

University of Victoria

UVIC

2025-26 GRADUATE STUDENTS VIEWBOOK



Why UVic?

At the University of Victoria, you'll have access to world-class research facilities, expert faculty and a supportive academic community.

Our rankings demonstrate our strong reputation for research and academics. We're well-known for our welcoming and inclusive community. And our commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion is reflected in our policies, programs and services.

Victoria is home to a thriving research community with many opportunities for you to collaborate on interdisciplinary projects. UVic has strong ties with local businesses and organizations, providing you with opportunities to gain real-world experience during your degree.

Victoria is also consistently ranked as one of the most liveable cities in the world thanks to its mild climate, beautiful scenery and high quality of life. As a graduate student, you'll appreciate the city's walkability, bike lanes and easy access to outdoor activities year-round.



Graduate programs at UVic

Choose from over 160 graduate programs across many disciplines to align with your unique academic, research and professional interests.

As a graduate student at UVic, you'll belong to a department or faculty—a community of scholars similarly dedicated to advancing knowledge in your field of study. Graduate programs are intense and challenging, and you'll receive personalized support, guidance and resources to ensure your success.

MASTER'S PROGRAMS

Deepen your knowledge and skills in a field of study beyond those obtained in your bachelor's degree. Some master's programs are professionally oriented and offer learning outcomes aimed at professional or career-related skills. Others are research-based and provide a stepping-stone into doctoral programs.

DOCTORAL PROGRAMS

A broad range of doctoral programs are available, leading to the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD), the most advanced academic credential. When you obtain a PhD, you will be recognized as having a command of a specific field of study.

Your doctoral dissertation will embody original work and constitute a significant contribution to knowledge in your field. It will contain evidence of broad familiarity of the relevant literature and will demonstrate a critical understanding of the works of scholars closely related to the subject of your dissertation. Material embodied in your dissertation should, in the opinion of scholars in the field, merit publication.

CERTIFICATE AND DIPLOMA PROGRAMS

We offer several graduate certificate and diploma programs, which are shorter in duration than degree programs and offer specialized advanced training in a particular discipline.

CUSTOMIZE YOUR OWN INTERDISCIPLINARY PROGRAM

If you want to combine more than one field of study, and tailor an academic program to your unique interests, consider an individual interdisciplinary graduate program. You'll work with co-supervisors and faculty members (your supervisory committee) from at least two different units to develop an individual program suited to your interests. Contact them at intdadv@uvic.ca before you start applying for an interdisciplinary graduate program.

Find the graduate program that's right for you. uvic.ca/graduate

Tuition and financial support

TUITION

In general, the tuition rates for international students do not differ greatly from those for Canadian citizens/permanent residents. Use our tuition estimator to get a basic estimate of tuition for graduate students enrolled in full-time studies at UVic.

uvic.ca/graduate/finances/tuition-costs

FUNDING YOUR GRADUATE STUDIES

Funding for your graduate studies may come in the form of a UVic fellowship, teaching assistantship, research assistantship or a combination of all three. You may also be eligible for a wide range of needs-based bursaries, merit-based fellowships, and internally and externally funded awards. Certain research projects may also be eligible for federal research council funding. See your range of options at uvic.ca/graduatestudies/finances and be sure to identify any additional funding opportunities available from your academic unit.

For more information about funding, contact the graduate secretary for your program.

uvic.ca/graduate/contacts/admissions-assistance

TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS AND RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIPS

You can apply through your academic unit for several forms of paid employment that will provide valuable professional development opportunities throughout your degree. These opportunities include working as a teaching assistant (TA), research assistant (RA), scientific assistant or laboratory instructor. Applicants should speak with their prospective supervisor about the availability of these opportunities. These opportunities are not available in all programs.

GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

UVic provides a variety of scholarships to graduate students:

- University of Victoria Graduate Fellowship (Doctoral or Masters) – up to \$20,000
- University of Victoria President's Research Scholarship for federal council scholarship holders – \$5,000
- University of Victoria Graduate Entrance Award for new first-class graduate students – \$5,000
- A variety of donor-sponsored graduate scholarships – \$1,000 to \$30,000



Scan to learn more about programs, admission and research at UVic, or visit uvic.ca/graduate

Admission requirements

ADMISSION TO A MASTER'S PROGRAM

- Completion of a four-year bachelor's degree (or equivalent) from an institution recognized by UVic
- Equivalent of a minimum "B" average over the last two years of your degree
- Must meet UVic's English Language Proficiency Requirement
- Must meet any requirements specific to your program of study

ADMISSION TO A DOCTORAL PROGRAM

- Completion of an acceptable master's degree (or equivalent) from an institution recognized by UVic
 - Must meet UVic's English Language Proficiency Requirement
 - Must meet any requirements specific to your program of study
- or
- If you have a first-class average in the last two years of a bachelor's degree, you may also be considered
 - Must meet UVic's English Language Proficiency Requirement
 - Must meet any requirements specific to your program of study

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENTS

You must demonstrate English language proficiency to attend UVic. You have met this requirement if:

- English is your primary language
- you've spent the last three years before coming to UVic in an English-speaking country
- you have a degree from a designated English-speaking country
- you have a degree from a recognized institution at which the language of instruction is English

We accept three language tests as proof of language proficiency: TOEFL, IELTS or MET. Official test score reports must be sent directly to UVic by the testing agency.

We cannot accept test scores more than two years old.



#1

**CANADIAN COMPREHENSIVE
UNIVERSITY FOR THE
NUMBER OF NSERC
AND CIHR MEDICAL
AND SCIENCE GRANTS
PER FACULTY MEMBER**

Maclean's 2023



#5

IN THE WORLD AND

#2

**IN CANADA FOR
CLIMATE ACTION**

2024 Times Higher Education
Impact Rankings



#13

**UNIVERSITY GLOBALLY
FOR WORKING TOWARDS
UN SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

2024 Times Higher Education
Impact Rankings

Preparing you for your career



Ranked #1
COMPREHENSIVE
UNIVERSITY IN CANADA
FOR PREPARING
CAREER-READY STUDENTS

2024 Times Higher Education Global
University Employability Rankings



HOME TO ONE
OF THE LARGEST
GRADUATE CO-OP
PROGRAMS IN CANADA

GRADUATE CO-OP OPPORTUNITIES

Earn while you learn, gain valuable experience and develop career networks. Participate in co-op during your graduate program.

uvic.ca/coop/grad-students

A third of co-op students find permanent positions with their former co-op employers after graduation, making co-op a smart choice to launch your career.

THREE MINUTE THESIS COMPETITION

Improve your communication and presentation skills in the Three Minute Thesis competition.

uvic.ca/3minutethesis

SUPPORT FOR YOUR ENTREPRENEURIAL IDEAS

UVic's on-campus venture incubator helps entrepreneurs get fundamental support and mentorship to take business concepts from idea to investor-ready. We provide tools, expertise and space on campus to help entrepreneurs develop their ideas, and we partner clients with advisors and mentors from outside the university who provide valuable input and connections.

uvic.ca/innovation

How to apply

1. Before you apply

Admission to UVic Graduate Studies is competitive. It's never too early to contact your academic unit and start planning your application to make yourself as attractive a candidate as possible. Our website lists all the important steps you need to take before you apply, such as reviewing admission requirements, required documents and English language proficiency requirements. uvic.ca/grad/admissions

Most graduate programs require students to have a supervisor. A great supervisor oversees your academic work, is passionate about your subject area and is invested in your success. There is some variation when it comes to academic supervision at UVic, so be sure to confirm the specific details with your program's graduate secretary. You may be assigned a supervisor or be expected to find your own. In some instances, you must identify an available supervisor before you begin your studies.

Learning as much as you can about the faculty members who you will be working with increases your chances for success. Faculty members may be more open to acting as your supervisor if you

- make contact well in advance of your desired academic entry point,
- develop a statement of your research interests and preferred areas of focus,
- spend time exploring their research, publications, funding sources and CVs, and
- consider the mutual time investment required.

If you're responsible for identifying a supervisor, we recommend you talk to several professors before asking one to oversee your work. Where possible, connect with those on your short list to discuss your research goals and their availabilities for your desired study period.

2. Apply for admission

Apply online at uvic.ca/application. You will be asked to pay your application fee by credit card.

3. Application status

Shortly after you've applied, you'll receive your UVic student ID number by email. This will include instructions for checking your status online. You'll be contacted by email once an admission decision has been made, and you'll be notified if anything further is required. Make sure to add @uvic.ca to your safe-senders list.

4. Once you are accepted

Review our resources for newly accepted students. uvic.ca/grad/new



Get your questions answered.

Graduate admissions and records

PHONE 250-472-4657 | garo@uvic.ca

Faculty of graduate studies

PHONE 250-721-7970 | FAX 250-721-8957 | fgs@uvic.ca

Student recruitment

PHONE 250-721-8949 | recruitment@uvic.ca

Residence services – graduate housing

PHONE 250-721-8395 | housing@uvic.ca

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If there are any discrepancies between this publication and the University of Victoria Undergraduate Admissions website, the website will take precedence.

Cover photo credit (blue phytoplankton): Jennifer Long, MSc, who worked in the lab of Dr. Diana Varela, Professor of Biology and Earth and Ocean Sciences



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