various leadership opportunities to teach others.

Students will earn four compulsory certifications in Standard First Aid, Level C CPR, Infection Control and WHMIS. Students will earn three other certifications in Coaching/Personal Training, Conflict Resolution and Safe Food Handling.

## What are the other highlights of a Specialist High Skills Major?

1. Students will take a bundle of nine Grade 11 and Grade 12 credits that include:
  - **four** 'major' credits which provide specialization in the sector
  - **three** other required credits in English, science and mathematics
  - **two** co-operative education credits
2. Students will engage in **experiential learning activities** such as job shadowing, work experience and co-operative education
3. Students will use the **Ontario Skills Passport (OSP)** to develop and document essential skills and work habits that employers are looking for
4. Students will get a **special red seal** on their Ontario Secondary School Diplomas as proof of their learning in this sector.

## How do students apply for an SHSM Program at UCC?

Grade 10 students choosing courses for grade 11 should indicate in the box provided on the Option Sheet their interest in the specialist high skills major. Guidance Counsellors will then meet with students to determine the best possible pathway and outline the courses to be taken.

# HIGH SCHOOL/COLLEGE DUAL CREDIT COURSES

## What is a Dual Credit Course?

Grade 12 students who qualify will have access to take first year college level open courses which will provide them with both a college credit and high school credit upon completion. Students will get a taste of college life while experimenting in a field of study that they may be interested in for a future career.

## What does it cost?

Students do not have to pay anything. All books, transportation and tuition is paid for through grants from the Ontario Ministry of Education and Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities.

## What courses are offered?

At St. Clair College Thames Campus (Chatham):

- Analysis of Electrical Circuit
- PC Computer Aided Design
- Introduction to Early Childhood

At St. Clair College Burgess Centre (Wallaceburg):

- Workshop Techniques\*
- Shielded Metal Arc Welding\*

\* These courses can count towards the Manufacturing SHSM

At Lambton College (Sarnia):

- Introduction to Business
- Criminology
- Baking and Pastry
- Hairstyling
- Resorts and Gaming
- Manicures
- Energy Resources
- Client Care Issues
- Developmental Disabilities and Aging
- Learning Through Play

NOTE: These are sample course offerings and additional courses may be offered or some courses may not be running due to a lack of interest.

## How do students apply for a Dual Credit Course?

Students must be entering or be in Grade 12 and should check off the appropriate box on the Option Page to indicate their interest in Dual Credit Courses.

Students wishing to take a Dual Credit Course at St. Clair College must choose GWL3OC (2 Credits) Co-operative Education on their option pages. One afternoon per week, students will attend a Dual Credit Course at St. Clair College and will attend an afternoon work placement for the other days of the week.

Students wishing to take a Dual Credit Course at Lambton College must choose GWL3OL (4 Credits) Co-operative Education on their option pages. One day per week, the student will attend a Dual Credit Course at Lambton College and will attend a full-day work placement for the other days of the week.

NOTE: Students will be required to make up the work placement time lost while they are at their dual credit courses in order to achieve all of their co-operative education credits.