

Archived: August 8, 2022

Science and Technology Programs

Post-Degree Diploma in Fisheries and Aquaculture

Location Offered:

Nanaimo

Credential:

Post-Degree Diploma

Program Length:

1 Year

The Program

The Post-Degree Diploma in Fisheries and Aquaculture is a two semester program for students who have already completed a Bachelor of Science in biology or a related discipline. This program is appropriate for those who want to complement their prior credentials with specialized learning and practical experiences in fisheries, aquaculture, aquatic conservation and/or related fields of research. The Post-Degree Diploma involves a substantial work experience component which may be completed in a variety of settings, including, but not limited to, government or university research labs, fisheries habitat management agencies, shellfish and finfish aquaculture hatcheries and farms, salmon enhancement hatcheries, or environmental consulting firms. Throughout the program students will tailor their learning to their particular interests though consultation with the program Chair. Students may choose from a selection of courses that cover topics such as aquaculture, fisheries, hatcheries, management, conservation, shellfish, finfish, kelp, and habitat assessment, as well as elective courses across diverse disciplines that could include biology, chemistry, communications, geography, First Nations studies, business, or others.

Graduates of the Post-Degree Diploma in Fisheries and Aquaculture have the knowledge, practical skills and work experience to either move directly into fulfilling careers with significant advancement potential or pursue further studies in graduate school.

Program Outline

Year 1	Credits
FISH 371 ¹ - (Senior Work Experience I)	3
FISH 372 ¹ - (Senior Work Experience II)	3
FISH 391 ² - (Advanced Applied Techniques I)	3
FISH 392 ² - (Advanced Applied Techniques II)	3
FISH or AQUA courses	15
General Electives ³	9
Total Credits	36

1. Work experience placements are to be selected in coordination with the Chair of the

Department or Coordinator of the specific courses.

2. Applied skills placements are to be selected in coordination with the Chair of the Department.

3. Electives are to be chosen in consultation with, and must be approved by, the Chair of Fisheries and Aquaculture. Suggested electives can be found here (<https://scitech.viu.ca/fisheries-aquaculture/post-degreediploma>).

Completion Requirements

Grades for individual courses are given in the manner described under the Grading Policy of this Calendar. The program has minimum standards as follows:

- In order to graduate, no more than 2 “C-” grades can be accumulated over the post-degree diploma program.
- Students have a maximum of 2 years to complete the post-degree diploma program. Students who do not attain satisfactory grades for all courses in the program within the consecutive 2-year period will be withdrawn from the program. However, they may reapply after one year.
- Students must complete all program course requirements to the above standards and have an overall GPA of at least 2.0 (“C”) in order to be eligible for graduation.

Admission Requirements

Admission guideline requirements to this option are:

- minimum “B” average overall in university courses;
- interview;
- permission of department.

Notes on Admission

- When accepted, students should contact Department Chair or Co-Chair to choose courses for each semester that will cater to their career goals.
- Aboriginal students can apply for reserve seats by submitting the Access Initiative for Aboriginal Students form.

Start Date and Application Deadline

Applications will be accepted from October 3 to March 31, however, applicants are encouraged to apply by the early consideration deadline of January 31.

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