

# Agriculture Specialist High Skills Major

The Agricultural, Specialist High Skills Major program occurs during second semester each year and is located at Chesley District Community School.

The SHSM program includes:

- the opportunity for hands-on learning in a cold frame greenhouse and a barn, located on site.
- students learn about animal science, livestock production, horticulture/greenhouse sciences, animal husbandry, veterinary techniques, marketing, crop sciences, soil science and agricultural business
- discussions and links with numerous agricultural organizations and agri-businesses
- the formation of an Agricultural Advisory Board of Community and Educational leaders
- articulation agreements including “Reach Ahead” credit opportunities with Ridgetown College and the University of Guelph.

## What are the required components of this program?

1. A selected bundle of nine Grade 11 and Grade 12 credits that comprises:

- Four core courses are timetabled as a one semester package at CDCS

Animal Science (SAP33I)	Greenhouse Science (SHY33I)
Livestock Production (SAN43I)	Agricultural Business and Crop Production (SHX43I)

- Three other required credits. One in English, one in Math and one credit in science or business studies (or a cooperative education credit) Two cooperative education credits tied to the sector
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2. Six sector-recognized certifications and/or training courses/programs (four compulsory and a choice of three electives).
3. Experiential learning and career exploration activities within the sector.
4. Reach ahead experiences connected with the student’s postsecondary pathway.
5. Development of essential skills and work habits required in this sector, and documentation of them using the Ontario Skills Passport. Completion of six hours of **ICE (Innovation, Creativity and Entrepreneurship) training**.  
ICE training is an experience in which student teams will use a process called the **3 Gears** to solve a real world challenge specific to a sector partner’s organization.