


THOMPSON  
RIVERS  
UNIVERSITY

OPEN LEARNING   
INFORMATION  
**GUIDE**  
ONLINE & DISTANCE EDUCATION

STUDENTS AT A GLANCE



**12,660+**  
TRU-OL STUDENTS  
WORLDWIDE

# UNLOCK THE POSSIBILITIES

*Open Learning is part of Thompson Rivers University (TRU), in Kamloops, British Columbia, Canada. Thompson Rivers University, Open Learning (TRU-OL) specializes in flexible distance learning and open access to education.*

*Through TRU-OL and its online and distance courses and programs, you can open the door to new educational possibilities.*

## CREDIBILITY

TRU-OL has decades of experience in producing and delivering distance and online courses. You will study in a high-quality online learning environment with expert faculty.

In addition, TRU is a government-funded, public institution, which provides higher education and research in the province of British Columbia. TRU also collaborates with professional, industry and business associations to help bring the best learning experiences to its students.

## FLEXIBILITY

Registration is open 365 days a year. You can complete your coursework anywhere, anytime and at a pace that suits your lifestyle or commitments, whether it's on a full- or part-time basis. You can set your own study schedule and have flexibility in scheduling your final exam date and location.

## ACCESSIBILITY

TRU-OL has an open access mandate which means that everyone is eligible for general admission. You do not need a specific GPA (grade point average) or secondary school transcripts for registration in most courses. You also do not need to apply and be admitted to a program to take a course.

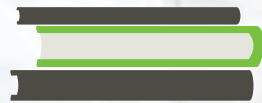
## CHOICE

TRU-OL is one of Canada's largest open learning providers, offering 550 courses and 60 certificate, diploma, undergraduate degree, post-baccalaureate degree and master's degree programs. You can choose between independent study (which is most flexible) and cohort study (studying online with other students).



STUDENTS AT A GLANCE

OVER  
**25,000**



YEARLY COURSE  
ENROLMENTS

# IS OPEN LEARNING FOR YOU?

*If you are an international student with excellent English language skills and are planning to study on TRU's campus, TRU-OL is a good fit for you. TRU-OL courses can supplement your on-campus learning experience.*

## WHAT IS TRU'S DEFINITION OF AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT?

An *international student* is a student who:

- a) Does not possess Canadian citizenship, or
- b) Is not classified as a permanent resident of Canada under Canadian immigration regulations.

**Note:** TRU-OL coursework cannot be used to establish or extend a study permit.



# 61%

of all TRU-OL students  
are **COURSE TAKERS**

**TOP**  **5**  
**TRU-OL COURSES**  
By Student Enrolment

**ENGL 1001**, *Literature and Composition 1*

**ENGL 1101**, *Composition*

**PSYC 1111**, *Introductory Psychology I*

**STAT 1201**, *Introduction to Probability and Statistics*

**BIOL 1593**, *Anatomy and Physiology I*



## **TRANSFER CREDIT**

You can accelerate your program completion by supplementing your on-campus studies with TRU-OL courses. If you are waiting for a study permit or are on a wait list for an on-campus course, you can start TRU-OL courses now, then (in most cases) transfer its credits to your program on campus. Also, through ICES (International Credential Evaluation Service), credits you have earned at other post-secondary institutions may be recognized and accepted at TRU-OL as credits toward a program.

## **PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT RECOGNITION (PLAR)**

PLAR offers the potential to have your previous work and life experiences and non-traditional education assessed and then recognized in the form of academic credit toward a TRU-OL program. PLAR can expedite your program completion and save you time and money, as fewer courses may need to be taken.

## **SUPPORT**

Receive personalized attention, from first contact to course completion or program graduation. TRU-OL offers educational advising, English and Mathematics assessments, library services, career planning services, services for students with disabilities, and academic support through the Writing Centre and Math Help Centre. Most importantly, you'll work one-on-one with your Open Learning Faculty Member and receive individual feedback on your assignments and coursework.

# THINGS TO KNOW



## English Proficiency Requirements

The language of business at Open Learning is English. Course instruction is in English. Applicants are required to meet minimum English language proficiency requirements for direct entry into courses and programs. For example, TRU-OL applicants must have an overall TOEFL-iBT score of 88+, with all sections above 20.

Please see TRU's English Language Proficiency Requirements at [tru.ca/admissions/international/admission-requirements](http://tru.ca/admissions/international/admission-requirements).



## Course Delivery Options

Register in either continuous courses or paced courses. Continuous courses are self-paced. You register anytime, start when you want and take up to 30 weeks to complete. Paced courses have specific start and end dates, and you complete them in 13 to 14 weeks.



## Coursework Assessment and Grading Procedures

All TRU-OL courses include assignments and supervised exams. These are marked by your Open Learning Faculty Member. Assignment marks and final grades are posted in the *myTRU* student portal. You also receive direct feedback on your assignments.



## Writing Final Exams

International students who need to write their exams outside of Canada must submit a Statement of Presiding Supervisor form (visit [tru.ca/distance/register/forms](http://tru.ca/distance/register/forms) to access this form). Students must find their own Exam Presiding Supervisor.

TRU-OL has contact information for Presiding Supervisors in Hong Kong, Mainland China, Taiwan and Korea. Please email the TRU-OL Examinations department at [exams@tru.ca](mailto:exams@tru.ca) for this information and regarding any exam-related questions.



## Course Credits Explained

The definition of *unit* varies across countries. At TRU-OL, 3-credit courses follow a standard British Columbia (BC) method of describing course weighting. Academic credits are expressed as equivalent to how many lecture hours would be required in a single-semester course, if the course were an on-campus, semester-based university course. For example, a 3-credit course is equivalent to three hours of lecture per week for a semester at an on-campus institution.

Most TRU-OL courses are 3-credit courses. Please see [tru.ca/distance/courses](http://tru.ca/distance/courses) for specific courses.



# THINGS TO KNOW



## Total Credits Required to Complete a Degree

A degree requires 120 credits. Students may be able to transfer credit from other post-secondary institutions and apply it toward a TRU degree gained through Open Learning (TRU-OL). Also, students may be able to receive credit through PLAR (prior learning assessment and recognition).



## Blending On-Campus and Online Learning

If you are an international student residing in Canada on a study permit, you pay a set amount for full time studies. Normally this means three classes (9 credits minimum) to five classes (15 credits maximum), whether on campus or distance. Two of these five courses can be TRU-OL courses without any additional tuition costs to you. You pay additional fees for TRU-OL courses only if you take more than five courses with TRU or if you buy materials and/or textbooks for a TRU-OL course. One advantage is that you have up to 30 weeks to complete an Open Learning course.



## Number of Courses Required to Complete a Program Credential

TRU-OL offers many programs toward a certificate, diploma, degree or post-baccalaureate credential. Certificates and diplomas require the equivalent of five to 20 courses to complete the credential, while degrees require the equivalent of 40 courses.



## Average Course Cost

As a student residing outside of Canada or without permanent residency status in Canada, you pay the international tuition rate when registering with TRU-OL.

ITEM	COST
Tuition	\$1,290
Course Materials	\$202
Non-Refundable Technology Fee	\$18
Course Material Shipping Costs	\$21 within Canada \$70 to USA \$140 international

All prices are noted in Canadian currency. Prices cited are typical costs for a 3-credit undergraduate course; actual costs vary by course and are calculated at the time of registration. Costs are subject to change at any time without notice.



**39%**  
of all TRU-OL students  
are **PROGRAM TAKERS**

# 60 PROGRAMS TO CHOOSE FROM

## ARTS

Advanced Certificate in Liberal Arts
Associate of Arts
Minor in English, History, Psychology and Sociology
Bachelor of Arts, General Program Bachelor of Arts, General Studies Bachelor of Arts, Criminology Major Bachelor of Arts, English Major Bachelor of Arts, History Major Bachelor of Arts, Psychology Major Bachelor of Arts, Sociology Major
Bachelor of Design
Bachelor of Fine Art
Bachelor of Music (Performance)
Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Liberal Arts

## BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT STUDIES

Certificate in Business Skills
Certificate in Entrepreneurial Skills 1
Certificate in Entrepreneurial Skills 2
Certificate in Management Studies
Diploma in Management Studies
Accounting Technician Diploma
Advanced Certificate in Management
Advanced Diploma in Management
Bachelor of Business in Real Estate
Bachelor of Commerce
Bachelor of Public Administration
Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Commerce
Post-Baccalaureate Diploma in Commerce
MBA Foundation: Graduate Certificate in Business Administration
MBA - Master of Business Administration

**TOP**   
**TRU-OL PROGRAMS**  
By Student Enrolment

Bachelor of **Commerce**  
Bachelor of **Arts**  
Bachelor of **Health Science**



## EDUCATION

Graduate Certificate in Online Teaching and Learning

## GENERAL STUDIES

Certificate in General Studies

Diploma in General Studies

Bachelor of General Studies

## HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Transition Courses: Health

Transition Courses: Nursing

Health Care Assistant Certificate

Medical Laboratory Assistant Certificate

Medical Laboratory Assistant National Certificate

Polysomnography Certificate

Pre-Health Science Certificate

Return to Registered Nurse Practice Certificate

Seniors Living Management Certificate

Social Service Worker Certificate

Anesthesia Assistant Post-Diploma

Bachelor of Health Science

Graduate Certificate in Child and Youth Mental Health

## SCIENCE

Associate of Science

Bachelor of Science, General

Bachelor of Science, Major

## TECHNOLOGY AND TRADES

Certificate in Information Technology

Diploma in Information Technology and Management

Bachelor of Computing Science

Bachelor of Technology

Bachelor of Technology (Trades and Technology Leadership)

Water Treatment Technology Program

## TOURISM

Event Management Certificate

Bachelor of Tourism Management

## UNIVERSITY PREPARATION - ADULT BASIC EDUCATION (ABE)

ABE Intermediate Certificate (Adult Grade 10)

ABE Advanced Certificate (Adult Grade 11)

BC Adult Graduation Diploma (Adult Grade 12)

# GET STARTED

## Apply to a Program

1

### BROWSE

our complete list of programs online at [truopen.ca/programs](http://truopen.ca/programs).

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2

### COMPLETE

the Program Admission form available at [truopen.ca/register/registernow](http://truopen.ca/register/registernow). Transferring international students can request an ICES (International Credential Evaluation Service) evaluation at [bcit.ca/ices](http://bcit.ca/ices).

If you are transferring credit, wait for your assessment. Once you have received your assessment and your program plan from a Program Advisor, you are ready to begin.

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3

### START

your program by consulting with your Program Advisor and registering for your courses.

## Register for a Course



### SELECT A METHOD

First, choose a course online from [truopen.ca/courses](http://truopen.ca/courses) or from our print calendar. Next, register online, by phone, by fax or mail. Remember to check TRU-OL's academic regulations, such as course cancellation and withdrawal policies.

**HINT:** Go to [truopen.ca/register/registernow](http://truopen.ca/register/registernow) and use the online registration tool to see information such as schedule, instructional method, course description, required materials, prerequisites and course fees for a particular course before you register.



## ONLINE

1. Go to ***truopen.ca*** and click Registration and then Register Now.
2. On the Register Now page, click Register for a Course and then TRU-OL Course Registration.



## BY PHONE

Call Student Services between 8 am - 4:30 pm (Pacific Standard/Daylight Time) Monday to Friday (excluding holidays).

An Enrolment Services Advisor will walk you through the registration process.

**International** 1.250.852.7000

**Hong Kong** 800.965.261

**India** 000.800.1007.576

**Saudi Arabia** 800.814.5681

**United Arab Emirates (UAE)** 800.017.8313



## BY FAX OR MAIL

1. Download and complete the Course Registration form available at ***truopen.ca/register***.

2. Either fax it to 250.852.6405 or mail it to:  
TRU-OL, Student Services  
BC Centre for Open Learning, 4th Floor  
900 McGill Road  
Kamloops, BC V2C 0C8  
Canada

# CONNECT WITH US.

We're here to help you reach your educational and professional goals.

**TRU, Open Learning, Student Services**  
BC Centre for Open Learning, 4th Floor  
900 McGill Road  
Kamloops, British Columbia V2C 0C8  
Canada

***truopen.ca***

*openworld@tru.ca*

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Saudi Arabia 800.814.5681

United Arab Emirates (UAE) 800.017.8313



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