

EXPÉRIENCE CULTURELLE 12 (EXC12) **Explore Program Option**

Program Overview

The French Second Language Division of the Nova Scotia Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (EECD) offers a Grade 12 credit called *Expérience culturelle 12*. This academic credit has been officially recognized since the 2010-2011 school year and is currently listed in the Public School Program. The *Expérience culturelle 12* credit provides an opportunity for senior high school students to engage in real life interactions in a French community to enhance understanding and appreciation of French culture and at the same time develop strong French second language communication skills.

Expérience culturelle 12 (EXC 12) is officially recognized for acquisition of the French Immersion and Integrated French certificates and as a credit toward the High School Graduation Diploma in Nova Scotia. Students in French Immersion, Integrated French or Core French are eligible to obtain this credit.

At present the only cultural experience identified by the French second language division of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development that will be recognized and accorded a grade 12 academic credit is the **Explore Program**.

However, this credit is not automatically awarded following the completion of the program. The participating student must have previously registered for the credit and have completed the required tasks and assignments **during their participation in the program**.

EXC 12 Credit Guidelines

The official course name is **Expérience culturelle 12** and specific course codes have been created to represent the following FSL course offerings:

French Immersion and Integrated French students will receive:

- **Experience Culture 12 IMM_INT EXP (EXC12IMEXP)** for participation in the Explore Program and meeting the requirements of the credit

Core French students will receive:

- **Experience Culture 12 FRE EXP (EXC12FREXP)** for participation in the Explore Program and meeting the requirements of the credit

Although students may choose to participate in the Explore program more than once, only one of these cultural experiences will be credited toward the completion of the 18 required credits for a High School Diploma. EXC 12 can be credited towards one of the nine required credits for the

French immersion certificate or one of the six required credits for the Integrated French program certificate. It may also serve to comply with several combinations of these requirements. Such a credit may simply be an extra that a student may want to attain.

- This credit will be awarded to students who have participated in the **Explore program** and have met the credit requirements.
- The EXC 12 credit cannot be substituted in place of the three compulsory French Language Arts courses required to obtain the French immersion or the Integrated French certificate.
- The EXC 12 credit may be classified under Personal Development and Career Education elective courses, but not substituted as the Physical Education credit requirement.
- The Explore program and the EXC 12 credit are not subject to a Challenge for Credit process.
- **The EXC 12 credit should not be confused with an *external* Personal Development Credit. The Explore program does not fall under the EECD recognized external programs linked to the external Personal Development credit.**
- Students not wanting the EXC 12 credit may still participate in the Explore program.
- There is no appeal process for this credit. Once assignments are evaluated, the grade provided to the school by the EECD is final.

Application Process

Students must apply online at: <https://www.ednet.ns.ca/dpslf/fr/experience-culturelle-12-exc-12>

Participation in the **Explore program** does not automatically grant students the EXC 12 credit. Students must apply separately for the EXC 12 credit by **April 15th, preceding their participation in the Explore program. ***Late applications will not be accepted*****

In order to apply for the Expérience culturelle 12 credit students:

- must be registered in a public high school French Immersion or Integrated French program; or demonstrate a desire to continue his/her studies in Core French in grades 10-12.
- need to apply for the Explore program according to the requirements on the [Explore website](#). Students should confirm that they are applying for an Explore program that will admit them based on their age as each location has different requirements.
- must complete the *Application for the EXC 12 credit* online (Form E) with the assistance of the guidance counselor or registrar **no later than April 15**, or earlier if possible, **preceding participation in the program**

If accepted, students will receive an email confirmation, after April 15th, as well as course related materials. Students will be added to a Google Classroom which will contain all course related materials and specific instructions for completing the academic requirements to obtain the credit.

Acceptance does not guarantee that students will be granted the credit. The academic requirements for the course must be completed and submitted for evaluation to EECD staff. If students do not submit all academic requirements by **the first Friday of October** following their participation in the Explore program, they will not receive the EXC 12 credit.

Academic Requirements for Obtaining the EXC 12 Credit

Receiving the EXC 12 credit requires students to clearly demonstrate their linguistic and cultural learning throughout their Explore program experience. This may be more achievable when participating in an Explore program that is located in a French speaking region. While it is not required to attend Explore in a French speaking region, the academic requirements remain the same no matter where students participate in Explore. Students should review the academic requirements closely before beginning the **Explore program** and completing the EXC 12 requirements.

It is important to note that there is a separate document outlining the specific requirements of each of these tasks and the course evaluation approach. Please review that document prior to completing an application.

To receive the academic credit EXC 12 via the Explore program, a student must complete the following tasks:

- **Participate in a Google Classroom managed by EECD and complete all required assignments.**
- **Submit, via the Google Classroom a daily journal in French about their experience throughout the Explore program**
- **Submit, via the Google Classroom, a digital French portfolio. The portfolio must be accompanied by an oral presentation that is either pre-recorded or scheduled via a virtual meeting.**
- **Submit an official document from the institution demonstrating that all components of the Explore program were successfully completed. (e.g. a certificate or transcript that clearly states the student achieved the goals of the program)**

All assignments must be completed and submitted via email, or Google Classroom by **the first Friday in October**, following participation in the Explore program. **Late assignments will not be accepted.** It is the student's responsibility to ensure they have obtained all required documentation from the institution and to communicate with EECD **before the submission deadline** if they are having difficulties obtaining the documents.

Within 60 days from this date of the first Friday in October, the French Second Language Division of the Nova Scotia Department of Education and Early Childhood Development will inform the student's school if the student has been awarded the EXC 12 credit, as well as the student's grade.

Contact information

**Nova Scotia Department of Education and Early Childhood Development
French Second Language Division
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**Website: https://www.ednet.ns.ca/dpslf/en/cultural_experience-12-credit
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