

**NORTHERN LIGHTS COLLEGE  
REGISTRAR'S OFFICE  
PROGRAM INFORMATION AND COMPLETION GUIDE**

**Program Name:**

**Credential/Certification:** Associate of Science (Environmental Science)  
Degree

**Date Submitted:** November 2024

**Effective Date:** **May 2025**

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**Program Description:**

The Associate of Science (ASc) Degree in Environmental Science offers students cross-disciplinary studies related to local and global environmental issues. The ASc in Environmental Science will prepare students for further study in the Environmental Sciences and provide a foundation for lifelong career success in this field.

The curriculum's mixture of practical and theoretical approaches prepares students for employment in the growing fields of environmental monitoring, ecological restoration, and conservation services. These fields have high employment prospects now and in the future in the College's geographic region.

For students intending to pursue a Bachelor of Science degree at other institutions, the ASc in Environmental Science program will facilitate transfer into the third year of a four-year degree program (120 credits) in the Environmental Sciences. Courses in the ASc in Environmental Science program can also be applied towards professional designations including Professional Geoscientist (P.Geo), Professional Biologist (R.P.Bio) and Registered Agrologist (P.Ag).

**Admission Requirements:**

A. Domestic students and students from countries that practice Standard Written English (see Appendix A) must have official transcripts demonstrating that they have met the English Requirements: One of the following with a "C" grade or higher: English 12 or English Literature 12 or English First Peoples 12, ENGL 050, or ENGL 099. Alternatively, any university-level English course with a "C" grade or higher. Students who do not meet one of the above English requirements must complete the NLC Writing Assessment for appropriate course placement.

B. International students who do not meet the requirement A. above, and domestic students who received their secondary education in French or another language, must show that they have met the NLC English requirement: see Appendix A (General Academic English Language Proficiency Requirements [hyperlink](#)).

C. Math Requirement: One of the following with a 'C' grade or higher: Pre-calculus 12, Principles of Mathematics 12, MATH 050; or successful completion of the Calculus Readiness Assessment; or equivalent.

D. Science Requirement\*: A minimum of a single course from the areas as follows with a 'C' grade or higher:

- Life Sciences 11 or Biology 12 or BIOL 040 or BIOL 050, or equivalent;
- Chemistry 11 or Chemistry 12 or CHEM 040 or CHEM 050, or equivalent;
- Environmental Science 11 or Environmental Science 12, or equivalent
- Earth Sciences 11 or Geology 12, or equivalent
- Physics 11 or Physics 12 or PHYS 040 or PHYS 050, or equivalent.
- Specialized Science 12
- Anatomy and Physiology 12

\*Note that some Associate of Science Degree course options have specific prerequisites. Meeting the entrance requirements for the Associate of Science Degree does not ensure course prerequisites have been met for all available science courses.

**Length of Program:** (weeks and total hours) 60 weeks of full-time study (two academic years) and a minimum of 1050 hours of class time.

**Program Intake:** (start/finish dates) Start: September, Finish: April.

Students may begin their studies off-cycle in January or May, but depending on course offering schedules, this may lead to a study period of over two years to complete the credential.

**Available Seats:** N/A

**Application Deadline:** One week prior to semester start-dates for University Arts and Science Courses

**Career Prospects:** The Associate of Science in Environmental Science specialization provides opportunities for employment in the growing field of environmental management and remediation. Graduates have environmental analysis, problem-solving, and critical thinking skills that prepare them for a wide range of careers. Graduates also have a solid foundation of specific knowledge that can lead them to careers in environmental monitoring, environmental site assessment, and environmental management, as well as serve as the basis for more traditional careers in education, business and management. However, the degree is also designed for transfer into a bachelor's degree program in Environmental Science or a similar undergraduate degree at a receiving institution.

**Affiliations/Partnerships:** In British Columbia, completion of an Associate of Science Degree offers several transfer advantages:

\*Most universities in BC guarantee 60 transfer credits to holders of an Associate Degree, even if all of the courses taken towards the degree do not transfer individually to that institution.

\*Priority Admission: Additionally, at some institutions, Associate Degree holders may be offered priority admission over other students in the college transfer admission category, subject to GPA criteria developed by the receiving institution.

\*Note that transferring students must still meet all 100- and 200-level course requirements for specific degree programs at receiving institutions. Accordingly, students are encouraged to check the specific degree requirements of the individual receiving institution. For more information on the advantages of an Associate Degree, see <http://bctransferguide.ca/associate/transfer.cfm>

**Location:** Fort St John Campus and Dawson Creek Campus

**Additional Requirements/Supplies:** (fees, supplies, materials)  
Lab fees may apply to science courses

**Eligibility for Canada Student Loans:** (Yes or No)  
Yes

**Required Minimum Grade:** (overall and/or minimum within a course)  
A cumulative grade point average of 2.00 ('C') or better must be obtained from all courses applied toward the Associate of Science degree

**Residency Requirement:** (percentage of courses which must be taken at NLC)  
25%; At least 15 credits (5 courses) must be taken at NLC. A 'C' grade (60%) or higher must be obtained for courses to be considered for transfer credit

**Required Courses:** (list courses required to complete credential and total hours for each course)

General Requirement: Minimum of 60 credits of first-and second-year courses (normally 20 courses). These must include a minimum of 18 credits (6 courses) in the Sciences at the second-year level, in two or more subject areas. Actual credits may vary depending on course choice.

Specific Requirements:

A. 6 Credits in 100-level English

ENGL-100 Academic Writing (3 Credits)

AND One University level English course at either First or Second Year level.

Preferred: ENGL-111 Poetry and Drama (3 Credits) OR ENGL-112 Prose Fiction (3 Credits)

B. 6 Credits in 100-level Mathematics

MATH 101 Calculus I (3 credits) OR MATH 105 Calculus for the Biological and Social Sciences (3 Credits)

AND

MATH-104 Introduction to Statistics (3 Credits)

OR MATH 102 Calculus II (45 hours/3 credits)

C. 36 Credits in Science, including all of the following:

BIOL-101 Introductory Biology I (4 credits)

BIOL-102 Introductory Biology II (4 credits)

CHEM-103 Fundamentals of Chemistry I (4 credits)

CHEM-104 Fundamentals of Chemistry II (4 credits)

GEOG-112 Surface of the Earth (3 credits)

GEOG-114 Weather and Climate (3 credits)

SOIL-117 Intro to Soil Science (3 credits)

And:

FNST-100 Indigenous Peoples of Canada (45 hours/3 credits)

OR FNST-102 Treaties and Aboriginal Rights (45 hours/3 credits)

And any four of the following:

FRST-225 Forest Ecology (3 credits)

GEOG-250 Cartography (3 credits)

GEOG-260 Introduction to GIS (3 credits)

LAND-227 Wildlife Habitat Conservation (3 credits)

LAND-241 Petroleum Fundamentals (3 credits)

LAND-245 Inventory/Assessment Technique (3 credits)

LAND-255 Land Reclamation (4 credits)

LAND-280 Intro to Contaminated Sites (3 credits)

PALE-200 Intro to Palaeontology in Bc (3 credits)

PALE-201 Palaeontology: Life of Past (3 credits)

SOIL-230 Soil Classification (3 credits)

D. 6 credits (2 courses) in Arts other than English. Recommended, but not required, to choose from the following:

Humanities:

ANTH-101 Cultural/Social Anthropology I (3 Credits)

HIST-103 Canada, Pre-Confederation (3 Credits)

HIST-104 Canada, Post-Confederation (3 Credits)

PHIL-101 Introduction to Philosophy I (3 Credits)

Social Sciences:

ECON-101 Principles Economics (Micro) (3 Credits)

ECON-102 Principles of Economics -Macro (3 Credits)

GEOG-103 Regional Geography of Canada (3 Credits)

POLI-200 Politics and Pipelines (3 Credits)

PSYC-101 Introduction to Psychology I (3 Credits)

PSYC-102 Introduction to Psychology II (3 Credits)

E. 6 credits (2 courses) in any credit course in Arts, Sciences or Humanities.

Recommended, but not required, to choose from the following:

BIOL-125 Basic Ecology (3 credits)

BIOL-127 Botany Basics (3 Credits)

GEOL-102 Introduction to Earth History (4 Credits)

PHYS-103 Mechanics (Calculus) (4 Credits)

PHYS-104 Electromagnetism & Waves (Calculus) (4 Credits)

Note: An individual course may not be used to fulfill more than one of the "specific" requirements listed above.