

The University of Victoria Undergraduate Calendar 2019–2020

January 2020 Edition



The University of Victoria operates under the authority of the University Act (RSBC 1996 c. 468) which provides for a Convocation, Board of Governors, Senate and Faculties. The University Act describes the powers and responsibilities of those bodies, as well as the duties of the officers of the University. Copies of this Act are held in the University Library.

The official academic year begins on May 1. Changes in Calendar regulations take effect May 1, September 1, and January 1 of each academic year unless otherwise approved by the Senate. Nevertheless, the University reserves the right to revise or cancel at any time any rule or regulation published in this Calendar or its supplements. The Calendar is published three times per year in the spring (effective May 1), summer (effective September 1) and winter (effective January 1) by the Office of the Registrar, Student Affairs, under authority granted by the Senate of the University.

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Welcome to UVic!

The University of Victoria is a great place for learning. It's not surprising that Maclean's magazine consistently ranks UVic as one of the top comprehensive universities in Canada. With over 20,000 students, UVic combines the best features of both small and large universities.

If you are a new student, you probably have a lot of questions about student life at UVic. Here are some answers to get you started.

HOW DO I APPLY FOR ADMISSION?

The easiest way to apply is through our website at <www.uvic.ca/apply>. You can link to other information you'll need, like program requirements, deadlines, course descriptions and all the other services at UVic. If you don't have internet access, please contact Undergraduate Admissions.

Keep in mind that as well as completing an application form and paying application fees, you'll have to provide your marks and/or official transcripts from secondary school and any post-secondary institutions you've attended. See "Undergraduate Admission" (page 31) for further details.

HOW DO I CHOOSE WHAT TO STUDY?

Your choice of courses will depend on your academic goal. Most programs at UVic lead to a degree, but there are also many diploma and certificate programs. You'll find a list of these in "Programs Offered" (page 30).

If you're planning to begin a degree at UVic, you'll first have to qualify for admission to a faculty or school offering that degree; these include the Peter B. Gustavson School of Business, the faculties of Education, Engineering, Fine Arts, Human and Social Development, Humanities, Law, Science, Social Sciences and Graduate Studies. You'll find a list of the degrees offered in "Programs Offered" (page 30). See specific minimum admission requirements in "Undergraduate Admission" (page 31).

In most faculties, you will also enter a department. Departments specialize in different fields of study. (The Faculty of Science, for example, includes the Departments of Biology and Chemistry, as well as others.) Use the table of contents to locate information about the faculty, school or department you plan to enter. Use the index to find information about a particular field of study (for example, nursing or computer science).

Each faculty and department entry in the Calendar includes information on the degree programs available and their course requirements. To learn more about particular courses, check the individual course descriptions in the Courses section of the Calendar.

WHERE CAN I GET ADVICE ABOUT MY STUDIES?

If you are still trying to settle on your academic goal or decide what you want to do after university, UVic Counselling Services can help. Visit their website at <www.uvic.ca/services/counselling/> to get an idea of the services available, or drop by their office in the University Centre, room B270.

For help with choosing a program of studies, contact the advising service in the faculty or program you're planning to enter. Academic advisers are a great resource for students. Advisers can help you plan your program, decide which courses to take and find out which courses you can transfer to UVic. Advising services for each faculty and program are listed at <www.uvic.ca/current-students/home/academic-advising/index.php>.

HOW DO I REGISTER FOR COURSES?

Once you have received an offer of admission and paid your acceptance deposit, you will register online for courses through "My page" at <www.uvic.ca/mypage>. You can also visit <[\[students/home/course-registration/index.php\]\(http://www.uvic.ca/current-students/home/course-registration/index.php\)> for registration tips and tutorials.](http://www.uvic.ca/current-</p>
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HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?

The total cost of your education depends on several factors such as the number of classes you take, your means of transportation and your living arrangements.

For an estimate of typical costs, please visit the "Tuition fee estimator" at <www.uvic.ca/vpfo/accounting/services/tuition/tuitionestimator/index.php>.

WHAT FINANCIAL HELP CAN I GET?

For most students, a university education requires considerable financial planning. The Student Awards and Financial Aid office is the place to get information and advice about funding your studies. Visit their website at <www.uvic.ca/registrar/safa/>.

Here are some of the options worth exploring.

Student loans:

The provincial and federal governments offer loans to students who need help funding their education. To qualify for a loan, you must be taking at least 4.5 units of courses (usually, three courses) for credit each term and show that you need financial assistance. Students with a permanent disability must be taking 3.0 units of courses for credit each term.

Work study:

This program provides jobs on campus to students requiring financial assistance.

Scholarships:

Scholarships, medals and prizes are awarded to students for excellence in their academic studies. They do not have to be repaid. The scholarships website is <www.uvic.ca/registrar/safa/>.

Bursaries:

Bursaries provide assistance to students who need financial help. They do not have to be repaid. There are bursaries for students entering UVic from secondary school or college, and for students who are already attending UVic.

You'll find complete information on all of these sources of financial help at the Student Awards and Financial Aid website at <www.uvic.ca/registrar/safa/>.

WHAT IS CO-OP EDUCATION?

Co-op education allows students to combine their academic studies with paid work experience related to their field of study. Co-op is one of the best ways of gaining competencies (skills, knowledge and attributes) and experience so that you're well prepared for the job market after graduation.

UVic's Co-op Education Program is one of the largest in Canada. Co-op programs are available in all faculties and offer everything from Chemistry to Women's Studies. Visit the Co-op Programs website at <www.uvic.ca/coopandcareer> for a list of all the Co-op programs at UVic and for information on becoming a Co-op student.

HOW DO I GET MY STUDENT CARD?

You must wait at least 24 hours after you register, then visit the Photo ID and Information Centre in the University Centre to have your photo taken for your student ID card. For information, go to <www.uvic.ca/photoid>.

How Do I Find My Way Around Campus?

UVic's new Welcome Centre is the best place to get directions, information or take a tour of our stunning campus. Friendly staff and student guides provide an overview of UVic's student support services, share their experience and answer your questions about everything "UVic." To find out more about our services and campus visits, please visit www.uvic.ca/welcome.

The New Student Orientation Program is another great way to prepare for life at UVic. The program gives you exclusive access to important UVic services before classes begin. Tour the campus, meet friendly people and find out about UVic's many student services. For more information about the New Student Orientation Program, please visit our website: www.uvic.ca/orientation.

During the first week of September, look for the ASK ME sign in the lobby of the University Centre where you can get answers to any questions you have about UVic.

Get a free handbook/calendar from the UVic Students' Society (UVSS) in the Student Union Building (SUB). The handbook contains a daily planner to help you get organized, a guide to services at UVic and a phone directory.

The UVSS also sponsors Weeks of Welcome (WOW) during September. This is a fun way to make friends, join clubs and find out about services available in the SUB. Find out more about WOW events at www.uvss.ca or web.uvic.ca/gss.

Good luck with your studies.

And again, welcome to UVic!