

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

Academic Communication Certificate Viewbook

for fall 2027 applicants

Your English language pathway to the University of Calgary

Get the skills and **English language proficiency requirements** you need to enter and succeed in your UCalgary degree with our Academic Communication Certificate (ACC).



Our program advantages:

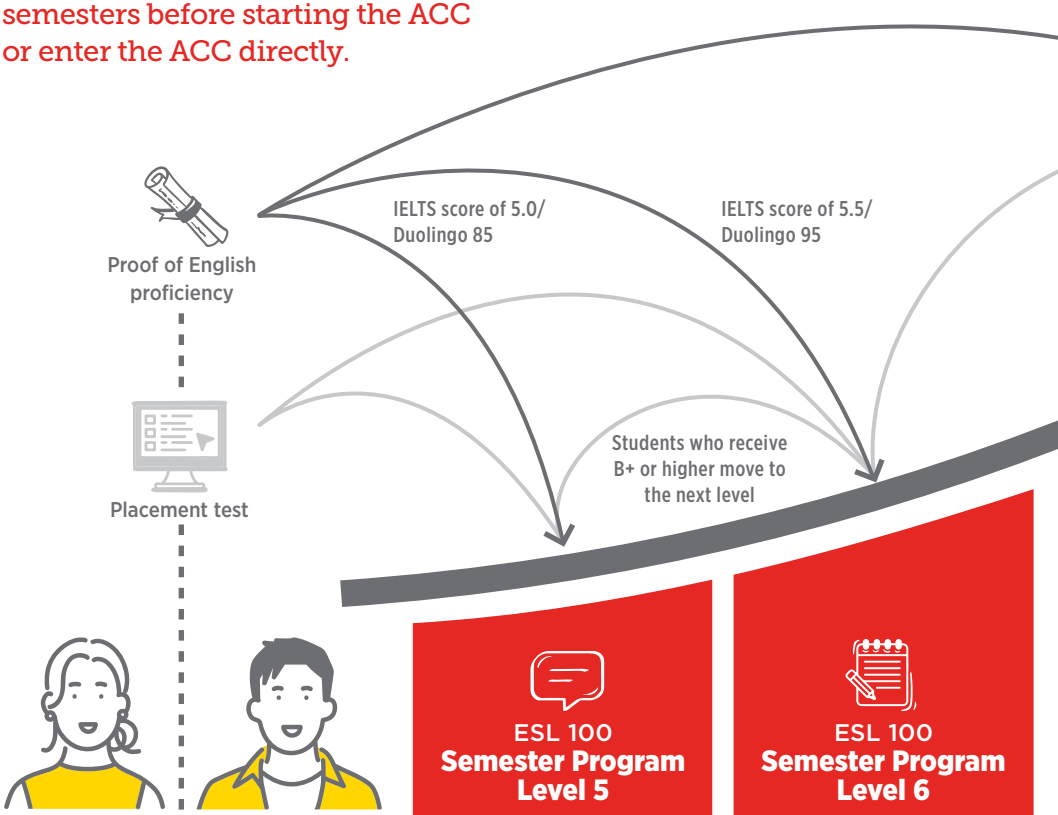
- Located on main campus
- Conditional admission
- Transfer credit
- Open studies*
- 3 intakes per year
- Three entry levels
- Small classes
- EAP specialist instructors



*See page 10 details

Your pathway to UCalgary

Enter our English Language Program at your English level. Take up to two preparatory semesters before starting the ACC or enter the ACC directly.



ESL 100 Semester Program Level 5

Advanced General Communication

12/13 weeks

- Grammar
- Reading and Writing
- Speaking and Listening

ESL 100 Semester Program Level 6

Academic Preparation

12/13 weeks

- Academic Grammar and Composition
- Academic Reading and Vocabulary
- Academic Speaking and Listening



UCalgary Degree Program

- Meet English Language Proficiency requirements for applicable **UCalgary undergraduate and graduate degree programs** (page 15)
- Transfer Credit for UCalgary Undergraduate Programs (page 10)
- Admission to UCalgary Open Studies (page 10)

IELTS score of 6.0/
Duolingo 110

EAP 200
Academic Communication Certificate (ACC)

University Preparation

12/13 weeks

- Academic Writing and Composition
- Research Writing and Form
- Critical Listening and Notetaking
- Oral Communication and Presentation Skills
- Academic Success Tutorials

STUDENT STORY

Akane Fujiwara

From Osaka to Calgary: How UCalgary's English Language Program became a life-changing pathway



Seizing a promising opportunity, Akane Fujiwara arrived in Calgary in the spring of 2022 from Osaka, Japan. A partnership between her school in Japan, and the University of Calgary, led Akane to study abroad and join the English Language Program (ELP) with UCalgary Continuing Education. What began as momentary detour from her studies in Osaka quickly evolved into a defining chapter of her life.

Through her completion of three Semester Programs and the Academic Communication Certificate, Akane spent eight months building foundational and academic English skills in reading, writing and speaking. After progressing from Level 4 to Level 7, she credits the program — particularly its focus on reading and applying research — as essential to her success today.

From ELP to undergraduate success

"The English Language Program changed my life," Akane says. "I really liked the culture, the way of teaching, how friendly teachers were. I had an idea of how Canadian education is and I liked it so much I enrolled at the University of Calgary."

Reflecting on the continuous value of ELP for her academic goals, Akane says, "The skills I learned about writing and reading articles are still useful in my undergraduate studies."

Now pursuing an economics degree in the Faculty of Arts as part of a competitive honours cohort, Akane regularly collaborates with a small group of peers to tackle complex academic challenges. "We have about 20 people in the honours program, and our professors have high expectations of us," she explains. "My favourite thing about studying are the people around me. We work together to solve the difficult questions from our professors."

From instructors who offered one-on-one feedback during class to professors who welcomed questions during office hours, she found the learning environment at UCalgary to be both supportive and accessible. "They were really friendly and kind," she says. "They try to make sure everybody understands. It was really easy to ask questions because they were so open."



> “If one person didn’t understand, they made sure everyone understood. It was easy to ask questions because they were so open.”
>
> Akane, from Japan

Forming lasting friendships

This sense of connection extended beyond the classroom. Through ELP, Akane formed lasting friendships with classmates she studied alongside for months. “We ended up getting really close,” she says. “I still hang out with them three years later — it is really helpful to have them.”

Experiential learning and cultural immersion also played a key role. A memorable overnight trip to Banff National Park brought students together in a way that classrooms alone could not. Remembering some uniquely Canadian experiences from the group trip, like making s’mores, she says, “It was a really good opportunity for us to get closer to each other.”

Living with homestay families further deepened her experience. Across several placements, Akane found warmth, care and a sense of belonging. “They treated me like their own child, but also as an adult,” she says. One host, in particular, helped her through moments of homesickness with a supportive daily routine and taking time to connect. “She made me feel like family,” Akane recalls.

Forging a career path in Calgary

After excelling academically and using the skills she gained in ELP, Akane secured a co-operative education work placement position with AltaLink, an electricity transmission company. “In the ELP program, I learned how to write a resume and cover letter and writing in general. That’s really important when you apply for a company,” she explains.

With graduation expected in May 2028, Akane now has a clear goal: to work full-time with the company. “Working is very different from studying,” she says. “It has been really a good experience.”

Looking back, her advice to prospective students is simple: “If you are even a little bit interested, you should come and try. Of course, it will change your level of English, but it’ll also change your point of view.”

To those who do come, Akane adds, “I encourage you to speak English. There are university clubs where you can make Canadian friends and practice English.”

For Akane, this transformative journey not only changed where she studies, but also brought her independence, lifelong friends and a bright future.

ESL 100: 12/13 weeks

Semester Program

2027

Winter
1/4 - 3/25

Spring
4/19 - 7/16

Fall
9/20 - 12/17

2028

Winter
1/4 - 3/24

Price
$4,650

Program Hours
275 hours

The multilevel Semester Program is a full-time English language program of study; its advanced levels (5 and 6) focus on academic English, preparing students for the ACC.

Level 5: Advanced English Communication

Advance your English communication abilities across all skill areas with targeted classes in Grammar, Reading and Writing, and Speaking and Listening. Students completing all courses in level 5 with a grade of B+ or higher move on to level 6.

Level 6: Academic Preparation

Learn the written and oral skills necessary for success in the English language post-secondary classroom. Comprehensive classes in Academic Grammar and Composition, Academic Reading and Vocabulary, and Academic Speaking and Listening.

Sample Timetable

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Morning	Grammar	Grammar	Grammar	Grammar	Grammar
	Reading and Writing	Reading and Writing	Reading and Writing	Reading and Writing	Reading and Writing
Afternoon	Speaking and Listening	Speaking and Listening	Speaking and Listening	Speaking and Listening	

CLICK HERE

Explore our Semester Program

esl.ucalgary.ca/programs/semester

“I think UCalgary was the best option for studying English because I need to learn academic English, and this environment feels closer to my professional goals.”

Angela, from Peru



Admission Requirements

Level 5

- UCalgary ELP Semester Program, Level 4, Minimum B+
- IELTS Academic score of 5.0 overall, 5.0 in writing, 4.5 in any other skill area
- Duolingo English Test score of 85 overall, 75 in production
- TOEFL iBT score of 45 (3.0) overall, 15 (3.0) in writing
- CAEL score of 40 overall, 40 in writing

Level 6

- UCalgary ELP Semester Program, Level 5, Minimum B+
- IELTS Academic score of 5.5 overall, 5.5 in writing, 5.0 in any other skill area
- Duolingo English Test score of 95 overall, 85 in production
- TOEFL iBT score of 55 (3.5) overall, 18 (3.5) in writing
- CAEL score of 50 overall, 50 in writing

Jump-start ACC

Combine Semester Program level 6 Grammar/Composition and Reading/Vocabulary classes in the morning and ACC listening/oral communication skill classes in the afternoon. (See page 9).

- IELTS Academic overall score of 6.0, with a minimum score of 5.5 in all skill areas or equivalent

EAP 200: 12/13 weeks

Academic Communication Certificate

2027

Winter
1/4 - 3/25

Spring
4/19 - 7/16

2028

Winter
1/4 - 3/24

Price
$4,975*

Program Hours
250 hours

Partial ACC**

Fall
2027
(EAP 230, EAP 235 and EAP 249)
9/20 - 12/10

Winter
2028
(EAP 220, EAP 225 and EAP 249)
1/4 - 3/24

Price
$3,000

Program Hours
Fall:
134 hours
Winter:
146 hours

The Academic Communication Certificate (ACC) prepares English learners to enter UCalgary degree programs.

Academic Mastery: University Preparation

Students learn essential skills for the academic setting, acquire critical knowledge for a successful transition to Canadian university culture, meet English language proficiency admission requirements, and gain transfer credit toward a UCalgary undergraduate program.

Admission Requirements

Students must fulfill one of the following minimum requirements:

- UCalgary ELP Semester Program - Level 6, Minimum B+
- IELTS Academic score of 6.0 overall, minimum 6.0 in Writing, 5.5 in any other skill area
- Duolingo English test score of 110 overall, 100 in production
- TOEFL iBT score of 70 (4.0) overall, minimum of 20 (4.0) in Writing
- CAEL score of 60 overall, minimum of 60 in Writing

Sample Timetable (Weeks 1 - 6)

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Morning	Academic Writing and Composition	Academic Writing and Composition	Academic Writing and Composition	Academic Writing and Composition	Academic Writing and Composition
Afternoon	Critical Listening and Notetaking	Critical Listening and Notetaking	Critical Listening and Notetaking	Critical Listening and Notetaking	Academic Success Tutorials

Course schedules may vary by term.

* *A discounted rate is available for Canadian residents.*

** *Students can take partial ACC only or combine it with semester level 6 morning classes and finish the ACC certificate in a subsequent term.*



> “This certificate has helped me now in my degree, knowing English, how to find good sources on the internet... and how to present yourself and talk with others.”

Anahi, from Ecuador

Students starting in Semester Program level 5 or 6 may be conditionally admitted to the ACC and undergraduate degree programs if other academic criteria are met.

Students successfully completing the ACC will be eligible for 2 courses (6 units) of transfer credit toward an undergraduate degree program.

UCalgary Open Studies allows eligible students to take university degree-credit courses (subject to availability) prior to being admitted into an undergraduate degree program.

CLICK HERE

Explore our Academic Communication Certificate

▸ esl.ucalgary.ca/programs/acc

Courses

EAP 220
Academic Writing and Composition*
58 hours

Focus on writing effective academic paragraphs and essays while mastering essential sentence skills and reading critically.

EAP 225
Research Writing and Form*
58 hours

Focus on the process of writing research papers and critical responses while mastering critical reading and thinking. Students will attain advanced skills in comprehension, analysis, interpretation and citation.

EAP 230
Critical Listening and Notetaking
52 hours

Prepare to transition to an English-speaking university setting with the skills to engage in critical academic listening across content areas.

EAP 235
Oral Communication and Presentation Skills
52 hours

Develop essential skills that will help English learners defend ideas in academic settings, present coherent concepts, speak thoughtfully in discussions and contribute to group projects.

EAP 249
Academic Success Tutorials
20 hours

Ten seminars designed to facilitate success in the Canadian university degree (credit) environment. Topics include academic integrity, critical thinking, health and wellness, learning styles, study strategies, time management, understanding learning objectives and university customs and policies.







* *Available in winter and spring only. In the fall, students can take partial ACC only or combine it with semester level 6 morning classes and can take EAP 220 and 225 in subsequent term to complete the ACC certificate.*

Pathway to UCalgary degree programs

Successful completion of the ACC meets the English language proficiency requirement for admission to applicable UCalgary undergraduate and graduate degree programs.* Students starting in Semester Program level 5 or 6 may be conditionally admitted to the ACC and degree programs if other academic requirements are met.



Sample timelines for undergraduate program admission

Students may start in any term that enables ACC completion before the fall term.

	Full-time	Full-time Hybrid	Reduced Full-time	Full-time
	IELTS 5.5 or equivalent	*IELTS 5.5/6.0 or equivalent*	*IELTS 6.0 or equivalent*	*IELTS 6.0 or equivalent*
Term 1	ESL Semester Program Level 6**	Jump-start ACC**	Partial ACC	ACC
Term 2	ACC	Partial ACC + Open Studies†	Partial ACC + Open Studies†	Transfer credit (2)
	Transfer credit (2 courses)			Start Degree Program
	Start Degree Program			

* *Minimum ACC grades vary by graduate program. Please contact the graduate program you are applying to for specific requirements.*

** *Students who qualify for Jump-start (Level 6 + Partial ACC). Requirements listed on page 8.*

† *Open studies is optional.*

ESL 900 Homestay
Opt to live with a Canadian family. It is an excellent way to improve your English language and intercultural skills.
▸ esl.ucalgary.ca/homestay



ESL 102/103/112/113 Activity Program
Optional activity trips provide guided excursions to points of cultural and social interest in and around Calgary.
▸ esl.ucalgary.ca/activity



Student experience

Enhance your English learning experience with a range of optional and included activities and support services designed to help you connect, explore, and grow.

Your ELP tuition includes these great benefits:



Textbooks



Transit pass



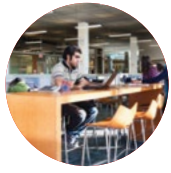
Emergency health insurance



Campus recreation



Athletic facilities



Library and wifi

Program costs



Tuition
$4,650 - $4,975
per term



Homestay
$3,600 - $3,900
per term

Application fee

A $200 non-refundable application fee is required for admission into the English Language Program. This is a one-time fee.

Payment information

All course fees are in Canadian dollars. Visa, MasterCard, American Express, or Japan Credit Bureau (JCB) are the preferred methods of payment. Convera, cash, and bank wire ($60 processing fee applies) payments are also available. A deposit is required for each course at the time of registration.

Sample study plan: 1 year: university pathway

ESL 100: Fall Semester Program: level 5	Sep – Dec	$4,650
ESL 100: Winter Semester Program: level 6	Jan – Mar	$4,650
EAP 200: Spring Academic Communication Certificate	Apr – Jul	$4,975
TUITION TOTAL		**$14,275**
Application fee		$200
Invitation letter* (optional)		$75
Homestay (44 weeks)		$13,200
Homestay placement fee		$375
TOTAL		**$28,125**

* See page 17 details

Program information

Study permits and visas

Most international students require an entrance document — either a visa, an Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA), or a study permit to enter and study in Canada. Check with your nearest Canadian Embassy or Consulate for more information on applying for entrance documents and study permits.

▸ canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/study-canada.html

Depending on the country from which you are applying, processing times can take several months. We strongly advise you to apply for your entrance documents and study permit as soon as possible, but at least three months prior to the start date of your program.

Provincial Attestation Letter (PAL)

The Government of Canada requires all study permit applicants to submit a Provincial Attestation Letter (PAL). We will secure PALs for students who register in two or more consecutive PAL-eligible programs (ESL 100 and EAP 200) within a 12-month period. To learn more about PAL eligibility and policies for the English Language Program, please visit

▸ esl.ucalgary.ca/registration/policies

English Language Program deadlines

A deposit is required for each course at the time of registration. Full payment is due 15 days before the course begins; **if full payment is not received, the student will be withdrawn from the course, forfeiting the course deposit.**

Two weeks after the course begins, students not present and not in contact with the office will be withdrawn in accordance with the refund policy. Please inform the office if you cannot start the course on time.

Conditional admission

Undergraduate programs

The English Language Proficiency condition of admission for undergraduate programs will be met once a student successfully completes EAP 220, 225, 230, 235 with a minimum grade of B+ and EAP 249 with a CR by August 1 in the year they received conditional admission for. The Faculty of Nursing and the Werklund School of Education do not accept the Academic Communication Certificate. Where programs have supplemental requirements, conditional admission is only valid for the year of application.



> “I love how open and welcoming people are here.”
>
> Chounghyo, from South Korea

Graduate programs
The condition of admission for graduate programs will be met once a student successfully completes EAP 220, 225, 230, 235 with a minimum grade of B+ and EAP 249 with a CR by August 1, or as designated by the department. Some graduate programs require a minimum grade of A- in some ACC courses or do not accept the Academic Communication Certificate. Please contact the graduate program directly to confirm admission requirements at ▸ future.grad@ucalgary.ca

Emergency health insurance

Emergency health insurance is provided for international students under 65 from the Saturday before the English course start date to the Saturday after the English course end date. Students can also access GuardMe for mental wellness support. For details, visit ▸ sites.guard.me/ucalgaryesl/about. Emergency health insurance does not cover pre-exiting conditions; students must secure additional coverage through their own provider. All fees must be paid in full for insurance to be processed and valid. Additional insurance is available between courses at an additional cost.

Transfer credit

Undergraduate transfer credit includes a 3-unit academic writing course and a 3-unit junior English comprehension course.

English Language Program refund and transfer policy

All withdrawals and transfers must be made in writing via email. All refunds will be made via the original payment method. Please note program application/homestay placement fees are non-refundable under any circumstances. No refunds will be made for courses that have no deposit.

Application for entry into Canada must have been submitted at least 3 months prior to your program start date. Please be advised that our refund policy pertains to program applicants only, not family members or dependents.

Tuition refunds and transfers

Tuition refund and transfer eligibility is relative to the course start date, PAL requirements of each course and Visa/Permit status. See table below.

Refunds/transfers related to entry status require one of the following supporting documents from the Government of Canada:

1. A copy of the visa/permit refusal letter
2. A screenshot of the visa/permit application status page showing the application is in progress and the application submission date.

Homestay refunds and transfers

A 14-day notice period is required to withdraw from the Homestay Program. Deposit(s) and fees for unused future homestay period will be refunded/transferred after the amount of the 14-day notice period has been deducted. Homestay refunds of two nights or less will not be processed.

Tuition amount refunded or transfered per course

	REGULAR SECTIONS		PAL ELIGIBLE SECTIONS	
Reason	Personal	Visa/Permit status	Personal	Visa/Permit status
> 15 days before	100% tuition less deposit	100% tuition less $100 admin fee	65% tuition	95% tuition
2 - 14 days before	50% of tuition			
< 2 days before	No refunds/transfers			

How to apply

Boost your English language proficiency and start your future at UCalgary!

1 Review UCalgary degree admission requirements

Admission requirements vary depending on the program and your educational history. Explore our programs and use our admission requirements tool to see the courses and estimated competitive admission average for your program of choice.

CLICK HERE

Requirements

▸ ucalgary.ca/future-students/undergraduate/programs

2 Apply to the English Language Program (ELP)

Apply early!

Once you apply, our English Language student support team will send you an **invitation letter** that you can use to apply for your UCalgary degree program.

CLICK HERE

Ready to apply to the ELP?

▸ conted.ucalgary.ca/accinvite

3 Apply to your UCalgary degree program

Apply early!

When you are accepted into your program, you will receive a **conditional letter of admission**.

CLICK HERE

Ready to apply to your degree?

▸ ucalgary.ca/future-students/undergraduate/apply

4 Register in the English Language Program (ELP)

Register early!

Once you register, our English Language student support team will send you an **ELP letter of admission and PAL** that you can use to apply for your study permit.

CLICK HERE

Ready to register in the ELP?

▸ esl.ucalgary.ca

Information in this guide is accurate at the time of printing. For the most complete and up-to-date information go to ▸ esl.ucalgary.ca

5

Have questions or need help with next steps?

For questions regarding our English Language Program, connect with our ELP support team via email at **esl@ucalgary.ca** or call us at **+1.403.220.3301**.

Our undergraduate recruitment team can answer all the questions you have about becoming a UCalgary Dino!

CLICK HERE

ELP Help

▸ esl.ucalgary.ca/contact

CLICK HERE

Undergrad Help

▸ ucalgary.ca/recruiters






Start something.