About Us
The University of Victoria (UVic) is one of Canada’s leading research-based institutions and offers innovative programs for more than 20,000 students on our diverse and welcoming west-coast campus.

UVic is located in Victoria, the capital of British Columbia, and is on the southern tip of Vancouver Island. Residents enjoy a mild climate year round and the warmest winters in Canada. Victoria has a reputation for beautiful gardens, breathtaking vistas of ocean and mountains, a wide variety of outdoor activities, distinctive architecture, a vibrant culture, and excellent cuisine. For more information visit Tourism Victoria.

UVic Law is one of Canada’s leading law schools, known for the strength of our academic program, instruction in Indigenous laws, approach to experiential learning, inclusive environment, and commitment to community engagement and social justice.

Important Websites
UVic: www.uvic.ca
Faculty of Law: www.uvic.ca/law
Law, Incoming Exchange Applicants: www.uvic.ca/law/jd/exchangeterms/incomingexchange/
International Student Services: www.uvic.ca/international/inbound-students/living-canada

Academic Term Dates
Fall Term, September – December 2020
Orientation: September 8
Classes: September 9 – December 3
Exams: December 7 - 21

Spring Term, January – April 2021
Orientation: during the week of Jan 4th
Classes: January 4 – April 1
Exams: April 6 - 22

Attendance at orientation is mandatory. Each term consists of 13 weeks of classes followed by a formal examination period of approximately two weeks during which there are no classes.
Application Process

1) Apply to your home university for an exchange at UVic law. They will select students based on the criteria set out within the exchange agreements between the two institutions.

2) Your home university will advise us of their nominations.

3) We will contact nominees by email with instructions on how to apply to the UVic law exchange program.

Application Deadline

May 15th is our preferred deadline for submission of applications for both terms. If you cannot meet this deadline please contact us. Applications must be received three months prior to the start of term.

Course Information

Language
All courses are instructed in English.

Netlink ID
Before you can be registered for courses, you must activate your Netlink ID. This also gives you access to your UVic email, on-campus Wi-Fi, and your academic records.

Course Selection
A full list of courses and their pre- and co-requisites is available in the academic calendar. Exchange students are eligible to take 300-level law courses. Please see Course Registration and Timetables for course offerings in specific terms, timetables, and Preliminary Course Information Summaries. Also refer to the Incoming Exchange Student Course Restrictions and Cautions document. Exchange students are eligible to take a maximum of one non-law course, with permission from your home institution and the UVic Associate Dean of Law.

Course Credits
Courses are valued in terms of units and vary between 1.0-2.0 units each. A 1.0 unit course meets 2 hours per week, a 1.5 unit course meets 3 hours per week, and a 2.0 unit course meets 4 hours per week. One hour of class time requires approximately 1-2 hours of additional study or reading.

Course Load
Full-time study requirements for domestic students is 7.0-8.5 units per term. This is a very heavy workload and is not expected of exchange students. Approval for your course load while at UVic is decided by your home university.

Registration
Your course selection must be approved by your home institution and by the UVic Associate Dean (AD) of Law. In mid June, the AD’s Assistant will register you for your pre-approved courses and confirm your schedule. All registration changes must be approved by both universities and updates will be completed by the AD’s Assistant.
Additional Information

Study Visa
You must obtain a study permit if you intend to study and live in Canada for more than six months. If you are coming to Canada for one term only (four months), you do not typically require a permit. However, we do recommend that you apply for one in case you want to extend your stay or work on campus. You may need a temporary resident visa to enter Canada from certain countries.

Housing
You are responsible for making your own accommodation arrangements. If you are interested in campus housing, apply directly to Residence Services as soon as possible. Campus housing is in extremely high demand. Residence Services also provides a listing of off-campus housing and if English is your second language you may be eligible for the UVic Homestay Program.

Health Insurance
The cost of medical treatment in Canada is extremely high if you are not covered by insurance. Therefore, exchange students are required to have coverage through the guard.me@UVic Plan. If you intend to stay in British Columbia for longer than six months, you are eligible for the BC Medical Services Plan (MSP).

Fees
Although tuition fees are paid to your home university, you will still be responsible for student fees such as guard.me@UVic Plan fees, textbooks, course materials, and the photocopy/Exam4 licencing fee. Exchange students also may opt into the UPass Package, which provides access to the Universal Bus Pass and base UVic Athletics and Recreation benefits.

International Office
The International Student Services Office supports incoming international students and UVic students who wish to study abroad.

Orientation
On the first day of fall term there is a mandatory orientation for new upper year students including visiting and exchange students. There are also optional orientation activities hosted by the Law Students’ Society and the University.

In the spring, the Manager Academic Administration and Student Services hosts a short, mandatory orientation session for new students.

Contact Us
For any questions, contact Lorinda Fraser, Assistant to the Associate Dean, Academic & Student Relations.

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