

**NORTHERN LIGHTS COLLEGE  
REGISTRAR'S OFFICE  
PROGRAM INFORMATION AND COMPLETION GUIDE**

**Program Name:** University Arts and Sciences  
**Credential/Certification:** Associate of Arts Degree  
**Date Submitted:** June 2022  
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**Program Contact:** Chair, University Arts and Sciences

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**Program Description:** The University Arts and Sciences Program at Northern Lights College serves individuals and communities by providing university-level learning opportunities that reflect the intellectual and creative modes of inquiry practiced in the Arts and Sciences. A wide variety of first- and second-year courses enable learners to pursue numerous credential and career options, and engage in personal enrichment.

The Associate of Arts Degree enables students to focus on humanities or social sciences disciplines. This provincially recognized credential provides a well-rounded educational experience that prepares students for work, citizenship, and further study.

For students intending to pursue further studies, the Associate of Arts Degree comprises the first two years (60 credits) of a four-year degree program (120 credits). All 60 credits of the Associate Degree receive complete block transfer at post-secondary institutions throughout British Columbia. Accordingly, the Associate of Arts Degree enables Northern Lights College students to complete the first half of a degree program while remaining in their home communities.

Students transferring to a post-secondary institution may still be required to meet specific first- and second-year requirements for certain degree programs, so students should plan their course selection accordingly to meet these requirements while enrolled at NLC in the Associate of Arts Degree.

**Admission Requirements:**

\*English is the language of instruction in all programs at NLC, thus it is imperative that NLC students meet minimum English Language Proficiency requirements.

\*In University Arts and Sciences and Related Programs, it is understood that the minimum English Language Proficiency requirement is that required to graduate from a Canadian high school program conducted in English. This is defined in the English Language Requirement document.

\*Note that some University Arts and Sciences courses will have specific prerequisites. Meeting the entrance requirements for the University Arts and Sciences program does not ensure course prerequisites have been met for all available courses.

**Length of Program:** (weeks and total hours) The Associate of Arts Degree involves approximately 900 hours of class time and may be completed on a part-time or full-time basis. Where learners are attending full-time, the credential can be completed in two academic years or 60 weeks.

**Program Intake:** (start/finish dates)  
Start: September, January, and May  
Finish: December, April, and June

**Available Seats:** N/A

**Application Deadline:** Last day for late registration as indicated in the NLC Calendar. International students should contact the International Department for deadlines specific to their situation.

**Career Prospects:** The Associate of Arts Degree provides introductory, university-level education for many different careers. It can also transfer to degree programs at other post-secondary institutions, provided pre-requisites are met for the chosen course of study at the receiving institution.

**Affiliations/Partnerships:** In British Columbia, completion of an Associate of Arts Degree offers several transfer advantages:

\*Block transfer: All universities in BC guarantee 60 transfer credits to holders of an Associate Degree, even if all of the courses taken towards the degree do not transfer individually to that institution.

\*Priority Admission: Additionally, at some institutions, Associate Degree holders may be offered priority admission over other students in the college transfer admission category, subject to GPA criteria developed by the receiving institution. Note that transferring students must still meet all 100- and 200-level course requirements for specific degree programs. Accordingly, students are encouraged to

check the specific degree requirements of the individual receiving institution. For more information on the advantages of an Associate Degree, see <https://www.bctransferguide.ca/learn-more-about/associate-degrees/transfer/>

Students anticipating transfer to Alberta or another province should consult with a Chair, or the institution they are planning to transfer to, regarding out-of-province regulations, quotas, etc

**Location:** Fort St. John, Dawson Creek, Chetwynd, and Fort Nelson, where resources and interest permit.

**Additional Requirements/Supplies:** (fees, supplies, materials)  
Lab fees may apply to science courses.

**Eligibility for Canada Student Loans:** (Yes or No)  
Yes, for domestic students. No, for international students.

**Required Minimum Grade:** (overall and/or minimum within a course)  
'C' grade (60%) cumulative GPA; 'D' grade (50%) minimum in a course.

**Residency Requirement:** (percentage of courses which must be taken at NLC)  
25%; note that a minimum 60% or 'C' grade (60%) is required for courses to be considered for transfer into this program. The age of the course will also be considered in course transfer.

**Required Courses:** (list courses required to complete credential)  
General Requirement: 60 credits of first-and second-year courses (normally 20 courses). These must include a minimum of 18 credits (6 courses) in Arts at the second-year level, in two or more subject areas.

Specific Requirements:

- A. 6 credits in 100-level English
- B. 9 credits (3 courses) in Science at the 100- or 200-level, including:
  - 3 credits in Mathematics, Computer Science, or Statistics (a Statistics course could be in a discipline other than Math, e.g., Business or Psychology)
  - minimum of 3 credits in a 100- or 200-level lab science
- C. 36 credits (12 courses) in Arts, including:
  - 6 credits (2 courses) in 100- or 200-level Humanities other than English but

- including the Creative/Performing Arts
- 6 credits (2 courses) in 100- or 200-level Social Sciences
- 24 additional credits (8 courses) in Arts

D. 9 credits (3 courses) in Arts, Science, or other areas (ie., Business, etc.)

Concentrations: Associate of Arts Degrees with a concentration or specialization require a minimum of 15 credits in a single discipline; normally, 6 of these credits must be at the second-year level.

Note: An individual course may not be used to fulfill more than one of the "specific" requirements listed above.

## General Academic English Language Proficiency Requirements

### 1. Overview

English is the language of instruction in all programs at NLC. Thus, it is imperative that NLC students meet minimum English Language Proficiency requirements.

In University Arts and Sciences and additional baccalaureate-level programs, students are required to have English Studies 12, English First Peoples 12, ENGL 050, or an equivalent course. Required final grades are specified by program.

### 2. Select Baccalaureate-Level Programs

The following English Language Requirement applies to the Associate of Arts Degree (general)<sup>1</sup>; to diplomas in Archaeology, Business Management,<sup>2</sup> Criminology, Interactive Technologies and Game Design, Land and Water Resources, and Social Services Worker; and to certificates in Business Management and University Arts and Sciences.<sup>3</sup>

A. Domestic students<sup>4</sup> and students from countries<sup>5</sup> that practice Standard Written English must have official transcripts demonstrating that they have met one of the following English Requirements with a "B" grade or higher: English Studies 12, English First Peoples 12, English 050, or English 099; alternatively, any university-level English course<sup>6</sup> with a "C" grade or higher. Students who do not meet one of the above English requirements must complete the NLC Writing Assessment for appropriate course placement.

B. International students and domestic students who received their secondary education in French or another language must show that they have met the NLC English requirement for baccalaureate-level programs specified above by demonstrating one of the following:

- An IELTS result with an overall score of 6.0 or higher with no band less than 6.0. Students with a writing band of 6.0 are required to complete English 099 with a "B" grade or higher in their initial semester. Alternatively, NLC will accept a TOEFL iBT of 78, Canadian Academic English Assessment (CAEL) 60 overall band, Canadian Language Benchmark Assessment (CLBA) 8 in each section, Pearson Test of English (PTE) 57, Michigan English Language Assessment Battery (MELAB) 76, Cambridge-Michigan Language Assessment (CaMLA) 69 plus NLC's Writing Assessment.
- Documented completion of a post-secondary credential that is assessed as equivalent to a similar program from a reputable Canadian institution with its own appropriate English Language Requirement.
- Documented completion of the last two years of full-time Canadian secondary school education in English with a minimum grade of "B" in English 12, English Studies 12, English Literature 12, English 12 First Peoples, or equivalent.
- Completion of NLC's English for Academic Purposes (EAP) 060-level Certificate.

Where international students and domestic students who received their secondary education in French or another language are unable to provide an appropriate IELTS score or equivalent, such students may be conditionally enrolled in an NLC program with permission of the Chair. Upon arrival at NLC, these students will be assessed by the ESL department and transferred to the appropriate level of the EAP program as necessary.

<sup>1</sup>Not applicable to the Associate of Arts Degree (Health Studies) or to the Associate of Science Degree.

<sup>2</sup>Not applicable to the Executive Assistant Diploma.

<sup>3</sup>Not applicable to the Engineering Certificate, the Engineering Studies Certificate, the General University Arts and Sciences Certificate, the Indigenous Human Services Worker Diploma.

<sup>4</sup>Except those whose secondary education was conducted in French or in another language.

<sup>5</sup> Australia, England, Ireland, New Zealand, Scotland, Wales, United States of America.

<sup>6</sup> From reputable institutions in Canada or from the above list of countries that practice Standard Written English.