

**Transfer Agreement**  
*between*  
**the University of Alberta Faculty of Engineering**  
*and*  
**Vancouver Island University**

**1. Purpose and definitions**

Vancouver Island University (VIU) is a fully accredited public post-secondary institution that enrolls approximately 8500 FTE students per year in a variety of academic and trades programs. VIU has four campuses through the mid-Island region and BC mainland coast including the main Nanaimo campus and satellite campuses at Parksville, Cowichan, and Power River.

In order to better serve its community, VIU offers the Engineering Transfer Certificate (ETC) program, which can be used for transfer into the University of Alberta (U of A), Faculty of Engineering (FoE). This document confirms the details of the VIU – U of A Engineering Transfer agreement.

- The VIU – U of A Engineering Transfer program provides a seamless transfer to second year of Engineering at the U of A. This formal agreement is based on a block transfer equivalency between the first-year curriculum at VIU and that of the U of A Engineering program
- U of A Engineering agrees to post information on its website regarding the VIU ETC program, and U of A FoE will promote the transfer program option when meeting with high schools. The VIU ETC program agrees to post information on its website regarding the U of A Engineering program, and promote this transfer option to its students.
- Terms in the agreement follow the U of A standard (Fall – September to December, Winter – January to April, Spring – May to June, Summer – July to August).

**2. VIU Eligibility as a Prospective U of A Engineering Transfer Student**

To qualify at VIU as a prospective U of A Engineering transfer student, candidates must demonstrate high school graduation (or equivalent) with the following Alberta/BC courses or their out-of-province or international equivalents prior to entering the U of A transfer program:

**Table A: Secondary-Level Course Requirements for Admission to VIU**

Alberta Curriculum	BC Curriculum
Chemistry 30	Successful completion of Chemistry 12 or equivalent.
English Language Arts 30-1	English 12 with a minimum total grade of 75% (including the English 12 Provincial Exam). Note IELTS option for international students: an overall score of 6.5 and no band less than 6.0
Math 30-1	Successful completion of Pre-Calculus 12 or equivalent
Math 31	Successful completion of

	Calculus 12 or equivalent
Physics 30	Successful completion of Physics 12 or equivalent.

Under this agreement, VIU will accept applications from prospective U of A transfer students through the ETC program. Conditional VIU acceptance as a prospective U of A transfer student may be granted on the basis of interim grades. Final grades must be provided to VIU by July 31 of the year the student will be starting transfer program at VIU.

Both domestic and international students may be admitted to VIU as prospective U of A transfer students provided they successfully complete the secondary-level courses (or equivalents) identified in Table A above. For international students, equivalency may be determined through a VIU Transfer Application or through the International Credential Evaluation Service (ICES).

As English is the primary language of instruction for all programs, all applicants to the University of Alberta Faculty of Engineering need an adequate level of English Language Proficiency (ELP) prior to admission, regardless of citizenship status or country of origin.

For students applying from within Canada or from a country/institution where the primary language of instruction is English, the ELP requirement is generally met through proof of a minimum of three years of full-time study in English. If a student is required to present proof of ELP, they will be notified online through their Launch Pad To Do List.

For a comprehensive listing of how applicants can meet the ELP requirement, including required TOEFL and IELTS scores, please visit: [www.ualberta.ca/admissions/international/admission/admission-requirements/language-requirements](http://www.ualberta.ca/admissions/international/admission/admission-requirements/language-requirements).

### 3. Relevant VIU Courses

The following table presents courses offered through the VIU ETC program which have been assessed as transferable towards the first year engineering courses at the U of A.

**Table B: U of A and VIU Course Equivalencies**

VIU Course Title	U of A Faculty of Engineering Course Title	Engineering Unit Weight
CHEM 150	CHEM 103	4.3
CHEM 142	CHEM 105	3.8
CSCI 160	ENCMP 100	3.8
ENGR 112	ENGG 100	1.1
ENGR 121	ENGG 160*	2.0
ENGM 141 Or ENGR 214	ENGG 130**	4.0
MATH 100 or MATH 121	MATH 100	3.5
MATH 101 or MATH 122	MATH 101	3.5
MATH 141	MATH 102	3.5



PHYS 121	EN PH 131	4.3
PHYS 122	PHYS 130	3.8
ENGL 115	English 199	3.0

\* must be taught by a licensed professional engineer (P.Eng.)

\*\* must, at a minimum, be co-taught by a licensed professional engineer (P.Eng.) who addresses various curricular applications to Engineering: rotational motion, the effect of vibration on structure, mechanics, etc. The Engineer must deliver approximately 9—10 hours of lecture-based course content.

#### **4. Admission to Second-Year Engineering at the U of A**

The U of A Faculty of Engineering guarantees admission into a second-year engineering program provided students in the VIU ETC program meet the following requirements:

- A) *Attempt* 30.0 units of graded transferable coursework in the Fall and Winter terms (failing and non-transferable grades will be considered as attempts).
- B) Achieve a 2.5 or higher GPA on the transferable Fall/Winter coursework. This standard will be reviewed on a yearly basis and set collaboratively between the institutions. In no circumstances will a GPA less than 2.3 be considered.
- C) *Transfer* 30.0 units of graded coursework in the Fall, Winter and spring terms. Courses with a grade less than C- are not considered transferable.

VIU students can still be admitted into programs if they fall below 30.0 units of transferable coursework in the Fall/Winter by taking courses in the Spring term (either at VIU or the U of A), however the grades from the spring courses will not be included in the calculation of a students' GPA for the purposes of admission.

Students are admitted into disciplines on a competitive basis determined by their Program Admission Factor (PAF) calculated based on GPA and number of Units of Attempted Coursework in Fall/Winter.

Under all circumstances, VIU students must complete the requirements of the qualifying year of Engineering in one calendar year. Students who do not meet the admission requirements will not be admitted into the Faculty of Engineering at the University of Alberta.

All students applying to the Faculty of Engineering at the U of A must follow the standard application procedures at the U of A, including applying for admission by the application deadlines, and submitting all requested documents by the standard document deadline. Information for which are provided on the U of A website.

#### **5. Program-Based Placement in Second-Year Engineering at the U of A**

In Fall, the Faculty of Engineering will provide video information to all prospective VIU transfer students about Engineering programs.

The U of A Faculty of Engineering consists of over 30 Engineering programs. Student placement into specific U of A Engineering programs at the second-year level is determined on a competitive basis according to GPA and course load.

Given that the minimum transfer requirement for admission into a second-year Engineering program at the U of A is 30 units, VIU transfer students do not necessarily need to attempt and transfer all of the VIU courses listed in Table B. However, VIU transfer students will maximize their second-year placement status at the U of A by taking all of the listed VIU courses and by achieving strong grades in each course. Not completing all of the VIU courses in Table B may extend a student's program by a year.

**6. Duration of Agreement**

This agreement is effective for transfer to U of A starting in the 2020/21 academic year and will be reviewed annually with respect to curriculum, course equivalencies, transfer admission criteria (including minimum GPA), timeliness, etc. Major changes to this agreement (including its cancellation) will require a minimum of **two years** notice to either party.

**7. Official Record of Agreement**

In lieu of a Memorandum of Agreement signed by the parties, the official record of this agreement will be maintained and published by the BC Council on Admissions and Transfer.

**8. Institutional Representative Signatures**

The VIU – U of A Engineering Transfer agreement is signed on behalf of:



Carol Stewart,  
Vice President Academic and Provost  
Vancouver Island University

May 22, 2020

Date



Harry Janzen,  
Acting Dean, Faculty of Science and Technology  
Vancouver Island University

May 19, 2020

Date

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Fraser Forbes  
Dean, Faculty of Engineering  
Faculty of Engineering, University of Alberta

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



\_\_\_\_\_  
Jason Carey  
Associate Dean, Programs and Planning  
Faculty of Engineering, University of Alberta

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Date