INDIGENOUS GUIDEBOOK
FIRST NATIONS, MÉTIS & INUIT STUDENTS
2024 - 2025
INDIGENOUS LEARNERS FLOURISH
With Purpose.

At the largest Northern research institute in Canada.

TOP 5
UNIVERSITY IN CANADA

TOP 100
UNIVERSITY IN THE WORLD

LARGEST
INDIGENOUS POPULATION IN ALBERTA IS IN EDMONTON

1st
INDIGENOUS HEALTH INITIATIVES PROGRAM (WÂPANACHAKOS) IN CANADA

TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The University of Alberta, its buildings, labs, and research stations are primarily located on the traditional territory of Cree, Blackfoot, Métis, Nakota Sioux, Haudenosaunee, Dene, and Ojibway/Saulteaux/Anishinaabe nations; lands that are now known as part of Treaties 6, 7, and 8 and homeland of the Métis. The University of Alberta respects the sovereignty, lands, histories, languages, knowledge systems, and cultures of First Nations, Métis and Inuit nations.
Malijah Cree Student

Malijha is a fourth-year student pursuing a Native Studies/Secondary Education combined degree. Her family is from Swan River First Nation/Kinuso in Treaty 8 Territory. She found her purpose at the University of Alberta giving back to her community, and is currently serving her second term as President of the Indigenous Students’ Union. She also makes and sells beautiful beadwork.

“Being part of the Indigenous community at the U of A has been the most rewarding part of my time on campus. My favourite experience as a student was taking Native Studies 372 Métis Politics with Professor Harold Robinson. Initially, I knew very little about Métis politics and felt intimidated to engage in discussion as my classmates were very knowledgeable in this field of study. My teacher and classmates helped me gain the knowledge and confidence to engage in class discussions. By the end of the course, I became knowledgeable in Métis politics and capable of forming my own opinions. I have never taken a course before with such thoughtful and intelligent classmates and teachers. I am grateful to have the opportunity to be in the Faculty of Native Studies because of these kinds of experiences that will stick with me for the rest of my life.”
INDIGENOUS VITALITY AWAITS YOU
IN A THRIVING COMMUNITY OF INDIGENOUS STUDENTS, FACULTY, STAFF AND ALUMNI

Dedicated Housing Options
We offer diverse, on-campus housing options for Indigenous students. First Peoples’ House works directly with Residence Services to offer secured residential options for single students, families and student couples. uab.ca/fph

Community Service Learning (CSL)
The Community Service Learning program is designed to provide Indigenous students with the opportunity to give back to the urban Indigenous community in the Edmonton area. Indigenous CSL participants gain valuable experience within the context of a university course and can increase their awareness of the social and political challenges faced by the urban Indigenous community. uab.ca/csl

Teach Indigenous Perspectives
The Aboriginal Teacher Education Program (ATEP) aims to support the educational success of Indigenous children by increasing the number of Indigenous teachers with an understanding of Indigenous perspectives in communities in northern Alberta. You could receive an Education degree in Elementary Education and teach in your community. Visit the ATEP website for more details. uab.ca/atep

Self-Declare as Indigenous
Self-declaring as an Indigenous person and student at the U of A is important. Whether you’re from a First Nation, Métis or Inuit community, or you’re an urban Indigenous person, self-declaring can provide unique opportunities for support, events, funding and more.
You can self-declare when completing your application, or any time online. uab.ca/fnmi

First Peoples’ House (FPH)
A dedicated space for the Indigenous student community on North Campus, FPH honours the Indigenous worldview of education as a continuous Ceremony by respecting and supporting First Nations, Métis, Inuit and non-status Indigenous students.
To foster academic success and personal growth, FPH provides access to:
• Tutors and writing support
• A computer lab with free printing
• A dedicated learning specialist
• Snacks and community meals
• Elders and a Ceremonial room
• Financial support

BRAIDED SUPPORTS
FROM APPLICATION TO GRADUATION,
YOUR SUCCESS IS OUR TOP PRIORITY

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Augusta Indigenous Student Services
Indigenous Student Services (ISS) is housed in the community space within the Wahkohtowin Lodge on our Augustana our Augustana Campus in Camrose. The lodge enables First Nations, Métis and Inuit students to gather and access dedicated academic and mental wellness supports available to Indigenous students. uab.ca/augiss
Some resources at ISS include:
• Indigenous student mentors
• Student advising
• Community gatherings and celebrations

Culture and Ceremonies
Stay connected and grounded with your cultural teachings while you are at the U of A. Sit with Elders, access our Ceremonial room and attend events that will keep you connected to your First Nations, Métis and/or Inuit roots. Events like:
• Welcoming Ceremony (TAWOW)
• Annual Round Dance
• Convocation Honouring Ceremony
FUNDING YOUR FUTURE
SCHOLARSHIP AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES SPECIFICALLY FOR INDIGENOUS STUDENTS

Financial Advice
Whether you have financial barriers to attending university or you would like more information on funding options available to you, we’re here to help. From scholarships and awards to student loans, bursaries and emergency funding, our advisors at First Peoples’ House are set on guiding you towards the right support. Appointments can be made with the Engagement Coordinator at fph@ualberta.ca

Tuition Deposit
If you will be funded by your Band or another third party, you may qualify for a waiver for the $500 tuition deposit required when you accept your admission offer. Contact an Indigenous Recruiter to find out more at indigenous@ualberta.ca

Third-Party Funding Options
First Nations Students
- First Nation or Tribal Council
- Freehorse Family Wellness Society

Métis Students
- Belcourt Brosseau Métis Award
- Métis Settlement
- Rupert’sland Institute (RLI) Post-Secondary Education Funding

Inuit & Northern Students
- Freehorse Family Wellness Society (Alberta Residents)
- Nunavut Inuit Representative Organizations
- Northwest Territories Indigenous and Territorial Funders

All Indigenous Students
- Indspire Bursaries & Scholarships

Scholarships and Awards
The University of Alberta administers more than $46 million in undergraduate financial support each year. Many faculties and departments offer awards and scholarships specifically for Indigenous students. Explore your options and apply at uab.ca/awards

ADMISSION-BASED
Scholarships you don’t even have to apply for. Eligibility for these scholarships is based on your admission average at the time of your admission offer.

Indigenous Entrance Scholarship
Self-declaring First Nations, Métis or Inuit students with an average of 80%+ will receive up to $1,500.

APPLICATION-BASED
Remember, just one application assesses you for everything! We match you to scholarships and awards based on your background, experiences, academics and interests. The deadline is January 10, 2024, and you must apply to your program first.

Indigenous Careers Award
Self-declaring First Nations, Métis or Inuit students who are residents of Alberta completing degrees in programs with high-demand career outcomes will receive $2,000 per semester. Apply by October 13, 2024.

First Nations, Métis and Inuit Student Awards
Various awards of up to $5,000 are available. Apply by October 13, 2024.

Turtle Spirit Pathway Award for First Nations, Métis and Inuit Students
Students new to post-secondary who have demonstrated financial challenges and barriers to attending will receive up to $8,000 per year.

I faced many obstacles during my time as an undergraduate student, but I found role models and support at First Peoples’ House. I watched them cater to the students and the community, and it made me want to do the same with my passion and love for dance. I don’t think there would be nimihitotân without First Peoples’ House — the ideas and plans were made there, and the passion for it was a direct reflection of the staff’s commitment, love and care for us.”

— DANNI OKEMAW
THERE ARE SEVERAL WAYS TO COME TO THE U OF A

Direct Entry (from High School)
For direct entry, you will need to present competitive grades in five core academic 30-level courses, including English Language Arts 30-1 plus four other core courses. The additional four core courses vary by program. [uab.ca/programs]

The application deadline for direct entry is [March 1, 2024].

Transfer Students
If you are transferring from another post-secondary institution, you will need to consult your faculty of interest for full admission details. As a transfer applicant, you will be evaluated on both your high school and post-secondary coursework. Once admitted, you will automatically be evaluated for transfer credit. If you are a transfer student from an Indigenous Post-Secondary Institution (IPSI), contact an Indigenous recruiter for more information at [indigenous@ualberta.ca]

Mature Students
To qualify for admission as a mature (or non-matriculated) student, you must be 21 or older as of September 1 in the year you wish to attend and not have completed any previous post-secondary schooling. [uab.ca/mma]

Transition Year Program
The Transition Year Program (TYP), offered through First Peoples’ House at our North Campus in Edmonton, is a one-year university access program designed for students who may not be prepared to enter a faculty through a direct entry route. TYP is a full-time, Open Studies program that partners with nine faculties. Upon completion, you will be eligible to transfer 15-24 credits into the participating faculty of your choice. [uab.ca/typ]

Deadline to apply (fall): May 1, 2024 *All Faculties
Deadline to apply (winter): October 1, 2024 *Arts and Native Studies

No Fee to Apply To TYP
Initially, there is no fee to apply to TYP. However, the TYP application is a more involved process than a direct entry application requiring additional supporting documents. Indigenous applicants are encouraged to start the application early. The application fee will be required once an admission offer is made and accepted. Apply online at [uab.ca/typ]

TYP FACULTY PARTNERS | COURSE REQUIREMENTS

| AGRICULTURAL, LIFE & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES | English 30-1, Math 30-1, Biology 30, Chemistry 30|
| ARTS | English 30-1, plus one course from Group A, B or C|
| BUSINESS | English 30-1, Math 30-1 |
| EDUCATION | English 30-1, plus one course from Group A, B or C|
| ENGINEERING | English 30-1, Math 30-1, Chemistry 30, Physics 30 |
| NATIVE STUDIES | English 30-1, plus one course from Group A, B or C|
| NURSING | English 30-1, Math 30-1 or 30-2, Biology 30, Chemistry 30 or Science 30 |
| KINESIOLOGY, SPORT & RECREATION | English 30-1, plus one course from Group A or C|
| SCIENCE | English 30-1, Math 30-1, plus two of Biology 30, Chemistry 30 or Physics 30 |

1 BSc in Human Ecology: Biology 30 or Chemistry 30 is required and Math 30-2 or Math 30-1
2 Group A (Humanities): Social Studies 30-1, Aboriginal Studies 30, or a 30-level language other than English; Group B (Fine Arts): Art 30, Drama 30, and Additional Fine Arts courses may be considered; or Group C (Math and Science): Chemistry 30, Biology 30, Physics 30, Science 30, Math 30-1, 30-2, or Math 31
3 Biology 30 recommended

NORTH CAMPUS
The University of Alberta is located in the heart of amiskwacîwâskahikan (Edmonton) in Treaty 6 Territory, one of the fastest growing urban areas for Indigenous Peoples on Turtle Island (Canada). Steps away from campus is our breathtaking river valley, a traditional meeting place for many Indigenous Peoples since time immemorial.
KISKINOHAWMATOK  |  "LEARNING TOGETHER THROUGH SHARING"
BY TARA KAPPO (WOODLAND CREÉ NATION)

ASK US
You’ve got questions, and our advisors have answers.

University of Alberta
Indigenous Recruitment
✉ uab.ca/fnmi
✉ indigenous@ualberta.ca