

THE EXTENSION



ACADIA
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OPEN ACADIA

News from the Director of Digital and Extended Learning Home of Open Acadia

Hello,

I am excited to share with the community a few of the projects the team at Open Acadia has been working on this term. Including, a sneak peek of our new "Explore" platform that we are developing for the campus.

Jack Rice

Director, Digital and Extended Learning



REMINDERS

Intersession

Open Acadia has put the call out for course proposals for Summer 2026 offerings. There are more choices than ever to provide flexible course schedules and modalities. Faculty - please check your email for more information or [click here for the course proposal form](#). Proposals should be submitted by November 10.

Identifying Courses for ALL Auditors

To more efficiently administer course audit requests from ALL members, faculty have been asked to identify courses that they would like to open up to auditors. If you are open to having an ALL auditor in your winter term class [click here to complete a short form](#) by November 15. There are options to set a limit on the number of auditors and to describe how you would like auditors to participate in your class.

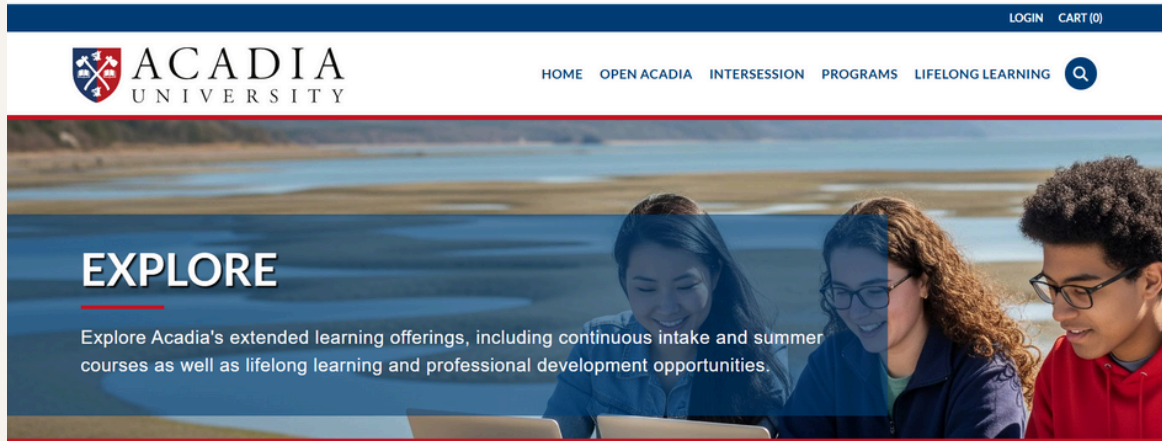
New Extension Policy for Open Acadia, Online, Continuous-Intake Courses

On Sept 2, 2025, Open Acadia instituted a new policy for online course extension requests. Please note course instructor permission is no longer required for routine course extensions. Extensions are valid for a 2-month period, and each course may be extended up to 3 times, to a maximum of 6 months of extended time. Requests must be submitted through the HUB request form at least one month in advance of the original completion date. The course extension fee is \$150 per 2-month extension request.

Open Acadia will provide consideration to fees being waived for extension requests related to exceptional circumstances such as medical considerations, and requests made by Acadia's Accessible Learning unit.

UPDATES

Open Acadia's Explore Platform



The new [EXPLORE](#) platform will soon be available through Open Acadia. This platform will allow people to browse extended learning offerings around campus, such as Open Acadia's Continuous Intake Courses, Interession options, and Acadia Lifelong Learning courses. The nice thing about the site is that it serves as an e-commerce platform which can be leveraged to simplify the payment and registration processes for a wide range of events and offerings around campus.

I want to make it abundantly clear that we built this platform for the entire Acadia campus. If your department feels that you have a use case for EXPLORE please let us know and we will endeavor to include pathways, or links to your program. We are still working out a few kinks before we link it to our website, but if you are interested in a preview, please check it out at <https://explore.acadiau.ca/>.

I want to thank Terry Aulenbach, Justin Lingard, Christina McRae and Jessica Saunders for their work on designing and testing the new site. I am looking forward to seeing how the platform evolves.

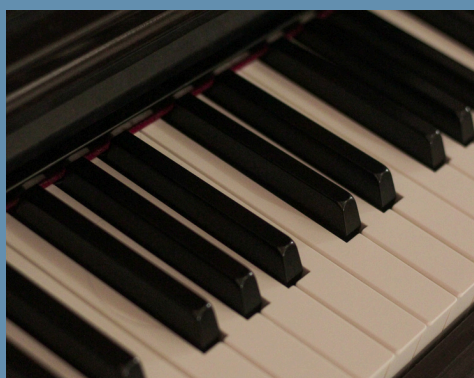
Certificate in Mathematics Teaching (Grades 5-9)

The fully subscribed 2025 Certificate in Mathematics Teaching cohort is well underway! Students are currently taking MATH 1533 - Mathematical Concepts 1 with MATH 1543 Mathematical Concepts 2 on the schedule for the winter semester. Interest is high for subsequent cohorts.



Acadia Lifelong Learning

- The revamped [Acadia Lifelong Learning](#) (ALL) program is expanding and Open Acadia, in partnership with the ALL Advisory Board, is working hard to provide new opportunities to engage ALL learners
- ALL membership for the Sept 2025 - Sept 2026 year now boasts well over 200 subscribers
- The hands-on Drawing Native Birds of Nova Scotia art workshop with Isabelle Kehoe has wrapped up, and many members are now benefitting from Can Mutlu's highly engaging Borders and Migration in the 21st Century ALL mini-course
- It looks like we will have a full slate of five ALL mini-course offerings for the winter term – full details to follow soon



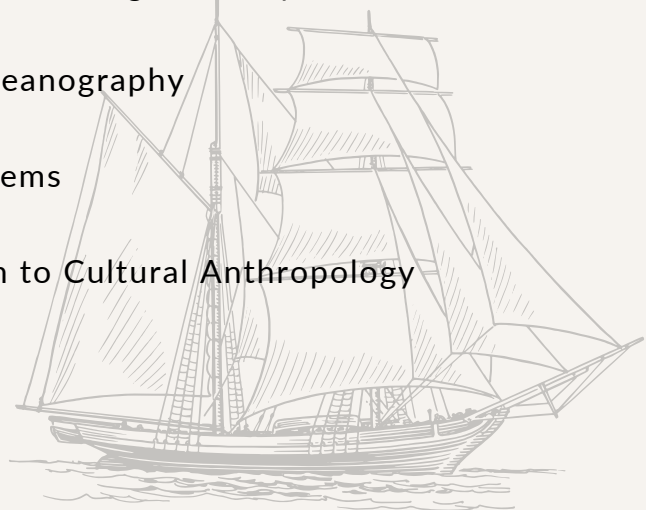
Music Camp

Planning is already underway for the 2026 Summer Music Academy under the leadership of Camp Director Lyndsey Mitchell. Next summer's camp will take place from July 5-11, 2026, with registration opening in March.

Class Afloat

Open Acadia continues its long-term partnership with Class Afloat - West Island College International. Students from the ages of 16-19 sail the world's oceans aboard a majestic tall ship and are able to enrol in high-school and Acadia University courses. This fall term, Open Acadia courses on offer include:

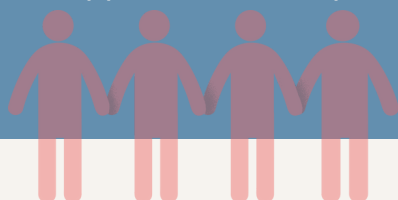
- ECON 1013 COIN9 Microeconomic Principles
(Brian Van Blarcom)
- ENGL 1413 COIN9 Writing and Reading Critically 1
(Michelle Damour)
- GEOL 1033 COIN9 General Oceanography
(Christa Pufahl)
- SOCI 1033 COIN9 Social Problems
(Michelle Coleman)
- SOCI 1113 COIN9 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology
(Ann Marie Powers)



English Language Centre

We welcomed a new cohort of students in October from our Japanese partner institutions (Kanda University, Doshisha Women's College). They were joined with other students from Mali, Turkey, South Korea, and Syria. Students will complete a 6-month intensive language program, after which many will transition into Undergraduate studies.

A very successful Share Thanksgiving initiative was hosted for the campus and community. International students received a Nova Scotia welcome from local families as they shared a Thanksgiving meal together. Stay tuned for opportunities to participate during the winter holiday season.





Teaching and Learning Workshops

In October Open Acadia's Michael Shaw facilitated various workshops.

- [Two workshops on Moodle and the AI Disruption](#)
- Training for Acadia School of Divinity students on Word and referencing systems used for formatting master's theses

Check out the [Open Acadia YouTube channel playlist](#) to watch recordings of the AI Disruption workshops, other teaching technology training sessions, and Moodle tips.

Big thanks to Sharon Churchill, Chris Edwards and Michael Shaw for all that they do to support instructors in Open Acadia and across campus.



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