



VANCOUVER ISLAND UNIVERSITY

WINTER ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE PROGRAM “Canadian Culture and Winter Recreation” January 14 – February 7, 2020

Vancouver Island University (VIU) invites students to attend a 4-week English Language and Culture Program, scheduled to take place at the VIU Nanaimo Campus from January 14th to February 7th, 2020. The program will focus specifically on Canadian culture and winter recreation.

VANCOUVER ISLAND UNIVERSITY

Vancouver Island University is a government-funded institution located on central Vancouver Island in British Columbia, Canada. Currently, more than 10,000 full-time students are enrolled in academic, technical, and vocational programs, and more than 25,000 students take general interest courses on an annual basis. VIU delivers educational programs in four campus locations, with the main campus in Nanaimo. Nanaimo is on the scenic east coast of Vancouver Island in the heart of western British Columbia’s tourism area. With a high standard of living, Nanaimo is a city of 90,000 people and has a mild climate, which allows for a variety of summer and winter recreational activities.

VIU has a long history of involvement in international education, and has assisted individuals and groups from many countries with specialized courses and custom programs. In addition, the VIU Faculty of International Education caters solely to international students and offers extensive services, including dedicated advising and counseling, an English Language Centre with highly-trained English language instructors, extensive cultural and activity offerings, and a “Safe Harbour” building where students are offered comfortable classrooms, a general gathering area, and welcoming staff and faculty.

For further information on VIU, please visit our website at international.viu.ca.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Upon arrival at VIU, students will be tested to assess their English language skills. More than one level will be offered if there is sufficient enrollment. Throughout the program, students will participate in English classes (20 hours of instruction per week) with plenty of opportunity to practice their speaking skills, as well as learn about Canadian culture. Students will be required to complete a selection of short assignments, and may be required to complete a research project. Throughout the program, students will participate in a variety of recreational activities that reflect the program theme and give the opportunity to experience Canadian culture firsthand. A Certificate of Completion will be given to students at the end of the program. A full program outline is included in attached Appendix A.

HOMESTAY ACCOMMODATION

Homestay provides an opportunity for students to learn about Canadian family life and customs. Students are able to practice their English and receive help in a variety of areas that can be confusing to newcomers. Host families involve our program participants in their everyday activities and include them as members of their families. The students will have a comfortable room and be **provided with breakfast, lunch and dinner**. Most students will have to commute by public transport to VIU (all homes are within 1-hour commute time to the University), therefore students will be required to purchase a bus pass. Students will be placed one or two per home depending upon host family availability at the time of confirmation of student numbers (required **8 weeks** before program start).

HOMESTAY FEES

\$150 CAD per student: Homestay Placement Fee

\$29 CAD per night per student: Homestay Rent

PROGRAM FEE

\$1,975 CAD per student: 4 Week Winter English Language and Culture Program

| Included in the PROGRAM fee: | NOT included in the PROGRAM fee: |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Tuition fees;➤ Activity program, as indicated on the schedule;➤ Farewell reception for students and their hosts at the end of the program; | <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Accommodation and meals (Homestay participants will receive breakfast, lunch, and dinner)➤ Personal expenses or costs incurred during free time;➤ Daily travel from Homestay to Vancouver Island University and return➤ Notebooks and pens required for class;➤ Travel from the group's home country to Nanaimo and return;➤ Accommodation for accompanying chaperones;➤ Optional activities and regional tours;➤ Medical Insurance (Mandatory; \$65 per month) |

PROGRAM CONTACT

Ali White, Manager of Contracts and Group Programs
Vancouver Island University, Faculty of International Education
900 Fifth Street
Nanaimo, British Columbia
V9R 5S5
Phone: 1-250-740-6314
E-mail: ali.white@viu.ca

APPENDIX A – PROGRAM

| Week 1 | MONDAY January 13 | TUESDAY January 14 | WEDNESDAY January 15 | THURSDAY January 16 | FRIDAY January 17 | SATURDAY January 18 | SUNDAY January 19 |
|--------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 9:00 – 12:00 | ARRIVAL | 8:30 Welcome 9:00 – 12:00 Testing | VIU Tour / English Class | English Class | <u>Day Trip to Victoria</u> Includes: Royal BC Museum and Shopping | FREE DAY POSSIBLE ACTIVITIES TO CONSIDER: Optional Regional Tours hosted by VIU (Additional Cost) | FREE DAY |
| 12:00 – 1:00 | | Lunch | Lunch | Lunch | | | |
| 1:00 - 3:00 | | Program and Homestay Orientation | Student Account Set-Up | English Class (LAB) | | | |
| 3:15 - 6:00 | | Nanaimo Bar Mixer (3:15 – 4:30) | Free Time | Skating | | | |
| Week 2 | MONDAY January 20 | TUESDAY January 21 | WEDNESDAY January 22 | THURSDAY January 23 | FRIDAY January 24 | SATURDAY January 25 | SUNDAY January 26 |
| 9:00 - 2:00 | English Class | English Class | English Class | English Class | <u>Central Island Tour</u> Includes: Curling and Maple Syrup Tapping | FREE DAY POSSIBLE ACTIVITIES TO CONSIDER: Optional Regional Tours hosted by VIU (Additional Cost) | FREE DAY |
| 12:00 - 1:00 | Lunch | Lunch | Lunch | Lunch | | | |
| 1:00 – 3:00 | English Class | English Class (LAB) | English Class | English Class (LAB) | | | |
| 3:15 – 6:00 | Free Time | Baking | Free Time | Indoor Rock Climbing | | | |
| Week 3 | MONDAY January 27 | TUESDAY January 28 | WEDNESDAY January 29 | THURSDAY January 30 | FRIDAY January 31 | SATURDAY February 1 | SUNDAY February 2 |
| 9:00 – 12:00 | English Class | English Class | English Class | English Class | <u>Day Trip to Mt. Washington</u> Includes: Snow Tubing Optional Activities (Additional Cost): Ski or Snowboard | FREE DAY POSSIBLE ACTIVITIES TO CONSIDER: Optional Regional Tour hosted by VIU (Additional Cost) | FREE DAY |
| 12:00 – 1:00 | Lunch | Lunch | Lunch | Lunch | | | |
| 1:00 - 3:00 | English Class | English Class (LAB) | English Class | English Class | | | |
| 3:15 – 6:00 | Free Time | Bowling | Free Time | Métis Beading Workshop | | | |
| Week 4 | MONDAY February 3 | TUESDAY February 4 | WEDNESDAY February 5 | THURSDAY February 6 | FRIDAY February 7 | SATURDAY February 8 | SUNDAY February 9 |
| 9:00 – 12:00 | English Class | English Class | English Class | English Class | <u>Local Tourist Day</u> Includes: EXIT Nanaimo Escape Room Experience and Movie | FREE DAY POSSIBLE ACTIVITIES TO CONSIDER: Optional Regional Tour hosted by VIU (Additional Cost) | DEPARTURE |
| 12:00 – 1:00 | Lunch | Lunch | Lunch | Lunch | | | |
| 1:00 - 3:00 | English Class | English Class (LAB) | English Class | English Class | | | |
| 3:15 – 6:00 | Free Time | Dance Class | Free Time | Free Time | | | |
| 6:00 – 8:00 | | | | Farewell Party | | | |