University Admission Preparation Online (UAP-O) is for students who want to develop the academic skills required to succeed at a North American university. This program uniquely combines 2 components: Advanced English and Canadian Studies, so that participants gain the advanced language skills and the cultural fluency that will support their studies in a Canadian academic context. Successful completion satisfies the English proficiency requirement for admission to University of Victoria degree programs.

Throughout this program, UVic instructors will guide students through “synchronous” (in real time) and “asynchronous” (according to one’s own schedule) learning activities. During the synchronous classes, students will practice the skills they have learned, participate in discussion groups and give formal presentations. Asynchronous work will include participation in online forums, instruction of concepts and content through recorded lectures, completion of assignments, and research. Students will achieve the class learning objectives by actively engaging in the program under the guidance of their instructors.

Entry Requirements and Language Proficiency

To register for this program, students must:

- be at least 16 years of age
- provide one of the following:
  - IELTS: 6.0 (no section < 5.5)
  - TOEFL: 79 (no section < 17)
  - ELC English Proficiency Test (EPT): Passing grade of B2+ or higher.

Students who do not have an IELTS or TOEFL exam score will be required to complete the ELC’s “EPT” as their first step in the registration process, attaining a minimum “B2+” level or higher. Class levels in this course are benchmarked to the Common European Framework for Reference for Languages (CEFR) a global standard which identifies levels from basic (A1) to proficient (C2).

Orientation

Students will come online one week prior to the class start date to test their equipment and to learn the virtual classroom platforms: Brightspace and Zoom. ELC staff will show you the functions of the site and help you with any technical problems you may have so you can begin your classes without any difficulties.
Program Content

Over a period of six weeks, UAP-O students will take two courses: Advanced English for University Entry and Canadian Studies (CS) 101.

- Advanced English for University Entry: 6-week course; 10 hours of learning per week.
- Canadian Studies 101: 4-week course; 10 hours of learning per week.

Advanced English for University Entry course, students will polish their skills in:

- Oral assignments
- Academic listening and note-taking
- Reading academic texts
- Essay writing

Canadian Studies (CS) 101 is an introductory course in Canadian culture. The course objectives are to:

- Enhance English comprehension skills
- Familiarize students with Canadian academic standards, conventions and expectations
- Enrich the cultural understanding associated with life in Canada
- Enhance academic preparedness by offering individual and small group academic tutorial assistance

Upon completion of both of the above courses, participants will be able to:

- Produce an annotated bibliography
- Write a university-level report or research essay
- Produce an MLA or APA bibliography
- Use parenthetical citations properly
- Summarize and assess sources

Class Time: “Synchronous” Learning

Students will meet online with their classmates and UVic instructors for weekly, one-hour “synchronous” sessions for each section (Advanced English and Canadian Studies). Students will participate in activities specifically designed to support and reinforce the independent lessons they have learned. During class time, they will have the opportunity to interact in real time with other students in the course doing activities such as debate and discussion, group and pair work, and other academic speaking assignments. These sessions may be recorded in case students miss a session or need to review material covered in a particular class.

Synchronous class times:
- Advanced English: Wednesday: 5-6 pm Victoria Time
- Canadian Studies: Mondays or Tuesdays between the hours of 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm Victoria Time

If you are not located in the same time zone, use the Time Zone Converter to get the time of the sessions in your region.
Independent Work: “Asynchronous” Learning

Under the careful guidance of their instructors, students are expected to do class work independently for about 20 hours per week. Instructors will assign tasks and provide “flipped classroom” learning for the students to complete at a time their schedules allow. Learning activities will include watching lectures, taking notes and completing assignments, viewing PowerPoint presentations as the teacher explains the content, contributing to online discussions; working on peer review assignments, and grammar / vocabulary practice activities.

The synchronous and asynchronous parts of the program are clearly presented so that students understand how they work together to facilitate course learning objectives and support students’ language and academic skills development.

Your instructors, as well as the teaching assistant assigned to your courses, will be available during office hours to help you with your questions about the course content, assignments and activities.

Certificate and Record of Grade

Upon completion of this program, students will receive an official Record of Grade and a Certificate of Participation from one of Canada’s top comprehensive universities.

Students may receive UVic credits for their Canadian Studies (CS 101) course for an additional fee.

To meet university undergraduate entry requirements students must score 80% or higher in the Advanced English section and 60% or higher in Canadian Studies 101

Additional program details: uvic.ca/elc/programs/university-admission-preparation-online-uapo