

SFU

UNDERGRADUATE SEMESTER IN DIALOGUE

WWW.SFU.CA/DIALOGUE/UNDERGRAD



EXPERIENCE your education.
ENGAGE your community.

The Undergraduate Semester in Dialogue is a one-semester, full-time program designed to inspire students with a sense of civic responsibility and encourage their passion for improving Canadian society.

Each semester we offer an original interdisciplinary experience through the mediums of dialogue, experiential learning, and community engagement. Past topics have included urban issues, sustainability, health, art and community, and citizenship.

Students are embedded in the heart of downtown at SFU's Vancouver campus, where they work on projects that matter for the community, receiving rewards

and inspiration that go far beyond grades and academic achievement.

Classes host thought leaders from government, business, and civil society. Students are encouraged to let go of judgement, be present and aware in the room, and remain curious while exploring issues from a variety of perspectives.

A small cohort of passionate classmates provide a strong peer support network throughout the semester. Faculty members deliver intensive mentorship, providing space for students to reflect on what they are doing and why it matters.

Coursework is designed to give the classroom back to students by providing the opportunity to design projects from the ground up and explore issues of personal importance.

A TYPICAL WEEK

is spent in dialogue with thought leaders, meeting with faculty, conducting research, attending public events, going on field trips, and working on individual or group projects. You'll engage guests from diverse backgrounds in open and respectful discussions, participating in conversations rather than listening to lectures.

For assignments, you will learn to perform research by talking to leaders and everyday citizens, picking up the phone, and asking good questions. You will write a commentary piece for submission to a major Canadian newspaper, as well as plan and facilitate a major public dialogue with your classmates.

You'll receive feedback throughout the week, through one-on-one conferences with faculty, peer mentoring, group commentary about oral and written presentations, sessions debriefing guest visits and dialogues, and multiple rounds of revisions on written submissions.



Thanks to the Semester in Dialogue, I now look at the world and see my ability to transform it. -JOSH R.



WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

The Semester in Dialogue is open to any student who has completed 45 credit hours prior to beginning the program. The fall and spring programs offer 15 credits (DIAL 390W, 391W, and 392W) while the Summer Institute offers a 10-credit, 7-week program (DIAL 390W, 391W). All DIAL courses can fulfill either B-SOC or B-HUM breadth requirements. Students should consult with their departments to find out how DIAL credits fulfill major, minor, or elective requirements.

We seek students interested in disciplinary and experiential breadth, and our admission criteria emphasize motivation and community engagement as well as academic achievement. Students must be available Mon-Fri, 9:30-4:00 (Summer Institute hours may vary). Classes are normally held at SFU's Vancouver campus and other downtown locations.

For application requirements and upcoming semester themes, visit: www.sfu.ca/dialogue/undergrad.

INFORMATION

CALL 778.782.7893

EMAIL ugsid@sfu.ca

VISIT www.sfu.ca/dialogue/undergrad

 SFUugsid



Truly interdisciplinary and student focussed.

—LARISSA D.

The Semester in Dialogue helped me publish an opinion piece in the Vancouver Sun and express a message I'm passionate about to more than 400,000 readers.

—WADE L.

My class met with beekeepers, urban farmers, and Vancouver's poet laureate to explore the continuum between wilderness and the city...In the Semester in Dialogue, the only prescribed outcome is an open mind." —ANNA L.

STUDENT VOICES

My final project helped me get into grad school and provided inspiration for my master's thesis. Getting feedback and one-on-one mentorship from professors in the program was highly valuable."

—AMY P.

Instead of only reading about our city, we hosted a community dialogue on Vancouver's history and invited the public to share their stories. —KRYSTAL R.