

Indigenous Arts

CERTIFICATE

Why study Indigenous Arts: Honouring our Gifts?

The Indigenous Arts certificate is a unique one-year program open to new and experienced artists. Its purpose is to combine traditional and contemporary practical skills with professional and entrepreneurial knowledge.

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The Indigenous Arts certificate has been designed cooperatively by indigenous educators and visual arts faculty with a desire to expand indigenous world view at UFV. Inspired by traditional and contemporary approaches to indigenous artistry, students will be inspired to create works that acknowledge customary protocols and cultural contexts. The one-year program will focus on a specific indigenous art practice, such as carving or textiles. Courses are designed so students acquire relevant knowledge and skills in professional practice, which may lead to a career as a professional artist, designer, entrepreneur, or as a facilitator of cultural tourism. The program culminates in the ceremonial presentation of a final project and professional portfolio allowing students to further promote their indigenous culture through exhibition and sales of artwork.

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“The class is open to everyone from all cultures as we are here to learn the skills of carving and to know who we are. Be in the moment.”

— FRANCIS HORNE SR.
Khut whee mul uch.

Indigenous Arts



“This course has been a really big thing for me and it has brought a lot into my life. You’re not just learning to carve, you’re learning life skills. You learn patience and respect, and a lot of teachings that you don’t just incorporate into carving. You use them in everyday life.”

— ALISON BUFFALO, GRADUATE 2009.

WHY CONSIDER EARNING THE INDIGENOUS ARTS: HONOURING OUR GIFTS CERTIFICATE AT UFV?

UFV has a long history of collaboration with local indigenous communities resulting in culturally-sensitive programming for all students. UFV’s vibrant Visual Arts department provides small class sizes, a supportive academic environment, and the opportunity to explore indigenous art forms.

The program is dynamic and multidisciplinary, with a curriculum that is sensitive to the social and political issues that affect indigenous art practices today.

The vibrant, creative atmosphere in the Visual Arts department and the small class sizes provide an unprecedented opportunity to study indigenous art-making in a supportive academic environment.

WHO WILL BE TEACHING ME?

Our instructors bring a wide variety of academic and professional backgrounds and share an understanding of Aboriginal world views.

Instructional support is provided by established artists, entrepreneurs, business professionals, and mentors who are immersed in the practice of indigenous art production. In addition, the certificate is delivered under the guidance of an advisory committee of indigenous professionals in the arts.

WHAT DO I NEED TO GET IN?

You will need to have a BC secondary school graduation or equivalent, or be 19 years of age or older before the first day of class.

You will also be required to:

- Attend an information session
- Attend an interview
- Submit a portfolio at the interview that consists of at least five current works
- Submit a letter of intent and a letter of community support
- Demonstrate personal preparedness and commitment to undertake this program of studies
- Substantiate strong ties to an aboriginal community
- Satisfy UFV’s English language policy. For details on how this requirement might be met, see English language policy 340.29 or contact Aboriginal Access Services.

Applicants will be assessed for eligibility using a point rating system. Points are awarded on portfolio, letters of support, letter of intent, and the interview. For the most up-to-date details on admission requirements, visit our website at www.ufv.ca/arts.

HOW DO I APPLY?

Apply immediately through UFV’s Aboriginal Access Services. You can call 604-557-4069 in Abbotsford or 604-795-2835 in Chilliwack, or toll free at 1-888-504-7441. You can also visit www.ufv.ca/advising/prospective/enroll for a step by step process to becoming a UFV student.

Aboriginal Access Services encourages aboriginal students to identify so that they may benefit from supportive programs and services. To identify, use the form found at www.ufv.ca/arc/self-identification. Forms are also available at UFV’s Aboriginal Access Services.

Applications are accepted for entrance to the Fall semester only. To begin your studies in September; your full application should be received at UFV by the end of January that year.

WHAT WILL I BE LEARNING?

The Indigenous Arts Certificate: Honouring Our Gifts is made up of six three-credit courses taken over a single school year (September to April):

COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE	TITLE	CREDITS
VA 140	Indigenous Design and Technology I: Special Topics	3
VA 140	Indigenous Design and Technology II: Special Topics	3
VA 142	Indigenous Art and Design in Context	3
VA 143	Indigenous Art and Professional Practices	3
IPK 227	IPK 227 Indigenous Art: Stories and Protocols	3
	It is recommended students choose an elective from Indigenous Peoples Knowledge or Visual Arts courses.	3
Total		18

ANYTHING ELSE I NEED TO KNOW?

You will be required to maintain a program grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 (C average) to be able to continue the second semester of the program and to graduate. Students who are not making satisfactory progress will be placed on academic warning for the next semester.

Unsatisfactory progress may be the result of:

- being placed on academic warning for inappropriate classroom conduct
- failing two or more courses in one semester
- failing a required course twice
- failing to maintain 2.0 GPA students who do not complete a prerequisite course may be allowed to register for a subsequent course at the discretion of the department head.
- Continuance depends on completion of VA 140 Indigenous Design and Technology: Special Topics I (specific to the course you have registered in i.e., carving or textiles)

UFV deserves the right to cancel any course for which there is insufficient registration.

CAN I GET ACADEMIC CREDIT FOR THE SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE GAINED IN MY LIFE SO FAR?

Yes. UFV offers Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR), a flexible assessment process that evaluates your experiential learning (what you already know and can do) for post-secondary credit. Experiential learning includes independent study, volunteer activities, non-credit courses, workplace learning, and military service. To find out more, check out the PLAR website at www.ufv.ca/plar or contact Susan Brown, Assessment Services Coordinator, PLAR at 604.851.6342 or susan.brown@ufv.ca.

HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?

It's best to consult the UFV calendar for tuition fees, keeping in mind that new fees are usually set in May.

In addition to tuition, your expenses will include books, supplies, housing, meals, transportation, and personal expenses. On average, students pay \$2,500 tuition for the academic year, while books and supplies average about \$600. Prospective students are encouraged to make an appointment with Aboriginal Access Services staff to discuss funding options.

You should also visit the UFV Financial Aid and Awards office, which facilitates the disbursement each year of about \$12 million in federal and provincial student loans, grants, bursaries, scholarships, and awards to UFV students. A helpful budget planning worksheet is available online at www.ufv.ca/fineaid/budget.



WHAT KIND OF SUPPORT WILL I HAVE?

UFV's Aboriginal Access Services provides support for Aboriginal students who identify themselves as Métis, Inuit, status First Nations, and non-status First Nations. Aboriginal students may enquire about the services at S'olh Shxwłèlí, the Aboriginal Resource Centre. In Chilliwack, you'll find it in Building G and on the Abbotsford campus it's in Room A219a and in the student lounge in Room A221.

There are many services available through Aboriginal Access Services including:

- referrals within UFV and to community agencies and other institutions.
- acting as liaison with Sto:lo organizations, post-secondary education authorities, Métis organizations, and First Nations organizations.
- consulting on First Nations curriculum development initiatives.
- information about programs of particular interest to aboriginal students.
- information about courses in Indigenous Studies and Halq'eméylem language.
- co-ordinating workshops on various topics including cultural awareness, empowerment, goal setting, financial management, personal growth, and family and community relations.
- advocating for students with UFV departments.

We also host a number of cultural activities throughout the year, which are open to all students. Activities can include luncheons, circle meetings, Elder visits/gatherings, workshops, and other events both on- and off-campus. To find out more about the support you will find at UFV, or any of our activities, please call 1-888-504-7441 local 2835.

CAN I SPEAK WITH SOMEONE ABOUT MY OPTIONS?

Absolutely. We want to hear from you! If you're unsure of your direction, contact Student Services at 1-888-504-7441 to connect with an educational advisor, or arrange for career counselling. You're also encouraged to contact our Aboriginal Access Services centre on either campus. You can call 604-557-4069 in Abbotsford or 604-795-2835 in Chilliwack, or toll free at 1-888-504-7441. Also visit our website at www.ufv.ca/arc to learn about the many services we offer.



The information contained in this document is subject to change. Please refer to www.ufv.ca/visualarts for up-to-date information. UFV reserves the right to cancel courses and programs.



About UFV

Nestled in the beautiful Fraser Valley just east of Vancouver, in B.C., UFV is a fully accredited, public university that enrolls more than 11,000 students each year. UFV has campuses in Abbotsford, Chilliwack, and Mission and regional centres in Hope and Agassiz, and a growing presence in Chandigarh, India.

UFV is committed to exceptional post-secondary instruction and a nurturing learning environment. We are large enough to offer variety, yet small enough to offer the personal attention that our students need to thrive. Our small class sizes and focus on teaching allow our students to get to know their instructors and learn in a hands-on setting.

We offer more than 80 programs, including 13 bachelor's degrees, a master's degree, and more than a dozen trades and technology programs. We believe that anyone who wants to go to university should be given the chance, so our admission policies are flexible, and we provide university prep courses and high school completion options. There are many options for learning: full-time, in class, online, as part of a structured program or one tailored specifically to your interests.

Many of our programs "ladder" into one another, allowing students to keep their options open. Our international programming makes for a culturally diverse student body and great opportunities to study abroad, while our continuing studies offerings make learning a lifelong experience.

UFV is recognized nationally for student success, an excellent learning environment, creative integration of programming, and our work with our local communities.

Get to know us better at www.ufv.ca.

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