

Continuing and Distance Education

The Division of Continuing and Distance Education (DCDE) provides opportunities for life-long learning through credit and non-credit studies. To meet the diverse needs of students, the Division offers distance learning, spring and summer sessions, professional development opportunities, programs for youth, seniors program, English Language studies and special summer institutes in such areas as International Peace Operations and Learning and Technology.

Credit Studies

University credit courses and programs offered through the Division are indicated in the Division's spring and summer and fall and winter calendars. These courses lead to undergraduate certificates or diplomas or may be taken towards bachelor's and master's degree programs. The curricula for these programs appear under the relevant departmental section of the calendar.

Programs include:

- Certificate in Computer Science
- Certificate in Business Fundamentals
- Graduate programs in education

Distance Learning

Over 80 distance learning courses are offered using a variety of media. Most distance learning courses may be started at any time and are self-paced. Students have up to 6 months to complete a 3-credit-hour course or up to 12 months to complete a 6 credit-hour course.

Full-time Acadia students may take distance courses during the April-August period or any other time by permission of the Registrar. Registration must take place prior to May 31st to allow course completion before returning to full-time studies in the September. Acadia students graduating in May must write their final examinations by April 15 to allow time for the processing of grades before graduation.

Intersession (Spring and Summer Sessions)

Acadia's intersession courses are offered during the months of May, June, July, and August. Over 80 courses in subjects from a variety of disciplines are offered during compressed terms. Most courses are three weeks in duration. Courses leading to master's degrees in Education are available, providing opportunity for teachers to improve professional certification. Students in all intersession courses benefit from the Acadia Advantage initiative.

Summer Institutes for Teachers

Intensive summer institutes are offered to meet the schedules of teachers. Institutes are usually two weeks' in duration and include two graduate-level courses in Education. Summer institutes make use of the Acadia Advantage initiative to provide a dynamic learning environment. Some pre- and post coursework may be required.

Peace Operations Summer Institute

Offered in partnership with the Pearson Peacekeeping Centre and the Canadian Royal Military College, the Peace Operations Summer Institute (POSI) is designed to develop flexible and creative thinking, problem-solving skills, and intellectual responses required by peacekeepers as they evaluate and encounter a complex and diverse spectrum of cases and operations around the world. (<http://www.summerpeace.ca>)

Admission

Students who wish to take university credit through the Division must first be admitted to Acadia University. Admission may be based on previous academic study or through provision for mature student entrance. Part-time students may register for a maximum of 12 credit hours of distance learning courses at any one time. Up to 30 credit-hours of print-based correspondence courses may be taken toward a degree program.

Non-Credit Studies

English Language Studies

Programs offered in English Language studies include:

- English as a Second Language – ESL
- English for University Purposes – EUP
- Executive ESL
- Customized ESL
- ESL for Teachers of English

The EUP program is Acadia University's TOEFL alternative. Students who wish to study at Acadia but do not meet the required level of English proficiency may be offered a conditional acceptance provided they enroll in the EUP program. There are three levels in the EUP program and students must successfully pass the advanced level with a mark of 75% or higher before they can begin their degree program studies. Students receive six hours of English instruction per day and focus on academic preparation in the areas of reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Culture class is an important part of the ESL and EUP programs and provides students with exposure to Canadian culture.

Acadia Lifelong Learning Centre

The Acadia Lifelong Learning Centre (ALL) is a community-drive initiative of the DCDE that provides quality educational opportunities for older adults. ALL offers short courses and lectures that bring the university to the community in a meaningful way.

Youth Programs

The DCDE also offers programs for elementary, junior and senior high-school students. Beginning with the Huggins High School Science Seminar in May, the DCDE offers a series of summer programs that focus on learning and fun. Students from Grade 6 and up participate in a variety of summer science programs, including SEE-Earth, Lyceum, Project EnSciTE, CSI Acadia, and Science and MultiMedia. Young people interested in music will enjoy the Acadia Summer Music Institute. These summer music programs are taught by some of the top musicians in Canada. Students may participate in band, string, piano, jazz, voice, classical guitar, and musical theatre.

Further information on these and other aspects of the Division of Continuing and Distance Education can be found at their website: <http://conted.acadiau.ca>