

Social Services

DIPLOMA

Why earn a Social Services diploma?

UFV's two-year Social Services diploma program will establish a strong foundation for your career in the human services field. Your studies will prepare you for a career at the para-professional level in social services. This program will also set you up if you choose to continue your education past the diploma level. If you take the appropriate electives, you will be able to transfer up to 54 credits from your diploma into the UFV Bachelor of Social Work degree program. You can then work in the field while earning your degree part-time. Program plans are tailored to meet your personal education and career goals.

WHY EARN MY DIPLOMA AT UFV?

By taking the Social Services diploma as a foundation program, you will gain practical job-related skills while earning university-transfer credits. Many of the courses provide transfer credit to universities in B.C. Besides the core Social Services program, the Social Services electives give you the opportunity to take courses in specialized topics such as substance abuse or First Nations studies. Our Social Services diploma program is offered at both the Abbotsford and Chilliwack campuses.

WHAT TYPE OF CAREER CAN I EXPECT?

As a diploma graduate you will qualify for a number of interesting jobs. You will be able to put your skills and knowledge to work in a variety of careers including community service worker, teacher aide, residential service worker, home support coordinator, social work assistant, mental health worker, family support worker, and seniors' support worker. Many of our students find jobs through their fieldwork placements, which are carefully selected to best suit you and your employment potential and career goals. However, completion of the program does not guarantee that you will find the job of your choice immediately upon graduation.



“Our programs will assist you in making a difference in the lives of others. From certificate to diploma to BSW, we have something for everyone.”

— John Hogg,
Acting Director, UFV School
of Social Work and
Human Services.

Social Work & Human Services



“Enhancing interpersonal communication skills, learning new theory, and accumulating valuable work experience in the field of social services has equipped me with the tools to enter the field of social work with a great understanding of community work and contemporary issues. Above all, the warmth and support I received from my classmates and instructors is limitless and this, in turn, has reinforced my choice to become a social worker.”

— RAVIN SANDHU, Social Services diploma grad 2005.

WHAT DO I NEED TO GET IN?

You'll need your B.C. secondary school graduation or equivalent (ABE Provincial, Advanced, or GED). If you're a mature student and have at least three university-transfer credits that apply to the program, then you do not require a high school transcript. To qualify for the program:

- You must be physically and emotionally prepared to undertake this program of studies
- You must be willing to undergo a criminal record check
- You must meet the prerequisite for CMNS 155 (e.g. CPT score of 48 or better C+ or better in ENGL 081 or 091, or C or better in ENGL 099, or a B in English 12, Literature 12, or Technical Professional Communications 12). An LPI essay score of 30 (level 5) is considered equivalent to a CPT score of 48.

Your suitability for working with people with disabilities will be assessed using a point rating system with points awarded for past academic education, all work or volunteer experience (social services or other), demonstrated writing ability, reference letters, personal statement, and a group interview. Admission will be granted on a first-come, first-qualified, first-served basis to those scoring above the required threshold and who have completed a successful interview. You must participate in the group interview, which generally consists of four to six students and two Social Services department members, where you will discuss your career goals and your knowledge of the field. You must also demonstrate appropriate interpersonal and life skills.

I'M INTERESTED. WHAT'S THE NEXT STEP?

Check out our online calendar at www.ufv.ca/calendar or our website at www.ufv.ca/swhs. Make sure you read the information about the Social Services diploma program carefully. Visit the download centre and download the appropriate application forms. You can then either mail your complete application, along with the documents listed in the calendar and the \$45 processing fee, to any UFV campus or centre, or transmit it through the Internet at www.pas.bc.ca.

WHEN SHOULD I APPLY?

If you plan to start your studies in the fall, your application should be received by January 31. Applications received after this deadline will be considered if space is still available in the program.

WHAT TYPE OF COURSES WILL I TAKE?

YEAR ONE/SEMESTER I

COURSE #	TITLE
CMNS 155	Communications for Human Services
or ENGL 105	The Reading and Writing of Prose
SOWK 110	Intro to Social Work & Human Services
SOWK 225	Human Behaviour and the Social Environment
HSER 120	Introduction to Interpersonal Communications
HSER 129	Seminar
SOC 101	Introductory Sociology

YEAR ONE/SEMESTER II

COURSE #	TITLE
HSER 130	Practicum I (two days/week)
PSYC 101	Introduction to Psychology I
<i>Elective¹</i>	<i>See note</i>
<i>Elective¹</i>	<i>See note</i>

SUMMER SEMESTER

COURSE #	TITLE
HSER 229	Practicum Seminar 2 — (ONLINE)

YEAR TWO/ SEMESTER III

COURSE #	TITLE
HSER 200	Counselling Skills
HSER 230	Practicum II (two days/week)
SOWK 283 ²	Family Dynamics (or semester IV)
PHIL ³	Philosophy Requirement

YEAR TWO/SEMESTER IV

COURSE #	TITLE
CMNS 251	Professional Report Writing
HSER 250	Integration of Social Services Theory and Practice
SOWK 210	Introduction to Social Welfare
<i>Elective¹</i>	<i>See note</i>
<i>Elective¹</i>	<i>See note</i>

Footnotes:

- ¹ Students will take one philosophy course and four electives in their diploma program. The electives are divided into three groups: (1) Philosophy requirement; (2) Group A data manipulation requirement; and (3) Group B other electives.
- ² Students must complete SOWK 283, which is offered in Abbotsford in the Fall semester and Chilliwack in the winter.
- ³ Philosophy requirement (choose one):
 - PHIL 100 Reasoning
 - PHIL 110 Morality and Politics
 - PHIL 120 Knowledge and Reality
 - PHIL 210 Contemporary Issues in Morality and Politics
 - PHIL 240 Faith and Reason: Philosophy of Religion

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

Check out our online calendar at www.ufv.ca/calendar and go to the Fees and Other Costs section. Keep in mind that textbooks and additional supplies will cost more. It's worth a visit to 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.

I'M NOT SURE I WANT TO EARN MY DIPLOMA. CAN I TAKE SOME COURSES ANYWAY?

Of course. If you wish to take some of the courses without enrolling in the program, or before you formally apply, you can register as a General Studies student. You may register for any courses for which you meet the prerequisites. It's important to note, however, that program students are given priority for courses.

SOUNDS GOOD. WHAT DO I DO NOW?

Visit www.ufv.ca/advising/prospective/enroll for a step-by-step process to becoming a UFV student. Have specific questions? Contact the school of Social Work and Human Services directly at 604-864-4631 or 604-702-2623 or visit www.ufv.ca/swhs. You can also contact Carol Oddy at carol.oddy@ufv.ca.

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.

WHAT SORT OF SUPPORT WILL I GET?

For more information about support and student services at UFV, visit www.ufv.ca/student-services and learn about the broad range of services designed to help you learn about and adjust to the university environment.

CAN I SPEAK WITH SOMEONE ABOUT MY OPTIONS?

Yes! 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.

Also, feel free to contact the school of Social Work and Human Services directly at 1-888-504-7441, local 4631, 604-864-4631 or 604-702-2623 or check out www.ufv.ca/swhs.



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

www.ufv.ca/swhs



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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