

Summer School FAQs

Q: Who is summer school open to?

A: Summer school will be open to all current grade 9 students who will be going into grade 10 next year. If Biology 20 is offered, it will be open to grade 10 students who have completed Science 10.

Q: What courses are going to be offered at summer school?

A: We will again be offering our Math15 (\$550) and Career & Life Management (CALM) (\$550) courses. We are also considering a Biology 20 course (\$750) should enough students be interested in attending. Students can enrol in only one course as they are offered at the same time.

Q: Why is Foothills offering Math15?

A: Grade 9 students across the province are struggling in Math. There has been a drop in the percentage of students in the province who are meeting the acceptable standard and standard of excellence in grade 9 Mathematics Provincial Achievement Tests. This trend is also reflected at Foothills Academy. There are greater demands in Math class in grade 10, especially in the 10C stream. Offering the Math15 course provides students with a better bridge to make a successful transition from grade 9 to high-school Math, as it provides a stronger foundation for challenging grade 10 courses.

Q: Why is Foothills offering CALM?

A: When students enter high-school in grade 10, they experience great academic demands and expectations, which can be fatiguing in many ways. One way to reduce the demands placed upon students' cognitive load is to free up time in their grade 10 schedule, to help them adjust to high school successfully. By offering CALM in summer school, we are providing students with the opportunity to have a study period for one semester in their grade 10 schedule, to help them learn how to manage the faster pace of high school.

Q: Why is Foothills considering offering Biology 20?

A: Completing Biology 20 in summer school is an opportunity for students to earn credit in more than one Science course while also maintaining a less strenuous schedule in the regular school year. Completing Biology 20 during summer school can allow students to earn additional credits towards their high school diploma as well as the opportunity to increase their academic achievement by reducing their course load.

Q: Will summer school operate in the same way as a regular class at Foothills?

A: Yes. Summer school is structured to support individuals with Learning Disabilities, and is taught by current Foothills staff who specialize in this field.

Q: Can students take additional online programming in the school year instead of having a focused study period, during the time that has been freed up by CALM or Biology 20?

A: Yes. If students have a particular interest in an Alberta Education approved online high school course, they can work with school administration to set this up during the spare time created by having completed CALM over the summer.

Q: Why does the Biology 20 course cost more?

A: This course earns 5 credits and requires additional instructional hours.