

BSc ENVIRONMENTAL AND CONSERVATION SCIENCES

FACULTY OF AGRICULTURAL, LIFE, AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

UPDATED FEBRUARY 2012

This Academic Planning Guide highlights major points only regarding admission and transfer. Students are advised to read the university and RDC calendars, and the Alberta Transfer Guide for other necessary information. Some courses listed may have prerequisites; refer to [Course Descriptions](#). Access this guide online: www.rdc.ab.ca/academic_advising.

The BSc in Environmental and Conservation Sciences program is for students interested in the natural world, its management, conservation and ecological perspectives. Graduates have a strong background in basic and applied sciences. They are able to evaluate effects of human land use on plant, soil, water, animal, and human resources and to assess and facilitate conservation, reclamation and remediation measures for natural, managed and damaged ecosystems. They are able to employ balanced judgment based on a foundation of environmental ethics and philosophy, and suggest appropriate use of natural resources.

The program emphasizes integrating natural science, management, and social science as related to environmental issues. It also offers students courses and team projects that integrate both biophysical and socioeconomic aspects of the environment in cooperation with practicing professionals and experts. Practical experience is offered through Field School—a 3 week long excursion that occurs between a student's 2nd and 3rd year. Graduates would qualify to apply to be Articling Agrologists which can lead to status as Professional Agrologists.

Students apply to one of five majors for Year 2: Conservation Biology Major, Environmental Economics & Policy Major, Human Dimensions of Environmental Management Major, Land Reclamation Major, or Wildlife and Rangeland Resources Major. Employment opportunities are many and varied.

The ENCS department offers Canada's only bilingual degree in Environmental and Conservation Sciences : [Baccalaureat en sciences de l'environnement et de la conservation - bilingue](#). Also offered is a 5-year combined BSc Environmental and Conservation Sciences/BA Native Studies program and a BA Environmental Studies which is offered jointly with [Faculty of Arts](#).

SUGGESTED COURSE PATTERN YEAR 1

FALL	WINTER
ECON 201 (3)	ECON 202 (3)
MATH 202 or MATH 203 (3) ¹	STAT 251 (3)
ENGL 219 (3)	One of: ENGL 220, COMM 271, COMM 361 (3)
CHEM 211 (3)	One of: BIOL 318, CHEM 351, FREE ELECTIVE (3) ^{2,3}
BIOL 218 (3)	FREE ELECTIVE (3) ³

NOTES:

1. Students with a grade of 70% or higher in Math 31 are advised to take MATH 203.
2. **Conservation Biology Majors:** take CHEM 351
3. **Free Elective:** any 3-credit course transferable to UofA; use [Alberta Transfer Guide](#) to determine credit transferability. Do not take both COMM 271 and COMM 361.

INTERNSHIP AND CO-OPERATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAMS:

Students in this program may wish to participate in the Faculty Internship program to integrate their academic program with a quality work experience. The Internship extends the program by one year and provides a paid work term with a government or industrial partner. Students work over a one-year business cycle while receiving a full wage. For more information see UofA Calendar and Faculty website.

ADMISSION AND TRANSFER INFORMATION

1. **Admission:** Applicants who have completed 24 credits or more transferable to UofA will be considered for admission on the basis of their admission grade point average (AGPA) if they have an AGPA of at least 2.0. Possession of the minimum entrance requirements does not guarantee admission. Please note that applicants should declare a major when applying to Year 2.
2. **Admission Grade Point Average:** Applicants who have completed 24 credits or more transferable to UofA will be considered for admission on the basis of their admission grade point average (AGPA). Transfer credit will be given for completed course work that is applicable to the degree.
3. **Admission Grade Point Average (AGPA) Calculation:** UofA will use all grades obtained in the most recent terms containing at least *24, including both a failing/non-transferable grade and a transferable grade in the same course. The first grade of C- or better received in a course is the only grade accepted for that course. Therefore, repeating a course for a higher grade is not advisable. If a student truly believes that he/she needs to repeat a course (in which a transferable grade was earned) to master the material sufficiently to successfully continue in the program, it is recommended that the student audit the course. Where the applicant has more than one transferable grade for the same course at any institution, only the first transferable grade is used in calculating the grade point average for admission purposes.
4. Students should be aware that under the *Protection for persons in Care Act*, they may be required to satisfy a criminal records check before being allowed to participate in the required practicum (field placement) at UofA. A criminal records check is *not* an admissions requirement.
5. **Minimum Transfer Grade:** Transfer credit will be granted for each course transferable to UofA if the grade achieved is at least a C- and the course is applicable to the specific program to which the student has applied. However, while coursework with grades of D or F will not transfer, the grade remains on your transcript and will be used in the calculation of your AGPA.
6. **Spring Courses:** a spring course may be taken in the year of transfer but students must request a document extension by email (question@ales.ualberta.ca). It is best to apply for early admission if taking a spring course. The grade earned in that term is included in your AGPA so you will not receive final admission status until July sometime.
7. **Residence Requirement:** A maximum of two years of transfer credit (60 academic credits) completed outside the University of Alberta will be granted toward an undergraduate degree in the Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences.
8. **Required to Withdraw:** Applicants who have twice been required to withdraw from any post-secondary institution or program will not normally be considered for admission to the Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences. Students who have been required to withdraw from any post-secondary institution should consult the UofA Calendar (15.1.9) and other sections of the UofA Calendar referring to academic standing.
9. **Double Majors:** Most programs offer majors, and some allow a double major. Students wishing to do a double major in two different programs must get permission from the Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences. Contact the UofA Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences for more information.
10. **Application deadline:** May 1st **Transcript deadline for transfer students:** June 15th
11. **Regarding course transfer to UofA & Augustana Faculty:** When checking course transfer to UofA, note that courses with *AU* as the first two letters of the course abbreviation in the Alberta Transfer Guide will transfer only to the UofA Augustana Faculty in Camrose. In order for a course to also transfer to other UofA faculties, there must be another entry indicating transfer as a course not beginning with *AU*. See example below.

CMPT 214 = UofA CMPUT 114 (3) OR AUCSC 1xx (3) **CMPT 261** = UofA AUCSC 1xx (3)

CMPT 214 is transferable to all UofA faculties, including Augustana. CMPT 261 is accepted by Augustana Faculty only and will not transfer to other faculties at UofA in Edmonton.

ALL STUDENTS ARE STRONGLY ADVISED TO:

1. Consult [Course Descriptions](#) for any course pre-requisites,
2. Check [Alberta Transfer Guide](#) concerning course credit transfer to UofA, and
3. Consult the [University of Alberta Calendar](#) and [website](#) for admission and program information.

HOW TO FIND MORE INFORMATION

[Science Department](#)

Warren Elgersma, Chairperson
Office: 1607-E 403-343-4052
warren.elgersma@rdc.ab.ca
http://www.rdc.ab.ca/about_rdc/academic_departments/sciences

[Academic Advising](#)

Academic Advising Centre: Room 1102
advisors@rdc.ab.ca 403-342-3400
http://www.rdc.ab.ca/academic_advising

[RDC Website](#)

<http://www.rdc.ab.ca>

[RDC Timetable](#)

<http://www.rdc.ab.ca/timetable>

[Alberta Transfer Guide](#)

<http://www.acat.gov.ab.ca>

[Faculty of ALES, UofA](#)

1-800-804-6417
future.students@ales.ualberta.ca
<http://www.ales.ualberta.ca>

[University of Alberta](#)

<http://www.registrar.ualberta.ca>

PLEASE NOTE:

Be aware that you are responsible for ensuring that your registration is complete and appropriate and that your course choices comply with the program to which you have been admitted at Red Deer College and/or to the university to which you wish to transfer.

You are cautioned that any changes to your courses, your major or your transfer destination may adversely affect your transferable credit, admission requirements for future programs, or eligibility to graduate from Red Deer College. Please consult with an academic advisor if you have any questions.

The function of academic advisors is to provide students with information and resources that enable them to make informed decisions relevant to their education. These resources include the Red Deer College Calendar, the Academic Planning Guide for your chosen program and destination university, the Alberta Transfer Guide and the calendar and contact information for your destination university. Academic advisors will assist you in interpreting information from these resources or refer you to your destination university if appropriate. Students in university transfer programs are strongly advised to refer to the calendar of the university to which they wish to transfer and should contact appropriate university departments as required.