

University of Victoria International Centre for Students – Exchange Program



Websites

University of Victoria UVic uvic.ca
International Centre for Students uvic.ca/ics
Incoming Exchange Students uvic.ca/incomingexchange

UVIC CONTACTS

International Centre for Students (ICS)

Tricia Best, Director
ICS Operational Lead

icsdir@uvic.ca
250-721-6020

Ruth Wax, Manager, Education Abroad
Partnerships and Parity

ruthwax@uvic.ca
250-721-6361

Christian Bergmeister, Exchange Student Adviser
Nominations, Applications, and Student Advising

goglobal@uvic.ca
250-721-6361

Marta de Freitas, Programs Assistant
Communications and Administration

goglobal@uvic.ca
250-721-6361

Global Engagement

Xianjing Zhang, Global Engagement Officer
Exchange Agreements

globalagreements@uvic.ca

Mailing Address

International Centre for Students
University of Victoria
P.O. Box 3025 STN CSC
Victoria, BC V8W 3P2 Canada

Courier Address

International Centre for Students
University of Victoria
Room B202d, Jamie Cassels Centre
3800 Finnerty Road (Ring Road)
Victoria, BC V8P 5C2 Canada

Important Dates

Academic Year Dates: September 2025 to April 2026

First/Fall Term: September 3 to December 20, 2025 (Exam period: December 6 to 20)

Second/Spring Term: January to April 2026 (Specific dates TBD)

Complete list of important dates at UVic: Important Dates



NOMINATION PROCESS

Nomination deadline for first and second term: **April 1, 2025.**

Required Information: Student's name, email address, proposed exchange term, area of study, and level of study (Undergraduate or Graduate). Please complete a separate form for each student you wish to nominate. Link to form: <https://forms.office.com/r/2pD6Rxy4yw>

APPLICATION PROCESS

Application deadline for first and second term: **May 1, 2025.**

Student Application Form: UVic International Centre for Students Exchange Application

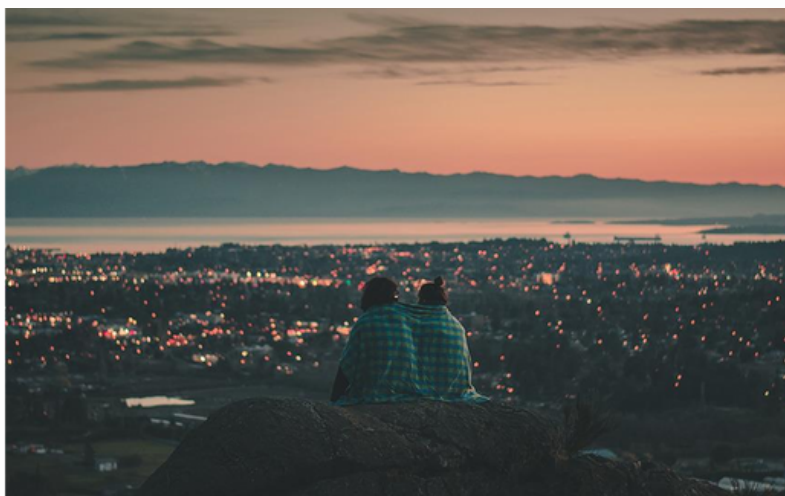
Required documents to be submitted through application form: current passport, a recent passport-size photograph, official academic transcript, list of currently registered courses (if not listed on transcript)

Acceptance email: Once admitted to UVic, students will receive an email that includes the student's UVic identification number, a letter of admission, and information about preparing for study at UVic.

Note: All incoming exchange students to UVic are admitted in the Faculty of Social Sciences. This will not affect the courses they will be able to register in.

Graduate Students Exchange Program

Students wishing to take courses at the graduate level will be required to get course permissions from the relevant UVic departments. The ICS exchange team will liaise with these students to request course registration permission from the UVic department(s) where the student plans to complete courses. The student's registration will be approved on a course-by-course basis.





ENGLISH REQUIREMENTS

The language of instruction at UVic is English. **We do not require incoming exchange students to provide proof of satisfying UVic's English Language requirement.** We trust that our partners will select and nominate students whose proficiency in English is suitable for a university in which courses are taught in English. UVic English Requirements are TOEFL iBT 90 (No section less than 20) OR IELTS 6.5 (No band less than 6.0)

Non-English majors planning to take an English course should take the Academic Writing Self Placement Test. Select: 1) Academic Writing Requirement (AWR), 2) Selecting an AWR-designated course, 3) self-placement questionnaire. **For-credit English courses** are available for incoming exchange students with permission from the English Department.



A non-credit English course (ENGL 099) is available for English as an Additional Language students.

A Business English and Communications course (COM 206) may be open to English as an Additional Language students if there is space available.

The UVic English Language Centre offers English courses for an additional fee in the summer before the September exchange term. The ELC programs include tests that meet the UVic admission criteria. Once students complete the ELC program successfully, they are ready for courses at UVic.





COURSE SELECTION AND REGISTRATION

Once students are accepted into the UVic ICS Student Exchange Program they will receive step-by-step instructions for course selection, course registration, and timetable planning in an email. Students will need to confirm with their home adviser for the number of courses that they are required to take at UVic.

Course Catalogue: UVic Calendar: Courses by Subject Area

Please note: not all courses listed are offered every year.

Current timetable information is available on the UVic Class Schedule Search

Course Registration: Students are required to register for first and second term courses on-line in June.

Registration Restrictions: Exchange students are restricted from registration in Business, Education, Engineering, Human and Social Development, and Law courses unless the exchange agreement with our partner university includes these Faculties. A limited selection of unrestricted courses in Business are available for registration on a case-by-case basis.

EXCHANGE TRANSFER CREDIT

All exchange students should consult with their home exchange adviser regarding exchange transfer credit and how your UVic course credits will transfer back to your home institution.

Typically, each single-term course at UVic is worth 1.5 units and a full-time student would register in 6.0 units per term.

For reference, 1.5 UVic units is equal to 6 ECTS.



TRANSFER SYSTEM (ECTS) CREDITS

UVic Undergraduate Grading Scale: Undergraduate Programs

UVic Graduate Grading Scale: Graduate Programs



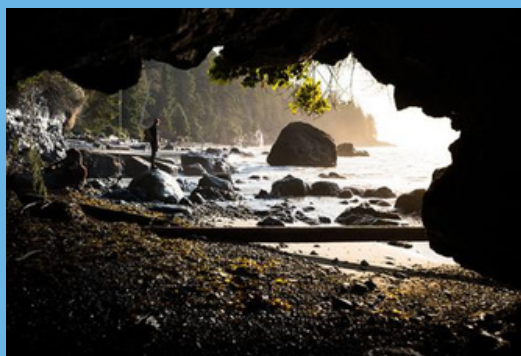
PREPARING FOR UVIC

Information about immigration documents, health insurance, working in Canada, and other important topics is available on the International Centre for Students website: [Living in Victoria](#)

Health Insurance: Exchange students are automatically enrolled in the [guard.me@UVic](#) medical insurance plan

Fee: \$265.00 assessed upon course registration at UVic.

This plan covers required medical services to address new and unexpected illness or injury. The coverage is for a registered student's first 4-month academic term at UVic (September to December, January to April, or May to August).



UVIC ORIENTATION

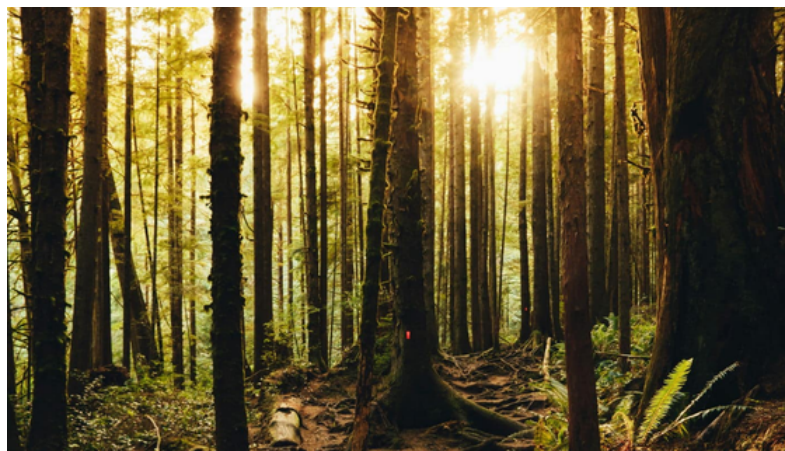
UVic offers a comprehensive orientation program to assist new students with their transition to academic and student life in Canada. Please note there is no fee for the following UVic orientation events.

Arrival in Canada: Incoming exchange students should plan to arrive in Canada in advance of the orientation events.

International Student Welcome event: Offers relevant information about immigration documents, health insurance, banking, cell phone plans, Canadian culture and much more.

UVic Orientation: UVic offers orientation events for all new students.

Registering for UVic Orientation events: Registration is required for the International Student Welcome event and other UVic Orientation events. Details will be available on the UVic Orientation website a few months prior to the start of term.



ON-CAMPUS HOUSING

Residence Services at UVic offers on-campus dormitory rooms or Cluster units (private bedroom with shared kitchen and living room). Dormitory rooms include a mandatory Meal Plan.

Priority Consideration

Students with specialized housing requirements or who require priority admittance to housing outside of current admissions practices or eligibility criteria, based on restrictions or limitations resulting from disability, chronic health conditions, dietary restrictions, or other considerations, are asked to submit a Priority Consideration Request (PCR) as part of their housing application. Details about PCR can be found on the Students with Specialized Housing Requirements section of our website. Information about room types, communities, and room rates while living on campus can be found on the Residence Services website.

Applying for On-Campus Housing:

Once students have been accepted to the ICS Exchange Program and have received their UVic Student number (which begins with V00), and have created their Netlink ID, they may apply for on-campus housing through the housing portal. Students without a V0 number will not be eligible for on-campus housing. Important application dates can be found on the Residence Services website.

Application Process

Residence application fee is CAD\$50 (non-refundable). UVic on-campus residence spaces are limited. Placement is not guaranteed for all applicants.



Cancellation Fee: On-campus accommodation is limited, therefore cancellation fees apply. See the Refund and Cancellation Policies in the Residence Contract for more information



Minimum Course Registration Requirement for on-campus housing:

Exchange students living in on-campus housing must be enrolled in a minimum of 4.5 UVic units per term.

Arrivals

Students with confirmed room bookings will be emailed their scheduled arrival date. **Do not book your flights until your arrival date has been confirmed by Residence Services.** For further information, [contact Residence Services](#).



Early Arrivals are only approved for Term 1 (Sept-Dec) and must be received in writing through the online application and within the request deadlines. Early arrivals are not permitted for Term 2 (Jan-April), and students are able to arrive only on the date given to them by Residence Services (via their room assignment email). Please check the Residence Services website's Arriving Early section in July for information on how to apply for an early arrival for Term 1 (Sept-Dec).

Moving in to On-Campus Housing Early

Only students who are registered for UVic's International Student Welcome event in late August will be eligible to apply for early arrival to on-campus housing. Additional fees apply. Only students who have been approved for an Early Arrival are able to move-in prior to their scheduled check-in date.



Departures

You are required to move out of your residence 24 hours after the end of the final exam period. Do not book your return flight home until you have confirmed your residence departure date. Otherwise you will be required to find alternative housing while waiting for your scheduled flight home

Additional Information

Students who apply for both term sessions will be prioritized in the room assignment process. Residence Services sends room offers from May to late August via email. Once you have your student number and can log-in to your Online Tools, ensure that your My Page account has your current email address and that you are checking your emails daily.



OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING

Students can choose to organize their own living arrangements off campus. Students planning to live off campus should **arrive ahead of the start of classes** in order to allow for enough time to find housing. More information is available on the ICS website: [Off-campus housing](#)

UVIC GLOBAL COMMUNITY

The **UVic Global Community** initiative provides opportunities and space for international and domestic students, staff, and faculty to share perspectives, celebrate diversity, foster intercultural connections, and cultivate an inclusive, globally minded campus

Website: [UVic Global Community](#)

Join the **UVic Global Community Facebook Group** for daily information about student life, on and off campus events, education abroad programs, funding opportunities, and more!

To join the UVic GC Facebook Group, go to: [UVic Global Community Facebook Group](#)

The International Current Newsletter is a bi-weekly online publication that provides important dates and information, features opportunities for studying abroad, and highlights intercultural engagement, both locally and around the globe.

[International Current Newsletter - Previous Editions](#)



Subscribe to the International Current

The GC Mentorship Program is an opportunity for students who are interested in intercultural connections and offers friendship and guidance for students as they navigate their social and academic transition to UVic and to Canada.

To request a GC Mentor, complete the online application form: [Mentorship Program Application](#)

The GC Conversation Partners Program provides students with opportunities to practice and improve their conversational English skills all while building global relationships.

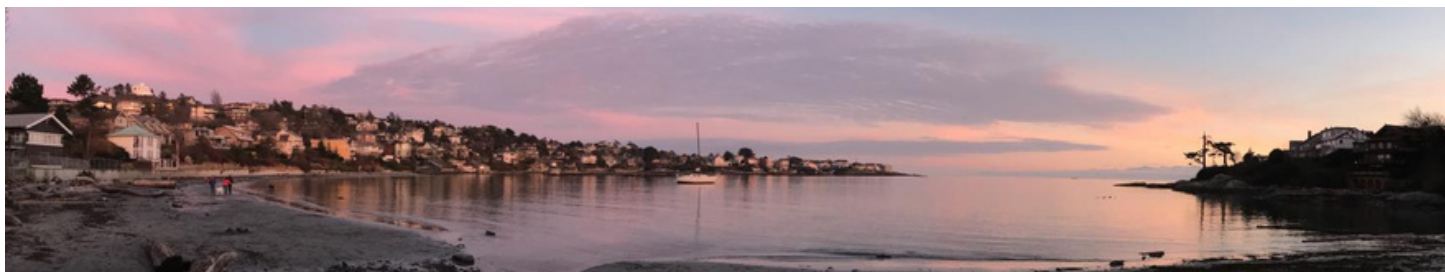
To request a GC Conversation Partner, complete the online application form: [Conversation Partner Program Application](#)

Presentations, Workshops and Events: GC partnerships, connections and collaborations create many opportunities for students to engage with the campus community!

International Students find a home at UVic: [Check out this great video!](#)

Official Transcripts

After the final exam period and once all final grades have been submitted, digital official transcripts will be emailed to the international office at the student's home university. Students can also view their grades and unofficial transcript by logging on to their My Page account.



Discover UVic

Consistently ranked among the top three Canadian comprehensive universities, UVic is renowned for its beautiful campus and opportunities to make a difference. We're a vibrant Pacific Rim community, rich with Indigenous and international perspectives. It's no coincidence that we have world-leading programs in environmental restoration, oceans, climate change and Indigenous research. Surrounded by forest and the Salish Sea, UVic is full of green spaces, thoughtfully designed facilities and state-of-the-art libraries, and offers one of the world's most unique and stimulating campus environments to live and learn for its 18,000 undergraduate students.

UVic's Virtual Tour: [Virtual Tour](#)

Find out what the University of Victoria offers: [About UVic](#)

UVic's academic environment: [Discover your Edge at UVic](#)

Student tour of Victoria: [7 Spots for International Students to EXPLORE in Victoria, Canada video](#)

Follow us on Instagram: [UVic International](#)

Contact us for photos!

More information: Learn more about Victoria and British Columbia:

- [Tourism Victoria](#)
- [Victoria Destination British Columbia](#)
- [UVic Future Students: About Victoria](#)