



uStart Program Guide

2021-2022



University
of Victoria



Program introduction

The uStart program provides high-achieving high school students from the Greater Victoria School District (SD61) the opportunity to enroll in selected courses at the University of Victoria (UVic) for dual credit during your grade 12 year.

As a uStart participant, you will:

- Explore a university environment while completing high school
- Experience post-secondary education with your tuition paid by SD61
- Receive elective credits toward your high school diploma and university credit from UVic
- Get a head start on your post-secondary studies

Eligibility

Participation in uStart is open to students who are:

- In their Grade 12 year at a secondary school in SD61
- Canadian citizens or permanent residents

Applications are submitted during the Grade 11 school year, enabling students to plan how they will fit courses at UVic into their Grade 12 studies.

Students who are not eligible for uStart may wish to consider UVic's Accelerated Entry program. Speak with your high school counsellor and visit uvic.ca/acceleratedentry for details.

Getting started

Review the program guide to see if uStart is the right fit for you and your educational goals. You'll need to think about your future post-secondary plans, what class you'd like to study at UVic and if you'll have room with your high school timetable and busy schedule.

If you're thinking about applying, you should speak with your high school counsellor or principal as early as possible about your interest in the program. Together you can decide if participation is a good option for you.

Your high school counsellor or principal can help you prepare your application package.

Tuition and program fees

Your uStart tuition will be paid by SD61. However, you are responsible for paying student fees and other costs related to your studies, such as textbooks and lab supplies.

Note that your student fees enable you to use the services and facilities provided by the UVic Students' Society (UVSS) and UVic Athletics & Recreation.

Estimated student fees per term (based on 2020-21 rates)

UVSS:	\$38.43
U-PASS (bus pass)*	\$81.00
Athletics & Recreation	\$45.33

**Students who already have valid BC Transit bus passes may opt out of the U-PASS program.*

April 16, 2021	Early May	Mid-May	May/June	End of June	Fall/Winter
Deadline for submission of applications	Selection committee reviews applications	Selection decisions are sent by email	uStart students select courses (with help from high school counsellors)	Official admission letters confirming registration are mailed to uStart participants	Participants attend classes at UVic

Application and admission process

Admission criteria

uStart applicants must meet the following admission criteria:

- Enrolled in Grade 12 at an SD61 school (Grade 11 at the time of application)
- Completing the full range of grade 11 and 12 courses required to be admitted to degree studies at UVic
- Minimum 85% average in all academic subjects to date
- High academic standing (approximately 90%) in the field of study you plan to pursue at university
- Complete all prerequisites identified for the course(s) you've selected prior to the first day of classes
- Demonstrate language proficiency if English is not your primary language (uvic.ca/enpr)
- Canadian citizen or permanent resident
- At least 16 years of age (except under special circumstances)

Application package

Your application package must include:

- Completed application form
- Cover letter introducing yourself and why you want to participate in uStart, as well as your future post-secondary plans
- Recommendation from your high school principal verifying your potential for success in the uStart program and future post-secondary studies
- Diploma Verification Report, including in-progress grades for all courses to be completed by June
- Student education/transition plan
- **\$20 application fee** (non-refundable)

Completed applications must be submitted to your counsellor or principal by the deadline stated on Page 1.

uStart checklist

Have you decided that uStart is right for you? Use this checklist to apply for the program and prepare for classes.

- ☒ Review the uStart program guide
- ☐ Talk to your high school counsellor about the uStart program and the fields of study you might pursue at university
- ☐ Confirm that participation in the uStart program will fit with your high school timetable and other commitments
- ☐ Complete the uStart application prepare supporting documents
- ☐ Submit the application package to your counsellor or principal by the deadline (keep a copy for your own records)
- ☐ Make a list of UVic courses you'd like to take via uStart, ensuring that you can meet any prerequisites before the first day of classes
- ☐ Prepare for UVic financial commitments, such as student fees and textbooks

Selection, fee payment, and withdrawal

Selection Process

Applications are reviewed by a UVic selection committee, and applicants will be notified of their decisions via email.

An official University of Victoria letter of acceptance will follow at the end of June, once course registration has been confirmed.

Paying your student fees

Fees are due at the end of the first month for each term in which you are taking classes. You will be able to check your balance online via your UVic student account.

Payment deadlines

Fall term (Sep-Dec): **September 30**
 Winter term (Jan-Apr): **January 31**

Withdrawing from uStart

uStart students must meet the same academic regulations and deadlines as other UVic students. Withdrawal deadlines for each term are listed in the UVic calendar and admission letter.

Withdrawal from a course is only permitted until the specified deadline and will be deemed a failed course after that date. Student fees will only be refunded if you withdraw before the end of the second week of classes.

Requests to withdraw must be sent via email to ustart@uvic.ca.

Course selection and registration

Many UVic courses are available to students in the uStart program. However, some courses may not be offered every term.

Beginning in May, you can visit uvic.ca/timetable to see upcoming course availability. Once you have been accepted to the uStart program, your counsellor will work with you to determine the courses that fit best with your school schedule and workload.

Your school will provide your final course selection to UVic in early June, and you will receive an official admission letter with course confirmation in late June. Note that uStart students are usually limited to one course per term.

Course changes can be requested before the term begins. However, requests made after July 1 may result in you being placed on a waitlist.

Sample courses

uStart students have taken a wide variety of courses over the years, and we've listed some of them to give you an idea of what's available. We encourage you to find the courses that are best for you and your future studies.

Visit uvic.ca/fyc for a full list of courses with minimal or no prerequisites.

ASTRONOMY

ASTR 101 Exploring the Night Sky

BIOCHEMISTRY

BIOC 102 Biochemistry and Human Health

BIOLOGY

BIOL 150 Modern Biology

CHEMISTRY

CHEM 101 Fundamentals of Chemistry I

COMMERCE

COM 100 Intro to Business Decision Making

COMPUTER SCIENCE

CSC 110 Fundamentals of Programming I

ECONOMICS

ECON 103 Principles of Microeconomics

ENGLISH

ENGL 146 The Literature of Our Era

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

ES 200 Intro to Environmental Studies

EXERCISE SCIENCE, PHYSICAL AND HEALTH EDUCATION

EPHE 141 Human Anatomy

FINE ARTS

FA 101 Creative Being

HISTORY

HSTR 115 The Second World War

HUMAN DIMENSIONS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

HDCC 200 Intro to Human Dimensions of Climate Change

LINGUISTICS

LING 100 Intro to Linguistics

Course registration checklist

- ☐ Review course descriptions and prerequisites (uvic.ca/fyc)
- ☐ Make a list of the courses in which you are interested, ensuring that you can meet prerequisites prior to the first day of classes
- ☐ Visit uvic.ca/timetable in May to see which courses are available in the fall and winter terms
- ☐ Discuss and finalize your course selection with your counsellor. Your school will submit your course request to UVic.

MATHEMATICS

MATH 151 Finite Mathematics

MUSIC

MUS 111 Elementary Materials of Music

PACIFIC AND ASIAN STUDIES

PAAS 138 Intensive Beginner Japanese I

PHILOSOPHY

PHIL 100 Intro to Philosophy

POLITICAL SCIENCE

POLI 101 Canadian Politics

PSYCHOLOGY

PSYC 100A Introductory Psychology I

WRITING

WRIT 109 The Writer's World in Books and Film



University
of Victoria

UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS

University of Victoria
PO Box 3025 STN CSC
Victoria BC V8W 3P2 Canada
Phone: 250-721-8121 Fax: 250-721-6225 Web: uvic.ca/registrar

V O O

For office use only

Application for admission to the uStart program

PERSONAL INFORMATION

☐ Mr ☐ Mrs ☐ Ms ☐ Miss ☐ Other _____

Family name

Given name

Middle name

Previous family name (if applicable)

Preferred first name

Gender ☐ Male ☐ Female ☐ Other

Date of birth

DD MM YYYY

Canadian Social Insurance Number

MAILING ADDRESS

Apt. number / Street / Box number / RR/SS, Site, Comp

City or town

Province and country

Postal code

()

Area code Home telephone

Alternate telephone

Email address (The University of Victoria contacts students by email)

ACADEMIC HISTORY

Secondary schools (all schools attended, Grades 9 to 12. List most recent first).

Expected date of graduation MONTH YEAR

Personal Education Number

IMMIGRATION STATUS

- ☐ Canadian citizen
☐ Permanent resident/landed immigrant
☐ Study permit/student visa
☐ Diplomat
☐ Minister's permit

COUNTRY OF BIRTH

If you are not a Canadian citizen, indicate your country of citizenship and date of entry into Canada:

COUNTRY

DATE OF ENTRY

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

PRIMARY LANGUAGE

Applicants whose primary language is not English are required to demonstrate competency in the English language prior to admission. Please refer to uvic.ca/enpr to determine if you are required to demonstrate competency in English.

Name of secondary school (do not abbreviate)	Province/state/country	Grade/level	From m m / y y y y	To m m / y y y y

CURRENT UVIC STATUS

To help UVic process your application to uStart in a timely fashion, please check off the appropriate items below (if applicable).

- ☐ I have previously submitted an application to UVic
☐ I have previously registered in courses at UVic

My UVic student number is:

V O O

DEGREE PROGRAM PATHWAY

To give us an idea of your future post-secondary goals, select an intended first-year degree program pathway. Note that you will still be required to complete a new application when you are ready to begin regular studies at UVic and can specify a different program at that time if desired.

<input type="checkbox"/> Art History & Visual Studies	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Nursing	<input type="checkbox"/> Visual Arts
<input type="checkbox"/> Business	<input type="checkbox"/> Health Information Science	<input type="checkbox"/> Recreation & Health Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Writing
<input type="checkbox"/> Child and Youth Care	<input type="checkbox"/> Humanities	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	
<input type="checkbox"/> Computer Science	<input type="checkbox"/> Kinesiology	<input type="checkbox"/> Social Sciences	
<input type="checkbox"/> Elementary Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Music	<input type="checkbox"/> Theatre	

FEES (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

Please provide the following **non-refundable** fee with your application, payable to the University of Victoria. DO NOT SEND CASH:

☐ **CHEQUE OR MONEY ORDER** UVic application fee: **\$20**

PERMISSION TO RELEASE PERSONAL INFORMATION (PROXY)

The University of Victoria is subject to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. If you anticipate that a family member or other representative will inquire about your application on your behalf and you wish that person to have access to the information, we require your written permission before any personal information is released.

I hereby consent to the release of information to the person listed below **during the application evaluation period only** to:

NAME	RELATIONSHIP TO YOU
------	---------------------

VOLUNTARY DECLARATION

The information in this section is collected to assess the university's progress toward meeting its commitment to increase diversity in student recruitment and retention. Your response to these questions is voluntary. Information collected in this section will not be used for admission decisions. It will be used only for statistical purposes, unless you provide specific permission to share this information with appropriate student services.

If you are a member of one or more of these groups, please check off the appropriate items below. Please note that a person may belong to more than one designated group.

- ☐ I am an Aboriginal person of Canada: Métis, Inuit, First Nations, or non-status Aboriginal person.
 - ☐ Please forward this information to appropriate Aboriginal services on campus.
- ☐ I have an ongoing disability.
 - ☐ Because of my circumstances, I may need assistance in order to participate in my program. Please forward this information to services available to students with a disability.
- ☐ I am a member of a visible minority (a member of an ethnic or racial group other than Aboriginal peoples, who are non-Caucasian or non-white in colour, regardless of birthplace).
- ☐ I am a person of a minority sexual orientation or a transgendered person.

DECLARATION

I accept and submit myself to the statutes, rules, regulations and ordinances of the University of Victoria as authorized by the Senate and the Board of Governors and the faculty or school in which in due course I shall be registered and to any amendments thereto which may be made while I am a student of the University and I promise to observe the same. I consent and authorize the disclosure of any information to the University of Victoria by an educational institution for the purpose of verifying information provided as part of this process and I understand that an admission or registration granted on the basis of this application may be revoked if the answers given above are untrue in any material respect.

SIGNATURE	DATE
-----------	------

The University of Victoria collects the personal information on this form pursuant to the University Act, RSBC 1996, c.468 and section 26 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. The information is used for the purpose of admission, registration and other decisions on your academic status and for the purposes consistent with other programs and activities of the University and may be used for research purposes but in those cases, individual identities will not be disclosed. Personal information is reported to Statistics Canada under the legal authority of the Statistics Act (see www.statcan.ca/english/concepts/ESIS). If you wish further information, contact the Office of the Registrar.

STUDENT EDUCATION/TRANSITION PLAN

Your education/transition plan should include the courses required for entry into the program and the dual-credit courses you will take at the University of Victoria or other post-secondary institutions.

Notes:

- Ensure that you have included and considered your graduation requirements in your education/transition plan.
- You may need to modify your timeline to achieve your graduation requirements and participate in the program.
- Complete the three-year education/transition plan in full, beginning with your Grade 10 courses.
- Timetable changes should be made with the approval of your school's Transition Co-ordinator/Counsellor.
- Include any dual credits and SSA credits in your predicted credit count.

Name: _____ School: _____

Date: _____ Transition Pathway: _____

Specific Career/Occupation: _____

Students are required to complete a minimum of **80 credits** (equivalent to 20 four-credit courses) in Grades 10-12 for graduation. Most students choose to complete more than 80 credits.

1. Required Courses - 52 credits in courses listed below:

Course	Credits	Course	Credits
Language Arts 10	4	Language Arts 11	4
Fine Arts or Applied Skills 10, 11, 12	4	Social Studies 11/12	4
Science 10	4	Mathematics 11 or 12	4
Mathematics 10	4	Science 11 or 12	4
Physical Education 10	4	Language Arts 12	4
Planning 10/CLE	4	* Graduation Transitions 12/CLC	4
Social Studies 10	4		

Note: Graduation = Minimum 4 Grade 12 level courses + * Graduation Transitions 12/CLC

2. Elective Courses – 28 credits - Students can choose to complete elective requirements through a Dual Credit Transition pathway offered by the South Island Partnership.

Grade 10		Grade 11		Grade 12		Transition Pathway	
Semester 1	Semester 2	Semester 1	Semester 2	Semester 1	Semester 2	Semester 1	Semester 2
Total Credits:		Total Credits:		Total Credits:		Total Credits:	
Total Credits Predicted (Required + Elective) = _____				Predicted Graduation Date: _____			

Signature: _____

Name: _____
Teacher/Counsellor Parent/Guardian Student