

# SCHOOL TO CAREER: SHSM

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## SPECIALIST HIGH SKILLS MAJOR

### WHAT IS A SPECIALIST HIGH SKILLS MAJOR?

- A Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) allows students to focus on knowledge and skills that are of particular importance in specific economic sectors, and to obtain certifications recognized in those economic sectors, as they work towards meeting the requirements for an Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD).
- Students who graduate with a SHSM designation on their diploma are better prepared for success in a particular sector and in the postsecondary destination of their choice, whether it is apprenticeship training, a college or university program, or the workplace.

### EACH SHSM PROGRAM INCLUDES:

- Nine to Eleven Senior Credits bundled in the area of specialization including a two credit Coop. These can be at any academic level (U, M, C, O or E).
- Coop Real World Experience
- Sector recognized certification and training to assist in successful transition to and possible advanced standing in the workplace and post secondary destinations.
- Unique experiential learning through job shadowing, work experience, and co-operative education.
- Reach Ahead experiences including field trips to related trade shows, colleges and universities.
- The development of essential skills and work habits required in their economic sector, and the use of the Ontario Skills Passport (OSP) to document this process.
- Contextualized Learning Activities (CLAs) completed as independent learning packages.

### What SHSM Sectors are available this school year?

- Arts and Culture
- Business
- Construction
- The Environment
- Health and Wellness
- Information and Communications Technology
- Manufacturing
- Sport

For more information look Here:  
[www.ugdsb.on.ca/shsm/](http://www.ugdsb.on.ca/shsm/)



## WHO SHOULD PARTICIPATE IN THE SHSM PROGRAM?

Any student who is interested in obtaining specific and focused skill training in any of the sectors offered at Guelph C.V.I.

## HOW WILL THE SPECIALIST HIGH SKILLS MAJOR PROGRAM BENEFIT STUDENTS?

- A SHSM allows students to experience a range of customized, career-focused learning opportunities. It enables them to take courses in an area of interest related to a particular sector while working towards an OSSD.
- The focused learning experiences of a SHSM program give students the opportunity to explore, identify, and refine career goals and make informed decisions related to postsecondary education, training, and next steps towards a career.
- The experiential learning opportunities provided in a SHSM enable students to refine their skills and improve their work habits, gain confidence in their ability to succeed, and see the connections between their studies, the real world, and their future careers. Students are also able to begin to establish relationships and networks in their chosen fields.
- Students who graduate with a SHSM can look forward to improved prospects after secondary school because of the recognition of and support for the SHSM framework content from a variety of representatives from the economic sector, apprenticeship training programs, colleges, and universities.

## HOW DO I GET INVOLVED IN THE SHSM PROGRAM?

Contact Mr. Fleming or Mr. Tersigni to obtain an application form.

- Arts and Culture: Ms. Bergan, Ms. DiCicco, Mr. Austin
- Business : Mr. Fleming
- Construction : Mr. Sernasie
- The Environment : Ms. Robb, Ms. Ryan
- Health and Wellness : Ms. Wagner or Mr. Rosewell
- Information and Communications Technology : Mr. Harcourt
- Manufacturing : Mr. Beitz
- Sport : Mr. Rosewell