



June 8, 2020

Dear Students,

I am looking forward to welcoming you to Vancouver Island University for the Fall 2020 semester. Our office has been receiving many questions from Education students about our plans for the fall. This note is intended to provide you with the most up to date information.

**I'd like to share more details about what you can expect in your Graduate Education Courses this September:**

- All of our **Graduate programs** courses will be delivered **on-line in the fall**.
- All students will require access to technology to engage in online course work. This includes a stable and reliable internet, and a computer with a working camera and a microphone.
- Instructors will be in touch before September to communicate how your courses will be delivered and their expectations and hopes for your classes together.
- For our international students, please expect direct communication from the Chair of Graduate programs regarding your intended geographic/time zone location, access to technology, and usage of web-based platforms.

Prior to your classes beginning in the fall, you can expect to hear directly from your Instructors and/or Program Coordinator with specific details about individual courses, such as course outcomes, meeting times, and other important information.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we develop plans in response to a changing landscape.

If you are a returning student, I know you will look forward to reconnecting with your peers and Instructors in the cohort structure. If this is your first experience at VIU, I look forward to connecting with you early in the semester. You will be receiving an invitation to ROCK VIU which is our fun University-wide orientation and welcome activities. For our international students, you will be receiving additional information on various VIU processes and aspects, including orientation specific for you, directly from the Faculty of International Education.

I know that many of you may still have questions about the Fall semester and I want to assure you that VIU is here to assist you in various ways to ensure that you have an enriching experience. The University has put together a [FAQ for students](#) that is being updated as new questions come in, and we are also happy to answer any further questions you may have – please reach out to me directly about your program, or to [universityrelations@viu.ca](mailto:universityrelations@viu.ca).

I am very much looking forward to seeing you (virtually) in the fall. In the meantime – I hope you have a wonderful summer. Stay safe!

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D. Paterson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

Dr. David Paterson, Dean  
Faculty of Education