

# ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2016-2017

# Calendar 2016-2017

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# HISTORY AND INTRODUCTION TO THE UNIVERSITY

Welcome to Pacific Coast University for Workplace Health Sciences (PCU-WHS). Founded in 2007 through an Act of the government of British Columbia through the legislature (the Pacific Coast University for Workplace Health Sciences Act, SBC, 2007), PCU-WHS is a non-profit, special purpose university headquartered in Port Alberni, British Columbia. The University is a statutory, degree granting post-secondary teaching and research institution. The special purpose and mandate of PCU-WHS is for the creation and dissemination of education and research including applied research in the fields of return to work and disability management, workplace safety, health promotion, comprehensive rehabilitation and disability leadership studies.

The governance structure of the University is bi-cameral. The two governance bodies are: The Board of Governors and the Academic Council. The Board of Governors is responsible for the overall management, administration and control of the property, revenue and business of the University. The Academic Council is responsible for the University's academic governance, subject to any directions, guidelines and financial limitations set by the Board of Governors as specified in the Act. The membership of the Board and Academic Council is specified in the Act.

The University also has an International Research Advisory Council appointed by the Board of Governors which provides advice and collaboration assistance on research related to the purposes of the University. The International Research Advisory Council is responsible for:

- Advising the Board or the Academic Council on research required to address critical issues in relation to occupational health and safety, disability management and rehabilitation, and related subjects, and
- Facilitating international cooperation and the development of international collaboration and partnership for the purpose of research under the leadership and direction of the University.

# Relationship to the National Institute of Disability Management and Research (NIDMAR)

PCU-WHS is a university that is deeply embedded in its roots. Those roots are based in the National Institute of Disability Management and Research (NIDMAR). Founded in 1994, NIDMAR is a unique organization with a tripartite, collective commitment of members from employers, workers and government agencies across Canada to identify and implement institutional solutions which focus on reducing the economic and social costs of disabilities. The University has embraced this tripartite commitment and approach in its mission, goals and values.

Since its inception, NIDMAR has been involved in professional education, research and innovation in the field of disability management. Some important milestones include:

- The development of a curriculum for continuing professional development education for the field of Disability Management and Return to Work, which was first offered on site until it was moved to an online format. This program is now being delivered through PCU-WHS.
- Participation in a nine-country study undertaken by the International Labour Organization (ILO) which resulted in the publication of key success strategies that organizations need to have in place for successful return to work outcomes.
- The creation of the first Code of Practice on Managing Disability in the Workplace.
- The establishment of Occupational Standards for those who work in the field of Disability Management and Return to Work, following Government of Canada guidelines, which led to the development of professional certification examinations, providing successful candidates with the professional designations of CDMP and CRTWC.
- The development of the world's only psychometrically balanced and consensus-based audit / assessment tools to assist employers by providing workplaces with a calibrated gap analysis of their Disability Management initiatives.
- The organization and hosting of the first International Forum on Disability Management (IFDM), an event that is now hosted biennially in various countries around the world.
- The formation of the International Disability Management Standards Council (IDMSC), which
  oversees the administration of the professional and program standards which are currently being
  used in 18 countries.
- Contributing to the creation of Guidelines on Return to Work and Reintegration for ISSA's 330 plus members in 158 countries, through an agreement with the International Social Security Association (ISSA), a United Nations based organization.

For more on the history of NIDMAR and PCU-WHS, please visit the websites: NIDMAR – www.nidmar.ca PCU-WHS – www.pcu-whs.ca

#### Today

We invite you to study and do research with PCU-WHS on the conditions and means through which the health and safety, work capacity and well-being of people in the workforce are enhanced, maintained, supported or diminished.

As a new institution, we seek to promote scholarly excellence in the field of workplace health sciences through teaching and research. We strive to pass on to our students diverse educational perspectives to meet the ever-evolving social challenges related to the workplace environment.

We offer a unique integrated academic curriculum that includes input from business, industry, labour and government both nationally and internationally. We utilize an interdisciplinary approach to the study of contemporary issues in workplace health sciences through an applied focus including the fields of Disability Management, Occupational Health and Safety, Wellness Promotion, Human Resources Management, and Vocational Rehabilitation.

# **MISSION STATEMENT**

PCU-WHS is a statutory not-for-profit post-secondary degree-granting education and research institution. Its special purpose is to create and disseminate new knowledge, including applied research, in the fields of workplace safety, health promotion, return to work and disability management, comprehensive rehabilitation, and disability leadership studies. PCU-WHS is committed to excellence inteaching and research, scholarship, and service to the broader community.

#### VALUES

The primary values inherent in this University are a strong commitment to a safer work environment, and the integration of disabled workers into the workforce through advanced education and research knowledge.

PCU-WHS embraces the principles of Honesty, Trust, Fairness, Respect and Responsibility. The policies, procedures and practices of PCU-WHS are together intended to foster an environment which inculcates and strengthens these fundamental values for members of the University Community.

# **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

As described in the Act, the University's purposes are to:

- Offer university education in Occupational Health and Safety, Disability Management and Rehabilitation, and related subjects;
- Offer certificate, diploma and degree programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels in Occupational Health and Safety, Disability Management and Rehabilitation, and related subjects;
- Offer continuing education programs in Occupational Health and Safety, Disability Management and Rehabilitation, and related subjects;
- Maintain teaching excellence in the University's academic programs;
- Conduct interdisciplinary research and development in relation to Occupational Health and Safety, Disability Management and Rehabilitation, and related subjects; and
- Encourage and facilitate international cooperation and collaboration for the advancement of knowledge respecting Occupational Health and Safety, Disability Management and Rehabilitation and related subjects.

# STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY

The PCU-WHS Academic Calendar is published online as a pdf document available for download. The University reserves the right to amend the contents of the Academic Calendar from time to time without prior notice. The University makes every endeavour to ensure that the information in the Academic Calendar is accurate at the time of publication. However, the ultimate responsibility for verifying the accuracy of such information rests with the student alone.

# **IMPORTANT DATES**

Admissions 2016-2017	
BDM and ACRTW for Fall 2016	
BDM and ACRTW for Winter 2017	PCU-WHS welcomes applications for admission at any time
BDM and ACRTW for Spring 2017	

Registration 2016-2017	Registration Opens	Registration Closes
Fall Trimester 2016	June 1, 2016	August 29, 2016
Winter Trimester 2017	October 1, 2016	December 22, 2016
Spring/Summer Trimester 2017	February 1, 2017	April 17, 2016

Course Delivery 2016-2017	Start Date	End Date*
Fall Trimester 2016	September 12, 2016	December 4, 2016
Winter Trimester 2017	January 9, 2017	April 2, 2017
Spring/Summer Trimester 2017	May 1, 2017	July 23, 2017

\*Final assignments may be due one or two weeks following the end date of course delivery

# ADMISSIONS

There are two application processes for admission to the University – General and Flexible. Students who successfully apply and meet all of the criteria under one of the two application processes will be admitted to the University. Students who have not met the requirements for admission under either the general or flexible admissions policy will not be admitted to the University and will be informed that they have not been admitted.

In order to facilitate and ensure the University commitment to excellence in teaching and research, scholarship and service to students and the broader community and in recognition of the likelihood that applicants will be adult learners, the University will employ a Flexible Admissions policy. We welcome adult students who may not have completed secondary education but have through work experience demonstrated learning achievements. For students applying through Flexible Admissions this means that the University will base admission on a variety of items including academic record if available, employment record and other relevant achievements pertaining to the study of workplace health science.

The University will assess the required academic or other requirements to apply for a specific program and, where deemed necessary, the eligibility of the student to study in Canada.

Admission decisions are made on a first-applied, first-admitted basis for qualified applicants, using the date by which applicants have met all of the admissions requirements.

# Bachelor of Disability Management (BDM) General Admissions

The General Admissions procedure, for applicants who have graduated from secondary education at an equivalent level to Canadian High School Grade 12, or who have one or more years of undergraduate education, or who are applying through a block transfer agreement, or who have a current CDMP or CRTWC, requires an applicant to submit a portfolio that consists of:

- Personal details;
- Personal profile that includes a written statement by the prospective student of reasons for seeking admission;
- Submission of a portfolio detailing the prospective student's academic and other achievements and evidence of the capacity to complete university at a degree level;
- If available, Official Transcripts from the applicant's secondary institution of graduation;
- If available, Official Transcripts from the applicant's post-secondary institution of study;
- Copies of certificates of training.

# **BDM Flexible Admissions**

The Flexible Admissions application consists of the following:

- Personal details;
- Personal profile that includes a written statement by the prospective student of reasons for seeking admission;
- Submission of a portfolio detailing the prospective student's academic and other achievements and evidence of the capacity to complete university at a degree level;
- If available, Official Transcripts from the applicant's secondary institution of graduation;
- If available, Official Transcripts from the applicant's post-secondary institution of study;
- Copies of certificates of training.

Applicants applying through the Flexible Admissions procedure may be required to demonstrate an appropriate level of numeracy and literacy by undergoing standardized testing as part of the application process.

#### **University Studies**

PCU-WHS offers a variety of options for students who wish to take an academic credit course. For instance, professionals from a broad range of disciplines may wish to register for an academic credit course for continuing professional education as mandated by a regulatory or professional association. Many of our courses will meet ongoing professional education needs of health, rehabilitation, insurance, safety and social services professionals. Academic courses at PCU-WHS offer both conceptual knowledge and leading edge research to support evidence-informed application in practice domains related to work integration, retention, creation of safe work environments and advances in collaborative service delivery in disability management. Our specialized courses may also be of interest as electives for students enrolled in higher education in other universities or colleges in related health studies, social or psychology studies, occupational safety, disability or labour studies, social protection studies, apprentice or skilled trades programs and business studies. Others may take academic courses that may be of interest or as a preliminary step toward one of our degree programs.

#### **Admission for University Studies**

For admission into University Studies education courses (academic credit courses in the Bachelor of Disability Management degree) applicants who have graduated from secondary education at an equivalent level to Canadian High School Grade 12 or have a Certified Disability Management Professional (CDMP) or a Certified Return to Work Coordinator (CRTWC) designation or a post-secondary degree can apply to take academic credit courses (in the Bachelor of Disability Management degree) to a maximum of 9 credits. University Studies applicants who do not have a CDMP or a CRTWC designation are required to provide information on previous secondary or previous or current post-secondary status.

# Advanced Certificate in Return to Work (ACRTW) General Admission

The general admissions procedure for the ACRTW requires applicants to submit a portfolio that consists of:

- Personal details;
- Personal profile that includes a written statement by the prospective student of reasons for seeking admission;
- An academic profile with Official Transcripts from the applicant's previous degree at Bachelor level;
- If available, a description of relevant work experience;
- Copies of certificates of training.

# ACRTW Flexible Admission

Applicants who have not completed an undergraduate degree can apply to the ACRTW using a flexible admissions procedure. The purpose of the flexible admissions route is to provide applicants with an opportunity to demonstrate that they have undertaken formal and informal learning at a level comparable to university undergraduate study in the course of their careers. This can include academic and professional education, scholarship, research and innovation.

The flexible admission procedure for the ACRTW requires the applicant to submit a Portfolio that consists of:

- Personal details;
- Personal profile that includes a written statement by the prospective student of reasons for seeking admission;
- Evidence of academic knowledge and skills such as academic courses completed or training and professional education and / or work experience in which scholarship, research, innovation and development activities were carried out;
- A folder of evidence of high credibility supported by third party authentication including employment experience, and / or published papers or formal presentations and / or other relevant evidence of academic ability;
- A profile of work experience relevant to workplace health sciences.

# Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)

Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) is a process of evaluating work experience by a qualified specialist and expert in the relevant field. Prospective students who wish to apply for PLAR are asked to contact the University for information and assistance in developing a portfolio for evaluation. PLAR methodology includes work experience, independent reading, volunteer work, or other relevant activities. It is based on documentation that provides authenticated evidence of learning and students must demonstrate learning at a level of achievement equivalent to students who have successfully completed the specific course for which credit is being requested.

PLAR is available for all speciality and elective courses and PLAR credits are only granted on the basis that applicants meet all of the learning objectives of a course. Partial credits are not granted.

Students must be admitted to the University prior to applying for any PLAR credits.

At the admission stage, an applicant should indicate the courses for which she or he intends to request credits on the basis of prior learning and experience. A separate PLAR request form will be forwarded to a successful applicant for each course for which she or he has indicated an intention to request PLAR credits. The completed form must be accompanied by a dossier of evidence supporting the request. The same evidence can be used to support a number of requests as long as it is clearly explained how it relates to the specific learning objectives of each course.

Acceptable evidence can include:

- Professional non-credit courses for which a certificate has been awarded.
- Professional certification or accreditation.
- Teaching or training practice.
- Work or professional experience.

- Documented research.
- Papers or reports for which the applicant can be confirmed as an author.
- Copies of presentations made at professional or academic conferences.

Students who have completed the 25 modules in the Online Return to Work Coordinator Program or the 25 modules in the Disability Management Practitioner Certificate Program within 3 years or who have current CDMP or CRTWC Certification should refer to admission under the Professional Designation Pathway on page 20.

All other PLAR credit requests will be charged the PLAR credit fees.

A period of minimally 8 weeks is required to process a PLAR request. PLAR will be assessed by an instructor or faculty member who is an expert in the subject area.

#### **International Students**

International students who wish to apply to the University who are high school graduates can apply through the General Admissions policy. Students who do not meet the requirements of the General Admissions policy may apply through the Flexible Admissions policy.

International applicants, meeting all other University admission requirements, must also provide evidence of proficiency in English. A list of ways that English language proficiency can be demonstrated is provided below:

- 4 consecutive years in secondary English in an English-speaking country;
- BC English or Literature 12 or Canadian equivalent;
- Completed international baccalaureate;
- A degree or diploma from a post-secondary institution in an English-speaking country;
- First year of Canadian university English with a grade of C or better;
- Canadian Academic English Language Assessment (CAEL) at level 60 or higher;
- International English Language Testing System (IELTS) at level 6.5 or higher;
- Michigan English Language Assessment Battery (MELAB) at level 80 or higher;
- Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) internet at level 83 or higher;
- Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) paper test at least 50 each for Reading, Listening and Writing.

Students who require a study permit may be conditionally accepted to the University. Conditions include meeting all other University admission requirements.

Proof of Permission to Study in Canada requires a visitor's visa or a study permit, depending on the length of stay, as outlined on the Canadian Government *Study in Canada* website.

#### **Application Fee**

All applicants applying to the University must pay a non-refundable application fee and complete the University application process as outlined on the University's website. In the event that the applicant is not admitted, the application fee will be forfeited to the University. In the event that a student accepted into the University fails to complete their registration and/or fails to pay tuition fees on the date of registration, the application fee will be forfeited to the University.

# Admission and Registration

Once students are determined to be qualified, they will be offered admission and have 21 days to accept the offer by payment of the commitment fee.

#### Registration

Students are responsible for the completeness and accuracy of their registrations and for determining the requirements of their program at Pacific Coast University for Workplace Health Sciences. This Academic Calendar provides information about programs and courses that are being offered. Further information about program regulations or requirements is available from the Office of the Registrar.

Faculty or advising staff may assist in the planning of programs, but the final responsibility for meeting the requirements for certificates, diploma and degrees rests with each student.

# **Provisional Registration**

Students may be permitted to register provisionally provided that the Registrar:

- determines that the students did not have a reasonable chance to provide proof that they met the
  prerequisite at the time of registration, and
- sets reasonable deadlines for students to provide proof.

Students may be permitted to register provisionally if the Registrar cannot reasonably check the course requisites.

# STUDENT LEARNING PLAN

Students work with their faculty advisor to complete a mutually agreed student learning plan.

Each student will work with an academic advisor to develop a personalized plan for the completion of a certificate, diploma or degree at PCU-WHS which best suits his or her level of prior learning and experience in the field, previous academic achievements and work commitments.

The student learning plan will include a long term multi-year academic strategy and a short term annual plan for completing both elective and specialized courses.

The academic advisor will assist the student to identify appropriate electives which can be accessed through the articulation agreements that PCU-WHS has established with collaborating universities and those which the student will take responsibility for accessing on his or her behalf. It will also specify the sequence of registration in specialized courses and the workload for each trimester that is compatible with the personal circumstances of the student.

The plan will be reviewed on an annual basis or on request of the student and adjusted in light of previous academic performance and current life circumstances.

#### **Full-Time Students**

For the purpose of Canada Student Loans, PCU-WHS accepts the definition of a full-time student to be minimally 3 (9 credit) courses per semester or 18 credits in a calendar year.

#### **Course Load Limit**

Unless otherwise defined by a Program, normally a full course load for an undergraduate student is not more than five courses or 15 credits per semester.

Students may not enroll in more than five courses or 15 credits per semester without approval from the Senior Academic Officer or designate.

#### **Student Numbers**

Each student is assigned a student number upon application for admission to PCU-WHS. Each student is issued only one student number which is included on all of the student's files, including all statements of examination results and on the student's record in financial and registration services.

# **TUITION AND FEES**

Tuition and fees are payable by the date of registration.

Upon application to the University, students are required to pay a non-refundable application fee which will be applied towards tuition fees. In the event that the applicant is not admitted, the application fee will be forfeited to the University. In the event that a student accepted into the University fails to complete their registration and/or fails to pay tuition fees on the date of registration, the application fee will be forfeited to the University. An applicant may have the deposit returned if they can demonstrate extenuating circumstances.

Table of Tuition and Other Fees	
Application Fee (Non-refundable but applied against tuition fees)	\$100.00
Tuition Fees per credit	\$254.00
Fees for a 3 credit course	\$762.00
Fees for a 1.5 credit course	\$381.00
Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) Credits	
PLAR Credit Fees for Elective Credits and Specialized Credits	50% of the cost of the credit
	course
Graduation Fee	\$300.00
Challenge Exam Fee	\$100 per credit

Students may request to withdraw from a course prior to the course start date or during the first week of the course. If the student's request is made prior to the course start date or within the first week after the start of the course, the University will refund the course tuition less the non-refundable application fee and charge an administration fee of \$75.00 per course. Students may have their tuition fees reimbursed after this date if they can demonstrate extenuating circumstances such as exceptional medical or compassionate reasons. Written application for special consideration must be made to the Registrar within 30 days of the course start.

The University reserves the right to change its tuition and other fees from time to time.

#### **Cancellation for Non Payment of Tuition**

Students who fail to pay or make arrangements to pay by the deadline will be de-registered. A reinstatement process may be available and a fee will be charged for re-instatement.

#### Cancellation of a Course or Program by the University

In the case of a cancellation of a course or program by the University, a full refund of both the application fee and tuition fee for that course or program will be made to the student.

#### **COURSE PREREQUISITES**

A course prerequisite is a requirement for certain courses which normally are necessary to complete prior to registration in the course for which it is required. Students who wish to have a waiver for a particular course prerequisite must have signed permission from the instructor and the Registrar. Students with a waiver must still meet the University residency requirements for the degree as well as all other requirements for the degree.

#### **REQUIRED COURSES**

Required courses are courses that must be completed as a requirement of the degree.

#### **PROGRAM INFORMATION**

As a special purpose University, PCU-WHS offers courses through a combination of distance learning and onsite delivery, a learning environment that can accommodate the needs of working adults and students in other locations in Canada and internationally.

#### **GENERAL ATTENDANCE**

Students are expected to attend scheduled classes and participate in all course requirements. The University reserves the right to cancel any student's registration in a course or program of study due to lack of attendance.

# TRANSFER CREDIT

The University recognizes the academic knowledge and achievement of students who have undertaken post-secondary studies at other colleges, institutes, or universities. Courses or programs taken at post-secondary or other institutions will be considered through block or transfer credit processes.

Recognized Institution means an institution whose courses the Registrar may routinely consider as acceptable transfer credit without departmental consultation.

Credit may be given in one of the following ways:

- Assigned Credit means credit given for a specific University course when a course or courses are recognized as equivalent.
- Unassigned Credit means credit given when a course or program is considered worthy of credit at the University but is not equivalent to a specific University course.

In order to maximize the student's ability to meet program requirements whenever possible, credit will be granted for specific courses rather than unassigned credit.

Students who seek transfer credit must provide an official transcript from each institution at which courses were taken. If an articulation agreement does not already exist for the course(s) or program, it is the student's responsibility to provide detailed course information as needed to evaluate courses. For documents that are not in English, a translation by a certified translator is required.

The PCU-WHS official transcript will indicate the transferable courses and the number of credits for which transfer credit is granted. Credits will be calculated based on a normal 3 credits per 1 semester course from a university, college or institute. Courses that do not conform with the 3 credit per 1 semester system will be evaluated on a case by case basis.

Recognition by the University of studies completed at a previous institution does not imply, or in any way guarantee, that the transfer credits will be recognized by a third institution.

Students who have completed the 25 modules in the Online Return to Work Coordinator Program or the 25 modules in the Disability Management Practitioner Certificate Program within 3 years or who have current CDMP or CRTWC Certification will be granted block transfer credit for the following specific courses:

- WHDM 201: Introduction to Disability Management and Return to Work
- WHDM 204: Introduction to Human Resources
- WHDM 301: Communication in the Workplace
- WHDM 312: Management Skills for Workplace Health Sciences Practitioners
- WHDM 309: Job Analysis, Assessment Reports, and Accommodation Technology

#### **RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS**

In order to earn a University certificate, diploma or degree, a student must normally complete at least forty percent (40%) of the credits necessary for the graduation award with PCU-WHS.

Residency means that a student who earns a graduation award has studied with faculty members and other students at the University whatever the means of delivery.

Credits earned through Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) do not normally meet this requirement.

# COURSE AUDIT

Individuals who wish to audit a course must register as an audit student. Auditing a course is attending a course for personal reasons and not for credit.

Individuals who wish to audit a course must obtain a letter of permission from the course instructor or faculty member and provide it to the Registrar.

The student and the instructor should agree (preferably in writing) on the expectations for a successful auditing of a course including requirements for attendance and levels of participation in class activities.

An audit student must pay the required audit deposit, tuition and other relevant audit fees.

Once a student has audited a course, the course is not open to PLAR and the student cannot use the course to satisfy admission, requisite or course requirements.

If an audit student subsequently requires an audit course for credit, the audit student must re-register in the course at the next appropriate start date and successfully complete the assignments and exams for that course.

An audit student will be given an "AU" grade for courses in which a student is registered as an audit student and no credit will be awarded for that course.

# COURSE CHALLENGE

In appropriate circumstances, the University will permit a student to challenge a course by examination for students who have fulfilled study equivalent to requirements for a course at the University.

Course challenge is the prerogative of the University and must have the approval of the University instructor and the Senior Academic Officer or designate.

- A student is not permitted to challenge a course previously failed.
- A student may not challenge a course more than once.
- A course challenge is suitable for students currently registered with the University.
- Students considering challenging a course are urged to obtain permission prior to commencement of classes.
- The instructor or faculty member will set the examination requirement(s) to be met for successful course challenge.
- The instructor or faculty member will set appropriate grading standards for a course challenge.
- A course challenge is not permitted for a course for which credit has already been obtained at the University or through transfer credit.
- The Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition Policy applies to a course challenge.
- A student may appeal a course challenge decision to the Academic Student Appeals Committee.

# COURSE WITHDRAWAL

The University will permit a student to withdraw voluntarily from a course in progress without academic penalty at any time before the student has completed less than 50 percent of the duration of the course or the mid-term assignment.

A student may withdraw from a course by notifying the Registrar's office in writing.

The effective date of a notice of course withdrawal is the date the written notification was received by the Registrar's office.

If a student voluntarily withdraws from a course during the voluntary withdrawal period, the Registrar will mark the student's academic record with a notation of "WD" and this course will not be considered when calculating the student's Grade Point Average (GPA).

If the effective date of a notice of course withdrawal is after the voluntary withdrawal period, the Registrar will mark the student's academic record with a notation of "W" and assign an academic penalty (a grade point of 00) for the course. The student's course transcript will note "W" with a grade point of 00.

Students who abandon a course by failing to notify the Registrar's office that they wish to withdraw will receive a grade of F.

In the event of demonstrated exceptional circumstances, such as death in the immediate family, a student's illness or accident, serious emotional problems, or an error on the part of the University, a student may withdraw without academic penalty from a course or program, after the voluntary withdrawal period with the approval of the Registrar. Late withdrawals may be considered up to one year from completion of the course or program.

A student may appeal a course withdrawal related decision to the Academic Student Appeals Committee.

# **GRADE SCALE**

Letter Grades mean the following:

Letter Grade	Numerical Grade	Grade Point Equivalent	Comment
A+	90 - 100	4.33	Excellent
A	85 – 89	4.00	Excellent
A-	80 - 84	3.67	Excellent
B+	76 – 79	3.33	Very Good
В	73 – 75	3.00	Good
B-	70 – 72	2.67	Good
C+	64 – 69	2.33	Satisfactory
С	60 – 63	2.00	Satisfactory
C-	55 — 59	1.67	Poor
D	50 – 54	1.00	Poor
F	0 - 49	0.00	Fail

#### **Transcript Notations**

Notation	Definition	Comment
	Incomplete or in progress	Not included in GPA
WD	Course withdrawal prior to 50% duration of course	Not included in GPA
W	Course withdrawal on or after 50% duration of course	Included in GPA as 00
AU	Audit	Not included in GPA
Aegrotat	Ungraded Pass	Not included in GPA
DEF	Deferred	Course work not completed, but instructor and student agree on completion at a later date. Becomes "W" after six weeks, if no grade entered.
VAI	Violation of Academic Integrity	If a student has previously violated forms of academic integrity, the student may be given an "F" with the designation "VAI" on the transcript.

# **Grade Point Average**

It is the policy of the University to calculate the Grade Point Average (GPA). The GPA will be recorded on the official transcript and is an average of course grade points based on the courses taken over the student's academic career with the University.

# Academic Warning and Academic Probation

Students who are considered by an instructor or faculty member to be at risk during a course will be notified in writing and may be required to undergo a performance review. At the end of the review period, the instructor or faculty member will determine the student's ongoing status in the course.

Students registered in any number of credits who earn less than an average of 2.00 (C- or D) over two semesters combined will be placed on probation when they register next. To have probationary status removed; students must obtain a GPA of 2.00 (C) or better at the end of the probationary year. If a student's GPA is below 2.00 (C) at the end of a probationary year, they will be prohibited from reregistering in any University undergraduate programs at the University in the next year.

# STUDENT SERVICES

# Academic Advising

PCU-WHS has both instructors and faculty assigned as student advisors in academic matters and support personnel who are qualified to assist in more personal issues. Initially, the Office of the Registrar will be the student point of contact.

# **Computing Services**

Students will receive a number of services online including:

- admissions and registration,
- access to student support,
- Library, and
- the University's learning system.

Students may access the University's wireless network when on campus. Students are expected to provide their own hardware, internet connection, internet browser and word processing software to access the University's computing facilities.

The computing and communication facilities and services provided by the University are intended for University activities only such as teaching, research and administrative purposes.

# Library

Students will be guided by faculty to find and apply appropriate information to course assignments and to build critical information literacy skills that support independent learning and professional practice.

For students taking courses on campus, there is a comfortable and attractive library commons housing a collection of national and international publications including books, periodicals and journals dealing with each of PCU-WHS's specializations.

#### **Students with Disabilities**

The University makes its courses and programs accessible to students with disabilities in accordance with the Human Rights Code of British Columbia.

The University will reasonably accommodate students with disabilities on the basis of current documentation. Students are required to self-identify and bring requests for accommodation or changes in accommodation to the attention of the Registrar, allowing for reasonable time for the University to respond.

The University may offer a student provisional accommodation for a limited period of time pending submission of complete and acceptable documentation. The University may also provide accommodations for students with temporary disabilities on a case by case basis.

# ACADEMIC COMPLAINTS AND APPEALS

The University recognizes that concerns can arise from time to time with regard to academic issues. A student may make a complaint or appeal a decision respecting academic performance that affects grades or standing. A student may also make a complaint respecting quality of instruction.

Academic performance includes student evaluation, attendance, placement, transfer, accommodation of disability, admission, course challenge, course requisites, prior learning assessment and recognition,

course load, course withdrawal or any other decision made by an instructor or faculty member or committee affecting grades or standing, providing the complaint or decision being appealed was made or was purported to be made on academic grounds.

When a student has a concern or complaint respecting academic performance, the procedures to be followed are stated under the Steps in the Investigation Process for Academic Complaints and Appeals.

# Steps in the Investigation Process for Academic Complaints and Appeals

- 1. When a student has a concern or complaint respecting academic performance about the following issues, they must first informally approach the course instructor to seek resolution: student evaluation, attendance, placement or other decisions made by an instructor or faculty member or committee member affecting grades or standing providing the complaint or decision being made was made or was purported to be made on academic grounds.
- 2. When a student has a concern or complaint respecting academic performance about the following issues, they must first informally approach the Office of the Registrar to seek resolution: accommodation of disability, admission, course challenge, course prerequisites, prior learning assessment and recognition, course load or course withdrawal.
- 3. If the student accepts the resolution to the matter, the matter will be deemed to be closed.
- 4. The instructor or the Office of the Registrar will notify the Chairperson of Academic Student Appeals of the resolution.
- 5. If the student does not accept the resolution of the matter, the Chairperson of Academic Student Appeals will meet with the student and try to resolve the matter. The meeting will normally be online and the student may request and will be granted the right to have a third party, such as a peer, present at the meeting and advise the Chairperson of Academic Student Appeals in advance. If the student accepts the resolution of the matter, the matter will be deemed closed. If the student does not accept the proposed resolution of the matter, the student can appeal to the Academic Student Appeals Committee through the filing of a formal written application to the Office of the Registrar.
- 6. The Chair of the Academic Student Appeals Committee will be the Senior Academic Officer who will convene the committee to review student appeals and the decision of that committee shall be final. All material concerning the allegations will be forwarded to the committee including the student's formal appeal.
- 7. The Committee will be comprised of the following members:
  - The Senior Academic Officer as Chair
  - The Registrar or designate (ex-official non-voting)
  - 1 instructor or faculty member who has not been involved previously in the current complaint
  - 1 undergraduate student
  - 1 graduate student

All members of the Academic Student Appeals Committee shall be voting members with the exception of the Registrar or designate from the Registrar's office.

- 8. The committee may call upon the instructor or faculty member and the Chairperson of Academic Student Appeals to appear before the committee to answer questions of clarification.
- 9. The student has the right but is not required to appear before the committee to answer questions of clarification. The student has the right to be accompanied by a third party, and is required to give advance notice that a third party will be attending the meeting.

# ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Students at the University have an obligation to conduct themselves with academic integrity in all aspects of their studies, including particular responsibilities related to learning, research, examination and practicum placements. They are expected to be honest, trustworthy and forthright in all of their academic endeavours. Academic integrity is a standard expectation and highly regarded value in all aspects of academic learning and inquiry.

# Forms of Academic Wrongdoing

There are many forms of academic wrongdoing in the field of university learning and research. The following examples are meant to be illustrative and not exhaustive.

# Plagiarism

The appropriation of another person's work without proper quotations and citation in references. Representing another person's academic work as one's own. Paraphrasing another person's work without proper acknowledgment and referencing. Plagiarism is considered a serious offence in universities and can result in varied levels of academic punishment including suspension from registration at the University. Plagiarism applies to both electronic and hardcopy materials.

# Cheating

Cheating is an act of deception in which a student, by various means, attempts to misrepresent the acquisition of knowledge which the student has not acquired. Cheating includes:

- Using notes or answers illicitly in a testing or examination context.
- Copying from other student's assignments or examination or test.
- Using any materials not authorized during an examination or test.
- Allowing another student to copy your examination or test material or assignments.
- Allowing another student to complete an assignment or write an examination on your behalf.
- Plagiarism as defined above is also a form of cheating.

# **Other Forms of Academic Misconduct**

Include:

- Stealing or buying test material that has not been made public by the University.
- Selling or giving away test material that has not been made public by the University.
- Stealing or buying essays and presenting those as your own work.
- Illicitly changing or being an accessory to the altering of any official transcript or grade.
- Withholding information that is appropriate or supplying incorrect or fraudulent information or documentation in order to obtain an unfair academic advantage or benefit.
- Submitting falsified academic or professional references or untruthfully claiming academic or professional achievements to the University or a third party for whatever reason.
- Impersonation of others with regard to academic achievements or awards.
- Breaching any rule, policy or regulation developed by the University or by other bodies of competent authority and having specific application to the University.
- Breaching the law.

# **Regulations and Procedures for Investigating Violations of Academic Integrity**

When an instructor believes that a student has violated academic integrity through an act of academic wrong-doing, the instructor will first contact and advise the student that an issue of academic wrong-doing is suspected. The instructor will schedule a meeting with the student and present the evidence and allegation in writing with the proposed resolution, and advise the student of the right to appeal. Normally, given that curriculum is primarily delivered online, this will be an online meeting. Students may request and will be granted the right to have the presence of a third party, such as a peer, attend the meeting.

# Steps in the Investigation Process for Investigating Violations of Academic Integrity

- 1. If it is determined that no violation occurred, the case will be dismissed.
- 2. If it is determined by the instructor that a violation of the academic integrity policy has occurred and that the student has committed academic misconduct, the instructor will advise the student of the proposed resolution of the misconduct.
- 3. Normally, the instructor will seek guidance from the Chairperson of Academic Student Appeals before determining appropriate resolution of the matter.
- 4. If the student accepts the resolution of the matter, the matter will be deemed to be closed.
- 5. The instructor will inform the Chairperson of Academic Student Appeals of the resolution.
- 6. If the student does not accept the resolution of the matter, the Chairperson of Academic Student Appeals will meet with the student and try to resolve the matter. The meeting will normally be online and the student may request and will be granted the right to have a third party, such as a peer, present at the meeting. If the Chairperson of Academic Student Appeals believes that a violation of academic integrity has occurred and if the student does not accept the proposed resolution of the matter, the student can appeal to the Academic Student Appeals Committee through the filing of a formal written application to the Office of the Registrar.

- 7. The Chair of the Academic Student Appeals Committee will be the Senior Academic Officer who will convene the committee to review student appeals and the decision of that committee shall be final. All material concerning the allegations will be forwarded to the committee including the student's formal appeal.
- 8. The Committee will be comprised of the following members:
  - The Senior Academic Officer as Chair
  - The Registrar or designate (ex-official non-voting)
  - 1 instructor or faculty member who has not been involved previously in the current complaint
  - 1 undergraduate student
  - 1 graduate student

All members of the Academic Student Appeals Committee shall be voting members except the Registrar or designate.

- 9. The committee may call upon the instructor or faculty member and the Chairperson of Academic Student Appeals to appear before the committee to answer questions of clarification.
- 10. The student has the right but is not required to appear before the committee to answer questions of clarification. The student has the right to be accompanied by a third party when attending the meeting and must provide advance notice that a third party will be attending the meeting.
- 11. If the student has previously committed violations of academic integrity, the committee may determine a different resolution to the matter than the resolution proposed by the instructor or the Chair.
- 12. The following resolutions are within the mandate of the committee:
  - No sanction: There will be no sanctions if the committee determines that no violation occurred.
  - Formal warning: If the committee determines that there has been a violation, the committee may send the letter of formal warning to the student outlining that the behaviour is unacceptable to the University as a response to a first violation. The letter will remain in the student's official file for the duration of the student's studies with the University.
  - Reduction in final grade: The committee may decrease the student's final grade by the percentage of the evaluation material that is relevant to the matter.
  - Failure of Course: The student may be given an "F" or failure in the course. A student may not withdraw from the course in question or receive a refund for the course.
  - Failure of a Course with the Designation Failure due to Violation of Academic Integrity: If the student has previously violated forms of academic integrity, the student may be given an "F" with the designation "VAI".
  - Suspension: If the student is a repeat offender and has repeatedly violated the academic integrity policy, the committee may recommend suspension from the University.

# **RESPECTFUL AND RESPONSIBLE NON-ACADEMIC CODE OF CONDUCT**

Students at the University have an obligation to conduct themselves in a respectful manner with all members of the University community. To view the Respectful and Responsible Non-Academic Code of Conduct, please contact the Office of the Registrar or search for the policy online by subject.

# HARASSMENT AND THE PREVENTION OF DISCRIMINATION

The basis for interaction among all members of the University is mutual respect, cooperation and understanding. Harassment and discrimination, as defined by the BC Human Rights Code, violates fundamental rights, personal worth and human dignity.

The University considers harassment and discrimination to be a serious offence that is subject to a range of disciplinary means up to and including suspension from the University.

# PRIVACY

Protecting personal information is one of the University's highest priorities. The University manages the collection, use and disclosure of personal information, uses best practices consistent with British Columbia's Personal Information Protection Acts, SBC, 2003, c. 63 as amended ("PIPA").

In the normal course, the University will inform students whose personal information it collects, why and how this personal information is being collected, used and disclosed. The University will obtain an individual's consent when such consent is required and will manage personal information in a manner that is consistent with PIPA and that a reasonable person would consider appropriate in all circumstances.

Responsibility for ensuring compliance with the Policy rests with the Registrar.

# **RESEARCH ETHICS**

Students conducting human participant research must comply with the University's policies on human participant research. Students considering research with human participants must work with a faculty member or instructor who will assist the student with compliance under the University's Research policies.

# STUDENT EVALUATION

Faculty members or instructors shall provide their students at or prior to the first session of every course an outline, which will include a clear statement of the contents and methodology of the course, the manner in which grades will be assigned and the responsibilities of the students with respect to assignments, participation and attendance.

Faculty members or instructors will include information as to whether their courses include final examinations or final assignments in the information of the course outline. Final examinations or final assignments shall not constitute more than 50 percent of the final grade.

# **BACHELOR OF DISABILITY MANAGEMENT (BDM)**

The first degree offered by PCU-WHS is the Bachelor of Disability Management (BDM) which is a degree with an applied focus. It is the first and only degree of this nature and level internationally.

The BDM provides graduates with the underpinning knowledge, skills and competencies for two-fold careers. First, the degree provides graduates with the education and skills to assist absent workers to return to work. As well, the graduates have the training to assist employing organizations, service providers and insurers in the public, private and not-for-profit sectors to introduce and operate effective and responsive Disability Management (DM) and Return to Work (RTW) programs.

The program will be of interest to working adults who want a credential related to their current field of activity – most frequently health, human resources, occupational health and safety, insurance, rehabilitation, case management, union representation, disability services or government services, and to students graduating from high school, who wish to pursue a career in workplace health science.

In the evolving field of disability management, the degree is designed to give students the necessary technical skills and to empower them as leaders in reshaping the approach and systems involving workers with disabilities, injuries, illnesses or health conditions.

The degree is comprised of 120 credits. These include 78 specialized credits related to the area and 42 electives. Electives can be taken online through our partnering institutions or students may use previously earned credits from one and two year college programs or other university-level credit programs to fill the elective requirements. The degree courses can be completed by program years 1-4 as outlined below and / or can be taken on an individual self-paced approach by working professionals.

# Program Overview of the BDM

	Year One			Year Two	
Courses		Credits		Courses Cre	dits
WHDM 102:	Workplace & Workplace Health Sciences		3	WHDM 201: Introduction to Disability Management	1.5
WHDM 103:	The Body & Mind at Work (Part 1)		3	WHDM 202: Introduction to Health & Safety	1.5
WHDM 104:	The Body & Mind at Work (Part 2)		3	WHDM 203: Disability & Society	3
ERDM 101:	100+ Level Humanities/Social Science Ele	ctive	3	WHDM 204: Introduction to Human Resourses	1.5
ERDM 102:	100+ Level Business Elective		3	WHDM 205: Intro to Workplace Wellness Programs	1.5
	100+ Level Health Science Elective 100+ Level Discretionary Elective		3 3	WHDM 209: Organizational Change & Development	3
	100+ Level Discretionary Elective		3	ERDM 201: 100+ Level Humanities/Social Science or;	3
EDDM 103:	100+ Level Discretionary Elective 100+ Level Discretionary Elective		3 3	WHDM 103 : The Body & Mind at Work (Part 1)	
	,		-	<ul> <li>ERDM 202: 100+ Level Business or;</li> <li>WHDM 211: Independent Study in a Work Disability Issue or;</li> <li>WHDM 104: The Mind &amp; Body at Work (Part 2)</li> </ul>	3
				ERDM 301 : 200+ Level Health Science or; WHDM 102: Workplace & Workplace Health Science	3
				<b>EDDM 202:</b> 100 + Level Discretionary Elective <b>or;</b> <b>WHDM 212:</b> Introduction to Professional Ethics	3
				<b>EDDM 301:</b> 100+ Level Discretionary Elective <b>or;</b> *WHDM 213: Independent Case Study in Workplace Health Science	3
				EDDM 302: 100+ Level Discretionary Elective or; WHDM 214: Practicum Proposal	3
	Total Cre	dits	30	Total Credits	30
	Year Three			Year Four	
Courses		Credits	6	Courses Cre	dits
	Communication in the Workplace		3	WHDM 401: Ergonomics	
WHDM 301:	•				3
	Physical Impairments and Work Retention		3	-	3 3
WHDM 302:	Physical Impairments and Work Retention Introduction to Vocational Rehabilitation		3 1.5	WHDM 402: Unions & The Workplace	
WHDM 302: WHDM 303:	Introduction to Vocational Rehabilitation			<ul><li>WHDM 402: Unions &amp; The Workplace</li><li>WHDM 403: Case Management &amp; Service Coordination 1</li></ul>	3
WHDM 302: WHDM 303: WHDM 304:	Introduction to Vocational Rehabilitation Disability Work & the Law		1.5 3	<ul><li>WHDM 402: Unions &amp; The Workplace</li><li>WHDM 403: Case Management &amp; Service Coordination 1</li><li>WHDM 404: Economics of Workplace Health Initiatives</li></ul>	3 1.5 3
WHDM 302: WHDM 303: WHDM 304: WHDM 305:	Introduction to Vocational Rehabilitation	lls	1.5 3 1.5	<ul> <li>WHDM 402: Unions &amp; The Workplace</li> <li>WHDM 403: Case Management &amp; Service Coordination 1</li> <li>WHDM 404: Economics of Workplace Health Initiatives</li> <li>WHDM 405: Ethics in the Workplace</li> </ul>	3 1.5 3 3
WHDM 302: WHDM 303: WHDM 304: WHDM 305: WHDM 307:	Introduction to Vocational Rehabilitation Disability Work & the Law Interviewing Skills for Helping Professiona	lls on	1.5 3	<ul><li>WHDM 402: Unions &amp; The Workplace</li><li>WHDM 403: Case Management &amp; Service Coordination 1</li><li>WHDM 404: Economics of Workplace Health Initiatives</li></ul>	3 1.5 3
WHDM 302: WHDM 303: WHDM 304: WHDM 305: WHDM 307: WHDM 309:	Introduction to Vocational Rehabilitation Disability Work & the Law Interviewing Skills for Helping Professiona Mental Health Conditions & Work Retentio Job Analysis, Assessment & Accomodatio	lls on	1.5 3 1.5 3	<ul> <li>WHDM 402: Unions &amp; The Workplace</li> <li>WHDM 403: Case Management &amp; Service Coordination 1</li> <li>WHDM 404: Economics of Workplace Health Initiatives</li> <li>WHDM 405: Ethics in the Workplace</li> <li>WHDM 406: Case Management &amp; Service Coordination 2</li> <li>WHDM 407: Conflict Resolution &amp; Negotiation in the</li> </ul>	3 1.5 3 3 3
WHDM 302: WHDM 303: WHDM 304: WHDM 305: WHDM 307: WHDM 309: WHDM 310:	Introduction to Vocational Rehabilitation Disability Work & the Law Interviewing Skills for Helping Professiona Mental Health Conditions & Work Retentio Job Analysis, Assessment & Accomodatio Technology	lls on	1.5 3 1.5 3	<ul> <li>WHDM 402: Unions &amp; The Workplace</li> <li>WHDM 403: Case Management &amp; Service Coordination 1</li> <li>WHDM 404: Economics of Workplace Health Initiatives</li> <li>WHDM 405: Ethics in the Workplace</li> <li>WHDM 406: Case Management &amp; Service Coordination 2</li> <li>WHDM 407: Conflict Resolution &amp; Negotiation in the Workplace</li> </ul>	3 1.5 3 3 3 3
WHDM 302: WHDM 303: WHDM 304: WHDM 305: WHDM 307: WHDM 309: WHDM 310: WHDM 311:	Introduction to Vocational Rehabilitation Disability Work & the Law Interviewing Skills for Helping Professiona Mental Health Conditions & Work Retentio Job Analysis, Assessment & Accomodatio Technology Decision Making & Data Analysis	lls on	1.5 3 1.5 3 3 3	<ul> <li>WHDM 402: Unions &amp; The Workplace</li> <li>WHDM 403: Case Management &amp; Service Coordination 1</li> <li>WHDM 404: Economics of Workplace Health Initiatives</li> <li>WHDM 405: Ethics in the Workplace</li> <li>WHDM 406: Case Management &amp; Service Coordination 2</li> <li>WHDM 407: Conflict Resolution &amp; Negotiation in the Workplace</li> <li>WHDM 408: Workplace Insurance &amp; Benefits</li> </ul>	3 1.5 3 3 3 3 3
WHDM 302: WHDM 303: WHDM 304: WHDM 305: WHDM 307: WHDM 310: WHDM 311: WHDM 312 : EDDM 401: WHDM 313:	Introduction to Vocational Rehabilitation Disability Work & the Law Interviewing Skills for Helping Professiona Mental Health Conditions & Work Retentio Job Analysis, Assessment & Accomodatio Technology Decision Making & Data Analysis Case Analysis & Research Methods	ıls on n	1.5 3 1.5 3 3 3 3 3 3	<ul> <li>WHDM 402: Unions &amp; The Workplace</li> <li>WHDM 403: Case Management &amp; Service Coordination 1</li> <li>WHDM 404: Economics of Workplace Health Initiatives</li> <li>WHDM 405: Ethics in the Workplace</li> <li>WHDM 406: Case Management &amp; Service Coordination 2</li> <li>WHDM 407: Conflict Resolution &amp; Negotiation in the Workplace</li> <li>WHDM 408: Workplace Insurance &amp; Benefits</li> <li>WHDM 409: The Changing Nature of Work</li> <li>WHDM 410a: Final Project or;</li> </ul>	3 1.5 3 3 3 3 3 1.5

\* WHDM 313 is required for students entering into third year

# PATHWAYS TO THE BDM

# **Secondary School Graduates**

Students accepted to the BDM from High School/Secondary School will be assigned a first year standing and will be required to complete Year 1, 2, 3, 4 for a total of 120 credits. Students may elect in second year to take a practicum stream.

# **Post Secondary Students**

Students accepted to the BDM who have completed 30 credit courses or more from another post secondary institution will normally be assigned transfer credits and enter into second year standing. Students will be required to complete all of the specialized credits and some electives for a total of 90 credits. Students may elect in second year to take a practicum stream.

# Institutional Block Transfer Agreements

There are two types of pathways for institutional block transfer agreements. 1) Students accepted into the BDM from another post secondary institution with a block transfer agreement of 60 transfer credits or more will normally be assigned a third year standing. Students will generally be required to complete 60 credits in the BDM. Students may elect to take a practicum stream and the required additional prerequiste courses. 2) Students accepted into the BDM from another post secondary institution with a specialized block transfer agreement with less than 60 transfer credits will be assigned a standing and a specified number of credit courses required to complete the BDM on an individual basis. Students may elect to take a practicum stream and the required additional prerequiste courses.

#### Individual Block Transfer

Students accepted into the BDM, that are not part of an institutional block transfer agreement may be considered for Individual Block Transfer credit for courses and will be assigned a standing and a specified number of credit courses required to complete the BDM on an individual basis. Students may elect to take a practicum stream and the required additional prerequiste courses.

#### **Professional Designation Pathway**

There are two pathways for students accepted into the BDM with the professional designation of CDMP or CRTWC. 1) Students who have a current professional designation of CDMP or CRTWC and are accepted into the BDM will receive a block transfer credit for specific specialized courses. 2) Students who have a current professional CDMP or CRTWC designation and 5 years of current and continuous work experience in Disability Management/Return to Work may utilize a Specialized PLAR process. Applicants who are accepted into the BDM may apply for and receive up to 58.5 transfer credits utilizing a specialized PLAR process and assigned a standing and a specified number of credit courses to complete the BDM on an individual basis. Specialized PLAR agreements can be established with employers for all employees with a current professional CDMP or CRTWC designation and who meet the requirement of 5 years of current and continuous work experience in Disability Management/Return to Work.

#### **Flexible Pathway**

Students who are accepted into the BDM through flexible admissions will be able to apply for PLAR credits and transfer credits if available. Students will be assigned a standing and the total number of credit courses required to complete the BDM on an individual basis.

# ADVANCED CERTIFICATE IN RETURN TO WORK (ACRTW)

#### Stream 1 Canadian Perspective or Stream 2 International Perspectives

The Advanced Certificate in Return to Work is targeted at professionals who already have an undergraduate degree in a field other than disability management and some work experience related to workplace health science. It offers qualified applicants who wish to achieve a specialized academic credential in the field of return to work, and who do not wish to register for the full Bachelor of Disability Management, with an opportunity to obtain a credential in this area. The Advanced Certificate in Return to Work provides students with an understanding of the required conceptual frameworks and their

application to return to work, and equips them with the knowledge, skills and attitudes to enable them to work within the specific area of return to work for ill or injured workers.

Students who successfully complete the Advanced Certificate in Return to Work will have the competences for successful performance of the range of specialized activities required to achieve successful return to work outcomes in complex and non-routine settings for people with both physical and psychological health conditions. Specifically, it is designed to develop the competences that are required to help individual workers return to work after a temporary or permanent impairment and to assist the organizations and other actors to provide effective supports and interventions to retain a worker with a health condition in his or her current position or workplace, or to reintegrate long term absentees. The program provides skills and knowledge from the range of disciplines that contribute to the practice of disability management and engages students in a comprehensive analysis of the theory and practice that underlie the organizational structures and processes required to successfully return workers with disabilities to a job.

There are two streams of The Advanced Certificate in Return to Work: Stream 1 is focused on Canadian Perspectives and Stream 2 includes International Perspectives on return to work. Stream 1, Canadian Perspectives, comprises 30 specialized credits selected from the Bachelor of Disability Management degree that are specifically related to return to work. Stream 2, International Perspectives, comprises 24 credits selected from the Bachelor of Disability Management degree specific to return to work plus 6 credits that are specific to international issues related to return to work. Students will decide which stream of the ACRTW they wish to register in once they are accepted into the program. Students who decide to complete the full BDM program will receive credit for their studies in the Advanced Certificate in Return to Work.

In addition to a required introductory course which covers an overview of the field and practice of disability management, the program includes courses that address disability, work and the law; physical and mental health impairments and work retention; job analysis, assessment reports, accommodation technology and ergonomics; interviewing skills for helping professions, case management and service coordination and ethics; and workplace insurance and benefits. The international courses focus on international policies, international best practices and guidelines, and international system and organizational issues that shape opportunities for return to work.

# Entry Pathways to the ACRTW

Entry criteria to the ACRTW program includes a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of Band completion of a 3 or 4 year undergraduate degree from a recognized institution.

#### **GRADUATION AND THE APPROVAL OF GRADUANDS**

The student needs to apply to graduate. A graduand must pay any graduation fee set by the Board and published in the University Calendar.

The Chancellor, or in her or his absence the President, will confer on graduands appropriate graduation awards including degrees, diplomas and certificates to which the students have completed all required conditions of graduation.

Graduands must be approved by the Academic Council as having satisfied the academic requirements established by the University for a graduation award.

# **COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

# **Bachelor of Disability Management**

#### WHDM 102: The Workplace & Workplace Health Sciences (3 credits)

The purpose of this course is to explore the field of workplace health sciences and to provide an understanding of the interaction between work, the workplace, workers, and society at large in creating an environment in which the health and safety, work capacity and well-being of people in the workplace is enhanced, maintained, supported or diminished. Issues that determine how workplace health is managed, contributing factors, and the role of stakeholders will be explored. The emergence of health and safety, disability management and wellness programs in the workplace will also be examined.

# WHDM 103: The Body & Mind at Work Part 1 (3 credits)

The purpose of this course is to provide a multi-disciplinary introduction to the interaction between psychological, cognitive and emotional processes and work activities and demands. It provides and insight into the dynamic interaction between and individual and work using a biopsychosocial perspective on mental functioning. It explores the meaning of work in our lives, how organizations can assist or detract from this process and the organizational factors that lead to good mental health functioning. It addresses the personal characteristics, strategies and coping skills that create resilience in the face of stress and workplace factors that contribute to or inhibit the development of an employee's healthy personal growth. It examines characteristics of psychologically healthy workplaces and programs to promote the mental well-being of workers.

# WHDM 104: The Body & Mind at Work Part 2 (3 credits)

The purpose of this course is to provide a multi-disciplinary introduction to the interaction between psychological, cognitive and emotional processes and work activities and demands. It provides and insight into the dynamic interaction between and individual and work using a biopsychosocial perspective on mental functioning. It explores the meaning of work in our lives, how organizations can assist or detract from this process and the organizational factors that lead to good mental health functioning. It addresses the personal characteristics, strategies and coping skills that create resilience in the face of stress and workplace factors that contribute to or inhibit the development of an employee's healthy personal growth. It examines characteristics of psychologically healthy workplaces and programs to promote the mental well-being of workers.

# WHDM 201: Introduction to Disability Management (1.5 credits)

The purpose of this course is to provide an overview of the field of disability management and an understanding of program development and administration; an examination of the return-to-work process, including service coordination, and accommodation planning and implementation; and an awareness of alternative employment planning when a worker cannot return to his or her former workplace.

# WHDM 202: Introduction to Health & Safety (1.5 credits)

The purpose of this course is to provide an understanding of the field of occupational health, including the major components of an occupational health and safety program and management system. Processes related to identifying, measuring and mitigating risks to health and safety will be explored.

# WHDM 203: Disability & Society (3 credits)

The purpose of this course is to provide an in depth analysis of the scope and focus of disability policy and legislation from a societal perspective using the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities as a framework. It will provide students with a grounding in the regulatory framework within which disability policy is deployed through legislation and regulation in a number of areas that are central to disability management including independent living and mobility, education, health, rehabilitation, employment, adequate living standards and social protection. Legal cases that have set precedents in the field will be reviewed and analyzed. Students will critique the application of disability policy and legislation in terms of their impact on equality of participation and full citizenship for persons with disabilities and the role that Disability Management can play in achieving these aspirations.

# WHDM 204: Introduction to Human Resources (1.5 credits)

The purpose of this course is to provide an introduction to the human resources functions within an organization, and how these functions interface with and relate to the maintenance of the health and safety, work capacity, and well-being of people in the workplace.

# WHDM 205: Introduction to Workplace Wellness Programs (1.5 credits)

The purpose of this course is to provide an introduction to health promotion and workplace wellness, within the context of population health. The course addresses population health determinants with a particular emphasis on employment and employment-related factors. Students will learn about theories related to individual health behaviours, and the role of workplace wellness and culture as factors influencing the physical and mental health of workers. Considerations that influence decisions about program components and their evaluation will be discussed.

# WHDM 209: Organizational Change & Development (3 credits)

The purpose of this course is to expand awareness and knowledge of multiple issues related to organizational development and change. It will enable students to understand the principles and tools employed in organizational change initiatives, and to identify the role of program managers in implementing, assisting with and responding to changes in vision, focus, attitudes, organization and activities and policies.

# WHDM 211: Independent Study in a Work Disability Issue (3 credits)

The purpose of this course is to explore a workplace health science issue relevant to a work sector. Students will be expected to identify a work sector and a relevant issue such as prevention of injury, disability or promotion of health in the workplace. Students will do a literature review of grey, policy and evidence literature and develop a website to share that organizes the knowledge and summaries key information to promote and share the knowledge on a workplace issue within a work sector.

# WHDM 212: Introduction to Professional Ethics (3 credits)

The purpose of this course is to provide a foundation of professional ethics as part of preparation for practicum's in the workplace.

# WHDM 213: Independent Case Study in Workplace Health Sciences (3 credits)

The purpose of this course is for students to identify a workplace exemplar and to develop a case study using an appropriate methodology on how a workplace is using best practice or standards to support positive workplace health outcomes.

# WHDM 214: Practicum Preparation and Proposal (3 credits)

Prerequisite: WHDM 212

The purpose of this course is to prepare students for the appropriate conduct in the workplace, how to search for practicum's, how to write introductory letters and negotiate the duties, to identify the training required in the workplace and write a proposal for the processes of the practicum's and how they will be implemented across year three and year four in the program. To review the evaluation structure of the practicum's. To participate in physical or mental health first aid, or WHMIS or other training as appropriate preparation for going on place. Students will propose a project and presentation to be completed in year three and four of the program.

#### WHDM 301: Communication in the Workplace (3 credits)

The purpose of this course is to provide an introduction to the theory and practice of communication, with a focus on the use of effective communication techniques in individual and group situations in the workplace.

# WHDM 302: Physical Impairments & Work Retention (3 credits)

The purpose of this course is to provide students with an understanding of physical disabilities, their impact on work activities, and how workers can be accommodated to mitigate the effects of work disability.

# WHDM 303: Introduction to Vocational Rehabilitation (1.5 credits)

In this course, students will examine vocational rehabilitation processes that can be implemented when a physical or mental health condition prevents workers from returning to the job that they carried out prior to incurring a disability. These processes include providing appropriate assessments and counselling to identify an optimum career/job direction; a search for resources, including training opportunities, job coaching, the development of job search skills, and supportive assistive devices and technologies; and identifying funding sources for implementing the vocational rehabilitation plan.

# WHDM 304: Disability, Work & the Law (3 credits)

The purpose of this course is to examine the legal underpinnings of disability management established in international treaties, national, federal and provincial law and regulation. Workplace practices that are commonly governed by statutes and regulations in most jurisdictions and the issues and rationale underlying the legislation will be analyzed. Common provisions developed in response to workplace issues and the legislative requirements that underpin the source or cause of the workplace disability, the legal boundaries within which employers and unions are required to operate, and the requirements on the employee will be compared. Students will examine the specific employment and workplace legislation in their own jurisdictions, the regulations through which the legislation in implemented, and how these affect organizational practices. Processes related to identifying, measuring and mitigating risks to health and safety will be explored.

# WHDM 305: Interviewing Skills for Helping Professions (1.5 credits)

The purpose of this course is to provide an introduction to interviewing techniques that are effective in a workplace health context. Participants will explore and demonstrate communication skills that they can use to uncover challenges and opportunities and develop effective responses to both. Models of helping, and the potential and limitations of the helping role will be explored.

# WHDM 307: Mental Health Conditions & Work Retention (3 credits)

The purpose of this course is to develop an understanding of adverse mental health conditions in general, and from a workplace perspective. Students will examine the concept of mental illness and explore common mental health impairments, including their impact on the workplace, potential treatments, and strategies for retention and return to work.

# WDHM 309: Job Analysis, Assessment & Accommodation Technology (3 credits)

The purpose of this course is to provide students with the theoretical and practical background to identify and record job demands, interpret assessment reports, determine when there is a mismatch between individual capacity and job demands, and eliminate these through accommodation planning.

# WHDM 310: Decision Making & Data Analysis (3 credits)

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to workplace data collection and analysis activities, and to the role of statistical analysis in general. An overview of how and why data is collected in the workplace, and the role of data analysis in organizational and program decision making, will be followed by a general introduction to statistics and methods of analysis that are used to interpret data. Basic descriptive and inferential statistical techniques will be presented in the context of their use in the workplace.

# WHDM 311: Case Analysis & Research Methods (3 credits)

The purpose of this course is to provide a foundation in research skills, with a focus on those that are applicable to the workplace. Topics include the literature review as an underpinning for research questions and approaches, and commonly used research methodologies, including case analysis, action research, correlational research methods, and quasi-experimental and experimental research methods.

#### WHDM 312: Management Skills for Workplace Health Science (3 credits) Prerequisite WHDM 209

The purpose of this course is to examine the role of a manager, the management environment, and the skills and knowledge required to perform management functions. Students will also explore the application of management functions to workplace programs, including return to work, occupational health and safety and wellness programs.

# WHDM 313: The Field & Practice of Disability Management (3 credits)

The purpose of this course is designed to introduce students to the foundations of disability management based on the current guidelines and principles of practice. It will provide students with a broad understanding of the field of disability management, the approaches that are employed in returning a worker with a disability to a job, and the interaction between the disability management program and a range of internal and external stakeholders. It will introduce students to the relevant research from a broad range of disciplines including disability management, social work, occupational therapy, ergonomics, mental health, occupational health, case management and business trends.

# WHDM 314: Practicum (3 credits)

Prerequisites WHDM 214 and WHDM 212

The purpose of this course is to gain 160 hours in the workplace in the field of disability management at an introductory level.

#### WHDM 401: Ergonomics (3 credits)

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the scope of ergonomics and the application of ergonomic principles to work organization. It includes an overview of concepts and related theory and ergonomic assessment processes, and the identification and application of solutions.

#### WHDM 402: Unions & the Workplace (3 credits)

The purpose of this course is to provide an understanding of the labour movement international and national and regional frameworks, and how unions operate in representing workers and interacting with management. The focus of the course is on how the union movement has contributed to improving working conditions, occupational health and safety and on behalf of injured workers; training and advocacy initiatives; labour efforts in return to work and accommodation; mechanisms of participation, labour's critique of employer wellness and Behaviour Based Safety Programs. Factors affecting potential for cooperation between employers and labour and critical issues for labour in occupational health and safety, accommodation and return to work are reviewed.

# WHDM 403: Case Management & Service Coordination Part 1 (1.5 credits)

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to case management and service coordination from both a general and a return to work focus. This is the process whereby one individual acts as the central liaison and facilitator for the delivery to clients of a range of services, including services that can facilitate a return to work. Models of case management will be examined and key challenges explored.

# WHDM 404: Economics of the Workplace (3 credits)

The course introduces students to the application of economics concepts to workplace health initiatives. Students will consider the costs and benefits to individuals, organizations, and society (as represented by governments and quasi-governmental agencies) when occupational health and safety programs, disability management programs and wellness programs are in place or are improved.

# WHDM 405: Ethics in the Workplace (3 credits)

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the field of ethics, the role of professional and workplace ethics, and the application of ethics to workplace health issues.

# WHDM 406: Case Management & Service Coordination Part 2 (3 credits)

Prerequisites WHDM 403

The purpose of this course is to examine the skills and knowledge required for case management and service coordination, along with problem solving processes used in complex situations. The client's role as the centre of the process will be explored. Students will also consider issues related to diversity, lack of client commitment to the process, and ethics and law.

# WHDM 407: Conflict Resolution & Negotiation in the Workplace (3 credits)

The purpose of this course is to provide participants with tools to negotiate differences in the workplace and resolve conflicts on an individual and an organizational level.

# WHDM 408: Workplace Insurance and Benefits (3 credits)

The purpose of this course is to explore the types of workplace insurance that are commonly available, along with questions about how insurance is funded, how benefits are calculated, and who provides the insurance – whether private, public or some combination of the two. Participants will be expected to apply concepts of their own jurisdictions.

# WHDM 409: The Changing Nature of Work (1.5 credits)

The purpose of this course is to examine factors that affect the nature of work and how it is performed. This will include technological change, work organization, the divide between rote work and more cognitively complex tasks, globalization and organizational mobility, and the use of outsourcing and temporary employees. There will be an emphasis on how the transformation of work in the contemporary world of work impacts upon the field and practice of disability management.

# WHDM 410a: Final Project (3 credits)

Prerequisites: Completion of all other courses in the learning plan

The purpose of this course is to have students work with a faculty adviser to choose a project that may involve practical experience or critical analysis of disability management practice at an individual or organizational level. In addition to standard qualitative or quantitative research or evaluation designs, both personal practice and single case study designs in collaboration with another person are acceptable. The student will complete a literature review of the area that has been identified, develop a methodology, produce a structured proposal and formulate a project management plan.

# WHDM 410b: Final Project (3 credits)

Prerequisites: Completion of all other courses in the learning plan

Students will work with a faculty adviser to choose a project that may involve practical experience or critical analysis of disability management practice at an individual or organizational level. In addition to standard qualitative or quantitative research or evaluation designs, both personal practice and single case study designs in collaboration with another person are acceptable. The student will complete a literature review of the area that has been identified, develop a methodology, produce a structured proposal and formulate a project management plan. (*May be a continuation of 410a*).

#### WHDM 412: Final Practicum (3 credits)

Prerequisites WHDM 314

The purpose of this course is to gain 160 hours in the workplace in the field of disability management at an advanced level.

# Advanced Certificate in Return to Work Stream 1 - Canadian Perspectives

#### WHDM 302: Physical Impairments & Work Retention (3 credits)

The purpose of this course is designed to provide students with an understanding of physical disabilities, their impact on work activities, and how workers can be accommodated to mitigate the effects of work disability. WHDM 304: Disability, Work & the Law (3 credits)

The purpose of this course is to explore the legal underpinnings of disability management established in international treaties, national, federal and provincial law and regulation. Workplace practices that are commonly governed by statutes and regulations in most jurisdictions and the issues and rationale underlying the legislation will be analyzed. Common provisions developed in response to workplace issues and the legislative requirements that underpin the source or cause of the workplace disability, the legal boundaries within which employers and unions are required to operate, and the requirements on the employee will be compared. Students will examine the specific employment and workplace legislation in their own jurisdictions, the regulations through which the legislation is implemented, and how these affect organizational practices. Processes related to identifying, measuring and mitigating risks to health and safety will be explored.

#### WHDM 305: Interviewing Skills for Helping Professions (1.5 credits)

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to interviewing techniques that are effective in a workplace health context. Participants will explore and demonstrate communication skills that they can use to uncover challenges and opportunities and develop effective responses to both. Models of helping, and the potential and limitations of the helping role, will be explored.

# WHDM 307: Mental Health Conditions & Work Retention (3 credits)

The purpose of this course is to develop an understanding of adverse mental health conditions in general, and from a workplace perspective. Students will examine the concept of mental illness and explore common mental health impairments, including their impact on the workplace, potential treatments, and strategies for retention and return to work.

# WHDM 309: Job Analysis, Assessment Reports, & Accommodation Technology (3 credits)

The purpose of this course is to provide students with the theoretical and practical background to identify and record job demands, interpret assessment reports, determine when there is a mismatch between individual capacity and job demands, and eliminate these through accommodation planning.

# WHDM 313: The Field & Practice of Disability Management (3 credits)

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the foundations of disability management based on the current guidelines and principles of practice. It will provide students with a broad understanding of the field of disability management, the approaches that are employed in returning a worker with a disability to a job, and the interaction between the disability management program and a range of internal and external stakeholders. It will introduce students to relevant research from a broad range of disciplines including disability management, social work, occupational therapy, ergonomics, mental health, occupational health, case management and business trends.

# WHDM 401: Ergonomics (3 credits)

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the scope of ergonomics and the application of ergonomic principles to work organization. It includes an overview of concepts and related theory and ergonomic assessment processes, and the identification and application of solutions.

# WHDM 403: Case Management and Service Coordination Part 1 (1.5 credits)

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to case management and service coordination from both a general and a return to work focus. This is the process whereby one individual acts as a central liaison and facilitator for the delivery to clients of a range of services, including services that can.

#### WHDM 405: Ethics & the Workplace (3 credits)

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the field of ethics, the role of professional and workplace ethics, and the application of ethics to workplace health issues.

# WHDM 406: Case Management and Service Coordination Part 2 (3 credits)

Prerequisites WHDM 403

The purpose of this course is to examine in detail the skills and knowledge required for case management and service coordination, along with problem solving processes used in complex situations. The client's role as the centre of the process will be explored. Students will also consider issues related to diversity, lack of client commitment to the process, and ethics and law.

# WHDM 408: Workplace Insurance and Benefits (3 credits)

The purpose of this course is to explore the types of workplace insurance that are commonly available, along with questions about how insurance is funded, how benefits are calculated, and who provides the insurance– whether private, public or some combination of the two. Participants will be expected to apply concepts to their own jurisdictions.

# Advanced Certificate in Return to Work Stream 2 – International Perspectives

# WHDM 302: Physical Impairments & Work Retention (3 credits)

The purpose of this course is designed to provide students with an understanding of physical disabilities, their impact on work activities, and how workers can be accommodated to mitigate the effects of work disability. WHDM 305: Interviewing Skills for Helping Professions (1.5 credits)

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to interviewing techniques that are effective in a workplace health context. Participants will explore and demonstrate communication skills that they can use to uncover challenges and opportunities and develop effective responses to both. Models of helping, and the potential and limitations of the helping role, will be explored.

#### WHDM 307: Mental Health Conditions & Work Retention (3 credits)

The purpose of this course is to develop an understanding of adverse mental health conditions in general, and from a workplace perspective. Students will examine the concept of mental illness and explore common mental health impairments, including their impact on the workplace, potential treatments, and strategies for retention and return to work.

# WHDM 309: Job Analysis, Assessment Reports, & Accommodation Technology (3 credits)

The purpose of this course is to provide students with the theoretical and practical background to identify and record job demands, interpret assessment reports, determine when there is a mismatch between individual capacity and job demands, and eliminate these through accommodation planning.

# WHDM 313: The Field & Practice of Disability Management (3 credits)

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the foundations of disability management based on the current guidelines and principles of practice. It will provide students with a broad understanding of the field of disability management, the approaches that are employed in returning a worker with a disability to a job, and the interaction between the disability management program and a range of internal and external stakeholders. It will introduce students to relevant research from a broad range of disciplines including disability management, social work, occupational therapy, ergonomics, mental health, occupational health, case management and business trends.

# WHDM 403: Case Management and Service Coordination Part 1 (1.5 credits)

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to case management and service coordination from both a general and a return to work focus. This is the process whereby one individual acts as a central liaison and facilitator for the delivery to clients of a range of services, including services that can facilitate a return to work. Models of case management will be examined.

# WHDM 405: Ethics & the Workplace (3 credits)

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the field of ethics, the role of professional and workplace ethics, and the application of ethics to workplace health issues.

# WHDM 406: Case Management and Service Coordination Part 2 (3 credits)

Prerequisites WHDM 403

The purpose of this course is to examine the skills and knowledge required for case management and service coordination, along with problem solving processes used in complex situations. The client's role as the centre of the process will be explored. Students will also consider issues related to diversity, lack of client commitment to the process, and ethics and law.

# WHDM 408: Workplace Insurance and Benefits (3 credits)

The purpose of this course is to explore the types of workplace insurance that are commonly available, along with questions about how insurance is funded, how benefits are calculated, and who provides the insurance– whether private, public or some combination of the two. Participants will be expected to apply concepts to their own jurisdictions.

# WHDM 501: The Contribution of Return to Work Programs to Economic & Social Inclusion (3 credits)

The purpose of this course is to critically examine the international legal and policy contributions that have shaped a context for developing and implementing return to work programs. In this course students will compare and contrast the international and national social, occupational, economic factors that impact upon the effectiveness of programs to promote labour participation of people with disabilities.

# WHDM 502: Creating the System Conditions for Good Practice in Return to Work (1.5 credits)

The purpose of this course is to examine how standards at the system level provide a foundation for achieving excellence in return to work. In this course the focus will be on examining the principles and tenets of guidelines and standards as well as the challenges in interpreting and applying them within diverse international contexts.

# WHDM 503: Refocusing Organizations and Systems on Return to Work Priorities (1.5 credits)

The purpose of this course is the examination of change strategies at the organization and system levels that can promote international and national priorities for return to work and work retention. In this course the foci are on conceptual, social, economic, evaluative and individual approaches that enable organizational change and the role of leadership in sustainable transformation in return to work.