INFORMATION FOR PARTNER UNIVERSITIES & INCOMING STUDENTS
2020 — 2021

VIU website: www.viu.ca
Current students: https://www.viu.ca/students
Inbound Exchange Students: https://international.viu.ca/education-abroad/incoming-exchange
Timetable for course selection: https://isapp.viu.ca/srs/timetable.htm
Language of instruction: English

APPLICATION DEADLINES

Nominations are accepted by email from VIU exchange partner institutions. Incoming exchange students may be eligible for study for up to two semesters. Exchange programs are run on a reciprocal basis and students pay tuition fees to their home institutions. VIU medical insurance fees apply.

Partner nominations: March 15th for the following Fall & Spring semesters.
Student applications: March 31st for the following Fall & Spring semesters.

Note: Late nominations for Spring semester may be accepted depending on course availability.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

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<th>Fall Semester</th>
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<td>International Orientation</td>
<td>August 29 &amp; 30</td>
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<td>First Day of Classes</td>
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<td>Last Day of Classes</td>
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<td>Exam Period</td>
<td>December 14—23</td>
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VIU Schedule of Dates: https://www.viu.ca/registration/academic-program-2020-2021
There are no academic classes for exchange students during summer semester.

Education Abroad Office
educationabroad@viu.ca
P: +1 250 753 3245 local 2494
F: +1 250 740 6471

Vancouver Island University
900 Fifth Street
Nanaimo, BC
Canada V9R 5S5

VIU Education Abroad
Where your learning takes flight
HOW TO APPLY

Nominated students apply online: https://international.viu.ca/admissions.
Note: this form is accessible using Chrome or Mozilla browsers. Internet Explorer is not compatible.

Application fee: Exchange students do not pay the $150 application fee.
To override this fee, select ‘Cheque/Money Order’ as the Method of Payment in the application form.

Select your program:

Open Academic Programs - Registration for these courses is open to all students but classes will fill quickly.

Management
Arts & Humanity
Social Sciences
Science & Technology

Business
English, Literature, History, Media Studies, Indigenous Studies, French, Spanish, Japanese
Anthropology, Geography, Global Studies, Liberal Studies, Philosophy, Political Science, Sociology, Psychology
Computing Science, Math, Chemistry, Earth Sciences, 1 year of Physics/Engineering, Astronomy, Biology

Management
Arts & Humanities
Social Sciences
Science & Technology

Tourism Management, Recreation & Sport Management, Hospitality Management
Graphic Design, Visual Arts, Interior Design, Jazz, Theatre
Criminology
Fisheries & Aquaculture, Forestry, Resource Management

Open “Limited Entry” Programs - Course seats are reserved for cohorts accepted in these programs. If space is available, exchange students may register in these classes.

Management
Arts & Humanities
Social Sciences
Science & Technology

Tourism Management, Recreation & Sport Management, Hospitality Management
Graphical Design, Visual Arts, Interior Design, Jazz, Theatre
Criminology
Fisheries & Aquaculture, Forestry, Resource Management

Program exclusions: Graduate Programs & the English Language Centre. If the program you are interested in is not listed above, contact EducationAbroad@viu.ca regarding whether the program is available to Exchange students.

Supporting documents to submit at time of application:

1. University transcripts (do not provide your high school transcripts)
2. Copy of the photo page of your passport
3. Proof of English language proficiency* 
4. Certified English translation of any documents issued in a language other than English

*Proof of English language proficiency. The most commonly provided proof of English language proficiency is:

- IELTS 6.5 (with no band under 6.0)
- TOEFL IBT 88 (with no section under 20)
- DAAD (CEF B2 or equivalent)
- Common European Framework B2 level

For a full list of tests to demonstrate English language proficiency, visit https://international.viu.ca/admissions

The International Admissions Department will process your application only after all documents are submitted. Allow 2-3 weeks for processing once all of your documents have been received. Applicants who do not submit proof of English language proficiency with their application will be issued a Conditional Letter of Acceptance. Acceptance will be revoked if proof of English language proficiency is not received prior to July 15.

A Conditional Letter of Acceptance meets the requirements to register for courses, and to apply for travel documents to Canada.
REGISTRATION
Course registration for Fall & Spring semesters both happen beginning in May. Accepted students will receive their individual registration date and instructions by email.

Plan your course registrations in advance using the VIU Timetable system. Visit https://international.viu.ca/course-registration for more information.

PREREQUISITES
Students must demonstrate that they hold the necessary prerequisites for their prospective courses at VIU. In addition to official transcripts, VIU may request additional documentation such as course descriptions or syllabi to confirm prerequisites during course registration.

VIU English & Literature Courses:
Students who come from countries where the language of instruction is not in English are only permitted to take ENGL 115, 125 or 135 during their first semester of study, and ENGL 115, 125, 135, 204 or 207 during their second semester of study.

ACADEMIC COURSE LOAD
- Minimum: 3 courses (9 credits)
- Maximum: 5 courses (15 credits)
- Full course load: 5 courses (15 credits)

If registered in more credits/courses, the applicable international tuition & fees will apply and the student will be responsible for completing payment by the appropriate deadline or may be subject to late fee charges (see https://international.viu.ca/fees).

COURSE FEES
The application fee, tuition fees, and student society and activity fees are waived for exchange students. Students are responsible for all other costs (housing, books, transportation, medical insurance, study permit if required, etc).

MEDICAL INSURANCE — MANDATORY
Students are required to have adequate insurance while studying in Canada. VIU students are automatically enrolled into Guard.Me insurance for their duration of study at VIU as they are ineligible for medical insurance through the VIU Student Union (VIUSU). Exchange students are not eligible to opt out of their Guard.Me insurance.

The approximate cost is $249.50 per semester (4 months’ coverage). Students staying for longer than 3 months are to also enroll in the provincial medical services plan (BC MSP).

Please see https://international.viu.ca/medical for more information.

OTHER COSTS
Use the cost calculator to get an estimate of living expenses (books, transit, housing, food, etc).
Note: Tuition, activity fees, and student union fees do not apply to exchange students but will appear in the estimate.

Please see https://international.viu.ca/cost-calculator for more information.

STUDENT SERVICES
The Faculty of International Education provides advising and counseling for exchange students. VIU offers a wide array of services to all students, including advising, counseling, disability services, health & wellness centre, gym facilities & weight room, etc.

Please see https://services.viu.ca/student-affairs for more information.
TRAVELING TO NANAIMO

Nanaimo is located on Vancouver Island in British Columbia (BC), Canada. Review these travel tips that explain travel by airplane or ferry: [https://international.viu.ca/your-arrival](https://international.viu.ca/your-arrival)

**Air Travel:** Can be arranged directly to the Nanaimo airport (YCD)

**Ferry:** For students who do not fly directly to Nanaimo, there are two ferry routes from Vancouver ([www.bcferries.com](http://www.bcferries.com))
- Horseshoe Bay to Departure Bay (RECOMMENDED for transit availability)
- Tsawwassen to Duke Point

**Pick Up:** There is no airport pick up for students staying in on-campus residences or off-campus. For students who enroll in the VIU Homestay Program, a pick up from YCD may be arranged with the host family.

Students should plan to arrive in time to attend the International Student Orientation.

ACCOMMODATION

**Student Residence**

On-Campus Student Residences offer 3 room styles and a social atmosphere with common living spaces.

- Application fee $100; Refundable damage deposit $250; rooms range from $500 to $900 per month depending on the type of until selected/available. Students must provide their own bedding and kitchen utensils.

Please visit [https://residences.viu.ca](https://residences.viu.ca) for more information or to apply through the online portal. Apply by May 1.

**VIU Homestay**

VIU Homestay is an opportunity to live with and be part of a Canadian family.

- Application fee $250; Refundable deposit $850; rate is $850 per month for homestay with meals or $500 per month for homestay without meals.

Please visit [https://international.viu.ca/homestay](https://international.viu.ca/homestay) for more information or to apply. Apply a minimum of 6 weeks prior to the start of your program.

**Off-Campus**

VIU recommends using [www.places4students.com](http://www.places4students.com) to search for off-campus housing.

Please visit [https://international.viu.ca/housing](https://international.viu.ca/housing) for more information.

Education Abroad recommends that students explore on-campus or homestay options first. If you prefer to make your own housing arrangements, the off-campus housing links above may be helpful. Students should plan to arrive early and make short-term living arrangements to allow time to find a suitable rental for your needs.

VIU STUDENT LIFE

Extensive social and recreation programs and facilities are also available, allowing students to explore the unique region through field trips, tours, activities and intramurals. Students can register prior to arrival. Fees apply.

Student Activities: [https://international.viu.ca/student-life-and-activities](https://international.viu.ca/student-life-and-activities)

Campus Recreation: [https://viu.ca/campusrec](https://viu.ca/campusrec)

VIU Students’ Union Clubs & Events: [www.viusu.ca](http://www.viusu.ca)

STUDENT SUPPORT

[https://international.viu.ca/student-support](https://international.viu.ca/student-support)

[https://international.viu.ca/academic-success](https://international.viu.ca/academic-success)

TRAVEL VANCOUVER ISLAND

[https://vancouverisland.travel](https://vancouverisland.travel)

[https://www.tourismnanaimo.com/](https://www.tourismnanaimo.com/)

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