

Global Language Requirement (GLC) – Frequently Asked Questions

What is the “GLC requirement”?

GLC is an initialism for Global Language and Culture – the centrepiece of the Faculty of Humanities’ new degree requirements, introduced in May 2020.

Do the new Faculty of Humanities degree requirements apply to me?

If you started your degree on or after May 2020, you must complete the new requirements to complete your bachelor’s degree. If you started your degree before May 2020, you may choose to follow the faculty requirements that were in effect when you registered for your degree or to complete the new requirements, after consulting with the [Academic Advising Centre](#).

I am a transfer student. Do the new degree requirements apply to me?

Yes, unless you started your UVic degree before May 2020.

I am doing a second degree. Do the new degree requirements apply to me?

Yes, unless you started your UVic degree before May 2020.

I started my degree in a different faculty. Do the new degree requirements apply to me?

Yes, unless you started your degree before May 2020.

Do I need to study a second or additional language to meet the Global Language and Culture requirement?

No, you do not need to study a second or additional language to meet the GLC requirement. Studying an additional language is a great way to satisfy the requirement, and we encourage you to do so, but there are many other ways to meet the requirement.

If I am multilingual or bilingual, may I be exempted from the Global Language and Culture requirement?

No, students who are bilingual or multilingual are not exempted from the GLC requirement. However, you are welcome to take language and culture courses related to the language in which you are fluent.

Are international students exempt from the Global Language and Culture Requirement?

No, international students are not exempt from the GLC requirement. While we recognize that international students are gaining international experience by studying in Canada, the GLC is designed to provide all Humanities students with a particular range of skills, experiences, and knowledge that will prepare them for life after graduation. International students who do not wish to travel further to complete their studies may satisfy the GLC requirements through the on-campus option. Please consult with International Student Services for study permits and work authorizations when planning how you will satisfy the GLC requirement.

The GLC requirement states that students must take courses outside of their primary study area, but the list of eligible courses includes a course that I had to take for my major. Does this course still count for the GLC requirement?

Yes, a course for your major may be used to satisfy one part of the GLC requirement, but you must still complete 6.0 units outside your area of study to complete your Humanities degree.



I took a course for my primary area of study that is listed as eligible for the GLC. Can I count this course towards both my primary area of study and the GLC?

No, you have to pick which requirement you wish to count the course towards. Please contact the [Academic Advising Centre](#) for guidance.

If I take a course in my primary area of study that is cross-listed with a course that counts toward the GLC, can I use it to satisfy both the GLC and a requirement for my primary area of study?

No, you have to pick which requirement you wish to count the course towards. Please contact the [Academic Advising Centre](#) for guidance.

Can I complete the GLC using transfer credits?

Yes, transfer credits may be used to satisfy the GLC requirement if the course in question is accepted as equivalent to one from the list of eligible courses.

When should I plan to complete the GLC requirement?

We recommend that you begin planning how you will balance your degree requirements with your electives as early as possible – your first year is not too early. Early planning is especially important if you are considering any of the off-campus options available for satisfying the GLC requirement, because they may include a full semester abroad. Please contact the [Academic Advising Centre](#) for guidance.

Can the 6.0 units of coursework outside my primary area of study be at any level (e.g., 300, 400, etc.)?

Yes, the 6.0 units of coursework outside your primary area of study can be at any level.

I have completed a field school that is not on the list of off-campus options for completing the GLC requirement. Can it still be counted towards the GLC requirement?

Only field schools completed at UVic through the Faculty of Humanities are acceptable.

I want to take a field school or experiential course that counts for the off-campus option of the GLC requirement, but the GLC requirement wasn't in effect when I started my degree. Is it possible for me to change from the old degree requirements to the new ones?

Yes, students who registered before May 2020 can complete the new degree requirements. Please contact the [Academic Advising Centre](#) for guidance.

I am an international student. Should I check with International Student Services when planning how to satisfy the GLC requirement?

Yes, we strongly encourage you to consult with International Student Services for study permit and work authorization considerations when planning how you will satisfy the GLC requirement.

I am an international student. If I choose the off-campus option, will it impact my immigration status?

Consult with International Student Services for study permit and work authorization considerations when planning how you will satisfy the GLC requirement.



The off-campus option for satisfying the GLC requirement states that I can receive UVic credit for intensive language or cultural-immersion experience from an international university. Do transfer credits from any subject area count?

Please contact the [Academic Advising Centre](#) for guidance.

I obtained transfer credits through a UVic letter of permission (LOP) and want to count those credits towards the GLC requirement. How do I do this?

Please contact the [Academic Advising Centre](#) for assistance.

To satisfy the off-campus option, if I decide to study at another university through a letter of permission (LOP), will transfer credit from any international (non-Canadian) university be accepted?

Yes. As long as you obtain your letter of permission before you leave, the transfer credits from that university will be accepted.

To satisfy the off-campus option, if I decide to study at another university through a letter of permission (LOP), will any transferable courses from international institutions be accepted? Or are only approved topics allowed?

Any transferable courses are acceptable from an international institution for which you have received a letter of permission to attend.

I thought that I had satisfied all requirements from my degree but my CAPP report says that I have not. What do I do?

Please contact the [Academic Advising Centre](#) for assistance.

Can I use transfer credits earned before starting at UVic to satisfy the off-campus option?

No, the off-campus option for satisfying the GLC requirement is limited to exchanges, field schools, study abroad or study on a Letter of Permission undertaken while you are at UVic.

What is the difference between the on-campus and off-campus options for the GLC requirement?

The on-campus and off-campus options are two different ways for students to satisfy the GLC requirement. They reflect and recognize different but equal ways of learning in- and outside the classroom. The on-campus options are courses in language and culture taught here at UVic. For students who choose to satisfy the GLC through on-campus options, the courses selected must be outside their primary area of study. The off-campus options can be satisfied through study abroad, exchange, a Humanities field school, or other experiential options. Students who choose to satisfy the GLC through off-campus options may choose courses that are within their primary area of study.

Can I satisfy the GLC requirement through a combination of on-campus and off-campus options?

Yes, as long as you complete the equivalent of 4.5 units of coursework in total.

Can courses from the same subject area be used to satisfy requirements 2 and 3 of the Faculty's 6 requirements common to all undergraduate degrees?

Yes, as long as you are not using one course for both requirements, and the subject area used to satisfy requirement 2 is not in your primary area of study.



Since requirements 2 and 3 add up to 10.5 units of coursework, which is the same amount of units required for language and culture certificates, can I use those 10.5 units of coursework toward a language and culture certificate?

Great idea! Students who complete a language and culture certificate will have satisfied requirements 2 and 3. This is a great opportunity.

I am an international student with transfer credit(s) from an international institution. Can these courses be used to satisfy the on-campus option for the GLC requirement?

Yes, if these courses are outside your primary area of study and the course in question is accepted as equivalent to one from the list of eligible courses. However, these transfer credits cannot be used to satisfy the off-campus option, which recognizes only UVic-hosted programs, courses, workshops or trips.

Do institutions based in the U.S. count as international institutions for the off-campus option of the GLC requirement?

Yes, institutions in the U.S. count as international institutions and are valid options for satisfying the off-campus option of the GLC requirement. This is also the case for institutions based in Australia, the United Kingdom, New Zealand, and any other English-speaking countries that are not Canada.

Can International Baccalaureate (IB) and Advanced Placement (AP) credits accepted as transfer credits at UVic be used to satisfy the on-campus option of the GLC requirement?

Yes, if these courses are outside your primary area of study and the course in question is accepted as equivalent to one from the list of eligible courses. However, these transfer credits cannot be used to satisfy the off-campus option, which recognizes only UVic-hosted programs, courses, workshops or trips.

Is the intention of the off-campus option of the GLC requirement to encourage students to take courses and engage in experiential learning during their studies at UVic?

Yes, the off-campus option of the GLC requirement is intended to encourage students to engage in experiential learning, international study and study abroad courses while they are at UVic. Credits for similar programs or courses taken before the student entered UVic will not be counted towards the satisfaction of this requirement.

What is the process of having my study abroad courses counted toward the off-campus option for the GLC requirement?

Only UVic study abroad programs are eligible to satisfy the GLC requirement. For your UVic-based study abroad courses to be counted toward the off-campus option of the GLC requirement, the Academic Advising Centre must be notified by your academic unit advisor that the study abroad course is a UVic program and has been completed. The [Academic Advising Centre](#) will update your records once confirmation is received.

For the purpose of the GLC requirement, what is the difference between a field school and a study abroad program?

A field school is led by a UVic instructor and students register through UVic. For the field school to count towards the GLC requirement, it must be offered by a department or program in the Faculty of Humanities. In a UVic-recognized study abroad program, UVic students register through UVic and travel in a cohort to study in a program that is affiliated with a UVic program, but are not led by a UVic instructor. The UVic program affiliated with the study abroad program will provide a note to the [Academic Advising Centre](#) stating which students have completed the program in question.

