

## LETTER OF AGREEMENT

Between

Vancouver Island University

And

Okanagan College

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### TRANSFER CREDIT AGREEMENT TO

### VANCOUVER ISLAND UNIVERSITY'S BSc Major in Biology

This Letter of Agreement constitutes an agreement between Vancouver Island University (VIU) and Okanagan College (OC). The participating units at the respective institutions are the Faculty of Science and Technology / Biology Department at VIU and Science and Technology at Okanagan College.

It is agreed that the parties of this agreement shall meet the following conditions:

1. Graduates of Okanagan College / Associate of Science Degree, Biology Emphasis will be granted up to 71 credits of advanced standing toward the Bachelor of Science / Major in Biology program at VIU provided all other entrance criteria are met, and space remains available in the related program of study. Entrance to all VIU programs is on a competitive basis. For admission criteria, refer to – <https://www.viu.ca/programs/science-and-technology/biology-bsc>
2. In order to achieve the Bachelor of Science / Major in Biology, students must successfully complete the two-year Okanagan College / Associate of Science Degree, Biology Emphasis. Specific Okanagan College courses and transfer credits to be granted by Vancouver Island University are as per the BC Transfer Guide and listed in Appendix A.
3. Applicants, provided for under this agreement, will provide an official transcript documenting completion of the above-named diploma program.
4. Upon admission to the VIU Bachelor of Science / Major in Biology program, students will consult with an advisor to plan the selection of at least 60 credits of degree completion course work. Students must also satisfy VIU's English and breadth requirements. Refer to the requirements under "Program Outline" at - <https://www.viu.ca/programs/science-and-technology/biology-bsc>

5. Admitted Okanagan College students will be given registration priority which will afford them similar status to other continuing VIU students.
6. Both parties agree to communicate this agreement in a public manner through their respective websites.
7. This Letter of Agreement recognizes Okanagan College / Associate of Science Degree, Biology Emphasis graduates completing June 2025 onward. The agreement will be reviewed every five years, commencing June 2025, by the undersigned and/or their designates for continued content and applied skill development compatibility.
8. Any changes in curriculum or program content, of either party, from the current (June 2025) programs will entail a review and potential revisions to this Letter of Agreement.
9. This Letter of Agreement may be ended by either party upon written notice of thirty days.



June 16, 2025

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Dr. Claire Grogan, Acting Vice-President, Academic, Vancouver Island University

Date



June 2, 2025

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Dr. Todd Barsby, Acting Dean, Science and Technology, Vancouver Island University

Date



June 2, 2025

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Dr. Caroline Josefsson, Chair, Biology Department, Vancouver Island University

Date



June 26, 2025

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Dr. Halia Valladares Montemayor, Dean, Science and Technology, Okanagan College

Date

## APPENDIX A – Course Equivalencies

NOTE: Credit values are noted in parentheses.

<b>Okanagan College</b>	<b>Vancouver Island University</b>
BIOL111 (3) Biology for Science Majors I	BIOL 123 (4) Introduction to Cellular and Molecular Biology
BIOL121 (3) Biology for Science Majors II	BIOL 121 (4) Introductory Zoology
CHEM111 (3) Principles of Chemistry I, or CHEM112 (3) Introductory Chemistry I	CHEM 140 (4) Chemistry Fundamentals I
CHEM121 (3) Principles of Chemistry II, or CHEM122 (3) Introductory Chemistry II	CHEM 142 (4) Chemistry Fundamentals II
Any two of the following courses: ENGL100 (3) University Writing ENGL150 (3) Critical Writing and Reading: Poetry and Drama ENGL151 (3) Critical Writing and Reading: Short Fiction and the Novel ENGL153 (3) Critical Writing and Reading: Narrative <sup>1</sup> ENGL156 (3) Critical Writing and Reading: Indigenous Narratives <sup>1</sup>	Transfer credits will be granted for the corresponding VIU courses as per the BC Transfer Guide: ENGL 115 (3) University Writing and Research, ENGL 125 (3) Literature and Culture ENGL 127 (3) Literature and Culture: Indigenous Focus ENGL 135 (3) Literature and Criticism
MATH112 (3) Calculus I	MATH 121 (4) Calculus I
MATH122 (3) Calculus II	MATH 122 (4) Calculus II
PHYS112 (3) Introductory Physics I	PHYS 111 (4) Physics for the Life Sciences I
PHYS122 (3) Introductory Physics II	PHYS 112 (4) Physics for the Life Sciences II
Any six (6) of the following:  BIOL202 (3) Elementary Applied Statistics BIOL203 (3) Introduction to Ecology BIOL211 (3) Cell Biology BIOL220 (3) Introductory Biochemistry BIOL224 (3) Principles of Genetics BIOL228 (3) Introductory Microbiology BIOL251 (3) Vascular Plants	Transfer credits will be granted for the corresponding VIU courses as per the BC Transfer Guide: BIOL 2ND (3), exempt MATH 203 (0) Biometrics BIOL 202 (3) Ecology BIOL 200 (3) Introduction to Cell Biology BIOL 201 (3) Principles of Biochemistry I BIOL 212 (3) Genetics BIOL 210 (4) Microbiology BIOL 2ND (3), exempt BIOL 223 (0) Botany
CHEM212 (3) Organic Chemistry I, and CHEM222 (3) Organic Chemistry II	CHEM 231 (4) Organic Chemistry I, and CHEM 232 (4) Organic Chemistry II
6 credits of Arts	6 credits of Non-Science Elective
TOTAL: 60 credits	TOTAL: 71 credits

**NOTES:**

1. Only one of OC ENGL153 or ENGL156 may be counted for credits towards the VIU Bachelor of Science.