UVIC

2023-24 INDIGENOUS STUDENTS VIEWBOOK

University of Victoria

We acknowledge and respect the lək̓ʷəŋən peoples on whose traditional territory the university stands and the Songhees, Esquimalt and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.

“nués ən əyʔ šqʷéləkʷəns” (lək̓ʷəŋən)

“ÁMEḴT TŦEN ÍY, ŚḰÁLEȻEN” (SENĆOŦEN)

Bring in your good feelings.

UVic is committed to creating better opportunities for Indigenous students, building and improving respectful partnerships with Indigenous communities and encouraging everyone to be part of a shared vision for the future as part of our response to Canada’s Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

The lək̓ʷəŋən Elders of this territory share with us teachings of “nués ən əyʔ šqʷéləkʷəns” (lək̓ʷəŋən), “ÁMEḴT TŦEN ÍY, ŚḰÁLEȻEN” (SENĆOŦEN) – bring in your good feelings, and “čéynəuəl” (lək̓ʷəŋən), “ĆȺNEUEL OL” (SENĆOŦEN) – work together. We invite you to reflect on these teachings as you explore the next step of your educational journey.

Songhees Elder Dr. Skip Dick welcomes guests to the UVic campus.

Be at home here

At UVic, you'll be part of our welcoming community of students and professors who come from diverse communities across Canada and from over a hundred countries. Wherever you're from, you'll soon feel at home at UVic.

First Peoples House

The First Peoples House is your cultural and social centre at UVic and your home away from home. Here you'll find a study area, Ceremonial Hall, computer lab and an Elders in Residence room.

Indigenous art on campus

Discover an inspiring collection of Indigenous art in buildings like the First Peoples House and the Cornett Building, and throughout our outdoor spaces. Totem poles, welcome figures, prints, button blankets and sculptures are reminders that we live and work in traditional Indigenous territories. Take a self-guided walking tour and discover the works of many prominent Indigenous artists.

Centre for Athletics, Recreation and Special Abilities (CARSA)

No matter what your sport or recreational activity, you'll find it at CARSA. Here you can use the state-of-the-art gymnasium, indoor field house, climbing tower, rowing centre, fitness and weight-training centre and sports injury clinic. It's just one of many places on campus to train your mind and body.

Mystic Vale

Lək̓ʷəŋən and W̱SÁNEĆ oral traditions tell us that this is a sacred site and a hunting and harvesting area. Popular walking trails wind through the forest where you'll find cedar, Douglas fir, arbutus, camas, deer, many bird species and traditional plant medicines.

Designed by Indigenous architect Alfred Waugh, the First Peoples House is located in the heart of campus and features house poles carved by Tsawout artist Doug LaFortune.

Welcome Figure (1995) by Floyd Joseph/Tyee (Sḵwx̱wú7mesh). Outside the Engineering Building.

Enjoy the quiet walking trails through the trees in Mystic Vale.

Opportunities matter

Choose from over 100 undergraduate academic programs and 120 graduate programs, some of which emphasize Indigenous language and culture, health and social welfare, and governance and leadership.

- Certificate in Indigenous Language Revitalization
- Certificate in Foundations in Indigenous Fine Arts
- Diploma in Child and Youth Care in Indigenous Communities
- Diploma in Indigenous Community Development and Governance
- Diploma in Indigenous Language Revitalization
- Bachelor of Arts in Indigenous Studies (see below)
- Bachelor of Child and Youth Care (Indigenous Specialization)
- Bachelor of Education in Indigenous Language Revitalization
- Bachelor of Social Work (Indigenous social work or Indigenous child welfare)
- Bachelor in Health and Community Services (Indigenous Peoples' Health Specialization)
- Graduate Certificate in Indigenous Language Revitalization
- Graduate Certificate in Indigenous Nationhood
- Master of Arts in Indigenous Governance
- Master of Arts in Indigenous Language Revitalization
- Master of Education in Indigenous Language Revitalization
- Master of Social Work (Indigenous Specialization)

In addition to the programs listed above, UVic offers nearly 100 undergraduate courses that contain content with an Indigenous focus. UVic is committed to having Indigenous educators in all faculties.

Indigenous studies (BA) program

Indigenous Studies is an exciting area of study that emphasizes Indigenous ways of knowing and learning. Open to Indigenous and non-Indigenous students, the program explores the social, political, cultural and historical contexts that shape the lives and resurgence of Indigenous peoples—here and around the world. The program is offered as a minor and a major.

The world's first joint degree program in Canadian Common Law (JD) and Indigenous Legal Orders (JID)

Combining intensive study of Canadian Common Law and deep engagement with the laws of Indigenous peoples, you'll develop the skills needed to practice within Canadian Common Law, within Indigenous Legal Orders, and at the interface between them.

UVic will be the home of the new National Centre for Indigenous Law (provisional name), which is expected to open in 2024.

What is a program? What is a faculty?

Your **program** is a series of related courses you take to earn a degree.

Your **department** is the academic unit that offers your program.

Your **faculty** is a group of academic departments.

"There is a richness of history in Indigenous laws together with ways of managing that are thousands of years old. They not only help Indigenous peoples to govern ourselves today; they provide the foundation for a new relationship with Canada … and that matters!"

Val Napoleon—Interim Dean of Law, Law Foundation Chair of Indigenous Justice and Governance and Director of the Indigenous Law Research Unit

Sheila Jones

Pacheedaht Nation
Child and Youth Care, 2021

Sheila Jones completed her fourth-year practicum in Child and Youth Care by returning to her home community Pacheedaht for the summer as an integral member of a research team that engaged children, youth and community wellness by revitalizing Nuu-chah-nulth canoe teachings. Photo: Suzanne Ahearne/UVic

Bring your learning into practice

Your experience matters. That's why UVic offers many opportunities to take what you learn in the classroom into real life work and research environments through hands-on learning, co-op placements, internships, field schools and cultural and academic exchanges.

Co-op for Indigenous Students

Take a break from your studies and apply your skills in the community. Our paid co-op placements offer you culturally and professionally relevant work opportunities, and the chance to work with employers related to your program. Employers include community organizations, Indigenous governments, Indigenous companies and government agencies. Learn about many other co-op opportunities at **uvic.ca/coopandcareer.** If you have a specific position in mind, we will work with you to organize your own unique placement.

Sample UVic Co-op Schedule

Alternate terms in school with terms in a job related to your program and get real-world experience as you learn.

YEARS	SEP-DEC	JAN-APR	MAY-AUG
YEAR 1	STUDY	STUDY	FREE SUMMER
YEAR 2	STUDY	STUDY	WORK 4 MONTHS EARN ≈ $12,300
YEAR 3	STUDY	WORK 4 MONTHS EARN ≈ $12,300	STUDY
YEAR 4	WORK 4 MONTHS EARN ≈ $12,300	STUDY	WORK 4 MONTHS EARN ≈ $12,300
YEAR 5	STUDY/GRADUATE		

Graduate with up to **16 months** of work experience and earn up to **$50,000** (on average) over the course of your degree.

LE,NONET

During your time at UVic, you can access academic and leadership programs and needs-based financial aid offered by LE,NONET. You can use LE,NONET courses towards an Indigenous Studies degree or as electives in any other program.

Indigenous exchange in Australia

If studying abroad for a term interests you, you can apply for a co-op work placement at a partner institution in Australia through the Indigenous International Work-Integrated Learning Exchange.

UVic opened a new student housing and dining facility in September 2022! 398 students will be housed in Building One.

Image: Perkins + Will

Nearly
100 courses
with Indigenous content

Join the Native Students Union to take part in cultural activities and guide decisions that affect Indigenous students at UVic.

Your community

Whether you're coming from a small town, a big city or an Indigenous community, UVic offers plenty of support with your transition to university life.

People

Campus Cousins

Campus Cousins are friendly upper-level Indigenous students who will welcome you at exciting social, cultural and recreational activities on and off campus.

Native Students Union

The Native Students Union is an organization run for and by Indigenous students. You'll have the opportunity to form community, support each other, advocate for Indigenous rights and wellbeing, and just exist together at UVic.

Elders in Residence

Elders are the keepers of sacred stories, songs, language, culture and traditions. You can stop by and visit one of the Elders at the First Peoples House for a friendly chat or cultural guidance.

Indigenous Counsellors

Our Indigenous Counsellors are here to help you navigate your transition to university life, and to support you throughout your journey. This free service is open to all Indigenous students.

Services

On-campus housing

If you're coming to UVic directly out of high school, you're eligible for a space in residence through the first-year guarantee. If you are a first-year student you need to apply for housing before **May 1**. If you're not a current high school student, you can apply for on-campus housing and request a space in our dedicated Indigenous housing. These spaces are limited and successful applicants will be selected on a first-come, first-served basis. This accommodation is available for single undergraduate and graduate students. There are also dedicated spaces in Family Housing for students and their families. For more information and residence application deadlines, see **uvic.ca/residence**.

Academic supports

If you need extra support in math and academic writing, our tutors are here to help you improve your skills with no cost to you. You can connect with the Office of Indigenous Academic and Community Engagement in The First Peoples House to learn about academic supports.

Events

Indigenous Week of Welcome

At the beginning of the September and January terms, you can take part in the Indigenous Week of Welcome, which includes activities like welcome feasts and cultural workshops. Meet the Elders in Residence, the Indigenous staff and generally get your term off to a start in a good way.

Wellness events

Throughout the year you can take part in wellness activities at the First Peoples House that can help reduce the stress that sometimes comes with being a student.

Cultural activities

You can connect with Indigenous cultural practices by taking part in activities like preparing traditional foods and learning to make a drum or ribbon skirt at the First Peoples House.

Connect with Elders and community members at events in the First Peoples House.

See how our Indigenous student-body is growing!

Nearly every year since 2002, the number of Indigenous students enrolled at UVic has risen.

In 2002, 529 Indigenous students were enrolled at UVic. By 2022, that number nearly tripled to 1,515!

Invest in your future

Your UVic education is a valuable investment that will reward you throughout your life. Finances should not be a barrier. No matter your financial situation, UVic offers opportunities to offset the cost of university through scholarships, awards, bursaries, co-op, work study and more.

SAMPLE FIRST-YEAR COSTS*	COST
Domestic tuition for all programs except engineering programs and Computer Science	$6,044
Domestic tuition for engineering programs	$7,116
Domestic tuition for Computer Science	$6,688
International tuition for all programs except engineering programs and Computer Science	$27,836
International tuition for engineering programs	$32,695
International tuition for Computer Science	$30,035
Books and supplies (estimated)	$2,000
Student fees	$876
Single-occupancy room with a standard meal plan	$12,418
Single-occupancy room in new residence with a standard meal plan	$12,667
Economy double room with a standard meal plan	$9,626
Double-occupancy room with a standard meal plan	$10,879
Cluster room (does not include meal plan)	$7,594

***Tuition and student fees are based on September to April 2022-23 rates.** Eight months of study (five courses per term except engineering programs which require 11 courses in the first 2 terms). Tuition figures are estimates. Final costs will be determined by the student's actual registration. All figures may be subject to change. On-campus residence rates based on September to April 2022-23 rates. All figures in Canadian dollars.

Plan your budget at uvic.ca/whatdoesitcost.

How will I fund my education?

SCHOLARSHIPS, AWARDS AND BURSARIES

Scholarships and awards are rewards for your academic achievement. A bursary is a payment awarded on the basis of financial need. For a complete list of scholarships, awards and bursaries, visit uvic.ca/safa.

In-course scholarships

In-course scholarships become available once you have completed a full-time academic year.

Athletic awards

UVic encourages you to participate in athletics and offers over 120 athletics awards.

Scholarships, awards and bursaries for Indigenous students

UVic offers over 90 scholarships, awards and bursaries to First Nations (status/non-status), Inuit and Métis students. To be eligible, you will need to self-identify as Indigenous on your admission application.

Scholarships, awards and bursaries from your faculty or program

Once you're a UVic student, you can apply for scholarships, awards and bursaries for students in your faculty or program.

BC provincial tuition waiver program

If you have been a youth in care in BC for at least 24 months and you're between 19 and 26 years old, you are eligible for the BC Provincial Tuition Waiver. This program covers the cost of tuition and fees charged by the post-secondary institution for any credit or non-credit courses leading to a certificate, diploma, credential or undergraduate degree.

External awards

Visit uvic.ca/safa for a list of external awards.

Bursaries

Indigenous students with identified financial need are eligible to apply for LE,NONET bursaries. Visit uvic.ca/safa for a list of bursaries open to all UVic students.

UVic Youth in Care Tuition Award

If you have been a youth in care in BC for at least 12 months, you are eligible for the UVic Youth in Care Tuition Award. It covers tuition and fees for the terms required for the completion of a first undergraduate degree. Eligible applicants may also receive funding to assist with the costs of books, supplies and living expenses. If you are transferring from another college or university, you are welcome to apply. Learn more at uvic.ca/safa.

Emergency funds

If you face unexpected financial hardships while attending UVic, you can meet with the Office of Indigenous Academic and Community Engagement to apply for emergency funding.

Nation or band funding

Some bands and nations have funding to support your education. Contact your band, Nation, Métis organization or your UVic Indigenous recruiter to learn more.

Scholarships

As a domestic or international high school student, or if you have graduated within the last two years, you may be eligible for entrance scholarships when you receive a conditional offer of admission based on your in-progress or final grades. For deadlines, see uvic.ca/entrancescholarships.

Non-Canadian citizens from high schools outside of Canada who have an A average or higher may be eligible for entrance scholarships.

Additional scholarships are available to:

- Women and Indigenous Engineering and Computer Science students with a minimum admission average of 85%,
- Indigenous students and
- International Baccalaureate students.

If you meet more than one scholarship criteria, scholarships may be combinable! Scholarship values change each year. Learn how and when to apply for scholarships at uvic.ca/entrancescholarships.

Interested in learning more about how you will fund your UVic education?

Our UVic Indigenous recruiters are happy to meet with you to walk you through funding, scholarships and bursaries—and anything else you'd like to know.

Contact your UVic Indigenous recruiter via the email address or phone number on the back cover of this book.

Get your questions answered. Speak with a recruiter. Learn about upcoming UVic events. uvic.ca/undergraduate

Learn about student life on MyUVic Life – a blog for students by students. uvic.ca/myuviclife

Get your questions answered by current UVic students.
My First Year @ UVic

See what our amazing campus life is like.
@universityofvictoria

Book a campus tour. uvic.ca/tour

Take a virtual tour right now. uvic.ca/virtualtour

Learn more about UVic's Indigenous Academics and Community.
@UVicIACE

Scan here to create your own Custom Viewbook!
customviewbook.uvic.ca

Contact your Indigenous recruiter

Email: indigenous.recruiter@uvic.ca | **Phone:** 250-853-3729

University of Victoria

Student Recruitment, Jamie Cassels Centre, Office B210, 3800 Finnerty Road, Victoria, BC, V8P 5C2

Cover: Elementary Education student Ivorye Parent (Songhees), takes inspiration at the Songhees Wellness Centre. Loon centrepiece carving by Butch Dick. House pole carvings a collaboration between Butch Dick, Bradley Dick, Clarence Dick, Fabian Quocksister, Mike Charlie Jr., Tom Lafortune and Clark Gilahad.