



**WELCOME!**

# General Studies Diploma<sub>(GSD)</sub>

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**May 2021**

# Tips For Viewing This Presentation



**This presentation is for anyone who applied to UFV to complete a General Studies diploma (GSD) and was either:**

1. Admitted/conditionally admitted into the GSD, or
2. Was not admitted, but who intends to complete a GSD as their goal program.

# Tips For Viewing This Presentation



## TAKE YOUR TIME

- A regular advising appointment takes about 45 minutes, so ensure you give yourself at least that amount of time.
- This presentation serves as your first appointment as we will cover what we would do in an in-person new student appointment.

# Tips For Viewing This Presentation



**TRUST the information is sufficient for your needs at this time.**

- This presentation will not include ALL GSD information.
- What is included will be sufficient to prepare you for your first semester, possibly your first year.
- This was developed by the Advisors that you will work with throughout the course of your diploma, through to graduation. Your success is their goal!!

# Tips For Viewing This Presentation



## QUESTIONS

- Jot down your questions as you work through the slides.
- We will most likely address your questions throughout and have included a glossary section at the end.

# Tips For Viewing This Presentation



## **WE'RE HERE TO HELP!**

**If you are already thinking feeling overwhelmed about starting university, you are not alone!**

- Much of this will be new – we're going to introduce the key pieces of a GS diploma and,
- Help normalize the experience for you.

**Let's get started!**

## Academic Advisors

- Who Are We?

Completion advisors support your educational planning by providing the tools & information needed to **make informed decisions**. **We work with you** to:

- ✓ Clarify your educational goals
- ✓ Develop academic success skills
- ✓ Access available resources and services

# Advising Centre



## ADVISING CENTRE



A screenshot of the University of the Fraser Valley website's Advising Centre page. The page features a green header with the university logo, a search bar, and a navigation menu. Below the header is a large photo of a diverse group of students and staff. The main content area includes the heading "ADVISING CENTRE", a breadcrumb trail "UFV / ADVISING CENTRE", the title "Advising Centre", and a sub-heading "Academic Advisors help students plan their education and careers". A large orange arrow points from the text on the right to a green button labeled "+ Reasons to Connect with an Advisor". To the right of the main content are three green buttons: "Book an appointment", "Book a workshop/seminar", and "View/cancel my bookings".

Find us here:  
[ufv.ca/advising](https://ufv.ca/advising)

Check out  
these  
options  
for more  
on Advising  
Services



# Advising Centre



## On the Advising Centre webpage you can:

- Book an advising appointment (phone or virtual)
  - recommended at least once/year or every 30 credits

**An appointment with an Advisor can be booked directly [online](#).**

### **ADVISING CENTRE**

[Student Union Building, 3rd Floor](#)

Phone: 604-864-4674

Toll-free (Canada): 1-888-504-7441, ext. 4674

Email: [advising@ufv.ca](mailto:advising@ufv.ca)

# Academic Calendar

[www.ufv.ca/calendar/current](http://www.ufv.ca/calendar/current)



The [online academic calendar](#) is the official source for information about the General Studies diploma and other courses and programs of study offered at the University of the Fraser Valley.

Let's learn more about it...



- **Program information** is found under “*Select Area of Study...*” tab, from entrance requirements to graduation requirements for selected program. GS diploma requirements are listed under General Studies.
- **Course information** is found under “*Select Courses ...*” tab, including number of credits, prerequisites, and an overview of course content.

- **Official course outlines** under the “*Course Outlines*” tab provide more specific details about courses. The course syllabus given out on the first day of class includes information taken from here. This can also be submitted to another post-secondary institution as part of the transfer credit evaluation process.
- The information found in **MyGRADplan** has been taken from the current Academic Calendar – this is our official legal document. If there is a discrepancy between the two sources, the current Academic Calendar is the one in effect.

# GS diploma Program Requirements



This diploma requires completion of a minimum of **60 credits**.\* This is approximately 20 classes.

Within the required 60 credits, there are specific program requirements. (See myGRADplan).

- **IMPORTANT NOTE:** the GS diploma does not require completion of these credits/courses within a specific timeframe.

Your pace of completion is based on your personal schedule and goals. **It needs to work for you.**

# Core Competencies

As part of the General Studies diploma, you will demonstrate competency in three areas:

1. Effective Communication
2. Use and Interpretation of Numerical Data
3. Digital or Scientific Competency

Visit the GS diploma Academic Calendar to learn more about competency requirements and ways to meet these requirements.



# GS diploma Program Requirements



## GPA

- GPA stands for Grade Point Average.
- To remain in Good Academic Standing, students must maintain:
  - A 2.0 cumulative grade point average (CGPA) to remain in good academic standing.
  - Students who do not maintain a 2.0 CGPA may have restrictions on their account and may be required to withdraw from UFV, as per UFV's Continuance Policy.

<https://www.ufv.ca/calendar/Winter-Summer-2017/General/GradingAndAcademicStanding.htm>

# GS diploma Program Requirements



## So how do you know which courses to take?

- You will find the official program outline in the current [Academic Calendar](#).
- You can also find your personal program plan in MyGRADplan accessed via myUFV.



# MyGRADplan



**MyGRADplan** can help you assess:

- Your program progress (how many courses/credits left?)
- Which classes transferred with me when I came to UFV?

As a UFV student, you can log into this program 24/7 so that you **always have access to your program plan**. It is accessible via your myUFV account, and is reviewed during your Academic Advising appointments. Please keep in mind it does NOT replace appointments.

Click [here](#) to learn more about my MyGRADplan.

## Here's how to login:

1. Login to [myUFV](#) using your usual credentials.
2. Locate the MyGRADplan channel on the myUFV landing page
3. Follow prompts to access myGRADplan.

Make sure to **review the tutorial, specifically learning about using the 'what if' & 'look ahead' features** – this will be very helpful in your course planning process!

# Semester Timetable

[www.ufv.ca/registration](http://www.ufv.ca/registration)



## REGISTRATION

UFV / REGISTRATION

### Registration

View timetables

A red square button with a white calendar icon and the text "View timetables" in a dark grey box at the bottom.

Use the course finder

A blue square button with a white magnifying glass icon and the text "Use the course finder" in a dark grey box at the bottom.

Dates and deadlines

An orange square button with a white calendar icon and the text "Dates and deadlines" in a dark grey box at the bottom.

View timetables

Use the course finder

Dates and deadlines

Log in to myUFV

Plan your studies

### Quick links



How to register

A step-by-step guide to registering.



Fees and payments

Fees required each semester and how to

How to register



Dates and deadlines

Semester info



Fees and payments



# Semester Timetable

[www.ufv.ca/registration](http://www.ufv.ca/registration)



- Under the **Registration** area you'll find information about the registration process at UFV.
- The **Fall 2021 timetable** is located under the **"View timetables"** box.

# Semester Timetable

[www.ufv.ca/registration](http://www.ufv.ca/registration)



- The interactive course finder under the **“Use the course finder”** box can be used to review course options by discipline, specific course number, seats available (waitlists) and other options. You can also build a sample weekly timetable with this tool.
- The **“Dates and deadlines”** box is where you will find all the published registration deadlines including: withdrawal dates, fee payment deadline, and statutory holidays when UFV is closed.

# Semester Timetable

[www.ufv.ca/registration](http://www.ufv.ca/registration)



- Under the **Quick links** section, you will find more registration information. We suggest checking out the [“How to register”](#) page with the 6 steps outlined for you with explanations on how to access things in myUFV and to find links to some of the [video tutorials](#).

# Sample First Semester

Here is **an example** of what a typical Fall semester might look like.

**The choice is yours!** Take courses that interest you and that could lead to your ideal career or ladder onto a bachelor's degree.

## Fall (Sept - Dec)

Choose 3 to 4 courses from the following list to include one of ENGL 105 or CMNS 125:

1. One or Two General Education Requirements (ENGL 105 or CMNS 125 to be included)
2. One or Two Personal interest elective(s) (100-200 level)
3. Academic skills course (i.e. UNIV 101 or CSM 108)

Use the Academic Calendar to find out more about specific courses

# Course Load Balance

How many courses you take each semester is up to you. **Consider your workload carefully** to find a balance between your school, work and personal life.

Our recommendation, and what most first year diploma students take, is 3 or 4 courses to start. That equates to approximately 9 – 12 hours per week in class.

Expect to spend at least that same amount of time per week for homework (readings, assignments, group work, etc.).





# Register For Courses



## Now what?!

Now is the fun part – planning your courses for Fall semester!

Go to the [OReg webpage](#) for a **step by step guide to registration** (with tutorial videos), as well as information on fee payment, important dates & more.

# Register For Courses



Click on these links to learn more about the courses you are interested in:

## Academic Calendar:

Official source for **information about all courses and programs offered** at UFV including course descriptions.

## Semester Timetable:

Lists all **courses offered in a specific semester** including prerequisites, date/time, campus, course fees, instructor, etc.

# Know Your Resources



# Top Resource Tips

**UFV Support Services:** [www.ufv.ca/services/](http://www.ufv.ca/services/)

➤ **Academic Support:**

- [Academic Success Centre](#)

➤ **Student Support:**

- Center for Experiential and Career Education
- [Centre for Accessibility Services](#)
- [Counselling](#)
- [Financial Aid](#)
- [Indigenous Student Centre](#)
- [Residence](#)
- [Student Support Centre](#)
- Math/Statistics Centre

# Top Resource Tips

- ❖ **To find out more info on specific courses and requirements for the GS diploma.**  
[ufv.ca/calendar/current/ProgramsF-L/GEN\\_DIP.htm](https://www.ufv.ca/calendar/current/ProgramsF-L/GEN_DIP.htm)
- ❖ **To find out what job opportunities are available.**  
<https://www.ufv.ca/jobs/experiential-learning/>
- ❖ **For help with your resume and cover letter**  
<https://www.ufv.ca/jobs/experiential-learning/>
- ❖ **If you're struggling and feeling stressed and need some support.**  
[ufv.ca/counselling/](https://www.ufv.ca/counselling/)
- ❖ **If you're an International Student and have questions concerning your student visa or work permit.**  
[international.ufv.ca/](https://www.international.ufv.ca/)

# REMINDERS

- Login to myUFV frequently** to check your UFV email account.
- Check myUFV > Self-Service links for your **assigned registration date**.
- Pay your \$200 registration deposit ASAP** but no later than 3 business days prior to your registration date.

# REMINDERS



- Review Fall 2021 timetable & create your schedule.
- Register on your assigned date & time for best course selection. Fall 2021 registration period starts on June 14.
- Check myUFV in August for the final decision on your application.

# REMINDERS

- ❑ **Attend the first day of all classes** – registered & waitlisted. (If you do not attend you forfeit your seat). Classes begin September 13<sup>th</sup>.
- ❑ **Check Dates and Deadlines page** for more information - [www.ufv.ca/registrar/deadlines/](http://www.ufv.ca/registrar/deadlines/).



# Stay Connected

## ADVISING CENTRE

Student Union Building, 3rd Floor

Phone: 604-864-4674

Toll-free (Canada): 1-888-504-7441, ext. 4674

Email: [advising@ufv.ca](mailto:advising@ufv.ca)

 [UFV Advising Centre](#)

 [ufv.ca/advising](http://ufv.ca/advising)

 [@UFVAdvising](#)

## GS DIPLOMA

 [ufv.ca/programs/general-studies-diploma](http://ufv.ca/programs/general-studies-diploma)

 [@ufv.bgs](#)

 [www.facebook.com/UFVbgs/](http://www.facebook.com/UFVbgs/)



# Glossary

**Course:**

A unit of instruction that is offered under a designated subject code, course number, and credit value; for example, ANTH 102 (3 credits).

**Credit:**

A numeric value assigned to a course, based on both the hours of direct instruction and the coursework done outside of the classroom, which indicates the course's weight relative to other courses.

**Prerequisite:**

A requirement such as a previous course, a specified number of course credits, or other academic skills, knowledge, or achievements that must be completed prior to enrolling in a particular course.

**Co-requisite:**

A course that is to be taken at the same time as another course.

# Glossary



## **Lower-level:**

Courses that are considered first or second-year courses and are numbered 100–299.

## **Upper-level:**

Courses that are considered third or fourth-year and are numbered from 300–499.

## **Preparatory level:**

Courses considered developmental or preparatory to post-secondary studies. Course numbers will start with a 0 and will not be used to satisfy program requirements.

# Glossary



## **Elective:**

A course that may be chosen from a number of course options, as specified in the requirements for completion of a particular program. For the GS diploma, any UFV course numbered 100-level or higher chosen based on interest in content, satisfy course prerequisites, and fits with schedule of courses already chosen.

## **Full-time Studies:**

Enrolment in nine credits per semester (considered 60% of a standard course load).

## **Grade Point Average (GPA):**

Academic performance expressed as a numerical average of grades in UFV courses. GPA values are truncated at two decimal places, not rounded.

## **Tuition:**

Amount of money assigned to a course Based on the number of credits assigned. This increases once a year starting with the Summer semester.

# Glossary



## **Summer semester:**

Full - courses are scheduled May to August.

Early - courses are scheduled May and June.

Late - courses are scheduled July and August.

Registration period occurs in March.

## **Fall semester:**

Courses are scheduled September to December.

Registration period occurs in June.

## **Winter semester:**

Courses are scheduled January to April.

Registration period occurs in November.



**See you in  
September!**



**ADVISING CENTRE**