Open Studies

ACADEMIC SERVICES

Overview

Choose from various courses to explore your interests and strengths, helping you make informed choices about your program and career while earning post-secondary credits.

General studies

The Open Studies program allows you to explore your path with general studies and sample different courses to figure out which field of study or university/college education is right for you.

Maybe the program you want to join isn't available until a later semester. With Open Studies, you can get a head start by taking some courses in advance. This option is especially useful for programs that lead to diplomas, certificates, or degrees.

Flexible class times

Some students prefer a slower pace. Open Studies allows you to ease into a full program by taking a few courses each semester. The program enables those working and studying to manage their workload more easily.

You can take Open Studies courses in two ways:

- online asynchronous, which is flexible and can be done anytime that suits you
- online synchronous or in-person, which is scheduled class times.

Please note that daytime class options are not available to Open Studies students.

Benefits for international students

If you're an international student already in a program but want to switch to a different one, Open Studies can help. It helps you maintain the required number of credits to study in Canada, even if the courses aren't directly related to your future career.

Prepare for postsecondary

Whether you are working towards an undergraduate degree in business studies or another area of study, the Open Studies program can help you get there.

Credentials

While you won't receive a specific credential in Open Studies, the program allows you to:

- build a solid foundation for further education at SAIT with transfer credits for transferable courses
- earn credit for up to 30 credits or 50% of a program's courses if you pursue a certificate, diploma, applied degree, or bachelor's degree program at SAIT
- take advantage of free SAIT student services, such as tutoring, learning strategy workshops, appointments with a learning strategist, and counselling.

Admission requirements

You will require an English proficiency level equivalent to at least a Canadian Language Benchmark Assessment (CLBA) score of 8 or an International English Language Testing System (IELTS) band score of 6 in all categories.

There are no further admission requirements for the Open Studies program.

Costs

2026/27 cost per course

The following costs are effective as of July 1, 2026.

Each course offered in Open Studies is assigned a cost tier, which you can find in the course description.

Domestic students

Course credits	Tier 1 course	Tier 2 course	Tier 3 course
1.5	$364.50	$432	$522
3.0	$729	$864	$1,044

The estimated cost of tuition per course for domestic students.

International students

Course credits	Tier 1 course	Tier 2 course	Tier 3 course
1.5	$1,225.50	$1,449	$1,750.50
3.0	$2,451	$2,898	$3,501

The estimated cost of tuition per course for international students.

Fees

You will also need to pay fees in addition to course tuition.

Your fees are calculated based on the number of course credits you take per semester (approximately 16 weeks of study).

In most cases, your fees are determined based on whether you're taking more or less than nine (9) course credits in a semester (more than nine credits in a semester are considered full-time studies.)

For a detailed breakdown of fees, visit the domestic or international fee tables.

Books and Supplies

Costs associated with the required books and supplies vary by course.

This is a bring-your-own-device program with a standard computer hardware and software requirement. See the specific requirements on our computers and laptops page.

Find your booklist for your course(s) on the SAIT Bookstore's website. The booklist will be available closer to your program start date. Can't find your course? The bookstore didn't receive a textbook list. Contact your advisor directly to determine if they're still refining course details or if you're in luck, no textbook purchase is required this term.