



Alexander College



## English as a Second Language Program

[www.alexandercollege.ca](http://www.alexandercollege.ca)



Vancouver, BC, Canada

# Welcome to Vancouver



One of the best climates in Canada



Ranked one of the best cities to live in the world



BC Transfer System and university pathways



Fabulous natural environments with mountains and lakes



Excellent transportation system



High quality education



Safe and clean city with high standard of living



A diverse and multicultural city



# Welcome to Alexander College



Advising support in a variety of languages



Academic pathways to higher education



Health and Wellness Support



Campuses in Downtown Vancouver and Burnaby



Free Tutoring Services



Friendly Environment



Caring and experienced staff and faculty



Academic Support

# Introducing the English as a Second Language Program

Through regular program assessment and review of student feedback, we observed that our early English language learners needed to develop fundamental language skills prior to the introduction of academic concepts, e.g. essay writing, which are introduced in the EAP program.

We listened to our students, and have completely revamped the lower levels of our EAP program into a contemporary and energized foundational ESL program.

The AC ESL program offers a student-centered and interactive approach to English language acquisition. The program has been designed for beginner to intermediate-level students, and replaces the lower levels (ENGL 095-097) of the English for Academic Purposes program (EAP).

## Our Curriculum

The AC ESL curriculum was developed by starting with the fundamental learning outcomes and working backwards, bringing the English language to life through the creation of an interactive learning experience.

The program's goal is to engage students in skill-based active learning that focuses on the most effective ways to evolve their language proficiency.

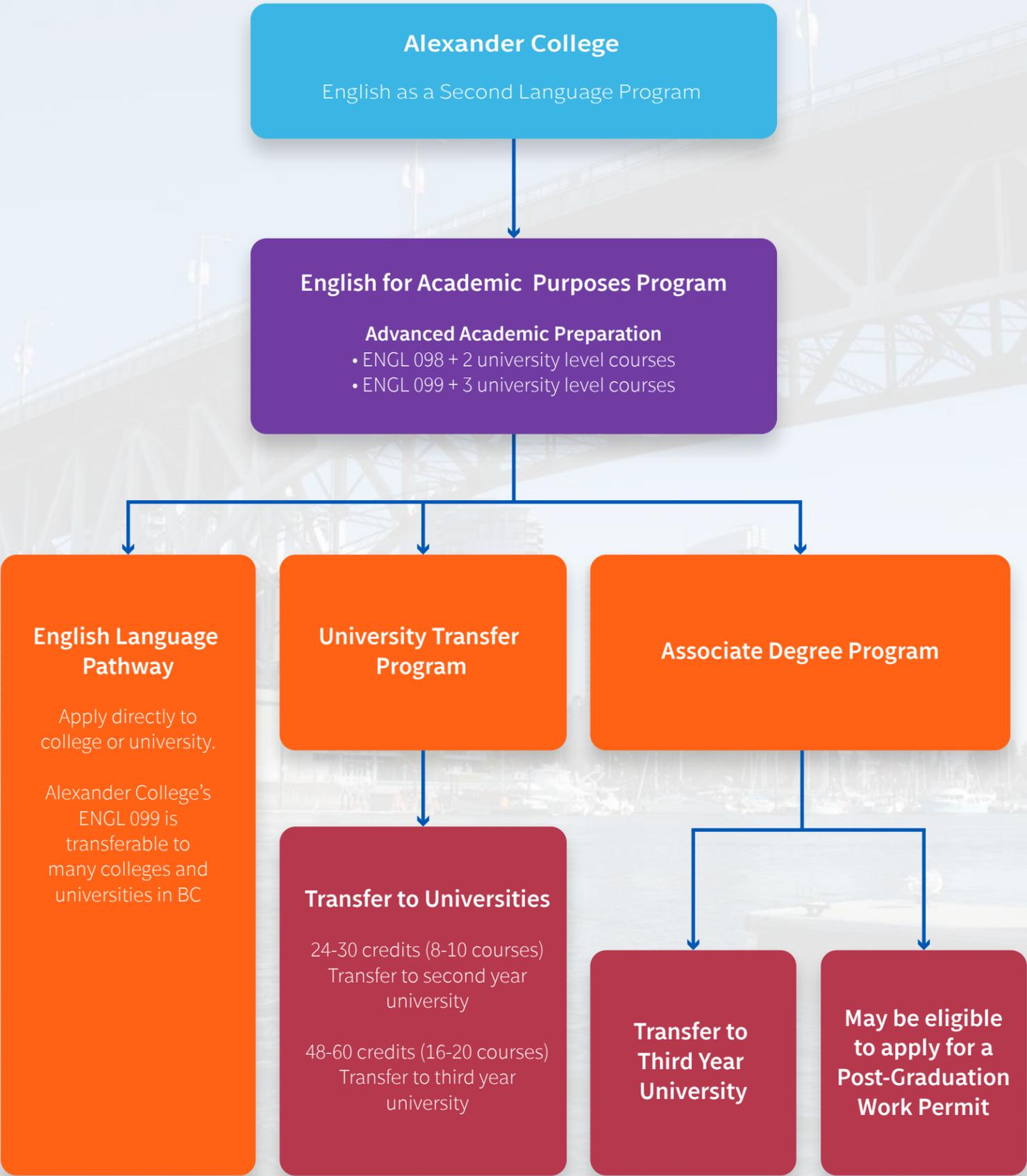


## Building Confidence

Language learners tend to judge their language acquisition based on their speaking progression, therefore the AC ESL program aims to increase a student's confidence in speaking English through practice and setting attainable goals. Our program intends to create a personalized and creative learning experience by addressing and focusing on common learner errors, real world situations, practical writing tasks, and active participation.

## Practice Skills

Ultimately, we offer a unique and energized program that not only enhances student's English language skills, but also teaches students how to employ these language skills in their everyday lives. After successful completion of this program, the student will have achieved an intermediate level of language proficiency.



# Pathway Lists

**Alexander College's ENGL 099 fulfills the English language proficiency requirement for admission to many colleges and universities in British Columbia, including:**

- British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT)
- Camosun College (CAMO)
- Capilano University (CAPU)
- College of the Rockies (COTR)
- Douglas College (DOUG)
- Kwantlen Polytechnic University (KPU)
- Langara College (LANG)
- North Island College (NIC)
- Okanagan College (OC)
- Selkirk College (SELK)
- Thompson Rivers University (TRU)
- University of British Columbia (UBC)
- University of the Fraser Valley (UFV)
- University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC)
- University of Victoria (UVIC)
- Vancouver Community College (VCC)
- Vancouver Island University (VIU)

**Alexander College's ENGL 100 is transferrable to many colleges and universities in British Columbia, including:**

- Camosun College (CAMO)
- Capilano University (CAPU)
- Coast Mountain College (CMTN)
- College of New Caledonia (CNC)
- College of the Rockies (COTR)
- Emily Carr University (EC)
- Fairleigh Dickinson University (FDU)
- Kwantlen Polytechnic University (KPU)
- Langara College (LAN)
- North Island College (NIC)
- Nicola Valley Institute of Technology (NVIT)
- Okanagan College (OC)
- Simon Fraser University (SFU)
- Thompson Rivers University (TRU)
- Trinity Western University (TWU)
- University of British Columbia, Vancouver (UBC-V)
- University of British Columbia, Okanagan (UBC-O)
- University of the Fraser Valley (UFV)
- University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC)
- University of Victoria (UVIC)
- Vancouver Island University (VIU)

**Additional requirements may apply. Please check with the college or university for specific admission requirements.**

# Urban Experience

## Vancouver Campus

Located in the centre of downtown Vancouver, on the corner of Seymour and West Hastings Street. This is a prime location in the heart of Vancouver's downtown core, just steps away from world class shopping, entertainment districts, and tourist attractions. For a convenient commute, the Vancouver campus is located just one block from the Vancouver Waterfront SkyTrain station.

## Burnaby Campus

Located in Burnaby's downtown centre, known as Metrotown. This location is less than one block from the province's largest shopping centre, Metrotown Shopping Centre, and short walking distance to Burnaby Central Park. The Burnaby campus is also conveniently located a few short blocks from the Metrotown SkyTrain station.





# A Truly Canadian College Experience



Learning English and setting the foundation for one's academic journey should be an exciting experience that continuously challenges and stimulates the desire for learning, but most of all, it should be fun!

## Student Association

Alexander College's Student Association (ACSA) and Student Life Office are dedicated to offering frequent and fun activities, tours, and volunteer opportunities to ensure that students have a fulfilling experience in Canada.

## Tours and Activities include:

- Capilano Suspension Bridge Parks
- Grouse Mountain
- Stanley Park and Seawall
- Cycling in Vancouver
- Food Culture and Cuisine
- Science World
- Vancouver Aquarium
- Cultural Celebrations
- Sports Events
- Short Trips



# Writing and Learning Centre

Alexander College provides students with free one-to-one tutoring services for all levels of the ESL program, as well as for all university-level courses. Our goal is to help students to develop their core academic skills and be able to apply them across all disciplines and in everyday life.

## Free Tutoring Service

Our tutors have an excellent track record of helping students to achieve better academic results by providing customized learning support in every subject.

# Academic Advising

Students enrolled in Alexander College's ESL program will have access to our Academic Advising service. Our Advisors will assist students to understand the program structure, and provide support in planning for their academic future.

On completion of our ESL program, students may have an interest in continuing their academic studies by applying to one of our undergraduate programs, such as the University Transfer program, or an Associate of Arts or Science degree program. Our Academic Advisors will provide program advice and information, as well as assist students with course planning.

# Health and Wellness

Alexander College's Registered Clinical Counselor provides free Health and Wellness Counseling services at both campus locations. The service is designed to provide students with a safe, supportive, and confidential space in which to discuss issues that may be causing distress and personal struggle.

All students at Alexander College have access to the My SSP app.

## My SSP App

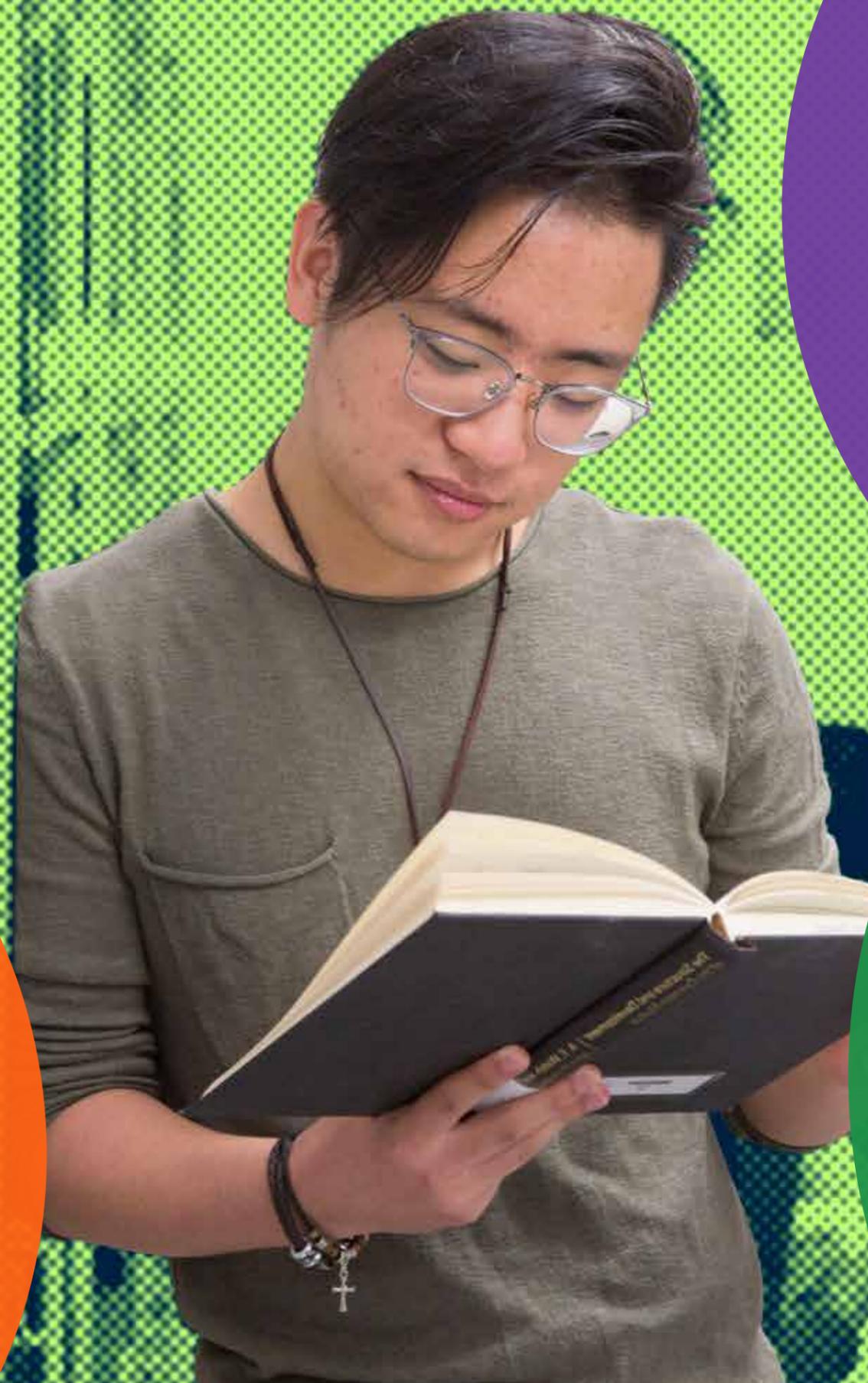
With My SSP, students are able to access free, immediate, and confidential counselling services. Students can use the program anytime, anywhere, 24 /7 to connect with a counsellor who speaks their language, understands their culture, and can work with them to succeed while studying abroad or at home.

# Weekly Certification Tutorials

Our ESL programs are based around preparing our AC students for success in Cambridge Proficiency Level Examinations. Each of our levels employ a weekly workshop that allows our students to specifically prepare and focus to write the Cambridge Proficiency Exams.

Our newly developed program revolves around not just English language skill evolution, but specific preparation to excel at Cambridge English Qualifications at these levels.

These include: Young Learners exams and A2 Key for Schools. CEFR Level B1–B2 (independent level). Cambridge English Qualifications at this level include: B1 Preliminary for Schools and B2 First for Schools. CEFR Level C1–C2 (proficient level). Our weekly Certification tutorials are designed to give extra direction to those AC EASL students that wish to pursue official Cambridge Proficiency Exam Certification.



# myAC Student Portal and Canvas

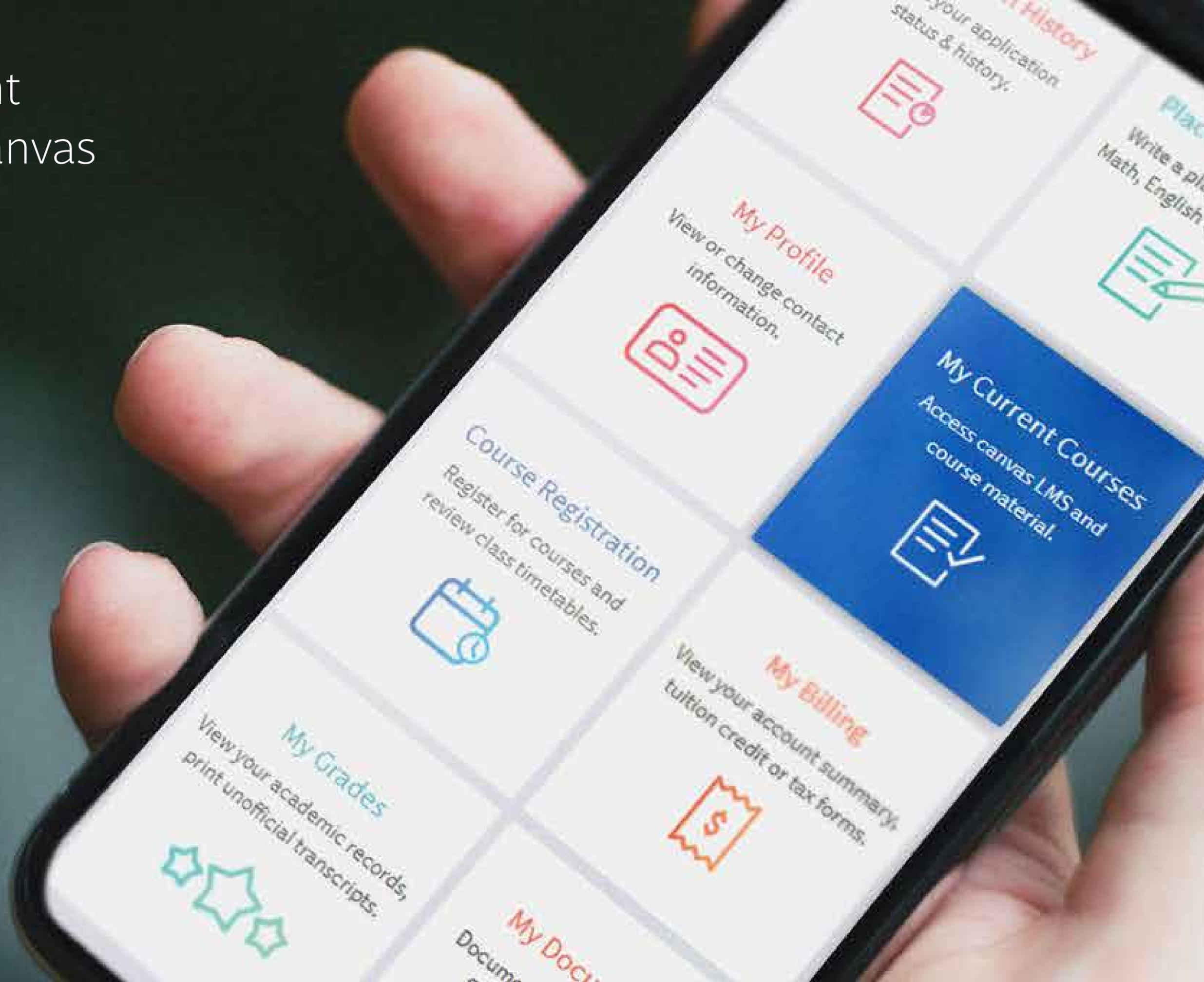
Alexander College students are supported by two internet-based systems, a student information system myAC and a learning management system called Canvas.

## myAC Student Portal

The myAC student portal allows students to manage their student account, including personal and contact information, course registration, placement test booking, grades and transcripts, official letters, financial accounts, and more.

## Canvas

The Canvas learning management system is a digital platform that connects students to their course content and instructor(s). Using their Canvas account, students can access their course content and materials, submit assignments, and connect with classmates and the course instructor.





# Alexander College Student Association

Alexander College's Student Association (ACSA) is a group of students united by a desire to make a positive difference in the lives of other students.

As a member of ACSA, students have the opportunity to develop leadership skills and play an integral role in the enhancement of student life at AC. ACSA volunteer experience may be beneficial when applying for further study and career opportunities.



# Student Spotlights

Describe your experience learning English at Alexander College



**Faranak Rahmati**  
Iran

*“Even though English wasn't my first language, it really helped to improve my conversations and meeting people speaking with the staff and teachers.”*



**Caroline Jiang**  
China

*“The first time I arrived here, I barely spoke English and through AC I was able to improve a lot. I really enjoyed the experience with the Writing and Learning Centre.”*



**Leo Lee**  
Korea

*“At first it was pretty challenging to adjust to the language in Canada but through communicating with friends and teachers I was able to build my English skills.”*



**Dayana Radatz Suris**  
Brazil

*“The English classes are crucial for me, especially because they are helping me to develop my writing, listening and speaking skills, besides of increasing my self-confidence to express myself better in Canada.”*

# Cultural Diversity

Alexander College recruits students from more than 50 different countries to study in Canada. Your class will be filled with students from diverse backgrounds and cultures, helping you to grow an international network and become a global citizen.



## Application Procedure for ESL Program

- ✓ Complete the Online Application for Admission: [www.alexandercollege.ca/apply](http://www.alexandercollege.ca/apply)
- ✓ Pay the \$200 CAD Application Fee
- ✓ Complete the English Placement Test

# ESL Levels and Duration

There are 6 levels of ESL at AC. Each level involves a 7-week program of 20 hours per week of study.



## English Foundations I EASL 068

This is the foundational course in the ESL series. At this level, a student may have no prior knowledge of English and will learn the basics, so they are able to communicate simple needs. Students will learn to communicate words and ideas and understand concepts when spoken slowly and clearly. They will also learn to recognize and write letters, numbers, short words, and very short, simple phrases related to everyday situations.

## English Foundations II EASL 069

At this level, students continue to build foundational skills and are learning to master the basics of English, so they can interact with others in a simple way. Students will learn how to use familiar everyday expressions, how to ask and answer questions about personal details, and how to write personal information. Students are beginning to guess the meaning of unknown words in texts and use visual clues. They are developing an understanding of simple language structures, everyday vocabulary, and can use these to construct simple sentences about personal experiences.

## Beginner I EASL 078

At this level, students are introduced to the language and skills needed to communicate and understand basic information about common everyday activities, experiences, wants and needs in small group settings. Students learn to identify the purpose, main ideas, and some specific details in texts, and also to write multi-sentence compositions with a developing understanding of spelling, punctuation, and capitalization.

## Beginner II EASL 079

At this level, students are introduced to frequently used expressions related to their personal areas of interest, and are able to communicate in conversations and in simple forms of written communication. Students can understand key words, phrases and the overall meaning of short texts related to familiar topics. Students learn to use more complex grammatical structures, mechanics, and topic-specific vocabulary.

## Intermediate I EASL 088

At this level, students learn to maintain small group discussions and build their fluency, developing strategies for responding to moderately complex communication styles and settings. Students also learn to describe experiences and events, dreams, hopes, and ambitions and briefly give reasons and explanations for opinions and plans with clear pronunciation. Finally, students learn to identify the purpose, main ideas, important details, links between paragraphs, and styles in texts. The course builds on vocabulary and grammatical structures, so students are able to produce simple connected paragraphs on topics which are familiar or of personal interest.

## Intermediate II EASL 089

At this level, students learn to extract the main ideas from texts, and to engage in more complex discussions about their areas of interest. The course covers a range of vocabulary, which includes idioms and colloquial expressions. Students build fluency and spontaneity through regular interaction with other speakers. They produce clear, detailed writing on a wide range of subjects and learn to express their point of view by writing about a topical issue, citing the advantages and disadvantages of various options with proper mechanics.



# English for Academic Purposes Program – EAP

The English for Academic Purposes Program (EAP) is a preparatory program designed to develop core English language skills within a post-secondary context. The courses are designed to develop students' academic study and participation skills, while improving their English skills to a level that will lead to success in university courses.

## **EAP Levels and Duration**

The EAP program consists of two levels, ENGL 098 and ENGL 099, each focusing on language learning through academic subjects such as Film Studies, History, Literature, Philosophy, Science, and Sociology. Each EAP level has a duration of 14 weeks, comprised of 10-15 hours of study per week.

## **University Pathway**

Students who intend to pursue post-secondary studies in Canada may also begin to enrol for college/university-level courses while enrolled in the EAP program.

**ENGL 098 + up to 2 college/university-level courses**

**ENGL 099 + up to 3 college/university-level courses**



# University Transfer Program

In the University Transfer Program, students are able to explore their academic interests through first and second-year courses which may be transferred to colleges/universities for admission to the second or third year of a Bachelor's Degree program.

## Transfer Across British Columbia

Alexander College is a member of the British Columbia Council on Admissions and Transfer (BCCAT) system and has established transfer agreements with colleges and universities across British Columbia, including the most prestigious universities in the province.

The guide is available online:  
[www.bctransferguide.ca](http://www.bctransferguide.ca)

## Transferable Specialization Areas

Examples include but are not limited to the following:

### Arts

- Anthropology
- English
- Philosophy
- Geography
- Political Science
- Asian Studies
- History
- Psychology
- Modern Languages
- Film Studies
- Communications
- Economics
- Literature
- Sociology

### Business

- Accounting
- HR Management
- Marketing
- Finance
- Operations Management

### Science

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Computer Sciences
- Pre-Engineering
- Mathematics



High School or Post-secondary



- Examples:
- 24-30 credits (8-10 courses)**  
Transfer to second year university
  - 48-60 credits (16-20 courses)**  
Transfer to third year university

- University
- Examples:
- University of British Columbia
  - Simon Fraser University
  - University of Victoria
  - Kwantlen Polytechnic University
  - University of the Fraser Valley
  - University of Northern BC
  - Capilano University
  - Royal Roads University
  - Thompson Rivers University
  - Vancouver Island University

# Associate Degree Programs

The Associate Degree program is a foundational degree consisting of 60-64 credits, typically completed over a 2-year period. The program provides a comprehensive learning experience that also allows students to customize and focus their coursework in an area of personal interest.

## Options After Graduation

On completion of an Associate Degree program, students may choose to either enter the workforce or continue their studies in pursuit of a Bachelor's Degree.

## Post Graduation Work Permit

International students completing an Associate Degree program may be eligible to apply for a Post-Graduation Work Permit (visit [www.cic.gc.ca](http://www.cic.gc.ca) for details).

## Available Concentrations:

- Associate of Arts Degree
- Associate of Arts (Business) Degree
- Associate of Arts (Economics) Degree
- Associate of Arts (Psychology) Degree
- Associate of Arts (Sociology) Degree
- Associate of Science



## Associate of Arts Degree

The Associate of Arts Degree program is designed to provide broad-based knowledge and experiences in preparation for entering the workforce, or as a foundation for further undergraduate study. Students within the Associate of Arts Degree program will gain multi-disciplinary knowledge in the faculties of arts, humanities, and social sciences, and develop their critical thinking and research skills. The program provides a comprehensive learning experience that also allows students to customize their coursework in order to focus on an area of personal interest.

## Associate of Science Degree

Students within the Associate of Science Degree program will gain multi-disciplinary knowledge of natural and applied sciences, and develop their critical thinking and research skills. The program provides a comprehensive learning experience that also allows students to customize and focus their coursework in an area of personal interest such as biology, chemistry, computer science, mathematics, or physics.



*Alexander College*

[www.alexandercollege.ca](http://www.alexandercollege.ca)



### **Burnaby Campus**

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### **Vancouver Campus**

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