



<b>SUBJECT</b>	Tuition   Certificate in General Arts: Experiential Learning through Social Justice
<b>SUBMITTED TO</b>	Finance Committee
<b>MEETING DATE</b>	February 6, 2020
<b>SESSION CLASSIFICATION</b>	Session criteria from Board Meetings Policy: OPEN
<b>ACTION REQUESTED</b>	Please indicate requested Board action: Decision requested: approval of proposed resolution IT IS HEREBY REQUESTED that the Finance Committee, on behalf of the UBC Board of Governors, approve tuition for Fraser Valley Institute students in the new Certificate in General Arts: Experiential Learning Through Social Justice at rates aligned with Access Studies students which for 2020-2021 are assessed at \$183.56 per credit for domestic students and \$1,374.02 per credit for international students. UBC students taking courses towards the Certificate will be assessed tuition fees based on their program. All fees are subject to annual increases as approved by the Board.
<b>SUBMISSION DATE</b>	January 10, 2020
<b>EXECUTIVE PROPONENT</b>	Provost and Vice-President, Academic (UBC Vancouver)
<b>PRESENTED BY</b>	Andrew Szeri, Provost and Vice-President, Academic (UBC Vancouver)
<b>SUPPORTED BY</b>	Pam Ratner, Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President Enrolment & Academic Facilities Simon Bates, Associate Provost Teaching & Learning

**PRIOR SUBMISSIONS**

The Subject matter of this submission has not previously been considered by the Finance Committee.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The *Certificate in General Arts: Experiential Learning Through Social Justice* is proposed to enable Fraser Valley Institute (FVI) students and currently enrolled UBC students to learn together in existing UBC courses offered at FVI. UBC students are not in the class to 'help' incarcerated students but will be attending weekly university classes with those who are incarcerated, as peers. This collaborative scholarly inquiry offers opportunities to learn the material of the course as well as understanding the complexities of criminalization and punishment through lived experiences. This is a transformational educational experience that draws upon lived experience as a source of theorizing as well as challenging the artificial boundaries between people experiencing imprisonment and those who are not.

The program is open to those currently incarcerated at FVI and UBC students who take courses at FVI and will be achieved by completing 9 credits from any 1st, 2nd, 3rd, or 4th year UBC offered at FVI. The target FVI learner is a prisoner who is motivated to take a series of post-secondary education courses and has been selected by the instructor of each course through an interview process. Classes will be composed of a maximum of 10 UBC and 10 FVI students, optimally an equal number of each.

The program is modelled on the [Walls to Bridges](#) (W2B) program, which was founded at Wilfred Laurier University in 2011. As of January 2019, ten Canadian universities, including the University of Toronto, have established partnerships with correctional facilities and the program was recommended by the Office of the Correctional Investigator in their 2017-2018 Annual Report.

All UBC instructors teaching within the certificate program will be trained in the W2B pedagogy. Wilfrid Laurier University, in partnership with Grand Valley Institution for Women, offers an annual W2B Instructor Training Institute. A small and expanding number of UBC faculty have already taken the W2B training. In line with this being a Certificate in General Arts a wide range of topics will be offered. At the moment, faculty from Geography, Theatre, Math and the Institute of Gender, Race, Sexuality and Social Justice are committed to teaching courses towards this certificate; three have already received requisite training.

This certificate is strongly aligned with several strategies of the University's Strategic Plan including [Strategy 16: Public Relevance](#) by providing opportunities for FVI students to earn university credit and [Strategy 13: Practical Learning](#) by providing UBC students opportunities for experiential learning.

In developing the program, a PhD student in Geography was involved from the early stages of development. The Vice-President, Students Office, in partnership with the Faculty of Arts, conducted student consultations regarding the tuition proposal (as per Policy LR4). The e-consultation was conducted from August 12, 2019 to September 12, 2019. A submission responding to the tuition proposal was received from the AMS.

Pending approval by the Board of Governors, the first course for the certificate will be offered in September 2020. FVI students taking courses will be registered as Access students and will be assessed the same tuition fees as other UBC Access students. For 2020-2021 those rates are \$183.56 per credit for domestic students and \$1,374.02 per credit for international students. The Faculty of Arts will pay all assessed tuition and any applicable textbook expenses for FVI students. UBC students registered in courses towards the certificate will be assessed tuition fees based on their program.

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## SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

1. Tuition and Fee Assessment Details
2. Student Tuition Consultation Report

## Tuition and Fee Assessment Details

**Program Description:** Certificate in General Arts: Experiential Learning through Social Justice

**Anticipated Start Date:** September 2020

	Domestic	International
Tuition fees per credit – Note 1	\$183.56	\$1,374.02
Application Fees (Undergraduate) – Note 2	N/A	N/A

Note 1 – Students from the Fraser Valley Institute will be registered as Access students. Tuition fees noted above are aligned with the approved 2020/21 fees for Access studies students. Proposed tuition will be subject to annual increases as established by the university. The Faculty of Arts will pay all assessed tuition and any applicable textbook expenses for FVI students. UBC students participating in the program will be assessed tuition fees based on their program rather than the amounts listed above.

Note 2 – The application fee for this program will be waived for students from both the Fraser Valley Institute and UBC.

**CERTIFICATE IN GENERAL ARTS STUDIES**  
**STUDENT TUITION CONSULTATION REPORT**

The Vice-President, Students Office, in partnership with the Faculty of Arts, conducted a student consultation regarding the tuition proposal for the Certificate in General Arts Studies. This report outlines the consultation process and summarizes student feedback including the student representatives' submission verbatim in Appendix 2.

**Student Representative Bodies Invited to the Consultation**

- Alma Mater Society (AMS)

**Mode of Consultation**

The consultation consisted of an e-consultation and a face-to-face meeting. Student representative groups were invited to the consultation through email, and asked to distribute the invitation to their constituents as they felt appropriate. Student representative groups were also offered a face-to-face meeting to discuss the tuition proposal. A meeting was not requested by student representatives.

**Basis of Consultation:** The consultation was based on a tuition proposal and rationale document created by the Faculty of Arts. Please see Appendix 1 for the invitation and tuition rationale document.

**Timelines:** The e-consultation was conducted over the period of August 12<sup>th</sup> 2019 to September 12<sup>th</sup> 2019.

**Summary of Student Feedback:** Submissions were received from the AMS. The verbatim submission is in Appendix 2.

Organization	Summary
<b>AMS</b>	<p><b>SUPPORT FOR PROGRAM AND TUITION</b> “The AMS is in favour of the proposed tuition for ‘inside’ students, which are assessed on a per-credit basis at the same rate as existing tuition fees for all other UBC Access students. Additionally, we are pleased to see that these tuition costs and course material expenses for ‘inside’ students will be funded by the Faculty of Arts.”</p> <p><b>CONSIDER TRANSIT COSTS FOR ‘OUTSIDE STUDENTS’</b> “Given the significant travel involved for ‘outside students’ from UBC to FVI (approximately 2.5 hours by transit), the AMS would encourage the Faculty of Arts to provide travel stipends or coordinate taxi service for these students.”</p>

No individual student submissions were received.

## **APPENDIX 1: INVITATION TO CONSULTATION AND TUITION RATIONALE DOCUMENT**

Good afternoon,

There is a proposal by the Faculty of Arts to create a Certificate in General Arts Studies.

In order to inform the program leads and the Board of Governors with regards to the **tuition proposal** for this program, the University is undertaking a consultative process to get your comments as student representatives, and provide an opportunity for students to provide individual comments on the tuition proposal if they wish. **Please note: the scope of this consultation process is limited to the tuition proposal.**

The consultation will consist of:

### **1. e-consultation**

Please find attached a document which outlines the details of the tuition proposal, including:

- an overview of the program,
- the tuition rationale for the program, and
- the proposed tuition.

Please share the document and this email as you see appropriate. **Comments on the tuition proposal and student organization submissions can be provided confidentially to Natasha Moore - Analyst, Vice President Students Office ([natasha.moore@ubc.ca](mailto:natasha.moore@ubc.ca)).**

### **2. Face to Face meeting**

If requested by student representatives, we can arrange a face-to-face meeting with the program leads regarding this tuition proposal. Please advise as soon as possible if you would like us to arrange a meeting.

**THE CONSULTATION PROCESS WILL END ON THURSDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2019**

### **Confidentiality**

Comments will be collected by the Vice-President Students Office, and only analysts within that office will know the identity of individual students submitting comments. At no time will anyone outside of the Vice President Students Office know the identity of individual students who submit comments to this consultation. Your comments will only be used for the purposes of the tuition consultation.

Comments from individual students will be stripped of any identifying information to ensure confidentiality, but otherwise will be provided to the responsible program leads and Board of Governors verbatim.

Comments received from student organizations will be reported as coming from those organizations, and provided to the responsible faculty and Board of Governors as received. There will also be a summary report of the consultation developed for the Faculty and Board of Governors.

If you have any questions about this process, please contact Natasha Moore ([natasha.moore@ubc.ca](mailto:natasha.moore@ubc.ca)).

Please let me know if you have any questions about the process.

Thank you

Natasha

## CERTIFICATE IN GENERAL ARTS STUDIES – TUITION CONSULTATION

### PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Certificate in General Arts Studies is being created to enable potential Fraser Valley Institute (FVI) students (hereafter: ‘inside students’) and students enrolled at UBC (hereafter: ‘outside students’) to learn together in existing UBC courses. This certificate is available only to FVI students. UBC students will get UBC credit for the course. The certificate is part of an innovative partnership between UBC and FVI. It offers UBC students and prisoners incarcerated at FVI the opportunity to take courses and learn together as peers in classrooms at FVI. Classes will be a mix of half UBC and half incarcerated students. FVI students are admitted through the [UBC Access registration process](#).

The courses offered towards this certificate come from a variety of departments across the university, with approximately one course offered each year. The certificate offers students an experiential and intensive way of learning that is based in the [Walls to Bridges](#) program model. Students will be immersed in courses that integrate academic instruction with small group discussion and deep reflection on the course content in relation to everyday experiences.

UBC students will get academic credit for the course taken towards their degree. Courses offered at FVI are listed on the Geography department webpage. For information on the application process students can visit <https://www.geog.ubc.ca/undergraduate/learning-opportunities/fraser-valley-institute>

Both UBC and FVI students apply to the course instructor for course admission. Admission is based on readiness to respectfully engage everyone in the class as equals, level of maturity, an openness to breaking down stereotypes about “us” and “them” and an openness to non-traditional and collaborative learning.

‘Outside’ students are not in the class to ‘help’ incarcerated students but will be attending university class with those who are incarcerated, as peers. This collaborative scholarly inquiry offers opportunities to learn the material of the course as well as understanding the complexities of criminalization and punishment through lived experiences and intersectional analyses. This is a transformational educational experience which draws upon lived experience as a source of theorizing as well as challenges the artificial boundaries between people experiencing imprisonment and those who are not.

All courses towards this certificate are already established UBC courses delivered in a classroom at FVI. UBC students are required to arrange for transportation to FVI. Classes will be composed of a maximum of 10 UBC and 10 FVI students, optimally an equal number of each. The certificate program is modelled on the Walls to Bridges (W2B) program, which was founded at Wilfred Laurier University in 2011. As of January 2019, **ten** Canadian universities, including the University of Toronto, have established partnerships with correctional facilities and are [offering W2B classes](#) and the programme was recommended by the Office of the Correctional Investigator in their 2017/18 Annual Report. Inside and outside students attend weekly classes together within the prison setting.

The certificate (available to FVI students only) will be achieved by completing 9 credits from any 1st, 2nd, 3rd, or 4th year UBC offered FVI.

### STUDENT CONSULTATION DURING THE PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

A Ph.D. student in Geography, Kirsten McIlveen, has been involved in the creation of this certificate program from the beginning stages of development.

<b>PROPOSED TUITION AND FEES</b>
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Inside students taking courses toward the Certificate in General Arts Studies will be registered as Access students. Courses taught at FVI will be assessed the same tuition fees as other UBC Access students. For 2019/20, Access studies students are assessed the following fees on a per-credit basis:

Program	Domestic per-credit rate (Undergraduate-level courses)	Domestic per-credit rate (Law courses)	Domestic per-credit rate (Graduate-level courses 500+)	International per-credit rate
Access Studies	179.97	\$403.74	\$423.96	\$1,321.18

Outside students will be assessed tuition fees based on their program.

There are no additional fees associated with FVI courses for UBC students. UBC students will be required to arrange transportation to the prison.

The Faculty of Arts will pay all assessed tuition and any applicable textbook expenses for FVI students.

## APPENDIX 2: STUDENT SUBMISSIONS

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There was a submission from the AMS.



### **Submission to the UBC Board of Governors regarding the Tuition for the Certificate in General Arts Studies**

September 12th, 2019

Dear Board of Governors,

This submission is made on behalf of the Alma Mater Society of UBC Vancouver (AMS) in response to the feedback request from the Vice President Students Office on tuition for the Certificate in General Art Studies.

The AMS supports this collaborative and experiential learning opportunity for incarcerated prisoners at the Fraser Valley Institute (FVI) and enrolled UBC students to learn together as peers in the classroom. Modelled after the successful Walls to Bridges (W2B) program, this program will be an important addition to the existing partnerships that correctional facilities have developed with Canadian universities for collaborative scholarly inquiry.

The AMS is in favour of the proposed tuition for 'inside' students, which are assessed on a per-credit basis at the same rate as existing tuition fees for all other UBC Access students. Additionally, we are pleased to see that these tuition costs and course material expenses for 'inside' students will be funded by the Faculty of Arts. Given the significant travel involved for 'outside students' from UBC to FVI (approximately 2.5 hours by transit), the AMS would encourage the Faculty of Arts to provide travel stipends or coordinate taxi service for these students. Furthermore, The AMS looks forward to being updated on bursaries and scholarships for this program for 'outside students' to continue ensuring its accessibility to students of all income levels.

The AMS thanks the University for soliciting student input in this process. We look forward to the implementation of the Certificate of Art Studies and its innovative program design.

Sincerely,

**Christopher Hakim**  
President  
AMS Student Society of UBC Vancouver  
president@ams.ubc.ca

**Julia Burnham**  
Vice President Academic and University Affairs  
AMS Student Society of UBC Vancouver  
vpacademic@ams.ubc.ca