

Archived: September 9, 2021

Science and Technology Programs

Bachelor of Natural Resource Protection

Location Offered:

Nanaimo

Credential:

Bachelor Degree

Program Length:

4 Years

The Program

The degree program builds on the existing two-year Resource Management Officer Technology (RMOT) diploma program. The Bachelor of Natural Resource Protection will enable RMOT diploma graduates to receive an undergraduate degree after an additional two years of course work. This degree has been designed to provide an advanced credential for other career opportunities in the natural resource conservation and protection field.

VIU is the only academic institution in BC to offer this specialized degree, and only one of two to offer a comparable degree in Western Canada. In addition to advanced courses in natural resource management and law enforcement, there is a four month field practicum in the fall of fourth year. In this practicum, students are able to choose an off-campus field placement with either an enforcement or a resource management agency.

Program Outline

Year 3

Fall Semester		Credits
ANTH 430 - (Forensic Anthropology)		3
RMOT 305 - (Advanced Field Skills)		3
RMOT 306 - (Environmental Monitoring)		3
RMOT 397 - (Natural Resource Forensic Investigations)		3
Elective*		3
Semester Credits		15
Spring Semester		
ENGL 204 - (Business and Technical Writing) (effective September 2012) or, ENGL 225 - (Business and Technical Writing) (prior to September 2012)		3
GEOG 328 - (Geographic Information Systems)		3
RMOT 357 - (Research Methods in Natural Resource Management)		3
RMOT 395 - (Advanced Investigative Procedures)		3
Elective*		3
Semester Credits		15
Total Credits		30

Year 4

Fall Semester		Credits
RMOT 470 - (Advanced Field Practicum in Natural Resource Protection)		15
Semester Credits		15
Spring Semester		
RMOT 498 - (Special Investigations: Habitat and Pollution Prosecutions)		3
RMOT 400 - (Fisheries Conservation and Management)		3
RMOT 401 - (Wildlife Management)		3
RMOT 496 - (Resource Management and Aboriginal Right)		3
Elective*		3
	Semester Credits	15
Total Credits		30

** Students must obtain permission from their program advisor for elective course selections. Please check the specific course descriptions in the online calendar to ensure you have the prerequisites for the courses selected.*

Admission Requirements

- Students may apply to the third year of the degree program after successful completion of the Resource Management Officer Technology diploma with a minimum grade point average of 2.33 ("C+").

Notes on Admission

- Admission to the third year of the degree program is limited. Students who meet or exceed the minimum admission requirements may not necessarily be admitted to the program. Depending on the number of applications received, applicants will be prioritized by overall Grade Point Average. A waitlist will be created, if required.

Notes on Progression

- Students enrolled in the Bachelor Natural Resource Protection degree must satisfactorily complete all course and elective courses, with a minimum "C-" grade in all third year courses.
- Students must also maintain a minimum "C" average in upper level courses, and have an overall GPA of at least 2.0 ("C") in order to be eligible for graduation.
- Students who fail to maintain these standards will be asked to withdraw from the program for a minimum of one academic year. The student may apply for probationary re-instatement after the withdrawal period, subject to available space in the program.

Transfer Credit

Students are required to satisfy the institutional residency requirement by completing a minimum of 42 upper level credits (third and fourth year courses numbered 300 or higher), at Vancouver Island University. Transfer credit for third and fourth year courses into the degree program must be approved beforehand by the degree advisor.

Diploma graduates from similar fish, wildlife and recreation programs taken at other institutions (e.g. BCIT, Selkirk College), may block-transfer into the Spring semester of

the second year of the RMOT diploma program, and apply to the degree program the following year.

Career Opportunities

Students that graduate with the Bachelor of Natural Resource Protection will be able to find employment in many different fields of natural resource management and protection. This includes National Park Wardens, Park Rangers, Conservation Officers, Fishery Officers, Fisheries Inspectors, Forestry Compliance and Enforcement Officers, Environmental Inspectors, Environmental consultants, Fish and Wildlife technicians and biologists, among others. A degree may also be beneficial for promotion to management positions within these agencies.

Start Date and Application Deadline

The program starts in September, and applications are accepted between the first business day in October, and March 31. Students enrolled in the second year of the RMOT diploma program have until April 30 to apply for third year.

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