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Bachelor's Degree Programs

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Bachelor of Arts in Child and Youth Care

- 4-year Degree Program
- Program Fees: [Domestic Students](#), [International Students](#)
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VIU also offers a [Child and Youth Care Diploma](#) and a [Child and Youth Care First Nations Diploma](#).

The Program

A full range of courses is available to complete a program of studies leading to a B.A. degree in Child and Youth Care at Vancouver Island University. The Child and Youth Care degree program is a four-year course of study (120 credits), which prepares students to enter a variety of child and youth care employment settings. These range from early intervention programs to youth corrections programs, child protection and guardianship work, community-based programs such as day-care, schools, family support and group homes.

The program is designed in response to increasing demand from employers for skilled child and youth care practitioners who are able to work in an integrated, multidisciplinary way. Some of the topics that students will be required to study are child welfare, abuse and neglect concerns, human and family development, theories of practice; and activity-based interventions. The program is offered on a full-time, as well as a part-time basis to accommodate practitioners working in the field.

Child Protection Specialization

A Child Protection Specialization within the program is available for a limited number of students admitted to the Child and Youth Care degree program. Interested students must apply for the specialization once admitted to the program, and are required to complete:

- [CYC 360K](#) - (Special Topics: Disability Issues)
- [CYC 403](#) - (Introduction to Child Abuse and Neglect II)
- [CYC 410](#) - (Advanced Professional Practice Seminar and Supervised Practicum) in a child protection agency

For further information, please contact the Child and youth Care Practicum Coordinator and/or CYC

Advisors.

University Credit

Students may apply to complete the four-year B.A. in Child and Youth Care degree at VIU at all years of the degree, however we normally admit at first and third year. Students who have completed a diploma in a Human Services area are eligible for third year admission. Students who complete the B.A. in Child and Youth Care may then pursue graduate studies at a number of educational settings.

Admission Requirements

- Enrolment in the B.A. in Child and Youth Care program at VIU is limited. Students who wish to take individual courses without being admitted to the program may do so where space is available and when prerequisites have been completed. Students who take courses in Child and Youth Care without being formally admitted into the program are not guaranteed entry into the program. Students are encouraged to explore the program with a VIU Advisor before pursuing application.
- To be eligible for admission at **first year** to the VIU B.A. program, students must have completed Grade 12 (or have mature student status), with a minimum of "C" in English 12 or [equivalent](#).
- To be eligible for admission at **second year** to the VIU B.A. program, students must have completed 30 first year university credits that include 6 credits of English (see [Degree English Requirement](#), or equivalent) *and* 6 credits of Human Development (normally [CYC 111/112](#)), or students must have completed a recognized Human Services Certificate program (granted 30 credits maximum) that includes the English and Human Development requirements as stated above.
- To be eligible for admission to **third year**, students must have completed a minimum of 54 credits of university courses OR a recognized [Human Services diploma](#) (granted 60 credits maximum). The course of study must include university English (normally 6 credits) [Degree English Requirement](#), Human Development (normally 6 credits), and the following Child and Youth Care courses (or content equivalent of): [CYC 200A](#), [200B](#), [201](#), [252A](#), [252B](#), [260B](#) and [265](#).
- The overall GPA of students will be a minimum of 2.33 ("C+"), calculated on the most recent 24 credits completed, *and* with a minimum "C+" in each of the individual courses previously identified for meeting admission requirements.

To apply to the program, applicants must submit the following documents:

- Transcripts from all secondary and post-secondary institutions/programs attended.
- Education/work resume.
- A 300-word statement which focuses on what is important to the applicant about working with children, youth and/or families.
- Two completed [reference forms](#). Blank forms will be mailed to the applicant upon receipt of application.

Notes on Admission

- Criminal Record Check. Fieldwork and/or practicums will require a satisfactory criminal record check prior to placement. Criminal Record Checks are requested through VIU. The Registration Centre at VIU will contact prospective students by mail regarding the requirements for a Criminal Record Check. Criminal Record Checks are processed through the Ministry according to the Criminal Records Review Act. A check completed through the RCMP is not sufficient to meet the requirements of the Act.
- An interview may be scheduled following receipt of the above information (mid-April to end of May).
- Enrolment is limited. Students who meet or exceed the minimum admission requirements may not necessarily be admitted to the program.
- Upon admission, students will be expected to be familiar with and adhere to the [Code of Ethics](#) of the Child and Youth Care Association of British Columbia and the [The Council of Canadian Child and Youth Care Associations](#).

Start Date and Application Deadline

The program starts in September and applications are accepted between October 3 and February 28. For further information regarding late applications and program contacts check the [Program Availability List](#).

Completion Requirements

To be eligible for a Bachelor of Arts in Child and Youth Care degree, students must have completed at least 120 university-level credits and have completed all required Child and Youth Care courses.

A minimum overall "C+" average and a minimum "C+" in each individual required course is necessary to progress in the program and to qualify for graduation. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that all requirements for the degree are met. Students are encouraged to consult the Child and Youth Care Program Advisor for information and guidance.

Bachelor of Arts in Child and Youth Care degrees are conferred at a convocation ceremony held in January or June of each year. Students who have completed all academic requirements qualifying them for a degree in Child and Youth Care must make a formal application for [graduation](#) through the their [online student record](#).

Program Outline

Below is a suggested schedule that is based on full-time attendance and includes all required courses. Not all courses are available in each academic year at each campus.

Note: All courses may not be available in each academic year at each campus. [CYC 111](#), [112](#), [200A](#), [200B](#), [201](#), [252A](#), [252B](#), [260B](#) and [265](#) may be taken prior to admission to the program where space is available and when prerequisites have been completed.

Note: Courses for the Child Protection option are listed separately.

Years 1 & 2

YEAR 1	Credits
CYC 111 - (Child Development I)	3
CYC 112 - (Child Development II)	3
CYC 200A - (Theoretical Foundations in Child and Youth Care)	3
CYC 201 - (Intro to Professional Child and Youth Care)	3
CYC 252A - (Interpersonal Communication Skills)	3
CYC 265 - (Intro to Group Work Practice in Professional Child and Youth Care)	3
Degree English Requirement	6
Electives	6
Total Credits	30

YEAR 2	Credits
CYC 200B - (Professional Foundations for Child and Youth Care)	6
CYC 210 - (Supervised Practicum)	9

CYC 252B - (Advanced Interpersonal Skills)	3
CYC 260B - (Adult and Family Development)	3
CYC 362 - (Child Abuse and Neglect Concerns)	3
Electives	6
Total Credits	30

Years 3 & 4

Year 3	Credits
CYC 301 - (Professional Child and Youth Care Practice: Theory and Application)	6
CYC 310 - (Supervised Practicum)	9
CYC 321 - (Contact and Colonization: Effects on First Nations Child Welfare)	3
CYC 350A - (Law and Social Services)	3
CYC 361 - (Introduction to Alcohol and Drug Clinical Practice)	3
Elective*	6
<i>Note: Students planning on taking the Child Protection option in Year 4 should select CYC 360K** - (Special Topics: Disability Issues), to meet the Year 3 elective requirement.</i>	
Total Credits	30

* Any university level course may be used as an elective.

** Students completing the Child Protection Specialization are required to complete [CYC 360K](#) with a minimum "C+" grade prior to commencing their Child Protection field placement in fourth year.

Year 4: in Year 4, students can select the regular core program or the Child Protection option. Those approved to pursue the [Child Protection Option](#) will complete a Practica placement with Ministry of Child and Family Development.

Year 4	Credits
CYC 410 - (Advanced Supervised Practicum)	9
CYC 411 - (Advanced Professional Child and Youth Care Practice: Theory, Research and Application)	6
CYC 466 - (Theory of Child and Youth Care Practice with Families)	3
HSD 425 - (Qualitative and Quantitative Analysis)	3
Students must take <i>two</i> courses from the following list: CYC 322 - (CYC First Nations Third Year Seminar) <i>or</i> , CYC 474 - (Child and Youth Care Practice with Individuals) <i>or</i> , CYC 475 - (Facilitating Groups with Children, Youth, and Caregivers) <i>or</i> , CYC 476 - (Child and Youth Care Practice with Families)	6
Elective*	3
Total Credits	30

* Any university level course may be used as an elective.

Year 4 - Child Protection Option	Credits
CYC 403 ** - (Introduction to Child Abuse and Neglect II)	3
CYC 410 - (Advanced Supervised Practicum) In an approved child protection agency	9
CYC 411 - (Advanced Professional Child and Youth Care Practice: Theory, Research and Application)	6

CYC 466 - (Theory of Child and Youth Care Practice with Families)	3
HSD 425 - (Qualitative and Quantitative Analysis)	3
Students must take <i>one</i> course from the following list: CYC 322 - (CYC First Nations Third Year Seminar) <i>or</i> , CYC 474 - (Child and Youth Care Practice with Individuals) <i>or</i> , CYC 475 - (Facilitating Groups with Children, Youth, and Caregivers) <i>or</i> , CYC 476 - (Child and Youth Care Practice with Families)	3
Elective*	3
Total Credits	30

* Any university-level course may be used as an elective.

** Students completing the Child Protection Specialization are required to complete CYC 403 with a minimum "C+" grade prior to commencing their Child Protection field placement. CYC 403 is open to all Child and Youth Care students.

Updated June 24, 2014

Vancouver Island University Calendar
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