

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
UNDERGRADUATE ABORIGINAL STUDENT BOOK 2018

UBC

BEGIN HERE

JOURNEY ANYWHERE

INSPIRATION

COMMUNITY

CONNECTION



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

BE HERE

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** MOST INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY IN NORTH AMERICA


 **TOP 3** UNIVERSITIES IN CANADA

 **TOP 40** RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES IN THE WORLD

HOME TO THE AWARD-WINNING³
 FIRST NATIONS LONGHOUSE  MUSEUM OF ANTHROPOLOGY

RECREATIONAL VOLLEYBALL AND BASKETBALL


 **COMMUNITY NURSING**
"I'd like to be a nurse in a small community and one day go back to my Gift Lake Métis Settlement."

 "It made the transition from my small town to university really easy."

 **Aboriginal Access Studies Program**

NURSING  "I ENJOY THE HANDS-ON ASPECTS OF THE PROGRAM – THE LABS AND CLINICAL PRACTICE."

A SHARED EXPERIENCE
"I was working as a service rigs medic in northern Alberta when my sister Carmen and her husband convinced me to apply to UBC."

 **ABORIGINAL CENTRE HOST**
"We have a very tight-knit community that feels like my family away from home."

"Before coming to UBC, university didn't feel achievable. I want other Aboriginal students to know that it's possible." – Kalie

SISTERS FROM ALBERTA

TUTORS FOR ABORIGINAL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES


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




UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE RESEARCH
"Being a researcher was such a distant aspiration. Now I'm doing research at a world-class academic institution."

ABORIGINAL UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH MENTORSHIP AND WOMEN IN SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING MENTORSHIP PROGRAMS

Why UBC? 
"UBC came up as one of the top-ranked universities in Canada, and even the world."

 "Being from a small town, we wanted all the benefits of a large university with a strong sense of community."

 **Why UBC's Okanagan campus?**

MEMBER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

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.
³ Royal Architectural Institute of Canada's Governor General Award of Merit (1994) and Governor General's History Award for Excellence in Museums (2015).

CARMEN CHELICK | MÉTIS
HIGH PRAIRIE, ALBERTA
MSc STUDENT (BIOLOGY)
BSc '15 (BIOLOGY)

"Attending 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
HIGH PRAIRIE, ALBERTA
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."

VANCOUVER
KELOWNA

BE YOU

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'kmaq 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.



62,923+ STUDENTS FROM 162 COUNTRIES

INCLUDING



1,542 ABORIGINAL STUDENTS FROM 177 COMMUNITIES

YOUR UNIVERSITY

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.



UBC'S OKANAGAN CAMPUS

441

ABORIGINAL STUDENTS

AMONG

7,899 UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS



UBC'S VANCOUVER CAMPUS

1,101

ABORIGINAL STUDENTS

AMONG

43,128 UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS



- FEATURED SPACES

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.

X̱wi7̱x̱wa LIBRARY

VANCOUVER CAMPUS

The only Aboriginal branch of a university library system in the country, X̱wi7̱x̱wa Library is a centre for Indigenous scholarship with more than 12,000 books, videos, and other resources.

INDIAN RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL HISTORY AND DIALOGUE CENTRE

VANCOUVER CAMPUS

This new Centre will provide former students, survivors, the University community, and the public access to residential school records and information in an interactive environment that supports engagement with the history and legacy of Indian residential schools.

x̱w̱íc̱íc̱əsəm: INDIGENOUS HEALTH RESEARCH AND EDUCATION GARDEN

VANCOUVER CAMPUS

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



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.

The Annual Nehiyopaskwa-itsimowin Powwow is not a traditional ceremony of the Musqueam people, though some members of the community do participate.



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 CAMPUS

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 CAMPUS

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 CAMPUS

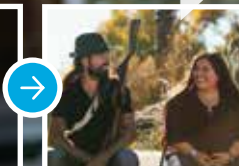
Help create a dialogue between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples on issues that affect Indigenous communities at UBC, in Vancouver, in Canada, and around the world.



"I've come to realize that 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."

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



LEARNING Kwak'wala

"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."

YOUTH RECONCILIATION LEADER WITH CANADIAN ROOTS EXCHANGE

"We're a group of Indigenous and non-Indigenous youth who are bringing awareness of reconciliation to youth across the country."

Aboriginal
Student Affairs



"The Aboriginal Arts Advisors have been so supportive, helping me plan courses and find scholarships."

UBC COURSE:
FNIS 100



"I HIGHLY RECOMMEND INDIGENOUS FOUNDATIONS TO ANYONE WHO IS INTERESTED IN LEARNING ABOUT INDIGENOUS POLITICS."

FIRST NATIONS LONGHOUSE

"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."

YOUR OPPORTUNITIES

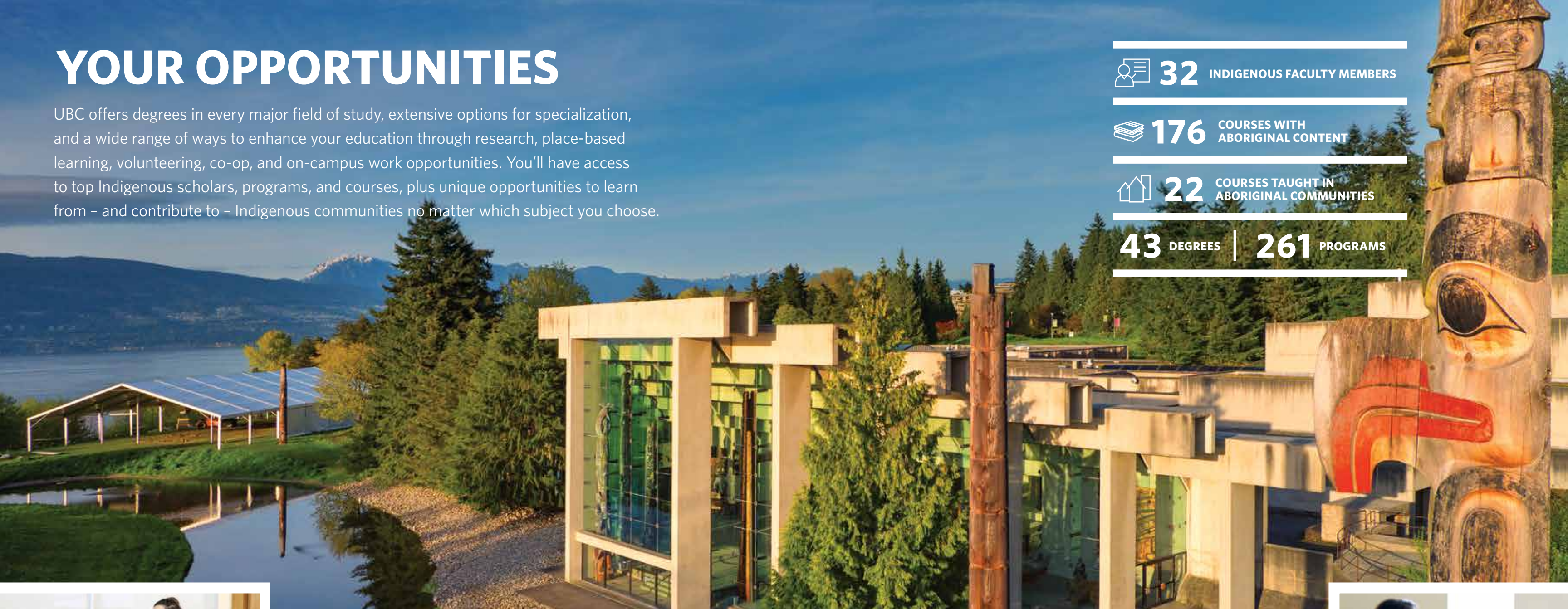
UBC offers degrees in every major field of study, extensive options for specialization, and a wide range of ways to enhance your education through research, place-based learning, volunteering, co-op, and on-campus work opportunities. You'll have access to top Indigenous scholars, programs, and courses, plus unique opportunities to learn from – and contribute to – Indigenous communities no matter which subject you choose.

 **32** INDIGENOUS FACULTY MEMBERS

 **176** COURSES WITH ABORIGINAL CONTENT

 **22** COURSES TAUGHT IN ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES

43 DEGREES | **261** PROGRAMS



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

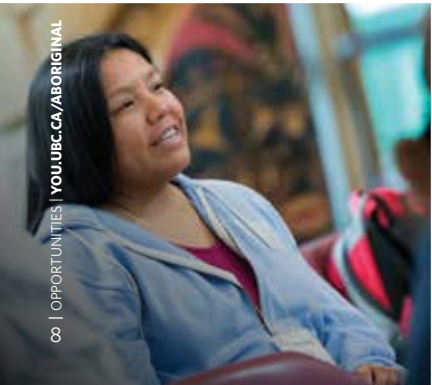
Immerse yourself in another Indigenous culture or community with place-based learning opportunities at Dechinta in the Northwest Territories, on Haida Gwaii, and even in Australia.

LANGUAGE REVITALIZATION

Learn local Indigenous languages, including nsyilxcən, via a partnership between the En'owkin Centre and UBC's Okanagan campus, and hən̓q̓əmiŋəm 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.



PLANNING YOUR FINANCES

A UBC education is an investment that will open doors and provide rewards throughout your lifetime. The University is committed to ensuring that eligible students are not prevented from attending UBC based on financial reasons alone. An advisor will work with you to develop a financial plan and access the financial assistance you need to bring a university education within reach.

BUDGETING FOR FIRST YEAR*



\$5,190+

TUITION

Depending on your area of study



\$10,000+

ROOM & BOARD

Including on-campus residence and meal plan



\$3,600+

OTHER LIVING EXPENSES

Including telephone and internet service, health insurance, personal care, clothes, hobbies and recreation, and startup costs



\$4,000+

STUDY RESOURCES

Including equipment, textbooks, and student fees, depending on your area of study

*All figures are based on a first-year full course load. Living costs cover an eight-month period and are based on a typical student's experience in residence. Goods and services are subject to inflation, which has remained relatively stable at between 1% and 3% in recent years. Please check the online cost calculator at you.ubc.ca/financial-planning/cost for the latest figures.



JEREMIAH HYSLOP | XAXLI'P FIRST NATION
WEST KELOWNA, BRITISH COLUMBIA
BSc STUDENT (BIOLOGY)

"Winning a general Major Entrance Scholarship has given me some financial security and confidence during tough times. It's helped me believe that I am capable of achieving whatever goals I set for myself."

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.



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.



**2 RENEWABLE
AWARDS WORTH
\$20,000
EACH**



**2 RENEWABLE
AWARDS WORTH
\$6,000
EACH**



**7 ONE-TIME
AWARDS WORTH
\$5,000
EACH**

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.



**5 RENEWABLE
AWARDS WORTH
\$5,000
EACH**

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.

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 community. One common type of sponsorship is third-party billing, where your Band office pays your tuition and fees directly to UBC through Enrolment Services. Contact your Band office or community directly to learn more about funding opportunities.

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.

HOW 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.



FULL LIST OF AWARDS

you.ubc.ca/aboriginal-awards

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



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.



UBC STUDENT HOUSING
housing.ubc.ca

UBC CHILDCARE
www.childcare.ubc.ca



"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."

LANGUAGE AND TECH

Developing a video game in collaboration with the Splatstn Tsm7aksaltn Teaching Society to share traditional stories and revitalize the endangered Secwepemctsin (Shuswap) language.

WORKED WITH THE TAKU RIVER TLINGIT TO ADD TLINGIT PLACE NAMES TO A GEOLIVE MAP

↑
RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Internal coordinator for the UBCO SCUBA Club



"We scuba dive in Lake Okanagan year round!"

ENDANGERED LANGUAGE RESEARCH
BIKED BETWEEN THE MAGDALEN ISLANDS OF QUEBEC STUDYING MINORITY FRENCH DIALECTS



LED TO
leparlermadelinot.ca

ABORIGINAL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

"They encouraged me to explore my heritage and my Métis ancestry."

JOURNEY TO UBC

"I was drawn to UBC Okanagan's smaller campus size and setting."



ORGANIZER OF STARTUP DRINKS

A meet-and-greet between the Okanagan's tech community and UBC students, faculty, and staff.



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."

TAKING THE NEXT STEP

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

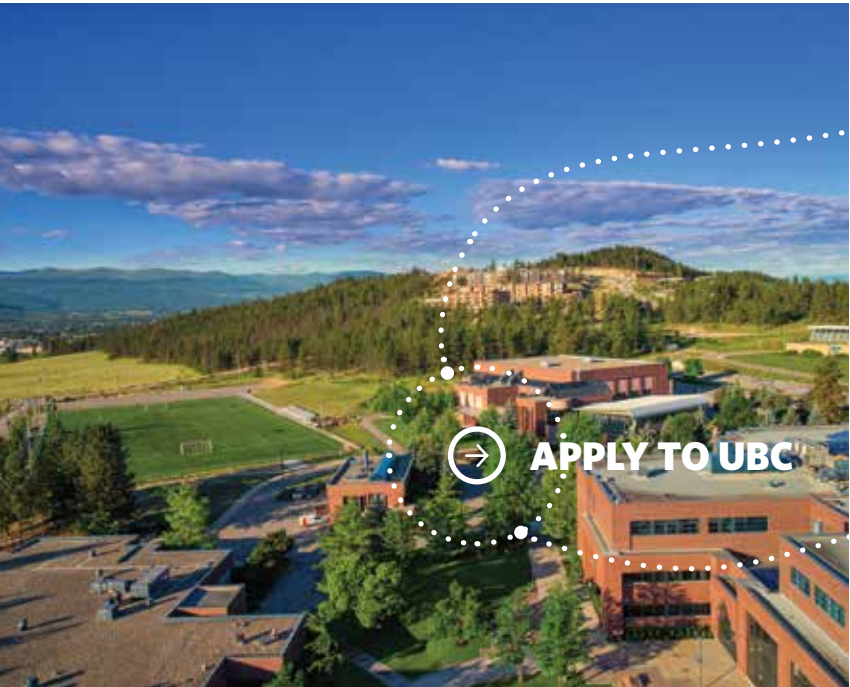
OKANAGAN CAMPUS

VANCOUVER CAMPUS

Campus tours and visits	you.ubc.ca/campus-tours-ok	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	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
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UNDERGRADUATE ABORIGINAL STUDENT BOOK 2018

Questions about undergraduate programs and admissions? Contact us.

OKANAGAN CAMPUS

University Centre
UNC 222 - 3272 University Way
Kelowna BC
Canada V1V 1V7

Toll-free +1.877.807.8521
Phone +1.250.807.8521
Fax +1.250.807.8552

*UBC's Okanagan campus is
situated on the territory of the
Sylx Okanagan Nation.*

VANCOUVER CAMPUS

Brock Hall
1200 - 1874 East Mall
Vancouver BC
Canada V6T 1Z1

Toll-free +1.877.272.1422
Phone +1.604.822.9836
Fax +1.604.822.6943

*UBC's Vancouver campus is
situated on the traditional,
ancestral, and unceded territory
of the Musqueam people.*

you.ubc.ca/aboriginal

twitter.com/youbc



[youbcsnaps](#)



facebook.com/youbc



youtube.com/youbcvideo



instagram.com/youbcpic



you.ubc.ca/applying-ubc/blog



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

