

Certificate / Diploma of Liberal Arts, 2022 – 2027

This planning guide can help you choose courses and plan your progress through your program. Read it carefully, so you understand how the programs are arranged and courses sequenced. Speak to a program advisor if you have questions. A glossary of terms is included on the last page.

Graduation Requirements

To graduate with a **Certificate of Liberal Arts**, students must complete 30 credits as follows:

- ENGL 100 and ENGL 101 or approved equivalents (6 credits)
- Two social science courses (6 credits)
- Two science courses (6 credits)
- One course that satisfies the [Yukon First Nations Core Competency](#) or, if competency is achieved by online workshop or challenge, one SSSH* elective (3 credits)
- One SSSH elective (3 credits)
- Two open or SSSH electives (6 credits)

Certificate students must also

- complete at least 50% of the work at Yukon University (not less than 15 credits); and
- maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.0 (C average).

Diploma of Liberal Arts students must complete 60 credits as follows:

- All first-year (certificate) requirements as above (30 credits)
- Two second-year or higher humanities courses (6 credits)
- Six SSSH electives, 200level or above (18 credits)
- Two open or SSSH electives (6 credits)

Diploma students must also

- take six courses (18 credits) at the 200 level or above (second- and third-year courses);
- complete at least 50% of the work at Yukon University (not less than 30 credits); and
- maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.0 (C average).

NOTE ABOUT LANGUAGES: While not a requirement at YukonU, study of a second language is encouraged so students continuing to programs elsewhere can meet any second-language requirements at many universities. Indigenous languages are often acceptable but check admission and graduation requirements at the institution you plan to attend.

Refer to the [Liberal Arts program page](#) on the YukonU website under programs/courses for a more thorough description of each course.

* On 13 June 2025, Yukon University Board of Governors approved the name change of the former School of Liberal Arts to the School of Social Sciences and Humanities (SSSH).

Yukon First Nations Core Competency (YFNCC)

Yukon University recognizes that a greater understanding and awareness of Yukon First Nations history, culture, land claims and journey towards self-determination will help to build positive relationships among all Yukon citizens. As a result, you are required to achieve core competency in knowledge of Yukon First Nations. This course will often fulfil core Indigenous Studies requirements at other universities.

The School of Social Sciences and Humanities has incorporated this competency into these programs and has given you some options for satisfying this requirement. Choose one of the following courses: FNGA 100, FNGA 101, HIST 140, HIST 220, NOST 202, or WGST 202. Alternatively, select another SSSH elective with successful completion of the free-for-students online YFN 101 workshop or challenge.

For more details, visit [Yukon First Nations Core Competency](#) (YFNCC) online.

Program Plan

This table summarizes the program requirements in an easy-to-follow table. The empty cells give you space to plan your courses or record them as you complete them. The superscript numbers after items in the leftmost column refer you to table notes on the next page where we provide additional information.

LA Certificate / Diploma Year 1		LA Diploma Year 2 ⁶	
ENGL 100		200L humanities ⁷	
ENGL 101		200L humanities	
YFN Core Competency ¹		Any SSSH elective	
Any SSSH elective ²		Any SSSH elective	
Social science elective ³		Any SSSH elective	
Social science elective		Any SSSH elective	
Science elective ⁴		Any SSSH elective	
Science elective		Any SSSH elective	
Open elective ⁵		Open elective	
Open elective		Open elective	

The courses may be completed in any order but note that 200-level courses and above will likely require you have completed specific courses (prerequisites) as preparation.

We recommend that you take ENGL 100 in your first semester as it is important preparation for all other courses. We encourage you to take a YFNCC course like FNGA 100 or HIST 140 early in your program, too. Many upper-level courses require one or both of these courses as prerequisites.

Notes on the Planning Table

1. The **YFNCC requirement** may be met with one of the following: FNGA 100, FNGA 101 HIST 140 or HIST 220, NOST 202, WGST 202 or Any SSSH elective with the online YFN 101 workshop.
2. A **SSSH elective** is a university-level, credit course at the 100 level and above. Certain practical, skills-focused courses may not qualify (e.g., ACCT 101, COMM 100, MMC, etc.). See the lists on the SSSH Certificate/Diploma program page for course suggestions. Fields not clearly fitting in elsewhere are suitable SSSH electives, for example, some ENST, FNGA, LANG, LEAD, NOST, PHED, though courses in any broad field is a SSSH elective.
3. The **social sciences**, which include subject areas ANTH, ECON, POLI, PSYC, SOCI, WGST, and some INTD and NOST courses, study human behavior, societies, and relationships using systematic research methods to understand how people interact with each other and organize themselves.
4. **Sciences, or the natural sciences**, study the physical world and natural phenomena through observation and experimentation. They have produced fields like ASTR, BIOL, CHEM, ENVS, some GEOG, GEOL, KINE, some NOST, PHYS, RRMT and SOIL. In addition, courses that develop quantitative or logical thinking, such as CPSC or MATH are valid science elective choices. Some SSSH courses are also science elective choices, including ANTH 101 and PSYC 202.
5. An **open elective** is a 100-level course and above offered in any School that is open to students in other programs. The practical courses, like ACCT, some Early Learning, some COMM, MMC, for example, are categorized as open electives. Such courses might not be transferable to other institutions and programs. Some courses may not admit students from outside the program.
6. Diploma students must take a minimum of six courses at the second-year level or above. Two are prescribed by the program as second-year or higher humanities courses, so at least four additional electives must be at the 200 level or above.
7. **Humanities courses** are those that focus on the unique products of the human mind, action, creativity, thought, and expression. Courses in the following subject areas will satisfy the humanities requirement: CRWR, ENGL, ENST, HIST, INTD, some NOST, PHIL, RELI, and THEA.

Suggested Sequencing

Below is a sample sequence of courses for your certificate or diploma. You would be able to graduate in one or two years, provided you successfully complete ten courses per academic year (over two to three semesters per year). The sequence below is one example of how you might complete the requirements. You may complete the courses over two or four semesters, and you may take them in any order you like provided you have met any prerequisites. Refer to the YukonU website and LA/SSSH courses list to see when courses are being offered. Only high-demand core courses are taught in all three semesters.

Year 1 FALL (Certificate and Diploma)	Year 1 WINTER (Certificate and Diploma)
ENGL 100	ENGL 101
YFN CC	SSSH elective
Social science elective	Social science elective
Science elective	Science elective
Open elective	Open elective

Year 2 FALL (Diploma)	Year 2 WINTER (Diploma)
200L humanities	200L humanities
Any LA elective	Any LA elective
Any LA elective	Any LA elective
Any LA elective	Any LA elective
Any LA elective	Any LA elective
Open elective	Open elective

SPRING (Certificate and Diploma; 8-week semester; 2 courses max.)
ENGL 100 regularly offered
ENGL 101 regularly offered
HIST 140 regularly offered
LA and open electives normally available

Student Responsibility – Online Registration

Students are responsible for the completeness and accuracy of course selection and registration and for determining the requirements of your program. Always read course descriptions before you register to determine if you have the necessary prerequisites and pay attention to notes on mutually exclusive and crosslisted courses (pairs of courses in which credit will be awarded for only one).

Program Advising Contact Info

Please contact the School of Social Sciences and Humanities, at liberalarts@yukonu.ca, or by phone (867) 668-8770 for information about the program or to discuss program requirements, pathways, and destinations, including transfer matters.

Glossary

A **Credit** is the unit of weight for university courses and range from 1 to 15 credits.

Grade Point Average (GPA) is a representation of academic achievement produced by dividing the total number of grade points earned over a period, usually a semester, divided by the number of courses or credits taken. See page 18 of the Academic Regulations for a fuller explanation.

Highly Recommended Course is a course that would be beneficial to your learning and should be take either before or during your studies.

Prerequisite is a course that you must complete with a satisfactory grade before enrolling in a subsequent course.

A **Semester** is a portion of an academic year, during which an educational institution holds classes. Many people use the word 'term' interchangeably. We have three semesters per year (Fall, Winter & Spring/Summer; see [Important dates](#) on the YukonU website for start and end dates).

*Note: not all programs use three (3) terms as part of their study schedule – most programs at YukonU use only the Fall & Winter term.