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## 3. Admission, Registration and Evaluation

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In order to take courses at Athabasca University, a student must be admitted to AU. Once the student is admitted, they can either enrol in a program and then register in courses, or register in courses as an unclassified student.

The following section contains information related to admissions, enrolling in a program, registering in courses, evaluations and transfer credit and university regulations.

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### 3.1 Admission

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As an open university, Athabasca University admits students 16 years of age or older. Students may be of any nationality and reside anywhere in the world.

Students under 16 years of age may be admitted with special consideration by petitioning the Coordinator of Enrolment, Records, and Examination Services. An underage student's admission application form must be accompanied by the course registration form, an up-to-date high school transcript (or equivalent), letters of support from the student's high school principal or designate, and from a parent or guardian. Permission from the Course Coordinator responsible for the course must also be obtained. An interview will be arranged with the Course Coordinator at the time the course registration form is received.

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### 3.1.1 Past Academic Performance

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While past academic performance at other post-secondary institutions does not prevent you from being admitted to AU, it may be considered if you are enrolling in a particular program (e.g., Bachelor of Nursing). If you were suspended or dismissed from another post-secondary institution for reasons of academic misconduct, you may be refused admission or enrolment at AU until the period of suspension or dismissal has elapsed.

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### 3.1.2 Non-Canadian Students

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Athabasca University welcomes non-Canadian students.

You need a study permit if:

you are a non-Canadian with a work permit and are living temporarily in Canada while enrolled in the Bachelor of Nursing degree program.

you are a non-Canadian student enrolled in an AU program at an institution with which the University has a collaboration agreement.

You do not need a study permit if you are a non-Canadian AU student living outside Canada.

For more detailed information, visit the [International Student Guidelines](#) page.

In the case of a dispute over an individual's status within Canada, Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) regulations will apply.

[Citizenship and Immigration Canada](#)  
1.888.242.2100

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### 3.1.3 Returning Students

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To remain an active AU student you must be registered in an AU course, or you must have completed an AU course in the last 12 months. The 12-month period is based on the most recent course contract date, course completion date, or the date of withdrawal from an AU course.

Students who complete courses on a Letter of Permission from AU also retain their active status. If you complete courses at other institutions without first obtaining a Letter of Permission from AU, you may be designated inactive and forfeit your enrolment status and risk not receiving credit for the course.

If you are a returning student and you have never accessed the myAU portal, you will need to log into the portal using your AU Student ID number.

If you are a returning student with an active AU account, you can proceed to course registrations.

If you are a returning student with an inactive AU account, you need to reactivate your active status by selecting 'Change Your Program' found under the

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'Manage Your Program' header under the  
'Student Record' section of the myAU  
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[Reactivation Form](#)

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### 3.1.4 New Students

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All new AU students require a student identification number. To obtain a student ID number, you must [apply for admission](#) to AU.

Complete and submit the online [Undergraduate General Application Form](#) and pay the one-time, non-refundable application fee. Before you apply online, you will need to determine if you are applying as a program student or as an unclassified (non-program/visiting) student.

#### 3.1.4.1 Unclassified (Non-Program/Visiting) Students

---

Unclassified students are not enrolled in an AU credential program, but are either planning to take or are currently registered in AU courses only. There is no limit to the total number of courses that can be taken; however, the maximum active course load at any one time is six.

The AU unclassified category includes visiting students from other post secondary institutions who are taking AU courses for admission or transfer purposes to another institution. Visiting

<b>and Transfer Credit</b>	students are encouraged to obtain a Letter of Permission from their home institution before registering in an AU course. This will ensure the home university will accept the AU course in the visiting student's program.
<b>Letter of Permission</b>	
<b>Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition</b>	NOTE: It is important to note that AU does not evaluate previous post-secondary education or award transfer credit for students in the unclassified category. If a student wishes to change from the unclassified category to a program student category, a request for evaluation of any previously completed post secondary courses can be made any time after declaring an AU program.
<b>Graduation</b>	
<b>Registration</b>	
Undergraduate Programs	
Undergraduate Courses	Visiting students must request a transcript to be sent to their home institution once they have completed the course(s). This can be done online through myAU.
Examinations and Grades	
Undergraduate Fees and Refunds	<b>3.1.4.2 Procedure</b>
Faculty	If you are applying to become an unclassified student (a non-program or visiting student) from the " <u>Undergraduate General Application</u> " page, choose, "No, I only want to take some courses right now". Follow the prompts to complete/submit and pay for the application.
Student Code of Conduct and Right to Appeals Regulations	After being admitted online to AU, you will be immediately assigned an AU student ID number to confirm your admission.
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Site Map	Confirmation of your enrolment as an unclassified student will be available in your myAU portal the next day. To access your confirmation e-Letter, log into your <u>myAU</u> portal using your ID number.
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You can immediately register in courses once you are enrolled as an AU unclassified student.

### **3.1.4.3 Program Students**

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Program students are enrolled in any of the undergraduate degrees, diplomas, or certificates offered by AU. Students who change from the unclassified (non-program/visiting) to a program category may use credits earned while in the unclassified (non-program/visiting) category provided the course(s) meets the requirements of the program, including any restrictions on the age of a course, if applicable. There is no application deadline for enrolling in an undergraduate degree program. Applications are accepted year round.

Because program regulations can change, students are required to complete the program regulations in effect at the time of their enrolment. Students who are admitted to a program that has any entrance requirements for admission will follow the degree regulations in effect upon completion of the transfer credit evaluation.

#### **Pre-Enrolment Category**

Although most of the undergraduate credentials have open admission, there are some that require documentation be provided and assessed prior to admission (refer to the specific [program regulations](#)). In these cases, students will be admitted to a pre-enrolment category until documentation is assessed. Once this process is complete, students will be advised of their admission status. See Procedure below for assessment process.

### 3.1.4.4 Procedure

---

If you are applying to become an undergraduate program student (you wish to complete a credential such as a degree, diploma, or certificate at AU) you need to apply using the [ApplyAlberta](#) form that has been designed for this purpose.

ApplyAlberta is a secure online application and transcript exchange system that students will use to:

- apply to one or more of Alberta's public post-secondary institutions through one portal, and
- authorize institution(s) to request the transfer of their Alberta high school and post-secondary transcripts.

Student personal and academic information is entered only once—it is filled in automatically on each application submitted to a post-secondary institution.

Once you have completed and submitted your personal information via the ApplyAlberta site, you will be forwarded to AU's Office of the Registrar Online System (OROS) to finalize your application of admission with AU. Be prepared to indicate the [program](#) you are interested in prior to submitting your application and paying the one-time non-refundable application fee. If you need help selecting a program, contact [Counselling Services](#) prior to submitting an Undergraduate General Application Form.

After being admitted online to AU, you will be immediately assigned an AU student ID number to confirm your admission.

Confirmation of your enrolment as a program student with no evaluation of previous course work will be available in your myAU portal the day after your application is processed. To access your confirmation e-Letter, log into your [myAU](#) portal using your ID number.

Confirmation of your enrolment as a program student with a request for an evaluation of previous course work will be mailed to you after your application is processed (typically within 10 business days).

If you enrol in a program at AU, you are responsible for selecting courses that meet the program regulations and requirements in effect on the date you enrol.

If you need help selecting courses for the program you have selected, contact [Advising Services](#).

### **3.1.4.5 Concurrent Enrolment**

---

Students cannot be enrolled in two Athabasca University programs at the same time. They also cannot enrol in an AU undergraduate degree program while they are enrolled in another undergraduate degree program at another post-secondary institution. Those students may take courses as unclassified (non-program/visiting) students until they have either completed or withdrawn from the other program.

### **3.1.4.6 Concurrent Enrolment Procedure**

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Your application to an Athabasca University program will be processed and a transfer credit evaluation will be

completed. You will be given 45 days to either complete or withdraw from the external institution's program and a declaration letter will be sent to you for this purpose from the Evaluations Unit, Office of the Registrar. Failure to respond in that time will result in you being removed from your program and put into the unclassified category.

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### 3.1.5 Admission Classifications

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#### 3.1.5.1 Active Students

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Active students are those who are currently registered in an AU course or who have completed or withdrawn from an AU course within the last 12 months. The 12-month period is based on the most recent course contract date, course completion date, or the date of withdrawal from an AU course.

Students who complete courses on a Letter of Permission from AU also retain their active status.

Active students are able to log in to myAU where they have access to personal information such as their library account, assignment marks, and course grades, or take care of administrative matters such as registering for courses, booking examinations, or applying for extensions.

#### 3.1.5.2 Inactive Students

---

Inactive students are those who have not registered in an AU course within 12 months of the most recent course contract end date or the date of withdrawal from their last AU course.

<b>Letter of Permission</b>	Returning students with an inactive AU account, will need to log into myAU and reactivate their active status by completing a new Undergraduate General Application Form before they can register in courses.
<b>Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition</b>	
<b>Graduation</b>	<b>3.1.5.3 Changing Programs/Status</b>
<b>Registration</b>	Active students who want to change their enrolment from unclassified (non-program/visiting) to program, or change from one undergraduate program to another undergraduate program; or inactive students who would like to reactivate their account, must log in to myAU and in the Student Record section, under “Manage Your Program”, select “Change Your Program”.
Undergraduate Programs	
Undergraduate Courses	
Examinations and Grades	
Undergraduate Fees and Refunds	Inactive students will be asked if they require an evaluation of previous post-secondary studies. A fee is required for this service if it wasn’t submitted previously.
Faculty	
Student Code of Conduct and Right to Appeals Regulations	Effective November 5, 2018, students requesting a transfer credit evaluation are responsible for providing recently issued official transcript(s) to the Enrolment Services Unit. These documents will be retained for 3 years.
Glossary	International Assessment Services (e.g. IQAS, WES, etc.) documents are requested as required and will be retained indefinitely.
Site Map	
Search Undergraduate Calendar	All students are required to fulfill the program regulations in effect at the time of their enrolment. Course work completed previously will be assessed toward the new credential.

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### 3.1.6 Enrolment Status

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#### 3.1.6.1 Part-Time Students

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Those who are registered in less than 60 per cent of a full course load with AU. For taxation or Government Student Loan purposes, students who register in less than four, three-credit courses over six months are considered part-time.

#### 3.1.6.2 Full-Time Students

---

Full-time students are enrolled in a minimum of 60 per cent of a full course load. At the undergraduate level a full course load is defined as 3.75 credits per month at AU. The minimum requirement for full-time status is 2 credits per month.

Example: If you are on student financial aid, full time enrolment is 9 credits over 4 months with the same start date. If you are taking courses via individualized study over 6 months, you require 12 credits to be full time with the same start date.

For more detailed information on SFA and non-SFA students, visit the AU [Student Financial Aid Information](#) page.

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### 3.2 Evaluations and Transfer Credit

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In general, Athabasca University will review your previous post-secondary education toward your credential. A one-time [Evaluation Fee](#) will be charged for this service. Please note this fee is non-refundable once an evaluation has been completed. For detailed information regarding the awarding of transfer credit please refer to the [Undergraduate Transfer Credit Policy](#).

AU has articulated courses and programs from more than 240 institutions and organizations. These decisions can be searched on our [online database](#).

Non-Canadian students who will be presenting international credentials for possible transfer credit to an AU program must refer to [Foreign Transcript Evaluation](#).

[Block Transfer Credit/College Diploma  
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[Foreign Transcript Evaluations](#)  
[Timeline for Evaluation Completion](#)  
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### 3.2.1 Block Transfer Credit/College Diploma

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AU accepts many college diplomas and other credentials as blocks of transfer credit toward AU programs. In these cases, the student's transcript is reviewed, and transfer credit is awarded as a block of credit rather than on a course-by-course basis.

Block transfer arrangements are most often associated with specific programs and may not be applicable to all AU credentials. If a decision has not been previously made, your prior education will be assessed on an individual basis.

Transfer Credit Search website:

[Transfer Credit Search](#)

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### 3.2.2 Procedure

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If you are a new student and wish to apply to an AU program, you must enrol in a specific program by completing the online Undergraduate General Application Form, and submit the one time, non-refundable application fee.

[Undergraduate General Application Form](#)

[Students with International Credentials](#)

### Unclassified/visiting students

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If you are an unclassified/visiting or inactive student and you would like to enrol in an AU program, log into your myAU account and complete and submit the online Change of Program form. You will be required to submit the evaluation fee if you have not done so previously, but as a previously admitted student you are not required to resubmit the general application fee again.

[Undergraduate General Application Form](#)

### Transcripts

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<b>While Waiting for Evaluation Completion</b>	Arrange to have official transcripts of your previous education—from each institution that you formerly attended—sent directly to AU, Enrolment Services, Office of the Registrar. AU will evaluate all post-secondary course work completed within Canada and the United States. In some cases, additional supporting documentation may also be required in order to begin the evaluation.
<b>Notification of Evaluation</b>	
<b>Transfer Credit Time Limits</b>	
<b>Appeal Process Concerning Transfer Credit</b>	Documents received in support of an application for admission become the property of AU. Copies of your foreign documents submitted may be sent to you upon request (please notify Enrolment Services). Ensure the correct mailing address is provided or the documents will be sent by registered mail to the most recent address on file. AU does not assume responsibility for lost documents.
<b>Transferring AU Courses to Another Institution</b>	
<b>Letter of Permission</b>	<b>NOTE:</b> Faxed and emailed transcripts are not accepted as Official Transcripts.
<b>Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition</b>	Effective November 5, 2018, students requesting a transfer credit evaluation are responsible for providing recently issued official transcript(s) to the Enrolment Services Unit. These documents will be retained for 3 years.
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Undergraduate Programs	International Assessment Services (e.g. IQAS, WES, etc.) documents are requested as required and will be retained indefinitely.
Undergraduate Courses	
Examinations and Grades	Questions regarding sending AU transcripts can be forwarded to: <a href="mailto:enrol@athabascau.ca">enrol@athabascau.ca</a> .
Undergraduate Fees and Refunds	<b>Mailing Address:</b>  Athabasca University Enrolment Services Office of the Registrar
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Athabasca, AB T9S 3A3

## Course Outlines/Syllabi

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This information will be of use to students who want to have unassigned credit changed to direct equivalency credit, as well as to students who wish to have courses evaluated which have not been granted transfer credit.

For either of the above type cases, the student must present detailed course outlines (syllabi)\* to Transfer Credit Services, Office of the Registrar. Calendar descriptions will not suffice.

The information in the detailed course outlines should include:

- Institution name
- Course name, number, and year completed
- A statement of the course objectives
- A detailed outline for the course
- The number of weeks of duration
- Hours per week of lecture  
(laboratory/tutorial/seminar/studio work)
- The method of evaluation and grading
- The textbooks used
- Content of assignments and assignment weighing
- Credential of instructor(s)
- Course title of prerequisite or corequisite courses (if any)
- Credit value

Some departments or faculties may require students to provide copies of examinations and/or assignments. When this information is received, it will be

reviewed by the appropriate department.  
You will be notified of the results in  
writing.

\* Course outlines for courses other than  
language courses must be presented in  
English. If the course was taken in a  
language other than English, the original  
outline must be presented with the  
translated version.

Questions regarding detailed course  
outlines can be directed to:

[eval@athabascau.ca](mailto:eval@athabascau.ca).

**Mailing Address:**

Athabasca University  
Transfer Credit Services  
Office of the Registrar  
1 University Drive  
Athabasca, AB T9S 3A3

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### 3.2.3 Foreign Transcript Evaluations

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Students presenting non-Canadian/non-United States credentials for possible transfer credit to an AU program must obtain an evaluation of post-secondary course work from an international assessment agency, for example, the International Qualifications Assessment Service (IQAS). The credential assessment agency will assess each student's international educational documents and compare them to educational credentials in Canada.

All assessments, regardless of the agency used, must be completed using original documents or certified copies—official documents issued directly from the sending institution are preferred. AU only accepts detailed course-by-course assessments. Students must also submit copies of all foreign transcripts used in the assessment to AU. Please note AU reserves the right to request that official documents be sent directly from the institution to AU.

<b>While Waiting for Evaluation Completion</b>	If you elect not to use an assessment agency, you may not obtain any transfer credit for your course work towards an AU program.
<b>Notification of Evaluation</b>	There are a number of other foreign credential evaluating services whose assessments may be accepted. In Canada, refer to the <a href="#"><u>Alliance of Credential Evaluation Services of Canada</u></a> .
<b>Transfer Credit Time Limits</b>	
<b>Appeal Process Concerning Transfer Credit</b>	AU can also accept assessments from the U.S. from members of the <a href="#"><u>National Association of Credential Evaluation Services</u></a> (NACES) or the <a href="#"><u>American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers Foreign Education Credential Service</u></a> (AACRAO).
<b>Transferring AU Courses to Another Institution</b>	<a href="#"><u>Alliance of Credential Evaluation Services of Canada</u></a>
<b>Letter of Permission</b>	<a href="#"><u>National Association of Credential Evaluation Services</u></a>
<b>Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition</b>	<a href="#"><u>American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers Foreign Education Credential Service</u></a>
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### 3.2.4 Timeline for Evaluation Completion

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Evaluations take time. When Transfer Credit Services receives all the transcripts, supporting documents, and required fees, your evaluation request enters a queue. It can take from six (6) to eight (8) weeks to complete your evaluation. If additional information is required, or AU is experiencing high volumes of requests, it may take longer. In addition to official transcripts, supporting documentation, such as course and program descriptions, may be required from the sending institution.

Failure to provide this information when it is requested will impede the evaluation process. When the evaluation is complete, you will be notified what transfer credit has been awarded and how it applies to your program of study.

Current processing time: **5 weeks**

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### 3.2.5 Course Registration While Waiting for Evaluation Completion

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While you wait for your evaluation of previous education to be completed, you may register in courses. If your course duplicates course work already completed, you can only receive credit for one of the courses. AU cannot confirm any course will meet your credential regulations until your evaluation is complete.

If you register in a course and are subsequently given transfer credit for a similar course completed previously, you have the option of withdrawing from the course. Refer to [Course Withdrawal – Individualized Study](#) and [Course Withdrawal – Grouped Study](#).

Course selection assistance may be obtained from an AU student advisor by submitting an [Information Request Form](#).

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### 3.2.6 Notification of Evaluation

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Once your evaluation is complete, Transfer Credit Services will notify you that your assessment is completed and tell you where you can access the results. Examine the transfer credit awarded closely and see how it has been applied to your program of study.

If you have questions resulting from the evaluation or as to why a course did not receive transfer credit, contact [Transfer Credit Services](#) immediately.

If you require assistance with program planning and choosing courses, please contact a [student advisor](#).

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### 3.2.7 Transfer Credit Time Limits

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Usually, courses will be considered for transfer credit regardless of when they were completed. There are some exceptions.

Depending on the program, AU will not award transfer credit for some administrative studies courses (e.g., law, senior-level accounting, management science, marketing or finance courses), information systems courses, or science courses that were completed more than 10 years ago.

Athabasca University will not award transfer credit in the following programs for nursing courses that were completed more than seven (7) years ago, or for non-nursing courses that were completed more than 10 years ago:

Post-RN Bachelor of Nursing Degree  
Program  
Post-LPN Bachelor of Nursing Degree  
Program

<b>Evaluation Completion</b>	In addition, AU will not grant transfer credit in the following programs for computer science courses that were completed more than five (5) years ago:
<b>Notification of Evaluation</b>	
<b>Transfer Credit Time Limits</b>	
<b>Appeal Process Concerning Transfer Credit</b>	<p>Bachelor of Science in Computing Information Systems</p> <p>Bachelor of Science in Computing Information Systems (Post Diploma)</p> <p>University Certificate in Computing and Information Systems</p>
<b>Transferring AU Courses to Another Institution</b>	Students transferring credit completed within a Canadian Information Processing Society (CIPS) accredited diploma or who have completed a science-related diploma program from a college or technical institute, and who are enrolling in the Bachelor of Science Program, may not be eligible for a block transfer of credit if the diploma is more than five (5) years old.
<b>Letter of Permission</b>	
<b>Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition</b>	Consequently, if student diplomas are more than five (5) years old and students are currently active in their field of study, they should arrange to provide evidence of this activity to Transfer Credit Services (e.g., a letter from their employer, a copy of professional membership etc.).
<b>Graduation</b>	
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### 3.2.8 Appeal Process Concerning Transfer Credit

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Students can appeal a transfer credit decision by following details in the [Student Code of Conduct and Right to Appeal Regulations](#).

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### 3.2.9 Transferring AU Courses to Another Institution

Generally, AU courses are transferable to other Canadian degree-granting institutions.

AU is unable to advise you on which of its courses would transfer into a program at another institution. The decision to accept courses for transferability lies exclusively with the home institution.

If you are in a program at another post-secondary institution and wish to take an AU course, you are advised to obtain a Letter of Permission from your home institution before taking the AU course. If you do not obtain permission you may not receive credit for the course at your home institution.

### **Alberta Transfer Guide**

Students wishing to transfer courses or programs to another institution should refer to the Alberta Transfer Guide, which lists all courses and program transfer agreements between post-secondary institutions in Alberta, the Northwest

<b>While Waiting for Evaluation Completion</b>	Territories, and Nunavut. Students wishing to transfer credit for courses or programs to British Columbia post-secondary institutions should refer to the British Columbia Transfer Guide. These guides and other transfer information are available online or by contacting:
<b>Notification of Evaluation</b>	
<b>Transfer Credit Time Limits</b>	<b>Alberta Council on Admission and Transfer</b> 11th Floor, Commerce Place 10155 - 102 Street Edmonton, AB T5J 4L5 Phone: 780.422.9021 or 310.0000 toll-free Email: <a href="mailto:acat@gov.ab.ca">acat@gov.ab.ca</a>
<b>Appeal Process Concerning Transfer Credit</b>	
<b>Transferring AU Courses to Another Institution</b>	<u><a href="#">Alberta Transfer Guide</a></u>
<b>Letter of Permission</b>	<b>British Columbia Council on Admission and Transfer</b> 709 – 555 Seymour Street Vancouver, BC V6B 3H6 Phone: 604.412.7700 Fax: 604.683.0576 Email: <a href="mailto:bctransferguide@bccat.ca">bctransferguide@bccat.ca</a>
<b>Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition</b>	
<b>Graduation</b>	<u><a href="#">British Columbia Transfer Guide</a></u>
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### 3.3 Letter of Permission

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A Letter of Permission (LOP) is a document that states that a post secondary institution will allow the course be transferred in. It is issued by the post-secondary institution the student is enrolled in a program at. The Letter of Permission is a means of tracking the courses you take at other institutions. The letter also indicates to the external institution that you are a visiting student and provides you information regarding the transfer credit that will be awarded for external courses. While most students who submit a LOP would like the requested course(s) fit as a substitution into their program regulations, receiving the letter does not guarantee the course will fit.

There are two types of Letter of Permission: Outgoing and Incoming.

#### Outgoing Letter of Permission:

Athabasca University students request an LOP from Athabasca University asking permission to use an external course as transfer credit by filling out this form: [Letter of Permission Request Form.](#)

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Incoming Letter of Permission: visiting students can request an LOP from their institution asking permission to take an Athabasca University course towards their program.

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## Letter of Permission

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### 3.3.1 Outgoing Letter of Permission: Before You Register

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Before you register in courses for credit at another post-secondary institution towards your Athabasca University (AU) credential, you must request a Letter of Permission (LOP) from Transfer Credit Services, Office of the Registrar. Once a decision has been made on your LOP request, a letter will be sent to the external institution noted in your request and one to you indicating the transfer credit awarded. Please check your program carefully to ensure the proposed transfer credit fits into your credential. The transfer credit awarded on your LOP is for the course indicated and does not take into consideration the program you are enrolled in, it may or may not fit within your credential regulations. If you need assistance in determining if the credit will fit, contact a student advisor.

The Letter of Permission is valid for one year and maintains your active program status if you are not registered in any AU courses at the same time.

<b>Registration</b>	Request the Letter of Permission a minimum of six weeks before the course registration date. This will allow AU time to process, approve, and forward the letter. There is no fee for this service.
Undergraduate Programs	
Undergraduate Courses	Credit will not be applied to your program if you do not first obtain a Letter of Permission and after course completion make arrangements for an official transcript to be submitted to AU that indicates successful completion of the course(s). This is not an automatic process. You must request transcripts be sent to AU.
Examinations and Grades	
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## Letter of Permission

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### 3.3.2 Incoming Letter of Permission: Visiting Students

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Visiting students can take courses at Athabasca University (AU) for transfer credit to other post-secondary institutions. Before you register in a course at AU, you are advised to obtain a Letter of Permission from your home institution that indicates it will accept the AU course in your program. This is not a requirement of AU, but may be a requirement of your home institution.

Make sure you are aware of any special considerations that your home institution has related to course completion, course withdrawal, course extensions, supplemental exams, and delivery mode. For example, some institutions require that their students complete the course within specified timelines, will not accept a grade if a supplemental exam has been written, or will not accept a grade if it was taken by Challenge for Credit.

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### 3.4 Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition

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Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) allows you to demonstrate the university-level knowledge that you have gained informally through work or life experiences. By preparing a detailed portfolio or e-portfolio for assessment, you may receive up to a maximum amount of credit within your AU program.

You will be asked to submit your PLAR application and PLAR fee after you have been assigned to a mentor.

Contact the Centre for Learning Accreditation for information or visit the Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition [website](#).

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### 3.5 Graduation

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AU approves and awards credentials every month. For consideration to graduate, all students must submit an Application for Graduation form to the Office of the Registrar. All requirements for the credential (final grades; including grades for courses on Letter of Permission) must be received and processed by the Office of the Registrar by the 15th of the month in order to be submitted for approval the following month. For example, students who complete all requirements by September 15th will have their names forwarded at the October meeting.

[Important Dates](#)

[Procedure](#)

[Parchment Replacement](#)

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## Graduation

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### 3.5.1 Procedure

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In order to be considered for graduation please note the following:

Students must be active in a credential at AU.

Students are required to return a completed [Application for Graduation form](#) to the Office of the Registrar. All requirements for the credential must be in progress or completed before submitting the form.

Upon receipt of an Application for Graduation form, the Office of the Registrar will monitor your progress in AU courses until all final grades are received and advise you by letter that you are eligible to graduate. It is the student's responsibility to submit transcripts for course work completed at other institutions.

In order to be considered for graduation awards and to be included in the Convocation ceremony program, all final grades, including transcripts for courses completed on Letter of Permission must be received by the [deadline](#).

Your name, as it is recorded on your student academic record, will be displayed on the parchment. If you

Undergraduate Programs	have recently changed your name, or would like to make changes to what we have recorded on your student file, you must officially notify the Office of the Registrar by completing and submitting the Student <a href="#">Change of Information form</a> .
Undergraduate Courses	
Examinations and Grades	Parchments will be mailed to the student after the graduation date using the address appearing on the Application for Graduation. If a change of address has been submitted after applying, please contact the Office of the Registrar at 1-800-788-9041, ext. 6382, to update the address on your application.
Undergraduate Fees and Refunds	
Faculty	Students will be required to reapply to graduate if at any time they become inactive or are not in enough courses to complete the requirements of the credential.
Student Code of Conduct and Right to Appeals Regulations	Students must arrange to settle all outstanding accounts with AU (monies owing, return of library materials, etc.).
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### 3.5.2 Parchment Replacement

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AU reissues parchments that are lost or stolen, have been damaged, which reflect a change of name, or for professional display purposes. You are required to complete and submit a [Parchment Replacement/Duplication Request Form](#) and fee.

Students requesting to replace a parchment that has been lost, stolen, or damaged, or who wish a second parchment for display purposes, are required to sign and date a declaration.

[Parchment Replacement Form](#) and [fee](#).

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### 3.6 Registration

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After being admitted to Athabasca University and enrolled as either an unclassified (non-program/visiting) or program student, you will be able to register in courses.

If you enrol in a program, you are responsible for selecting courses that meet the program regulations and requirements in effect on the day you enrolled. If you enrol in a program that has entrance requirements for admission, you will follow the degree regulations in effect upon completion of the transfer credit evaluation.

This section will give you information on the registration process.

[Prerequisites](#)

[Requests for Exception](#)

[Auditing a Course](#)

[Zero-Credit Courses](#)

[Individualized Study/Online Courses](#)

[Grouped Study Courses](#)

[Challenge for Credit](#)

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### 3.6.1 Prerequisites

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Prerequisites ensure that you have the required background to successfully complete your course. Before you register, you should ensure that you have met all course prerequisite and corequisite requirements in accordance with the Prerequisite Declaration Form and the registration process.

#### 3.6.1.1 Professor Approval

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If you feel a prerequisite should be waived for non-academic reasons (e.g., work experience), you must contact the course professor with the authority to waive the prerequisite before you register in the course. If you did not complete the prerequisite through AU, you must ensure that the Prerequisite Waiver Declaration Form has been completed. Next, submit this form and the Course Registration Form, to Enrolment Services, Office of the Registrar.

Students who register in a course that is a prerequisite to a second course, must obtain professor approval before their registration in the second course can be processed.

**Auditing a Course**

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Before registering in [Reading Courses](#), you must contact the course professor to obtain registration approval.

**Zero-Credit Courses**

---

Some courses require professor approval and other course-related prerequisites. Failure to obtain these pre-registration requirements will result in your registration being delayed or refused.

**Individualized Study/Online Courses**

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**Grouped Study Courses**

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[Undergraduate Course Registration Form](#) (PDF)

**Challenge for Credit**

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[Undergraduate Course Registration Form](#) (HTML)

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### 3.6.2 Requests for Exception

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All written requests for exception to course registration policies and associated procedures should be submitted via the [online student appeals form](#). To lessen delays associated with appeals, student should submit any supporting documentation to [regappeal@athabascau.ca](mailto:regappeal@athabascau.ca) once the online appeal has been submitted.

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### 3.6.3 Auditing a Course

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Audit students register in a course for interest but do not wish to receive credit. As an audit student, you will receive the same tutorial support, have access to all other services provided to AU students, and pay the same fees. Audit students are ineligible to request and write examinations, and a final grade is not provided.

When you register, indicate whether it is your intention to audit the course.

#### 3.6.3.1 Changing Status

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If you are auditing a course and wish to change to credit status, you must apply in writing to the [Office of the Registrar](#) before the mid-point of the original course contract period.

If you are taking a course for credit and you have not yet written any examinations, you may change from credit to audit status. You must do so before the mid-point of your original course contract period, and you must apply in writing to the [Office of the Registrar](#).

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### 3.6.4 Zero-Credit Courses

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Zero-credit courses (for example, ENGL 144 and ENGL 149) do not fulfill any requirement towards a credential.

Students in zero-credit courses receive the same academic support and have access to all other services provided to AU students. They pay the same fees as they would for a three-credit course (minus the Students' Union and Alumni fees). Other academic-related fees and regulations also apply to zero-credit courses.

Course extension regulations also apply to zero-credit individualized study courses.

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### 3.6.5 Individualized Study Courses

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Individualized study is the most common method of teaching and learning at Athabasca University.

At AU, courses begin the first day of each month provided you register by the 10th day of the previous month. You will have six months to complete zero-, one-, three-, or four-credit courses and 12 months to complete six-credit courses.

Course fees include all course materials needed for the course. See [Course Materials](#) below for more information.

You may be required to purchase additional items such as stationery, binders, calculators, etc. Most courses have required computer components (refer to [Computer Requirements](#) in the Glossary).

#### Available Courses

### 3.6.5.1 Maximum Course Load

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Students may be actively registered in one to six courses at a time; including, courses with an In-Progress Status, those taken via

<b>Auditing a Course</b>	the Challenge for Credit process, and wait-listed or pre-registered courses that overlap current registrations. To ensure that you do not overburden yourself, AU limits your course load to a maximum of six active registrations. If you have a full-time job or are new to distance learning, we suggest you start with one course.
<b>Zero-Credit Courses</b>	
<b>Individualized Study/Online Courses</b>	
<b>Grouped Study Courses</b>	A course overload (registration in more than six courses) is only allowed when a student is at the maximum course load and has finished all of their coursework and requested exams (if applicable) for one or more course(s). Students must request permission for a course overload by emailing Enrolment Services at <a href="mailto:enrol@athabascau.ca">enrol@athabascau.ca</a> .
<b>Challenge for Credit</b>	
Undergraduate Programs	
Undergraduate Courses	<b>3.6.5.2 Pre-Registration – Individualized Study</b>
Examinations and Grades	You may pre-register in an individualized study course up to five months before the course start date. Pre-registration guarantees you that tutorial support will be available for a specific start date. When you pre-register, you will be paying the fee that is effective the date your course begins. Should you alter your pre-registration, you will be charged a fee.
Undergraduate Fees and Refunds	
Faculty	
Student Code of Conduct and Right to Appeals Regulations	You will receive your course materials shortly after your pre-registration. Tutorial support will not begin until your official course start date. Your tutor introductory letter will arrive approximately one week before your course start date.
Glossary	
Site Map	<b>3.6.5.3 Registration Process – Individualized Study</b>
Search	
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Once you are admitted to AU and you have received your student ID number, you may register in courses. When you have selected a course, ensure that it is available by viewing the online course syllabus and the Course Availability List. Also ensure that you have the required prerequisites.

Log in to myAU to complete and submit the Undergraduate Course Registration Form along with the appropriate payment. If you are an inactive student, you will still have access to myAU. Follow the instructions to reactive your status. Confirmation of course registration by e-Letter will be available within 48 hours of the course registration in your myAU portal (use your student ID number to log in).

The request for a course materials package will be sent as soon as your course registration is processed. A tutor will also be assigned after you register in a course; however, the tutor's support will not be in effect until the course contract start date.

[myAU](#)

[Course syllabi](#) (available courses)

[Course fees](#)

[Undergraduate General Application Form](#)

[Undergraduate Course Registration Form](#)

### 3.6.5.4 Registration Deadlines

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AU's individualized study courses begin the first day of the month, and are offered year-round. You can register online via the online registration system. You must request and pay for courses by the 10th

day of the month prior to the requested course start date. For example, if you wish to start your course on November 1, you must register for the course by requesting and paying for it by no later than October 10.

For students without access to the online registration system, the Office of the Registrar will process paper course registration requests and payments that are received by the 10th day of the month before your requested start dates.

Remember to consider postal, courier, and processing times when a particular start date is desired. Students living overseas are generally assigned course start dates one month later than students living in North America.

#### Courier Recovery Fees

### 3.6.5.5 Overseas Students' Course Start Dates

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Course start dates for students living overseas (those living outside Canada and the continental United States) depend on the arrival of the course package. To reduce postal delays, AU will courier your course package but you must provide a street address (not a Post Office box address) and telephone number. Overseas students are required to register for their courses two months prior to the intended course contract start dates.

### 3.6.5.6 Course Contract Period/Dates

---

Each individualized study course has a specific course contract start date and end date. You will have six months to complete

a zero-, one-, three-, or four-credit course, and 12 months to complete a six-credit course. Your course contract end date is the last day of your individualized study course. Course contract end dates fall on the last day of a month.

Course extensions are available, if required.

You are considered actively registered in your course until you have completed the course, the course contract date expires, or you withdraw. Your course materials package will be sent as soon as your registration or pre-registration request is processed, however, tutor support, submission of coursework, and the writing of examinations cannot begin until the official course contract start date. See Early Access to Courses below.

Course Extensions

Financial Assistance

### 3.6.5.7 Early Access to Courses

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Early access to individualized study courses in the Moodle learning management system varies based on individual course design. Prior to the course contract start date, student access may not be provided to some assignments and will not be provided to quizzes or exams. (Note: In some courses, early access is not provided at all.) Students cannot submit assignments and quizzes, nor write exams until their course contract period commences. Tutorial and faculty access will not be provided until the course contract period begins.

### 3.6.5.8 Studying Courses While Residing Outside Canada

---

All students studying outside of Canada must comply with the regulations governing the normal course contract period. Extensions beyond the normal course contract period in individualized study courses are available to all students. Refer to Course Extensions – Individualized Study below.

### 3.6.5.9 Course Materials

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The payment of course registration fees entitles you to receive most of your individualized study course materials. Course materials include, but are not limited to, textbooks, student manuals, study guides, tutorial assistance where provided, access to online materials and other instructional materials required to complete the course for the period of active registration. Additional lab fees may be required for some Faculty of Science courses. You may be required to pay for additional small items such as binders, calculators, home lab materials, and so on.

Some AU courses introduce students to a more specialized course in the same field. These courses often reference the same textbook. Please retain the textbook from the previous course as a duplicate textbook will not be distributed.

Your course package will include various course materials that are identified in the online course syllabus. In some courses, the course materials are available entirely online. In others, the resources may be a combination of offline materials such as a hard copy textbook(s), CDs, and/or DVDs, and the balance of course materials is accessed online. And in others, the entire course materials package is print-based and is mailed or couriered.

Your course materials will arrive before your official start date. If for some reason the materials don't arrive on time, contact Materials Management at AU as soon as possible (1.780.675.6366).

### 3.6.5.10 Shipping/Receiving Your Print Course Materials

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In many courses, the course materials are available either online or in print, or a combination of both formats. If a course has print course materials, they will be sent shortly after your course registration has been processed.

#### **Shipping Within North America**

Students living in Canada will receive their print course materials through Canada Post. Students who live in the U.S. or Mexico will receive their print course materials by courier. Please allow two weeks or longer to receive the material.

#### **Shipping Overseas**

Various methods are used to ship print course materials overseas. AU's Materials Management department determines the most efficient and appropriate method. If you live overseas, please allow up to one month to receive your course materials.

#### Overseas Students' Course Start Dates

#### **Materials Management**

1.800.788.9041 ext. 6366  
[cmat@athabascau.ca](mailto:cmat@athabascau.ca)

### 3.6.5.11 Your Tutor

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After you register in an individualized study course, an e-Letter containing your tutor's name, address, email address, phone number, and tutor hours will be posted in your student myAU portal approximately ten days before your course contract start date. The default method of student information delivery is e-Letter. (Print letters are still available by filling out the Print Letter Request form and paying the associated fee.) If you have not received your tutor letter one week before your course start date, or if you have misplaced your letter, contact Learning Services Tutorial as soon as possible.

Your tutor will assist you throughout your course either by phone or email. Tutors offer subject-matter assistance, engage in scholarly discussion, mark assignments, provide feedback, and help prepare you for your examinations. Never feel reluctant to contact your tutor. He or she is your main link with AU.

You may contact your tutor on the course start date, but not before. You may phone your tutor toll-free from anywhere in Canada or the US during established tutor hours, or you can leave a voicemail or email message at any time.

Most of the AU Faculty of Business and Faculty of Science and Technology courses provide access to a Student Success Centre and academic experts. Before your course starts, you will receive a letter with the centre's toll-free telephone number.

Because of vacation time, normally during the summer months, your tutor may not be available for up to ten business days. In case of absences of longer than 10 business days, other arrangements will be made for you.

### 3.6.5.12 Course Extensions – Individualized Study

---

If you are unable to complete your individualized study course during the course contract period, you may apply for and purchase up to three, two-month extensions at Athabasca University. Course extensions apply to individualized study courses only. You may not extend a grouped study course.

A course extension must be requested and purchased online (via your myAU portal using your student ID number to log in) a minimum of one month before your course contract end date. Requests for second and third extensions must be received a minimum of one month before the expiry of the previous extension.

The extension begins on the first day of the month following your course contract end date. If you fail to complete your course and you do not apply for an extension by the required deadline, you will receive a grade of F (Failure) for the course. If you wish to obtain credit for the course, you may re-register and pay a fee. Both the original registration and the re-registration will appear on your transcript.

Students receiving financial assistance may be restricted by shorter time limits.

[Course contract period](#)

[Extension Request Form](#)

[Extension fee](#)

[Financial Assistance](#)

[myAU](#)

### 3.6.5.13 Course Withdrawal – Individualized Study

---

You may withdraw from an individualized study course at any time within the course contract period. In order to meet specific academic record and refund criteria, you must adhere to the following timelines. You cannot withdraw from a course after your course contract end date, once the final examination has been written (or if all course work has been submitted for marking, for courses that do not have a final exam requirement), or during disciplinary proceedings.

Withdrawal procedures do not apply to courses being challenged for credit.

#### **a. Impact of Course Withdrawal on Academic Record**

Withdrawal timeframes have an impact on your academic record. If you withdraw:

1. **prior to and up to 30 days after the course contract start date:** The course will not appear on your transcript.
2. **after 30 days and on or before the course contract end date:** Your transcript will indicate a “W” (Withdrawal) and credit will not be awarded for the course.
3. **after the course contract end date:** You cannot withdraw after the course contract end date. If no course work has been completed, a grade of “F” (Failure) will be assigned and recorded on the transcript.

Nursing students: Please consult the [Undergraduate Course Withdrawal and Refund Policy – Individualized Study](#) for

academic impact of a withdrawal from a nursing clinical and for the process that must be followed.

### **b. Procedure**

Withdrawal requests should be submitted online via the [myAU](#) portal and are subject to the Undergraduate Course Withdrawal [Policy](#) and [Procedures](#) – Individualized Study.

### **c. Refunds and Returns**

Students are responsible for the cost of returning any course materials to Athabasca University. For more information on refunds and returns, refer to [Refunds: Individualized Study Course Tuition](#).

## 3.6.5.14 Re-Registration – Individualized Study

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At Athabasca University, students are permitted one registration and one re-registration in each course. You may re-register in an undergraduate course provided you are eligible to register in the current revision of the course and that you have not previously re-registered in the course. You cannot re-register in a course that has been temporarily or permanently closed.

In order to carry forward any completed coursework and examination results in an individualized study course, you must first obtain written approval from the course professor/course coordinator.

### **a. Procedure**

1. You must re-register in the current revision of the course. Contact AU and

determine whether the current revision of the course has changed since your original registration. If the current revision has changed from your original registration, you will be required to pay the course materials fee.

2. Complete the undergraduate course registration process using one of the following methods:

online (also available via print PDF)

complete and submit the Undergraduate Course Registration Form. Fax:

1.780.675.6174 or mail.

c. in person at the Athabasca, Edmonton, or Calgary offices.

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### 3.6.6 Grouped Study Courses

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Grouped study courses are those courses taken by students together in either a classroom (usually at a collaborating institution) or in an online environment with common deadlines for completion of course activities. Students progress through the course at the same pace. Because grouped study courses follow a set time frame, extensions are not allowed.

Not all courses identified as grouped study in the syllabi are available every year. It is important that you check to confirm the course is available at a specific location.

To determine whether there is a grouped study course available to you, or for more information about partnership courses, degrees, and transfer credit, please refer to the following websites:

[Academic Partnership Delivery](#)

[Available Grouped Study Courses](#)

#### 3.6.6.1 Maximum Course Load

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Students may be actively registered in one to six courses at a time. To ensure that you do not overburden yourself, AU limits your

<b>Zero-Credit Courses</b>	course load to a maximum of six active registrations at a time. Collaborating institutions may have additional limits to course load that you must also follow.
<b>Individualized Study/Online Courses</b>	
<b>Grouped Study Courses</b>	<b>3.6.6.2 Registration Process – Grouped Study</b>
<b>Challenge for Credit</b>	Once you are admitted to AU and you have received your student ID number, you may register in courses. When you have selected a grouped study course, ensure that it is available in grouped study, by viewing the available delivery modes in the online course syllabus, or by visiting the <a href="#">Classroom-based Study (Grouped Study)</a> page. Also ensure you have the required prerequisites.
Undergraduate Programs	
Undergraduate Courses	
Examinations and Grades	You will register in person at the partner institution that offers the AU course or use the grouped study course registration form specific to the institution at which the course is being offered.
Undergraduate Fees and Refunds	
Faculty	<b>3.6.6.3 Registration Deadlines</b>
Student Code of Conduct and Right to Appeals Regulations	Year-round registration is not available for grouped study courses. Because of scheduling restrictions, the courses are generally offered at selected sites and times. Course availability is dependent upon the number of registrations. Courses offered at another institution may have different fees and regulations. Please consult the collaborating institution that offers the course.
Glossary	
Site Map	
Search Undergraduate Calendar	<b>3.6.6.4 Grouped Study Contract Periods/Dates</b>

Each grouped study course has a specific course contract start date and end date. The contract period is usually two, four, or six months in length and is determined before the beginning of the course. The exam date is shared with students within the first week of classes. Course extensions are not available for grouped study courses.

### 3.6.6.5 Course Materials

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The payment of course registration fees entitles you to receive most of your grouped study course materials. Course materials include, but are not limited to, textbooks, student manuals, study guides, instructor assistance where provided, access to online materials and other instructional materials required to complete the course for the period of active registration. Additional lab fees may be required for some Faculty of Science courses. You may be required to pay for additional small items such as binders, calculators, home lab materials and so on.

Some AU courses introduce students to a more specialized course in the same field. These courses often reference the same textbook. Please retain the textbook from the previous course as a duplicate textbook will not be distributed.

Your course package will include various course materials that are identified in the online course syllabus. In some courses, the course materials are available entirely online. In others, the resources may be a combination of offline materials such as hard copy textbook(s), CDs, and/or DVDs, and the balance of the course is accessed online. And in others, the entire course

materials package is print-based and is provided to grouped study students on the first day of class.

### 3.6.6.6 Course Withdrawal – Grouped Study

---

You may withdraw from a grouped study course before your course contract period expires. In order to meet specific academic record and refund criteria, however, you must adhere to specific timelines described in this section. You cannot withdraw from a grouped study course after your contract end date, once the final exam has been written (or if all course work has been submitted for marking, for courses that do not have a final exam requirement), or during disciplinary proceedings.

#### **a. Impact of Course Withdrawal on Academic Record**

Withdrawal timeframes have an impact on your academic record. If you withdraw:

1. **prior to and up to 15 days after the course contract start date:** The course will not appear on the transcript.
2. **after 15 days and on or before the course contract end date:** Your transcript will indicate a “W” (Withdrawal) and credit will not be awarded for the course.
3. **after the course contract end date:** You cannot withdraw after the course contract end date. If no course work has been completed, a grade of “F” (Failure) will be assigned and recorded on the transcript.

Nursing students: Please consult the [Undergraduate Course Withdrawal and Refund Policy – Grouped Study](#) for academic impact of a withdrawal from a nursing clinical and for the process that must be followed.

### **b. Procedure**

All requests to withdraw from a grouped study course must be made by completing and submitting Grouped Study Course Withdrawal Request Form in writing to the Office of the Registrar.

The date you withdraw from your course will be the postmark on the envelope, the date the emailed submission is received, or the University date stamp if the form is hand-delivered or faxed (780.675.6174).

[Grouped Study Course Withdrawal Request Form](#)

### **c. Refunds**

For information on refunds, refer to [Refunds: Grouped Study Course Tuition.](#)

### 3.6.6.7 Re-Registration – Grouped Study

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At Athabasca University, students are permitted one registration and one re-registration in each course. You may re-register in an undergraduate course provided you are eligible to register in the current revision of the course and that you have not previously re-registered in the course. You cannot re-register in a course that has been temporarily or permanently closed.

Students in grouped study courses cannot carry forward coursework when they are re-registering.

**a. Procedure**

1. You must re-register in the current revision of the course. Contact AU and determine whether the current revision of the course has changed since your original registration. If the current revision has changed from your original registration, you will be required to pay the course materials fee.
2. Complete the undergraduate course registration process using one of the following methods:

online (also available via print PDF)

complete and submit the Undergraduate Course Registration Form. Fax: 1.780.675.6174 or mail.

c. in person at the Athabasca, Edmonton, or Calgary offices.

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### 3.6.7 Challenge for Credit

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The challenge for credit process allows you to demonstrate that you are proficient in the subject matter of a specific AU course without having to complete the entire course. Using a predetermined process, this option allows you to challenge courses based on your knowledge of the course content. Not all courses are available for challenge.

Not all post-secondary institutions recognize the challenge for credit process. If you are a visiting student, find out first whether your home institution will accept credit obtained by challenge prior to registration.

1. Determine your subject-matter knowledge and the method of challenge evaluation by reviewing the online [syllabus](#).
2. You must obtain approval to challenge a course from the faculty or designate who is responsible for the AU course. Faculty contact information may be found [online](#).
3. Fill out the challenge for credit registration form and submit with payment.

<b>Auditing a Course</b>	Commencing on January 1, 2012 and later (term 201201), any courses take via the challenge for credit process will not meet AU residency requirements.
<b>Zero-Credit Courses</b>	
<b>Individualized Study/Online Courses</b>	Some important facts regarding challenging a course:
<b>Grouped Study Courses</b>	There are no provisions to withdraw (cancel) from or extend the challenge for credit process.
<b>Challenge for Credit</b>	The Course Coordinator determines the components of evaluation for the challenge for credit process, noted on the challenge evaluation section of the course syllabus.
Undergraduate Programs	If the challenge involves an examination, you may write only once. (See <u>Challenge for Credit Examinations</u> for more information.) There are no provisions to write a supplemental or multiple examinations.
Undergraduate Courses	You must complete the challenge for credit process within three months.
Examinations and Grades	Prerequisites must be satisfied unless the Course Coordinator waives them. After completing a challenge for credit process successfully, you may not challenge a prerequisite to that challenge.
Undergraduate Fees and Refunds	In some challenge for credit processes, you must complete the assignments within six weeks of receiving the material.
Faculty	Tutor support is not available during a challenge.
Student Code of Conduct and Right to Appeals Regulations	Course materials for Challenge for Credit can be purchased from Materials Management or can be purchased separately. (see following section for more information.)
Glossary	
Site Map	
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Undergraduate Calendar	You have one opportunity to challenge a course. If you do not complete, or you fail your challenge for credit

process, you are not permitted to challenge the material a second time. You must register in the course and complete it successfully in order to receive credit.

If you do not complete, or you fail the challenge for credit process, you will be assigned a system grade of F three months after the challenge end date.

Funding for courses taken via the challenge for credit process is not available through student financial aid.

## **Challenge for Credit Policy**

### **Challenge for Credit Procedures**

#### 3.6.7.1 AU Course Materials – Challenge for Credit

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Students registering for challenge for credit will have access to hard copy course materials, limited to textbooks and readings, available for purchase at full cost. Any fees assessed for course materials are not refundable.

Students may purchase the associated print course materials, limited to bound textbooks and print readings as follows:

by contacting AU's Materials Management Unit via email at [cmat@athabascau.ca](mailto:cmat@athabascau.ca). All materials will be charged at full cost (defined as AU's full purchase cost, plus shipping, plus a 20 per cent handling fee) or;

by accessing the list of materials from the [course syllabus](#) and sourcing the materials via a book store, online book retailer, or other means.

**Note:** Students will not be provided access to the online individualized course site, the student manual, eTextbooks, or course study guide for a course taken via the challenge for credit process. If an eTextbook is offered for the course and the student wants it, the eText must be purchased from the publisher or a third-party vendor.

[Undergraduate Challenge for Credit Registration Form](#)

### 3.6.7.2 Courses Unavailable for Challenge

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Students may not request to challenge AU courses:

- for which they have already received transfer credit as a direct AU course designation;
- for which they have received a “Do Not Register” designation;
- for which an exemption has been granted;
- which they have already successfully completed at AU;
- for which they have received credit through Undergraduate Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR);
- for which they have received a failing grade; or
- which are at the preparatory (100) level.

Courses that are closed to registration are also considered closed for challenge for credit.

### 3.6.7.3 Registration Process – Challenge for Credit

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Determine that the course is available for challenge and the method of evaluation by checking the course syllabus. Determine if you will be purchasing the related textbook and readings, and what the cost of these items will be for the course(s) you are interested in challenging by contacting AU's Materials Management Unit at 1-800-788-9041, extension 6366, or via email at [cmat@athabascau.ca](mailto:cmat@athabascau.ca).

You must be eligible to challenge the course. Check with the appropriate faculty member or designate to ensure you have completed the prerequisites, discuss your level of skill and knowledge required for the course, and secure their approval. Faculty contact information may be found [online](#).

If you haven't done so already, complete and submit the Undergraduate General Application Form accompanied by the appropriate fee.

Complete and submit the Undergraduate Challenge for Credit Registration Form accompanied by the appropriate fee. You must register for the challenge and receive permission to challenge before the tenth day of the month in order to start your challenge on the first day of the following month. The Office of the Registrar will process a completed Undergraduate Challenge for Credit Registration Form received by 4:30 p.m. MT on the tenth day of the month. Remember to consider postal, courier, and processing times when a particular start date is desired.

For challenges that require the completion of an exam, students must request the exam within the guidelines for making examination requests as stated in the [Undergraduate Exam Request and](#)

Completion Policy and its associated procedures. No supplemental exams are permitted.

Undergraduate Courses

examunit@athabascau.ca

Undergraduate General Application Form

Undergraduate Challenge for Credit Course Registration Form

Information about Invigilators

Courier Recovery Fees

**Information effective Sept. 1, 2020 to Aug. 31, 2021.**

*Updated July 30 2020 by laurab*

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