

Bachelor of Arts

**Online Tutorial
Academic Advising**



**THOMPSON RIVERS
UNIVERSITY**

KAMLOOPS, BC



Purpose of this Session

- To review the specific requirements for the Bachelor of Arts program
- Assist students in selecting appropriate courses and creating their own personalized educational plan



Topics Include

- Admission requirements
- Basic requirements for all BA options
- Requirements for a Major, Honours or General degree
- Cooperative Education options
- Application process
- Course selection for next semester/year
- Course timetabling and registration
- Role of Academic Advisors and the Degree Program Advisor



The Bachelor of Arts Degree

- Admission to the BA generally occurs at the first year level
- Offers a broad liberal arts education
- Opportunity to specialize in areas of interest
- Flexibility in career choices
- Designed to meet admission requirements to professional programs
- Students can complete in 4 years or take longer as a part-time student



Learn About the BA Degree...

Go to [Faculty of Arts](#) Website

■ View the TRU [Calendar](#) online.

- Refer to 'degree programs'
- Read all key information on education and general requirements
- Review course descriptions noting pre-requisites and co-requisites



Associate of Arts Degree

- 60 credit credential consisting of first and second year B.C. university transfer courses that must meet certain criteria.
- An option while planning to complete the Bachelor of Arts or other degrees that are accessed at third year.

Download the [Advising form](#) here!



Admission to the BA...

- Admission into the program is at the first year level
- It is an 'Open Admission' program.
- Apply before deadline dates of:
 - March 1st - for early admission
 - April 30th - for regular admission
- Go to TRU website and apply online



[Click here to apply!](#)

Basic Requirements for the BA

Refer to [BA Advising Sheet](#)

Refer to [Degree Check Sheet](#)

- 120 credits with a minimum GPA 2.0
- Maximum of 42 credits at the 1000 level
- Minimum of 48 credits at the 3000 – 4000 level
- Maximum of 12 credits outside Arts, Business and Sciences
- All course pre-requisites and co-requisites must be met



Basic Requirements (Cont'd)

- *1st Year English*

Students must complete 6 credits of 1st year

English – you must choose 2 of the following 4 courses

English 1100

English 1110

English 1120

English 1140

Check pre-requisites for ALL courses by referring to the course descriptions found in the [TRU Calendar](#)



Basic Requirements (Cont'd)

- *Scientific and Formal Reasoning*

Students must complete a minimum of 9 credits from the following:

- **Science:** Astr, Biol, Chem, Geol, Nrsc or Phys
- **Anthropology:** Anth 1110, Anth 1190
- **Physical Geography:** Geog 1120, 1220, 2050, 2700
- **Mathematics:** Any Math 1000 to 4000 level
- **Computing Science:** Any Comp 1000 to 4000 level
- **Statistics:** Stat 1200 or 2000, Psyc 2100, Buec 2320, Soci 2710 or Biol 3000 (may only choose one Statistics course for credit)
- **Formal Logic:** Phil 2220
- **Understanding Scientific Reasoning:** Phil 2400



Basic Requirements (Cont'd)

- *Breadth Requirement*

- Students must take courses in a number of different disciplines – this is referred to as **Breadth**
- A minimum of one 1000-2000 level course must be taken in at least four separate Arts disciplines (subjects)

Note: Courses used to satisfy the English and Science Requirements are excluded from the Breadth Requirement



Basic Requirements (Cont'd)

- *Distribution Requirement*

A minimum of one 1000-2000 level course must be taken in at least two of the following categories:

Humanities: English Literature, History, Languages, Philosophy & Speech

Social Sciences: Anthropology, Canadian Studies, Economics, Geography, Political Studies, Psychology & Sociology

Creative & Performing Arts: Creative Writing, Film, Music, Visual Arts & Theatre

Note: Courses used to satisfy the English Requirement and Science Requirement are excluded from the Distribution Requirement



Basic Requirements (Cont'd)

- *Second Language*

A second language must be completed to the grade12 level, or 6 credits must be taken in one language at the post-secondary level

- If you have inquiries about placement, please contact the Coordinator of Modern Languages
- Courses are offered in:

Chinese
French
German
Japanese
Spanish



Basic Requirements (Cont'd)

- *Writing Intensive Requirements*

Students must complete:

- 6 credits in 1000 - 2000 level courses
- 6 credits in 3000 - 4000 level courses

Courses must be selected from an approved list

Refer to the BA program description in the calendar or the [Writing Intensive Course listing](#)



Areas of Study

- The BA degree allows students to acquire a deeper knowledge of an area or opt to individualize their program to cover a wider spectrum of courses
- Students may choose coursework to attain a:
 - **Major**
 - **Major with a Minor**
 - **Double Major**
 - **Honours Degree**
 - **General Studies Degree**



What is a **Majors** Program?

- For students wanting to specialize in a single discipline of study
- Recommended for students intending to further their education
- Majors program require
 - A minimum of 42 – 45 credits in one discipline (subject), of those....
 - A minimum of 30 – 33 credits at the upper level
 - A minimum of 12 credits at the lower level



Major Program Requirements

In addition to the basic requirements, there are specific lower level and upper level course requirements for each major as listed in the calendar

- [Economics](#)
- [Economics and Political Studies](#)
- [English](#)
- [Geography](#)
- [History](#)
- [Mathematics](#)
- [Mathematics and Economics](#)
- [Philosophy](#)
- [Psychology](#)
- [Sociology](#)
- [Theatre Arts](#)





BA Major with a Minor

- In conjunction with a Major, a Minor may be taken in any discipline (subject) within any of the academic areas: **Arts, Science or Business**
- Some Minors have specific requirements - check the [Online Calendar](#) for specific details
- The completion of a Minor requires completion of at least 30-42 credits within the discipline.
 - A minimum of 18 credits at the 3000-4000 level
 - A minimum of 12 credits at the 1000-2000 level
- Plan early to include a Minor within the 120 credits of the Bachelor of Arts degree!

Minors are Offered in:

- Anthropology (pending)
- Archaeology & Geology
- Biology
- Economics
- English
- Environmental Economics & Sustainable Development
- Geography
- History
- Management
- Mathematics
- Philosophy
- Political Studies
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Theatre Arts
- Visual Arts

Refer to the online BA Advising Sheet for details

Double Major

- A Double Major requires a minimum of 66 credits at the 3000 - 4000 level
 - 30 upper level credits in each Major subject area
 - 6 upper level credits in disciplines which do not offer a Major program. Example: Political Studies, Anthropology, Visual Arts
- This option requires careful course planning and may require additional courses be completed to fulfill all of the requirements



What is an Honours Program?



- Available in Psychology and Mathematics
- 3.0 GPA (B average) required in specified courses both at the lower level and the upper level
- Suitable for students wishing to pursue graduate or professional schools
- Completion of 126 credits with 54 credits at the upper level that include courses towards the Major program and successful completion of an Honours thesis
- Application is made to the Honours option at the end of year 3

General BA Degree Program

- Broader than a Majors program
- Students specialize at the upper level in **two or more** of the categories of study, ie. Humanities, Social Sciences, or Creative & Performing Arts
- Excellent preparation for professional programs such as: Education, law, medicine, etc...

Two Options:

- General BA with a minimum of one Concentration area (concentrations available in all Arts disciplines)
- General BA with a **Thematic Studies Option** in **Canadian Studies**



Cooperative Education Option

- Co-op integrates academic studies with paid periods of relevant work experience
- Apply to enter Co-op after 2nd year
- Admission is limited and based on grades
- Job placement is competitive
- Students learn valuable job skills and meet potential employers
- [Solutions through Employment](#) – Co-op Website
- Students will receive a maximum of 3 credits of lower level elective credit for their Co-op term(s)

Contact info:

Email: coop@tru.ca

Phone: 250-371-5627 main

Fax: 250-828-5014



Typical Co-op Pattern

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Sept- Dec	Academic Semester 1	Academic Semester 3	Co-op Workterm 2	Academic Semester 6	Academic Semester 7
Jan- Apr	Academic Semester 2	Academic Semester 4	Academic Semester 5	Co-op Workterm 4	Academic Semester 8
May- Aug		Co-op Workterm 1	Co-op Workterm 3	Co-op Workterm 5	GRAD



Seeking a Professional Degree ...

Many professional programs can be accessed from the Bachelor of Arts, examples include:

Bachelor of Education (Secondary)

Bachelor of Education (Elementary)

Bachelor of Social Work

Bachelor of Journalism

Graduate Studies

(Law, Occupational Therapy, Psychologist, etc.)

If your goal is to access one of these programs be sure to include the admission requirements to your program of choice into your BA course plan

Now the work begins...

In order to help you decide what courses you need to meet each requirement refer to the [Online Calendar](#)

- Review the course descriptions; note the pre-requisite(s) and the co-requisite(s)
- Check the Online Course Schedule for specific offerings
- Decide which semester you'd like to start
- Decide how many courses you want to take per semester
- Prepare ahead! Print off copy of suggested timeline of each step required to help organize yourself for your registration day:



Print copy of
['Preparing to Enrol'](#)

Course Selection and Individual Plan

To complete your planning, print off each of the following from the '[Program Information](#)' page of the website:

[BA Information Sheet](#)

[BA Degree Check Sheet](#)

[BA Writing Intensive List](#)

Current Students

- Review your transcript to see which courses you've completed
 - Print a copy from your [myTRU](#) account
- Note those requirements not yet completed; pencil in on your Fall/Winter/Summer schedule

Course Selection and Individual Plan New Students

- Make a list of the BA requirements
- Take note of the pre-requisites needed – You may need to do a combination of 1st Year and University Preparation!
- Think about which required and elective courses you will do first; pencil in these courses
- Confirm courses are available by checking the online schedule for each semester
- Prepare a timetable for both semesters



Typical First Year Program Plan

September –December

1. English 1100
2. Second Lang*
3. Science course*
4. Elective*
5. Elective*

15 credits

January- April

1. English 1110*
2. Second Lang *
3. Science course*
4. Elective*
5. Elective*

15 credits

***Refer to the BA First year Elective list on the [Program Planning form](#)**

Preparing a Timetable and Registering Online...

1. Learn how to Prepare a Conflict Free Timetable:

- Students enrolling for the first time, must take the online 'Timetabling Tutorial.' It explains how to create a conflict free timetable and how to read the Online Course Schedule.

▶ Take the [Online Timetabling Tutorial](#)

2. Learn how to Register Online:

- Using 'myTRU', students are required to register for their courses using the TRU Website.

Learn how to register by:

- ▶ Reading about [myTRU](#)
- ▶ Taking the online [Registration Tutorial](#).
- ▶ Checking the ['Schedule of Credit Courses'](#) to make sure your choices are still open for registration

3. Learn more about Registration on Campus!

- Go to the TRU website and learn about 'Registration Priority' and 'Fee' payments.

▶ Learn more about [registration!](#)

Start with Step One...

An online tutorial to help prepare you for Post-Secondary

- If you are uncertain where to begin and need help determining your first step, complete the '**Step One**' online tutorial. It is designed to:
 - help students understand program offerings, admission requirements and course information,
 - explain how to apply to a program and become admitted,
 - overview the registration process and explain how to enrol into courses using myTRU,
 - provide information on financial aid resources, and
 - provide direction on how to read the calendar
- It will help prepare new or returning students begin their studies
- Offered [online](#)

Need Help?

Contact the Academic Advising Department

Academic Advisors

- Assist new and returning 1st and 2nd year students with:
 - Preparing to apply
 - Educational planning
 - Course selection
- In Person: Kamloops Campus, Old Main Building, Room 1100
- Phone: (250) 828-5075
- Email Domestic Advisors: advising@tru.ca
- Email Intn'l Advisors: internationaladvising@tru.ca



Majors Program Advisors ...

- Third and Fourth year students planning on doing a Major must consult with the designated Majors Advisor prior to seeing the BA Advisor
- To prepare for Registration, most students meet with their Majors Advisor in April or May
- [Download](#) a listing of the Advisors



Bachelor of Arts Program Advisor

...

- The Faculty of Arts Program Advisor assists students with selecting courses at the 3000-4000 level. All courses at the 3000 - 4000 level must be approved.
- Students entering 3rd year of the BA Program must be advised by the Program Advisor:

Michaline Novak

Email: mnovak@tru.ca

Phone: (250) 371-5566





THOMPSON RIVERS
UNIVERSITY

KAMLOOPS, BC



Thank you for taking the BA Advising Session

