

23. FIRST NATIONS UNIVERSITY OF CANADA

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23.1 GENERAL INFORMATION

The First Nations University of Canada is academically federated with the University of Regina. Through its Board of Governors, the First Nations University of Canada is under the jurisdiction of the Indian Governments of Saskatchewan, the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations (FSIN).

The First Nations University of Canada is a full member of the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC).

Faculty Listing: fnuniv.ca/faculty

Staff Listing: www.fnuniv.ca/contacts

23.2 ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

The First Nations University of Canada offers all programs available at the University of Regina in the Faculties of Arts and Science as well as its own programs in Administration, Education, Engineering and Applied Science, Kinesiology and Health Studies, and Social Work. The following programs of study are available at the First Nations University of Canada, and are open to all students at the University of Regina.

1. **Mature Admission:** Mature admission may be granted to applicants for admission to undergraduate programs who do not meet the standard admission requirements of the faculty to which they are applying and who have completed fewer than 24 credit hours of approved post-secondary courses, are Canadian citizens or permanent residents, and will be at least 21 years of age before the semester begins. Mature applicants who do not meet the standard admission criteria for their faculty of choice, may be admitted to the Faculty of Arts or the Faculty of Social Work to qualify for transfer. See §2.4.2 of this calendar.
2. **Pre-Professional Programs:** Students may register with the First Nations University of Canada to take their initial year(s) in a number of pre-professional programs. One or two years may be taken through the First Nations University of Canada; the remainder of the program is to be taken with appropriate University of Regina faculty, or a specific professional school at another university. Refer to the Faculty sections and §24.
3. **First Nations University of Canada Faculties:** The First Nations University of Canada offers programs leading to bachelor's degrees and certificates through its Department of Indigenous Education, Health, and Social Work (DIEHSW), Department of Indigenous Languages, Arts and Cultures (DILAC), Department of Indigenous Science, Environment and Economic Development (DISEED). The DIEHSW includes Bachelor of Health Studies, Indigenous Education, and Indigenous Social Work. The DILAC houses—Indigenous Fine Arts & Indigenous Art History, Indigenous Languages and Linguistics, Indigenous Literatures in English, Indigenous Studies, and Indian Communication Arts. The DISEED houses – Business & Public Administration and Environmental Health Science. Degrees and certificates obtained are granted by the University of Regina. Students become alumni of both the First Nations University of Canada and the University of Regina.
4. **Students majoring in Indigenous Studies** can choose between the BA and BA Hons degrees. Applications for master's degree work in Indigenous Studies are considered by the University's Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research.

5. Students wishing to apply for the special case Master of Indigenous Social Work program should submit their applications to the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research.
6. BA and BA Hons degrees in both Cree Linguistics and Saulteaux Linguistics are available. The First Nations University of Canada also offers programs leading to a BA in Indigenous Art, a BA in Fine Arts, a BEd Elementary and BEd Secondary (Indigenous Education), a Certificate and/or Bachelor of Indigenous Social Work, a Certificate in Indian Communication Arts, a Bachelor and/or Certificate in Indigenous Health Studies, and a BSc in Environmental Health and Science.
7. For specific descriptions of the First Nations University of Canada courses, consult *UR Self-Service* or §24.
8. **Prince Albert Campus:** The First Nations University of Canada, Prince Albert Campus, offers university programming for First Nations peoples through a variety of means: on campus programming in Prince Albert, community based and distance education programs throughout Saskatchewan and across Canada.
9. In partnership with the Centre for Continuing Education, the following programs are offered: Certificate in Administration Level I and II, Certificate in Indigenous Management I and II; Certificate in Hospitality, Tourism and Gaming Entertainment Management; Certificate of Extended Studies in Aboriginal Education; Certificate of Extended Studies in First Nations Language; Certificate of Continuing Education First Nations Interdisciplinary Studies; Certificate of Continuing Education Indian Career and Community Counselling; Certificate in Indigenous Access Transition Education, Diploma in First Nations Interdisciplinary Studies (Community Based Justice, Health, and, Cultural Development); First Nations Language Instructors' Certificate, Certificate in Reconciliation Studies, and Certificate in Indigenous Economic Development. Also offered are certificate/degree off-campus programs in Arts, Science, Teacher Education and Social Work.
10. **Science Program:** This is a multidisciplinary program that provides pre-professional education for students wishing to pursue careers in disciplines such as nursing, medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, medical laboratory technology, or agriculture.
11. The Science Program offers the following: the Environmental Health and Science (ENHS) program leading to a BASc; the Bachelor of Arts in Resource and Environmental Studies (BARES); A program of study leading to a Bachelor's degree in Health Studies as well as the Certificate of Indigenous Health Studies (IHNS).
12. The Science Program offers preparatory courses as well as regular university courses including Mathematics, Biology, Computer Science and Environmental Health and Science. Specially designed courses in Indigenous Health Studies give students an opportunity to explore areas in the health field from traditional to contemporary medicine. Students may exit the program at several levels to enter specialized programs elsewhere. They may choose to remain and graduate with a science degree (BSc).
13. A Co-operative Education Program is available to Administration and Arts students who are enrolled at the First Nations University of Canada. Please contact the University of Regina Co-operative Education Program. For more information, refer to §8.1.1.

23.3 INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS AND STUDENT EXCHANGES

The First Nations University of Canada has several international agreements with Indigenous Peoples around the world including China, Inner Mongolia, the United States, and several countries throughout Central and South America. The agreement with the Organization of American States (OAS) is to provide scholarships to Indigenous students from Latin America to study at the First Nations University of Canada. Designed to foster the exchange of information between

24. Courses

students, and staff, the agreements help to develop an awareness and understanding of the socio-political and cultural concerns of Indigenous Peoples around the world.

23.4 LIBRARY SERVICES

The First Nations University of Canada Library, Regina Campus, houses approximately 70,000 items, including 66,200 volumes, monographs, periodicals, newspapers, government publications, microform, and AV materials. This collection focuses primarily on the Indigenous Peoples of North, South and Central America, of Indian, Inuit, and Métis ancestry and supplements the courses offered by both the First Nations University and the University of Regina. At the beginning of each semester, library orientations are offered upon request through the First Nations University Libraries.

The Saskatoon Campus Library collection contains items of various formats which support the Indigenous Studies, Master of Indigenous Social Work and Bachelor of Indigenous Social Work programs.

The Prince Albert Campus Library located in Prince Albert supports courses in the Indigenous Teacher Education program and houses the Health Sciences Collection, which supports the Nursing Education Program.

The First Nations University of Canada Libraries are available to all registered students of the First Nations University of Canada as well as students of the University of Regina, Campion College, and Luther College.

23.5 STUDENT SERVICES

Student Success Services at the First Nations University of Canada is the main support system for students as they work toward their academic goals.

Elders provide students with personal, cultural, and spiritual guidance. Student Success Services assists students in planning their academic careers and offers a wide range of academic support to ensure students successfully complete their program of study. In addition, tutors are available and writing clinics have been set up for all First Nations of University of Canada students.

The FNUniv Registrar's Office provides the academic regulation function, which is vital to the ongoing registration and convocation of students.

23.5.1 ARTS TRANSITION PROGRAM (FIRST NATIONS UNIVERSITY OF CANADA)

The Arts Transition Program (ATP) is a collaborative initiative of the Student Success Centre, UR International, and the Faculty of Arts. The program is designed to assist students transferring to the Faculty of Arts to gain the learning skills needed for academic success. While all transferring students are encouraged to complete the ATP, it is required of international students (i.e., students admitted by UR International, except for those attending the University of Regina as part of an exchange agreement) who have been required to discontinue (RTD'd) from another Faculty or any transferring student with a UGPA below the Faculty of Arts' minimum of 60%.

The ATP courses, workshops, and sessions, are designed to facilitate the development of peer cohorts that will help students obtain the academic, social and cultural skills that they require to thrive in the Faculty of Arts. In addition, the ATP will serve as an early intervention for students who are on academic probation, before they reach the point where they are required to withdraw from the university. For international students, in particular, a forced withdrawal from the university typically leads to a legal deportation from Canada, with lifelong repercussions.

The ATP is a 2-semester program, structured as follows, for First Nations University students:

Semester 1	Semester 2
ARTS 099 (0 credit hours)	INDG 104 (3 credit hours)
RDWT 120 (or Arts course) (3 credit hours)	ENGL 100 (3 credit hours)
Faculty of Arts course (3 credit hours)	(optional) Faculty of Arts course (3 credit hours)
Student Success Workshops	Student Success Workshops

The Student Success Workshops include six hours of equated credit that will be considered as credit hours for funding purposes, as follows:

Support workshops: 2 - 3 hours weekly (addressing academic skill-building and life skills).

Note: some workshops for international students will be offered in partnership with the Global Learning Centre.

Personal professional development: 3 hours weekly (includes peer support groups, reflective journal, and guided homework time).

Academic coaching: 2 hours weekly (group coaching sessions).

Note: some coaching sessions for international students will be led by Academic Coaches through the Global Learning Centre.

Writing lab: 1-2 hours per week spent in a writing lab.

First Nations University students participating in the program are required to:

- Attend all scheduled Student Success Workshop sessions;
- Complete weekly reflection journals (such journal entries must meet a minimum standard);
- Attain a minimum of 60% in each credit course; and,
- Receive a P (pass) in Arts 099.

Program policies for First Nations University students:

1. Students are charged \$900 per semester to cover the costs of the ATP. This fee is in addition to any standard registration and course fees.
2. If a student has already passed INDG 104 and/or ENGL 100 another Faculty of Arts course may be substituted.
3. Students who are unsuccessful in the ATP will be allowed to take the Academic Recovery Program (ARP) later.
4. Students who successfully complete the ATP, and have a UGPA of at least 60%, have satisfied the conditions of their admission to the Faculty of Arts and will be afforded all the rights and privileges of registration through the Faculty.
5. Students who are on university probation will have their probation period extended while they are in the ATP so that they will be exempted from a MW (must withdraw) academic action.
6. Students who successfully complete the ATP and still have a UGPA below the minimum standard of 60%:
 - a. will be allowed to continue studies in the Faculty for a further 15 credit hours;
 - b. will be limited to a maximum of 12 credit hours per semester; and
 - c. must have a UGPA of 60% after the term in which the 15th credit hour is completed.

Failure to attain a minimum UGPA of 60% after the completion of the ATP and the additional 15 credit hours will result in a mandatory withdrawal of at least three semesters.

Students who receive a failing grade in a third completed attempt at ENGL 100 must withdraw from the university for two years. Students cannot appeal the requirements of the ATP.

23.6 REGISTRATION WITH THE FIRST NATIONS UNIVERSITY OF CANADA

Students wishing to register with the First Nations University of Canada should indicate their intention by identifying the First Nations University of Canada in the space provided on the University of Regina's on-line application form.

The University of Regina timetable for courses offered by the First Nations University of Canada Academic Staff at the Regina, Saskatoon and Prince Albert campuses should be consulted. The appropriate sections of the calendar are listed below:

- Indigenous Languages, and Linguistics
- Indigenous Literatures in English
- Indian Communication Arts
- Indigenous Studies
- Indigenous Fine Arts & Indigenous Art History
- Bachelor of Health Studies
- Indigenous Education
- Indigenous Social Work
- Business & Public Administration
- Environmental Health and Science

Further information regarding the First Nations University of Canada's programs, courses, and services is available directly from the university. Inquiries should be directed to:

First Nations University of Canada
Regina Campus
1 First Nations Way
Regina, SK S4S 7K2
Tel: 306-790-5950 extension 3001
Fax: 306-790-5996

First Nations University of Canada
Saskatoon Campus
#207 – 2553 Grasswood Rd East
Saskatoon, SK S7T 1C8
Tel: 306-931-1800 extension 5475
Fax: 306-931-1849

First Nations University of Canada
Prince Albert Campus
1301 Central Avenue
Prince Albert, SK S6V 4W1
Tel: 306-763-0066 extension 7000
Fax: 306-764-3511

23.7 FIRST NATIONS UNIVERSITY OF CANADA AWARDS

First Nations University of Canada students are eligible for all awards offered by the First Nations University of Canada in addition to those offered by the University of Regina. Information on the First Nations University of Canada Scholarships/awards can be found on the First Nations University Website as well as the Information booklet located at all campuses. Application forms for these awards are available from Student Success Services as well as on-line. General inquiries should be directed to:

First Nations University of Canada Scholarship Committee
Student Success Services
1 First Nations Way
Regina, SK S4S 7K2
Tel: 306-790-5950 ext 3134