**What is a SHSM?**  
A Specialist High Skills Major in Arts and Culture enables students to customize their high school experience to suit their interests and talents, to meet the requirements of the Ontario Secondary School Diploma, and to prepare for a successful postsecondary transition to apprenticeship training, college, university or employment in the arts and culture sector. A SHSM enables students to gain sector-identified preparatory skills and knowledge, and to make informed career decisions.

**Overview:** Students in the SHSM: Arts & Culture will complete the following:

**1.** 4 arts courses; 2 credits in Co-op.; 2 additional credits in Grade 11 or 12  
• English  
• Business  
• History   
• Geography  
  
**2. Workshops and Units of Study (Certifications Training)**: Standard First Aid, Level A CPR, and Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS). Workplace Health & Safety will be completed within the co-op course.  
  
Other certifications will be included within your art courses or run within extra-curricular clubs. Such as:

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| Health & Safety | Photography: Portraiture |
| Film Editing | Lighting & Sound Basics |
| Choreography | Framing & Matting |
| Graphic Arts: Software | Improvisation (Music, Dance, Drama) |
| Sewing/Costume Design | Figure Drawing (Drawing From Life club) |
| Sound Recording | Lights & Sound Equipment Maintenance |

**3. Engage in experiential learning** through Co-Operative education, job shadowing, and work experience related to the area of major focus. Additional specialized opportunities available through field trips and guest speakers.

**4.** Use the **Ontario Skills Passport (OSP)** to document demonstration of essential skills and work habits.

To print a Quick Fact Sheet summary of the SHSM click [here](http://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/u/14449504/Eastwood%20SHSM/attachments/SMSM%20Brochure%202010_by%20slumskie.pdf).  
  
**Career Choices:**Students can choose their 4 arts courses in any combination related to one or more of the following career options;

**Performing Arts (Dance, Drama, Music):**  
Possible careers in this area include Actress, Actor, Comedian, Broadcaster, Dancer, Music/Art Therapist, Musician, Performer, Musical Theatre Performer, Composer, Entertainment Manager, Conductor, Choreographer, Recreation Therapist, Producer, Events coordinator.

**Art & Design:**  
Possible careers in this area include Digital Video Production, Media Arts, Creative Advertising, Illustrator, Architect, Interior Design, Animation, Web Design, Computer Graphic Design, Digital Animation, Film Critic, Writer, Photographer, Desktop Publisher, Sculptor, Public Relations, Printing Machine Operator, Script Writer, Journalist, Painter, Decorator, Film Processor, Audio/Video Production,Fashion Designer.

**Event Technologies:**   
Possible careers in this area include Fashion Design, Audio/Video Production, Architecture, Publisher, Computer Graphics, Stage Technician, Sound Technician, Make-up Designer, Lighting and Sound Production, Set Design & Construction, Events Co-ordination, Events Production, Props Design.

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|  | |  | | --- | | **Program Expectations**  **Grades 9 & 10 are not officially part of the SHSM, but serve as years of exploration in order to determine the focus of the senior years in the SHSM.   Year One: Awareness and Exploration.** The emphasis during this year should be placed on student exploration. ALC 1OI (Arts & Technology) in grade 9 is strongly recommended. It is a course that integrates several areas of the arts with technology to focus on the “arts in the digital age.” Areas of focus will include film/communications technology, graphic and visual arts, digital music and recording. Exploration allows students to develop experience, skills, and knowledge in order to make the most of what the SHSM has to offer. Students are encouraged to take more than one course within the areas of major study in order to make the most appropriate choice for an area of focus. Students in grade 9 will also take the compulsory courses in math, science, french, geography, physical education and English.  **Year Two: Exploration**. The second year of the program is designed to allow students to acquire the skills necessary for specialization in the senior years. ASM 2OI (Media Arts) acts as a bridge between ALC1OI and the student’s grade 11 SHSM courses. Students will continue to take the compulsary courses in math, science, history, careers/civics, and English. Students are continued to be encouraged to take courses in different arts subjects to gain a diversity of experiences prior to the declaration of an area of focus. **It is at the end of grade 10 during course selection that students will apply to be part of the SHSM.**  **Year Three: Specialization.** The third year is where students in the SHSM declare an area of focus. It is recommended that students fulfull the required business credit with the grade 11 Entrepreneur course. Also, the compulsary 2 credits in co-op may be started/completed in grade 11. Students will also continue to take the necessary credits for successful completion of their Ontario Secondary School Diploma. The English, business, geography and history courses will contain within them a contextualized unit specific to the SHSM students.  **Year Four: Specialization**. Students, in consultation with their guidance counselors, are encouraged to select the appropriate course types that best link to their post secondary destination and focus. The diversity of areas of study in the arts results in multiple options for course selection. For example, a student working toward the study of architecture at the university level is required to take grades 11 and 12 mathematics; whereas a student majoring in dance may benefit from taking grade 12 physical education. The compulsary 2 credits in co-op may be started/completed in grade 12. Students will also continue to take the necessary credits for successful completion of their Ontario Secondary School Diploma. The English, business, geography and history courses will contain within them a contextualized unit specific to the SHSM students. | |