
COSMETOLOGY STUDIES

B. STRAND RATIONALE AND PHILOSOPHY

Throughout history, people have practised various forms of body care, grooming and enhancement for personal, social, cultural and religious reasons. Some practitioners have applied their abilities in the workplace by providing professional cosmetology services to clients. The personal and professional care, grooming and enhancement of the human body is supported by an array of industries including those that manufacture cosmetics and related equipment, tools and supplies for personal and/or professional use, and those that provide professional cosmetology services. Each of these industries provides career opportunities for suitably qualified people.

Cosmetology Studies, a strand in Career and Technology Studies, focuses on personal and professional grooming, body care and enhancement practices, and provides students with opportunities to explore and prepare for cosmetology-related career options.

Cosmetology Studies encourages the student-centred process approach, which combines the development of thinking processes and practiced skills in concrete, realistic learning situations. Throughout Cosmetology Studies, students are encouraged to solve problems, make decisions and develop the abilities and flexibility needed to adapt quickly to new situations, including changes in career paths.

The emerging workplace requires that new entrants be lifelong learners who are able to access information and use technology to help solve problems and make decisions. Within the philosophy of Career and Technology Studies, *students in Cosmetology Studies will:*

- become responsible citizens
- appreciate and understand why personal appearance is significant in the home, at school and in the workplace
- identify and access career opportunities in cosmetology and appreciate the preparation needed to enter and progress in related fields
- develop confidence and flexibility as they assume adult roles and responsibilities and move into the workplace and/or further education and training programs
- achieve personal wellness by learning about personal and professional body care and grooming
- study, practise and achieve competencies in personal and professional grooming practices
- identify, practise and maintain high standards of safety and sanitation in personal and professional grooming activities.

In order to achieve these competencies, *the student will*:

- apply knowledge, skills and attitudes from other disciplines in contexts related to self, family and workplace
- develop basic and career-specific skills that have applications for personal use and specific applications in the world of work
- develop positive attitudes toward work through participation in realistic learning activities in varied learning environments
- develop a more positive self-concept as he or she assumes increasingly complex roles and responsibilities
- develop a greater awareness of the role of cosmetology-related businesses and industries in society, and the potential for enterprise and innovation within the cosmetology industry.

STRAND ORGANIZATION

DEVELOPMENT MODEL

The Cosmetology Studies model below identifies the major dimensions of the program:

- knowledge, skills and attitudes
- themes
- integrating concepts
- learning contexts.

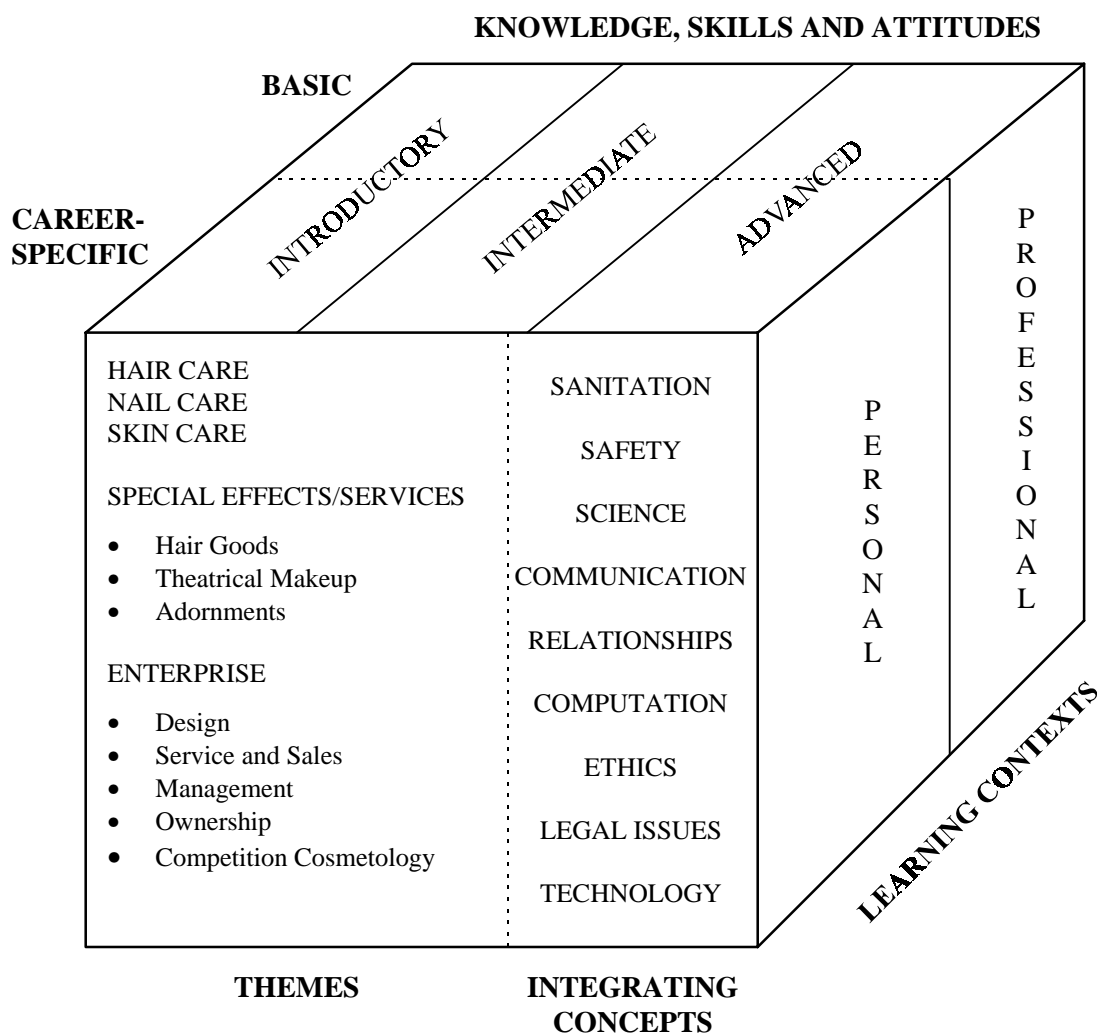
These dimensions are included in each Cosmetology Studies module.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ATTITUDES

This dimension of the program contains the learner expectations specified in introductory, intermediate and advanced level modules.

Each module contains learner expectations identifying the basic and career-specific competencies that students are expected to develop.

- **Basic competencies** include self-management, social and academic knowledge, skills and attitudes.



- **Career-specific competencies** include the knowledge, skills and attitudes that support transition to the workplace and/or post-secondary cosmetology-related activities.

THEMES AND INTEGRATING CONCEPTS

Themes link learner expectations to meaningful activities. They describe the settings in which the learner expectations relating to hair, nail and skin care, the use of special effects and services for enhancing the body, and enterprise, are achieved.

Integrating concepts describe learning elements addressed in each theme, and provide linkages among the modules and relevance for student learning.

LEARNING CONTEXTS

The personal learning context focuses on the development of competencies appropriate to personal body care, grooming and enhancement.

The professional learning context focuses on the development of competencies required to pursue work and/or further education or training in cosmetology.

LEVELS

Introductory level modules within Cosmetology Studies encourage exploration and establish a foundation of related knowledge, skills and attitudes. Learning experiences begin at a concrete level, and help students to recognize the significance of personal and professional grooming practices. Intermediate level modules emphasize career awareness and job opportunities and provide opportunities for students to further develop their ability to provide grooming services to themselves and others. Advanced level modules emphasize preparation and empowerment and provide opportunities for students to develop more specialized knowledge, skills and attitudes relevant to careers in cosmetology and related areas, and to further education and training.