

Archived: August 11, 2020

## **Business and Management Programs**

# **Forensic Accounting and Fraud Investigation Advanced Diploma (Online)**

**Location Offered:**

Online

**Credential:**

Advanced Diploma

**Program Length:**

2 Years

## **The Program**

Vancouver Island University's **Advanced Diploma in Forensic Accounting and Fraud Investigation** is an intensive part-time online two-year program that provides students with the essential skills and knowledge to be forensic fraud investigators. Students will develop analytical skills to approach the investigation of fraud, corruption, and ethical irregularities and an understanding of the strategies and tools that can be used to achieve fraud prevention through strategic controls and a culture of compliance.

This program provides an excellent supplement to any business or criminology diploma or degree, or accounting designations, and will provide specialization in the growing field of government and corporate fraud investigation, forensic accounting, and fraud prevention and compliance. For professionals working in a related area such as law enforcement, banking, accounting, legal services, government or regulatory bodies, this program can provide the credentials needed for specialization in this growing field.

This program is endorsed by the Association of Certified Forensic Investigators of Canada. The Association of Certified Forensic Investigators of Canada (ACFI) is a national association which grants accreditation for the designation Certified Forensic Investigator (CFI), a designation widely recognized by Canadian law enforcement, professional associations, and industry. This program will provide preparation for the examination for ACFI's entry-level Certified Forensic Technician (CFT) credential, and for those who have obtained three years of forensic investigation experience, for ACFI's Certified Forensic Investigator (CFI) designation.

The program is delivered online on a part-time basis over two years through VIU's online learning environment. Courses will be taken one at a time, sequentially. Each course will be 8 weeks long including the final examination, with the exception of FORE 490 which will be 14 weeks long. The program will consist of online learning modules, group discussion, case studies and investigation simulations, and simulated role plays. Students must be prepared to participate in interactive learning. Students will develop critical thinking, investigative skills, professional report-writing skills, and receive constructive feedback to enhance their learning. There will also be required reading and homework.

## Program Outline

All courses are 8 weeks in duration including an exam period except for FORE 490 which is a 14 week course.

Year 1		Credits
<b>Semester 1</b>		
FORE 300 - (Fraud and Commercial Crime)		3
FORE 310 - (Accounting and Finance for Fraud Investigators)		3
<b>Semester 2</b>		
FORE 350 - (Forensic Investigations and Asset Recovery)		3
LAWW 348 - (Fraud, Commercial Crime and Evidence)		3
<b>Semester Credits</b>		<b>12</b>

Year 2		Credits
<b>Semester 1</b>		
FORE 400 - (Compliance Through Ethical Organizational Cultures)		3
FORE 410 - (Forensic Accounting and Data Analysis)		3
<b>Semester 2</b>		
FORE 490 - (Forensic Investigation - An Integrated Case)		6
<b>Semester Credits</b>		<b>12</b>
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>24</b>

## Completion Requirements

Students must maintain a GPA of 2.33 (C+) in order to qualify for graduation.

## Admission Requirements

- General admission requirements apply.
- Completion of a university, college degree, or diploma in a related business area (such as accounting, commerce, management, business administration or criminology), or completion of the requirements for a professional accounting designation (such as CA, CGA, CMA). Students with third-year standing in related fields, such a business and criminology, will also be considered.
- Thorough understanding of accounting fundamentals as evidenced by having attained at least "C+" in a college or university level financial accounting course such as VIU's ACCT 100 - (Financial Accounting I).
- Possession of Faculty of Management's required Computer Competencies.
- International students are required to meet VIU's English Language requirements and must have completed VIU's English Language program, or have already achieved a minimum TOEFL 550, TOEFL Computer Based Test (CBT) 213, TOEFL iBT 80 with no section lower than 19, IELTS 6.0, CAEL 60, Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English (min. "B"), Cambridge Certificate of Advanced English (min. "B").

## Recommendations for Admission

- Academic or applied experience in criminology, accounting, law, or investigations is advantageous.
- Academic or applied experience in word processing and spreadsheets.

## **Notes on Admission**

- Preference will be given to candidates with experience in a related field.
- Students who meet or exceed the minimum admission requirements may not necessarily be admitted to the program.

## **Career Opportunities**

Areas of employment that graduates might wish to explore:

- Corporate fraud investigations
- Corporate fraud prevention training and consultation
- Forensic accounting
- Economic loss quantification and valuations
- Law enforcement criminal investigations
- Computer investigations
- Business financial integrity units, internal audit and security divisions
- Banking security, investigations and compliance
- Federal, provincial and municipal government taxation, compliance and security
- Regulatory bodies and bankruptcy investigations

## **Start Date and Application Deadline**

The program starts in September, and applications for admission are accepted anytime up to June 30. Applications received after June 30 are considered late and will be processed as space permits.

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