The University of British Columbia values its relationships with Indigenous peoples, particularly the Musqueam First Nation and Syilx Okanagan Nation on whose respective traditional lands the University’s campuses are located.¹

Come to UBC and be inspired by the stunning natural landscapes, the innovative spirit, and the unmatched diversity that make this century-old academic institution one of the top universities – not only in Canada, but around the world.²

Here, you’ll find and build community, shape and be shaped by the experiences you have and the people you meet. Come to UBC with your own unique perspective and leave with your mind opened to possibility.

¹ UBC has a memorandum of affiliation with the Musqueam Indian Band and a memorandum of understanding with the Okanagan Nation Alliance.
² Academic Ranking of World Universities (Shanghai Ranking), Times Higher Education World University Ranking, Universities Allied for Essential Medicines’ University Global Health Impact Report Card, and Webometrics Ranking of Universities.

ABORIGINAL CENTRE HOST

“Aboriginal students have a role to play in shaping the future, and university is where that journey starts.” - Carmen

CARMEN CHELICK | Métis
MSc STUDENT (BIOLOGY)
BSc ’15 (BIOLOGY)

“Attendance university doesn’t mean that we’re leaving our culture behind and joining the ‘colonized world.’ We’re enriching our views, seeing a fuller picture of the world and how Aboriginal cultures fit into it. We’re showing the world what our cultural knowledge can offer today and in the future, not just the past.”

KALIE ANDERSON | Métis
BSN STUDENT (NURSING)

“Attending university so far from my home was difficult at first, but I’m glad I had the courage to pursue an education. After experiencing so many different cultures and perspectives, I have a better appreciation for my own. Nearing the end of my university career, I feel as though I have a better sense of where I belong in this big world.”

“Before coming to UBC, university didn’t feel achievable. I want other Aboriginal students to know that it’s possible.” - Kalie

ABORIGINAL STUDENTS HAVE A ROLE TO PLAY IN SHAPING THE FUTURE, AND UNIVERSITY IS WHERE THAT JOURNEY STARTS.
As a UBC student, you’ll be part of a culturally diverse community that includes faculty, students, and staff from communities across the country and from countries around the globe. From the far north, to Haida Gwaii, to the Qalipu Mi'kmaw First Nation, and everywhere in between, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students like you come to this place to learn, share, grow, and give back. It’s this diversity that makes UBC strong, that brings the University closer to communities and the world closer to you.
As a UBC student, you’ll study on one of two main campuses. The Okanagan campus is located within the territory of the Syilx Okanagan Nation, in the city of Kelowna, in the heart of the picturesque Okanagan Valley. The Vancouver campus is located on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Musqueam people, close to the city’s downtown core, on the stunning Pacific coastline. These First Nations, and others, are acknowledged and honoured on each campus.

YOUR UNIVERSITY

ABORIGINAL CENTRE

OKANAGAN CAMPUS

As a home away from home, the Centre provides a place for you to study or relax between classes, take part in cultural events, and access resources and services.

CENTRE FOR INDIGENOUS MEDIA ARTS

OKANAGAN CAMPUS

Working collaboratively with artists and communities, the Centre explores media, technology, and contemporary Indigenous art.

FIRST NATIONS LONGHOUSE

VANCOUVER CAMPUS

The Longhouse is an award-winning building that reflects Musqueam traditions and provides a place for you to study or relax between classes, take part in cultural events, and access resources and services.

MUSEUM OF ANTHROPOLOGY

VANCOUVER CAMPUS

Situated on the shoreline of the Salish Sea, the Museum of Anthropology is home to one of the world’s finest collections of Northwest Coast First Nations artwork.

Xwicəsəm: INDIGENOUS HEALTH RESEARCH AND EDUCATION GARDEN

VANCOUVER CAMPUS

Located at the UBC Farm, the Xwicəsəm Garden supports land-based teaching, research, and community engagement on food security and traditional plant knowledge.

FEATURED SPACES

AMONG 441 ABORIGINAL STUDENTS AMONG 7,899 UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

UBC’S OKANAGAN CAMPUS

1,101 ABORIGINAL STUDENTS AMONG 43,128 UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

UBC’S VANCOUVER CAMPUS

4,411 ABORIGINAL STUDENTS AMONG 43,728 UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS
YOUR COMMUNITIES

At UBC, you’ll be surrounded by people who value diversity at a university that’s dedicated to equity, inclusivity, and mutual respect. With more than 350 clubs, countless recreational and varsity sports teams, and strong Aboriginal communities on each campus, there is a place for you here.

DESTINATION UBC

OKANAGAN AND VANCOUVER CAMPUSES
Visit campus in advance, pick up insider tips from current students in your faculty or program, and get important advice about transitioning to university life.

ABORIGINAL STUDENT ORIENTATION
OKANAGAN AND VANCOUVER CAMPUSES
Get to know other First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students as you explore your new campus and get ready for an exciting school year ahead.

ABORIGINAL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES
OKANAGAN CAMPUSS
Stop by the Aboriginal Centre for academic advising or administrative assistance, or to connect with an Aboriginal peer mentor or tutor.

INDIGENOUS STUDENT ASSOCIATION
OKANAGAN AND VANCOUVER CAMPUSES
Meet other Indigenous students at bowling nights, learn about upcoming events, and find out how your peers are getting involved on and off campus.

FIRST NATIONS LONGHOUSE AND FIRST NATIONS HOUSE OF LEARNING
VANCOUVER CAMPUSS
Stop by the First Nations Longhouse to speak with staff and get connected with a tutor, or receive a referral for housing, financial, or health advice. This space is administered by the First Nations House of Learning, which leads and directs many Aboriginal initiatives at UBC.

FIRST NATIONS STUDIES STUDENT ASSOCIATION
VANCOUVER CAMPUSS
Help create a dialogue between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples on issues that affect Indigenous communities at UBC, in Vancouver, in Canada, and around the world.

STORIES OF SURVIVORS

“Having the Indian Residential School History and Dialogue Centre at UBC is a significant step toward reconciliation.”

“Public Speaker in High Schools and on the Smart and Caring Communities Panel with the Governor General of Canada.

“I was so lucky to take a class in Kwak’wala, the Indigenous language of my late grandfather, who was ‘Namgis (Kwakwaka’wakw) from Alert Bay.”

LEARNING Kwak’wala

“I’m one of many students who calls the beautiful Longhouse home.”

ADINA WILLIAMS | SQUAMISH NATION
WEST VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA
BA STUDENT (FIRST NATIONS AND INDIGENOUS STUDIES)

“A large knowledge gap continues to exist between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Canadians. By understanding and acknowledging hard truths today, future generations can have a better relationship tomorrow.”

“Public Speaker in High Schools and on the Smart and Caring Communities Panel with the Governor General of Canada. “I have an incredible passion for First Nations politics, issues, and governance. Whatever I do with my UBC degree, I want to somehow be doing it with the Squamish Nation.”

“First Nations Studies Student Association.

“I’m one of many students who calls the beautiful Longhouse home.”

ABORIGINAL STUDENT ORIENTATION OKANAGAN AND VANCOUVER CAMPUSES
Visit campus in advance, pick up insider tips from current students in your faculty or program, and get important advice about transitioning to university life.

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Visit campus in advance, pick up insider tips from current students in your faculty or program, and get important advice about transitioning to university life.
UBC offers degrees in every major field of study, extensive options for specialization, and a wide range of ways to enhance your education through research, place-based learning, volunteering, co-op, and on-campus work opportunities. You’ll have access to top Indigenous scholars, programs, and courses, plus unique opportunities to learn from – and contribute to – Indigenous communities no matter which subject you choose.

YOUR OPPORTUNITIES

FEATURED PROGRAMS

INDIGENOUS STUDIES
Earn a degree in Indigenous Studies on UBC’s Okanagan campus, or pursue First Nations and Indigenous Studies or First Nations and Endangered Languages through the Institute for Critical Indigenous Studies on UBC’s Vancouver campus.

NURSING
Earn a Bachelor of Nursing through the direct-entry Nursing program on UBC’s Okanagan campus. The curriculum incorporates Aboriginal-specific modules developed with community elders and co-taught with Aboriginal knowledge keepers from the local community.

FORESTRY
Earn a bachelor’s degree through one of five programs offered by the Faculty of Forestry on UBC’s Vancouver campus. Choose to specialize in Community and Aboriginal Forestry in the Forest Resources Management program, or obtain a Registered Professional Forester or Registered Professional Biologist certification.

NITEP
Earn a Bachelor of Education through UBC’s Indigenous Teacher Education Program. Join the growing number of Indigenous leaders in education who are transforming schools, organizations, and communities through Indigenous ways of knowing.

FEATURED OPPORTUNITIES

PLACE-BASED LEARNING
Immerse yourself in another Indigenous culture or community with place-based learning opportunities at Dechinta in the Northwest Territories, on Haida Gwaii, and even in Australia.

LANGUAGE REVITALIZATION
Learn local Indigenous languages, including n̓syilx̱ən, via a partnership between the En’owkin Centre and UBC’s Okanagan campus, and həńəmiłəm on UBC’s Vancouver campus.

ABORIGINAL UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH MENTORSHIP
Be paired with a faculty member or postdoctoral research fellow to gain research or lab experience in a subject area that interests you.
APPLYING TO UBC

If UBC feels like the right fit for you, it’s time to apply. Follow the steps below and, before long, you could be part of a diverse and welcoming community at one of the top universities in the world.

1. CHOOSE YOUR DEGREE AND CAMPUS
When you complete your application, you’ll have the opportunity to select your first and second choice of degree. The degrees you choose can be in different faculties and on different campuses.

2. REVIEW THE REQUIREMENTS
All applicants to UBC must meet the University’s general admission and degree-specific requirements. Find your requirements online at you.ubc.ca.

3. SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION
Create or log in to your UBC account at you.ubc.ca to complete the online application and pay the fee.

WHY SHOULD I SELF-IDENTIFY AS AN ABORIGINAL PERSON?
If you self-identify, UBC can provide you with important information on Aboriginal orientation, programs, scholarships and bursaries, housing, and services. Plus, your admission deposit will be deferred until September and you’ll receive an invite to Destination UBC.

WHAT IF I DON’T MEET MY DEGREE’S CUT-OFF?
Most Aboriginal students are admitted based on meeting the competitive requirements set out by their degree of choice. However, if you don’t meet the cut-off and you self-identified as an Aboriginal person, UBC will take a second look at your application using the Aboriginal Admission Policy. Factors such as your history, cultural knowledge, work experience, educational goals, and other achievements may be considered.

WHAT IF I DON’T MEET THE GENERAL ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS?
Consider applying to the Aboriginal Access Studies Program on UBC’s Okanagan campus. You’ll complete a full-time schedule of university courses, tutorials, workshops, and non-academic activities to help you transition to your degree of choice. Or consider starting your studies at another college or university and transferring to UBC. One option is the UBC-Langara Aboriginal Transfer Partnership, which lets you begin your studies at Langara College, guarantees admission to certain degrees on UBC’s Vancouver campus, and offers scholarships and awards to students who maintain high academic standards.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS
you.ubc.ca/applying-ubc/canadian-highschools

APPLICATION PROCESS
you.ubc.ca/applying-ubc

ACCOUNT CREATION AND APPLICATION
you.ubc.ca/applyubc
Major Entrance Scholarships recognize Aboriginal students who have demonstrated academic and leadership achievements in the arts, community, athletics, or school. Consideration is also given to family, community, and cultural connections. If you apply to UBC by the Major Entrance Scholarship deadline indicated online, you’ll automatically be considered.

UBC Centennial Scholars Entrance Awards recognize academically qualified Aboriginal students who are arriving at UBC’s Vancouver campus from secondary school or a post-secondary institution and can demonstrate financial need. A separate application is required.

WHAT TYPES OF SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS ARE AVAILABLE?
As an Aboriginal student at UBC, you are eligible for $2.2 million in general entrance scholarship funding, including $128,000 in dedicated entrance awards, plus numerous faculty-specific awards for Indigenous students.

WHAT ABOUT PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT?
Most degrees have paid co-op placements or internships, and programs like Work Learn and Work Study can help you find a job on campus. Part-time employment is not only a way to help finance your university education, but also a chance to gain professional experience and develop critical skills.

CAN MY BAND OR COMMUNITY SPONSOR ME?
You may be able to finance some or all of your educational expenses with funding from an Aboriginal organization or one of more than 300 communities, either through sponsorship or aboriginal post-secondary education programs. Contact your Band office or community directly to learn more about funding opportunities.

CAN I ACCESS FINANCIAL PLANNING SERVICES?
UBC’s online cost calculator can help you and your family or financial supporters understand the financial commitment required. Dedicated advisors are also available to answer your questions and help you plan your finances. Contact Aboriginal Programs and Services on UBC’s Okanagan campus or an Enrolment Services Professional on UBC’s Vancouver campus.

FINANCIAL PLANNING
you.ubc.ca/financial-planning

ONLINE COST CALCULATOR
you.ubc.ca/financial-planning/cost

ABORIGINAL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES
students.ok.ubc.ca/aboriginal

ENROLMENT SERVICES PROFESSIONALS
students.ubc.ca/about/esp

More than 30 Aboriginal students earned a Major Entrance Scholarship or Centennial Scholars Entrance Award and enrolled at UBC in the 2016/17 academic year.
FINDING A PLACE TO LIVE

Living in residence puts you close to classes and on-campus resources like the Aboriginal Centre and First Nations Longhouse. It can be a great way to meet new people, reduce your travel time, and take full advantage of everything that UBC has to offer. Whether you are a mature student or straight out of high school, a solo student or part of a family, there’s a place for you on campus.

HOW DO I GET A SPOT IN RESIDENCE?
As an Aboriginal student, you qualify for priority access to housing. If you are a first-year student who is graduating from high school, your residence room is guaranteed. To secure your spot, simply submit your residence application and all supporting documents to UBC Student Housing by the housing application deadline, and accept UBC’s offer of admission by the date indicated in your letter of admission.

WHAT IF I NEED YEAR-ROUND HOUSING?
Residence assignments typically run from September to April. If you require year-round housing beginning May 1, submit your residence application and all supporting documents to UBC Student Housing by the priority access deadline indicated online.

WHAT IF I HAVE A FAMILY?
Childcare for infants and children up to 5 years of age, as well as occasional and out-of-school care, is available on both UBC campuses. If you are a student on UBC’s Vancouver campus, Acadia Park offers family-friendly accommodations for single parents, and couples with or without children, providing easy access to community activities, green spaces, schools, and childcare.

WHAT IF I’M LOOKING FOR A CULTURAL HOUSING EXPERIENCE?
If you are a student on UBC’s Okanagan campus, the Indigenous Integrated Learning Community offers the opportunity to live in a close-knit group with peers who share your interest in Indigenous cultures. You’ll have the chance to connect with members of the Syilx Okanagan Nation, learn from elders, and participate in off-campus cultural events. If you are interested in this housing experience, please indicate so on your residence application.

David Lacho | Métis
Winnipeg, Manitoba
MA student (Interdisciplinary Studies) BA ’14 (Anthropology, French)

“I took Introduction to Linguistic Anthropology and fell in love with the course. The connections between language and culture were something that I always felt, but couldn’t label. Ultimately, that elective led me to major in Anthropology and explore community-based research in language revitalization.”

David Lacho | Métis
Winnipeg, Manitoba
MA student (Interdisciplinary Studies) BA ’14 (Anthropology, French)

“I’m grateful to the Syilx Okanagan Nation on whose territory I study. So much of what makes UBC’s Okanagan campus unique is its relationship with the Syilx peoples.”

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Whether you’re navigating the application process or planning your finances, choosing a degree or exploring your options, UBC is with you every step of the way. A compassionate network of staff is ready to answer your questions and help you succeed.

YOUR CONTACTS

**OKANAGAN CAMPUS**
- Campus tours and visits: you.ubc.ca/campus-tours-ok

**VANCOUVER CAMPUS**
- Campus tours and visits: you.ubc.ca/campus-tours

Questions about admissions and your UBC application, or referrals to financial advisors who can answer tuition questions and help you with awards and financial planning:
- Aboriginal Recruitment: aboriginal.recruitment@ubc.ca +1.604.827.2133 +1.877.807.8521

Academic advice, peer mentoring, and tutoring:
- Aboriginal Programs and Services: students.ok.ubc.ca/aboriginal

Aboriginal Student Services Team: aboriginal.ubc.ca/students/academic-advising

YOUR ONLINE RESOURCES

**ABORIGINAL STUDENTS AT UBC**
Learn more about admissions, awards and financial planning, housing, and Aboriginal-focused resources and services on each campus.
you.ubc.ca/aboriginal

**ABORIGINAL PORTAL**
Find out about Aboriginal faculty and students, and discover Aboriginal programs, research, events, and resources on UBC’s Vancouver campus.
aboriginal.ubc.ca