



**CENTRE FOR**  
**WORLD INDIGENOUS**  
**KNOWLEDGE AND RESEARCH**



## **HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT GETTING A UNIVERSITY EDUCATION? THOUGHT YOUR OPTIONS WERE LIMITED BECAUSE OF LOCATION, PERSONAL CIRCUMSTANCE OR OTHER REASONS?**

Athabasca University (AU) is committed to your education. With long-term Aboriginal education initiatives and partnerships with several First Nations colleges, we have been able to present University classes on reserves, in communities and throughout the world.

Our commitment to First Nations, Métis and Inuit students is one which brings us much pride. We have been fortunate to be able to provide quality education to many Aboriginal students: nurses, educators, future doctoral candidates, police officers, managers, and students requiring an entire degree or just a course or two along their educational journey. Our commitment extends to creating and providing courses that are relevant, respectful and meaningful to both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students and to preserving First Nation, Métis and Inuit intellectual traditions in our course development and programming.

### **WHO SHOULD APPLY?**

Aboriginal students and professionals with an interest in university education will benefit from AU's course and program offerings. For specific information about the Centre for World Indigenous Knowledge and Research (CWIKR), contact:

**Canada/US: 1.800.788.9041 (ext. 2064)**

**Other: 780.428.2064**

**Fax: 780.497.3416**

**Website: [www.athabascau.ca/indigenous](http://www.athabascau.ca/indigenous)**

**E-Mail: [indigenous@athabascau.ca](mailto:indigenous@athabascau.ca)**






## **BENEFITS**

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### **A Practical Answer to the Time Squeeze**

If you are like most people today, you lead a very busy life. AU offers you a convenient, flexible way to learn:

- Schedule your study times when and where you want
  - Stay at home or in your community
  - Set your own pace
  - No pressure or cramming
  - Personalized one-to-one tutoring
  - Telephone and online access to course materials, the library, and your tutor
  - No large classes
  - Continuous enrolment
  - Learn while you earn
  - Good value for your money
  - High-quality, easy-to-follow course materials
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## MISSION STATEMENT

At the Centre for World Indigenous Knowledge and Research, our aim is to foster the intellectual growth of our students through quality post-secondary education that is determined by the philosophies and values of Indigenous peoples. We call this *education that makes a difference*.

Our objective is to allow for the full participation of Indigenous peoples and to ensure equitable access to and success in post-secondary studies and to enable students to study and learn in environments which reflect their true heritage and culture.

We promote an education that is valuable, meaningful and beneficial for Indigenous students and their communities in Canada and around the world.

We draw our educational philosophy from the teachers we know best: our elders, leaders, and traditional knowledge holders in Indigenous communities.



## WHERE IN THE WORLD WILL YOU STUDY?

AU students pursue their education from every corner of the earth. AU has students in Sri Lanka, Japan, Jamaica, Australia, the United States of America, among other countries, and every province and territory in Canada. Many of AU's students have studied on reserve or in their traditional territories. You may take your AU courses wherever your community, family, career and other commitments take you. Contact us to find out how you can ensure that your study schedule is truly your own.

## **HOW DOES DISTANCE EDUCATION WORK?**

The central component of our courses is the individualized study package, which is developed by professors and a team of educational media experts. Each package is a complete user-friendly learning system that includes textbooks, a study guide, and any other learning materials required to complete the course. You are allowed up to six months to complete a three-credit course. Within this time frame you are free to set your own study schedule.

## **PROGRAM DELIVERY**

AU is committed to meeting students' needs through flexibility in the design and delivery of its courses and programs. We offer over 600 credit courses in a wide variety of disciplines. Students can choose from two basic delivery modes: individualized study or grouped study. Each delivery mode allows for a number of different learning methods, including home study, seminars, classroom instruction, teleconferencing, videoconferencing, Internet and computer-mediated courses.

### **Individualized Study**

Individualized study provides the greatest flexibility to set your own study schedule. Students receive a complete learning package and they work at home, at their own pace. In addition to print materials, course packages may include other resources such as audio, video, home laboratory, and CD-ROM materials. Some courses also have computer and Internet components.

Students who choose the individualized study mode are not on their own. Each student is assigned a knowledgeable tutor who is qualified to assist with all aspects of the course. Students may call tutors toll-free from anywhere in North America and may also contact them online.

[www.athabascau.ca/indigenous](http://www.athabascau.ca/indigenous) →

### Grouped Study

Grouped study courses have a set start and end date. Students interact in a group with their instructor and complete assignments and exams according to a schedule. Grouped study courses include seminars, classroom courses, teleconference courses, videoconference courses, guided independent study courses, and some Internet and computer-mediated courses.

Grouped courses usually begin in September and January and generally last 13 weeks (three-credit course). Please contact the Centre for World Indigenous Knowledge and Research for locations. These courses can be offered in Indigenous nations, communities, and organizations if numbers permit.

### Full- or Part-time Study

Students can study full-time or part-time. Full-time students are expected to enrol in three to five courses per term. Part-time students usually enrol in one to two courses per term.

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

AU is an open university; anyone 16 years of age or older can apply, regardless of their previous academic achievement. Students are not required to have a high school diploma. Enrolment in some courses or programs of study, however, may require students to have specific levels of prior academic achievement. Take the self-assessment questionnaire "Am I Ready for Athabasca University?" in the Online Resources section at [www.athabascau.ca/main/studserv.htm](http://www.athabascau.ca/main/studserv.htm), or phone to request a copy. AU's year-round admission policy and registration in individualized study courses, prior learning assessment, and challenge for credit opportunities help students achieve their goals.

## STUDENT SERVICES

Students have access to extensive support services, including counsellors and academic advisors to help with program planning and academic problems. Students may also consult with the Office of the Registrar for advice on academic procedures and problems. For more information on student services, visit [www.athabascau.ca/main/studserv.htm](http://www.athabascau.ca/main/studserv.htm). For discussion with an Indigenous staff member contact [indigenous@athabascau.ca](mailto:indigenous@athabascau.ca).

## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Financial assistance is available for Indigenous education students. Refer to an AU Calendar for information on financial assistance.





## **CHALLENGE FOR CREDIT AND CREDIT TRANSFER**

AU recognizes that learning is not restricted to a scholastic environment. Some students may acquire enough knowledge through their work to make it redundant for them to enrol in a course. To accommodate prior learning, the University offers a challenge for credit process.

This option allows students to demonstrate that they have acquired a command of the subject matter that would normally be found in a university-level course.

AU is a credit coordinating institution. We offer over 600 credit courses that are transferable to other post-secondary institutions across Canada, the United States, and worldwide. Students may also transfer credits earned at other post-secondary institutions to AU. In general, credit courses completed at other accredited institutions will be considered for transfer credit to an AU program on a course-by-course basis.

## **PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT**

Through AU's Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) process, you may be granted credits toward your AU credential by presenting evidence of various types of learning including life experience, job training, workshops, seminars and other experiences outside a formal post-secondary setting. For more information, contact the Centre for Learning Accreditation at 780.675.6348, or visit the Centre's website at <http://prior-learning.athabascau.ca>. You may also contact the Centre for World Indigenous Knowledge and Research at 780.428.2064 or [indigenous@athabascau.ca](mailto:indigenous@athabascau.ca).

# PICTURE YOURSELF AT ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY



## **Bella Kay, Gwich'in**

Bachelor of Education  
Aurora College, Inuvik, N.W.T.  
Completed Athabasca University's  
*INST 358: Aboriginal Women in Canadian  
Contemporary Society* on-site at Aurora  
College, Inuvik, N.W.T.

## **Cheryl Schmitz, Cree**

Bachelor of Professional Arts  
Completed Athabasca University's  
*Bachelor of Professional Arts* on-site at  
Grant MacEwan College, Edmonton, Alta.



## **Cheryl Alexander, Cree**

Bachelor of Administration  
Completed Athabasca University's  
*Bachelor of Administration* through  
individualized and grouped study at  
Keyano College, Fort McMurray, Alta.



## **Olive Pascal, Inuvialuit**

Bachelor of Education  
Aurora College, Inuvik, N.W.T.  
Completed Athabasca University's  
*INST 358: Aboriginal Women in Canadian  
Contemporary Society* on-site at  
Aurora College, Inuvik, N.W.T.





## **INDIVIDUALIZED LEARNING THROUGH OPEN AND DISTANCE EDUCATION**

Athabasca University is one of the world's leading open universities specializing in distance education. By focusing on innovation in learning, AU makes it possible for you to earn a university education regardless of where you live or work or your commitments to family or career. AU removes the barriers of time, space, past educational experience and, to a great extent, level of income. We achieve this through:

- Distance education teaching and learning strategies
- Open admission
- Year-round enrolment
- Maximum course choice within programs
- Liberal course completion dates
- Minimal residency requirements
- Credit coordination
- Challenge for credit options
- Collaborative arrangements with other institutions and organizations



**Left to right: AU honorary doctorate recipient Maria Campbell, former Governing Council member Herb Belcourt, and faculty member Professor Jay Smith.**



## FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information on Indigenous education courses or programs, contact:  
**[www.athabasca.ca/indigenous](http://www.athabasca.ca/indigenous)**

**Canada/U.S.: 1.800.788.9041 (ext. 2064)**

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Athabasca University  
Centre for World Indigenous  
Knowledge and Research  
Peace Hills Trust Tower  
1200, 10011-109 Street  
Edmonton, AB T5J 3S8  
Canada

To register in any Athabasca University course or program, call the AU office nearest you or register online.

**Canada/U.S.: 1.800.788.9041**

**Other: 780.675.6100**

**Website: [www.athabasca.ca](http://www.athabasca.ca)**



### About This Program

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

### About AU

Canada/US: 1.800.788.9041  
Other: 780.675.6100

Fax: 780.675.6437

Inquiries: [www.askau.ca](http://www.askau.ca)  
Website: [www.athabascau.ca](http://www.athabascau.ca)

**Athabasca University**   
Canada's  **Open University**<sup>®</sup>

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