

Archived: August 8, 2022

Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Programs

Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas Planning Advanced Certificate

Location Offered:

Nanaimo, Online

Credential:

Advanced Certificate

Program Length:

2 Semesters

The Program

The Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas (IPCA) Planning Advanced Certificate addresses the need for a comprehensive and holistic program relating to the protection and conservation of the lands and waters across Canada, and contributes to the development of a network of IPCA certified professionals who will play a critical role in Canada's achievement of the "30% by 2030" goal.

Students who graduate from this program will have an advanced knowledge of the meaning and purpose of IPCAs, will be able to distinguish between western land use planning and regulatory approaches and Indigenous practices and world views. Critical to this will be understanding of the concepts and values relating to reciprocity and responsibilities. Over six courses, students will: gain an understanding of the roles of IPCAs in biodiversity conservation, cultural regeneration, reconciliation, and community-based conservation economies; learn about the jurisdictional, legal, and policy contexts for IPCAs in BC, Canada, and internationally, and identify different governance arrangements and management models for IPCAs; and will investigate the use of new approaches and tools for achieving targets of the United Nations Convention on Biodiversity (CBD) for protected and conserved areas in Canada and the world that align with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

This Advanced Certificate will be of interest to individuals involved in land use planning, parks, environmental protection, and conservation or other areas relating to culture, lands, waters, air, and wildlife.

This Advanced Certificate may be taken:

- As a stand-alone Advanced Certificate for those interested in expanding their knowledge of Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas; or
- As a credential taken concurrently with an undergraduate or graduate degree at Vancouver Island University.

The six courses that make up the program are generally offered in the summer months. IPCA 407 is normally offered as an intensive face to face course in a field setting proximate to an existing Indigenous Protected and Conserved Area, although it could be offered in an online format if required. The other courses may be offered face to face, online, or in a blended format.

Students may take the program as an intensive summer experience or part time as the program is offered.

Students may choose to complete this as a credential concurrently within a VIU undergraduate degree program. Students would take the six required Advanced Certificate courses when they are offered: no substitutions of other undergraduate courses will be permitted for the Advanced Certificate. Students would qualify for the Advanced Certificate on completion of all six courses. The IPCA courses may be considered for use towards the elective requirements of the student's primary credential: the recognition of these courses as part of the student's degree program should be fully researched by the student and discussed with their Advisor and/or Program Chair.

Students are encouraged to contact the IPCA Planning Advanced Certificate Program Coordinator to inquire about enrolment possibilities or to discuss any individual issues relating to enrolment.

Program Outline

Course Title	Credits
IPCA 407 - (Field Studies in Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas)	3
IPCA 417 - (Topics in Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas)	3
IPCA 427 - (Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Land Relationships)	3
IPCA 437 - (Creating Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas)	3
IPCA 447 - (Law and Politics: Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas)	3
IPCA 457 - (Eco, Cultural, and Socio-Economic Opportunities in IPCAs)	3
Total credits	18

Completion Requirements

Students must achieve a minimum of a "C" grade in any individual course to qualify for the completed certificate. Grades for individual courses are given in the manner described under VIU's Grading Policy for undergraduate courses.

Admission Requirements

Completion of post-secondary diploma or completion of minimum of 54 academic credits including VIU's Degree English Requirement.

Notes on Admission

- Students who meet or exceed the minimum admission requirements may not necessarily be admitted to the program.
- Students may complete this program as a stand-alone credential or concurrently with their VIU degree. In both instances, students must apply to be accepted to the Advanced Certificate Program.

Start Date and Application Deadline

The program will generally be offered in summer.

Applications for admission are accepted on the first business day of October to February 15. Applications received after February 15 are considered late and will be processed as space permits.

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