



# EXCHANGE PROGRAM

## INFORMATION FOR INCOMING STUDENTS & PARTNERS 2019 - 2020

VIU website:	<a href="http://www.viu.ca">www.viu.ca</a>
Current students:	<a href="http://www.viu.ca/students.asp">www.viu.ca/students.asp</a>
Inbound Exchange Students:	<a href="http://international.viu.ca/education-abroad/incoming-exchange">international.viu.ca/education-abroad/incoming-exchange</a>
Timetable for course selection:	<a href="http://calendar.viu.ca">calendar.viu.ca</a>
Language of Instruction:	English

## APPLICATION DEADLINES

Nominations are Accepted by email from VIU exchange partner institutions. Incoming exchange students may be eligible for study for up to two semesters. Exchange programs are run on a reciprocal basis and students pay tuition fees to their home institutions. VIU Inbound medical insurance fees apply.

Partner Nominations:	March 15th for the following Fall & Spring semesters.
Student Applications:	March 31st for following Fall & Spring semesters.

Note: Late nominations for Spring semester may be accepted course availability.

## ACADEMIC CALENDAR

	Fall Semester - 2019	Spring Semester - 2020
International Orientation	August 24 & 25	January 3
First Day of Classes	September 3	January 6
Exam Period	December 9 – 18	April 16 – 24
Last Day of Classes	December 6	April 9

VIU Schedule of Dates: <https://programs.viu.ca/academic-programs-2019-2020>  
There are no academic classes for exchange students during summer semester.

Education Abroad Office  
[eduabroad@viu.ca](mailto:eduabroad@viu.ca)  
P. +1 250 753 3245 local 2494  
F. +1 250 740 6471



**VIUEducationAbroad**

Where your learning takes flight

Vancouver Island University  
900 Fifth Street  
Nanaimo, BC  
Canada V9R 5S5



## PREREQUISITES

Students must demonstrate that they hold the necessary prerequisites for their prospective courses at VIU. In addition to the official transcripts, VIU may request additional documentation such as a course description or syllabus to confirm prerequisites during course registration.

VIU English & Literature Courses:

Students who come from countries where the language of instruction is not in English are only permitted to take ENGL 115, 125, or 135 during their first semester of study, and ENGL 115, 125, 135, 204, or 207 during their second semester of study.

## ACADEMIC COURSE LOAD

Minimum: 3 courses (9 credits)

Maximum: 5 courses (15 credits)

Full course load: 5 courses (15 credits)

If registered in more credits/courses, the applicable international tuition & fees will apply and the student will be responsible for completing payment by the appropriate deadline or may be subject to late fee charges (see <https://international.viu.ca/fees>).

## COURSE FEES

The application fee, tuition fees, student society and activity fees are waived for exchange students. Students are responsible for all other costs (housing, books, transportation, medical insurance, study permit if required, etc.).

## MEDICAL INSURANCE – MANDATORY

Students are required to have adequate medical insurance while studying in Canada. VIU students are automatically enrolled into Guard.Me Insurance for their duration of study at VIU as they are ineligible for medical insurance through the VIU Student Union (VIUSU). Exchange students are not eligible to opt out of their Guard.Me insurance.

The approximately standard cost is \$249.50 per semesters (4 months' coverage). Students staying for longer than 3 months are also to enroll in the provincial BC Medical Services Plan (BCMSP).

Please see <https://international.viu.ca/medical> for more information.

## OTHER COSTS

Use the cost calculator to get an estimate of living expenses (book, transit, housing, food, etc).

Note: Tuition, activity fees, and student union fees do not apply to Exchange students but will appear in the estimate. See: [international.viu.ca/cost-calculator](https://international.viu.ca/cost-calculator)

## STUDENT SERVICES

The faculty of International Education provides advising and counseling to Exchange Students. Additionally, VIU offers a wide array of services to all students, including advising, counseling, disability services, medical clinic, gym facilities & weight room. See: [services.viu.ca/student-affairs](https://services.viu.ca/student-affairs)

## STUDENT LIFE

Extensive social and recreation programs and facilities are also available, allowing students to explore the unique region through field trips, tours, activities and intramurals. Students can register prior to arrival. Fees apply. See: [viu.ca/campusrec](https://viu.ca/campusrec)



**VIUEducationAbroad**

Where your learning takes flight

## TRAVELING TO NANAIMO

Nanaimo is located on Vancouver Island.

Review these travel tips that explain travel by air or ferry boat: [international.viu.ca/your-arrival](http://international.viu.ca/your-arrival)

**Air Travel:** Can be arranged directly to the Nanaimo airport (YCD).

**Ferry:** For those who do not fly direct to Nanaimo, there are two ferry boat routes from Vancouver (<http://www.bcf ferries.be.ca>):  
Horseshoe Bay to Departure Bay (Recommended for transit availability)  
Tsawwassen to Duke Point

**Pick Up:** There is no airport pick up for students staying in on-campus residences or off-campus. For those students who enroll in the VIU Homestay Program, a pick up from YCD may be arranged with the host family.

Alternative arrangements can be made with a private company, at an additional cost: [www.beatonsmeetandgreet.com](http://www.beatonsmeetandgreet.com).

Students should plan to arrive in time to attend the International Student Orientation.

## ACCOMMODATION

### Student Residence

On-Campus Student Residences offer 3 room styles and a social atmosphere with common living spaces.

Application fee \$50; refundable damage deposits \$250; rooms range from \$450 to \$750 per month, depending on type of unit selected/available. Students must provide their own bedding and kitchen utensils.

Apply directly to the student residence using the form provided on the website. We recommend students apply at the same time that they apply to VIU.

### VIU Homestay

VIU Homestay provides students with room & board with a Canadian family.

Monthly fee \$850 (or \$500 without meals). Application & refundable deposit fees apply. Apply 6 weeks before arrival. Complete the application form (student profile) and send in the required deposit and placement fee.

See <https://international.viu.ca/homestay>

### Off Campus - Places4Students

<https://residences.viu.ca/content/campus-housing>

Education Abroad recommends that students explore on campus or homestay offerings first. If the student prefers to make their own arrangements, the above link may be useful to connect with potential landlords. It may be necessary for the student to arrive early and make short-term living arrangements until they find a suitable rental. See: <https://international.viu.ca/housing> for additional information.

## VIU STUDENT LIFE

**Student Activities:** [international.viu.ca/student-life-and-activities](http://international.viu.ca/student-life-and-activities)

**Campus Recreation:** [viu.ca/campusrec](http://viu.ca/campusrec)

**VIU Students' Union Clubs & Events:** [viusu.ca](http://viusu.ca)

## TRAVEL VANCOUVER ISLAND

<http://vancouverisland.travel>

## TOURISM NANAIMO

[www.tourismnanaimo.com](http://www.tourismnanaimo.com)

## STUDENT SUPPORT

[international.viu.ca/student-support](http://international.viu.ca/student-support)

[international.viu.ca/academic-success](http://international.viu.ca/academic-success)



**VIU Education Abroad**  
Where your learning takes flight