

HOW TO REGISTER



Students can simply register themselves through goSFU. FALX99 is offered at all SFU campuses, Burnaby, Surrey and Vancouver.

If you require any further information, please visit the FAQ section of our website. www.educ.sfu.ca/fal/FAQ.html

If your question hasn't been answered there, please contact us and we will work with you, your faculty advisor and the Admissions Office to find an answer for you.

FOUNDATIONS OF ACADEMIC LITERACY FACULTY OF EDUCATION

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



What will FAL X99 do for me?

FALX99 will provide you with an opportunity to practice and become comfortable with your own voice as a writer in a variety of disciplines, gain confidence in your ability to communicate effectively in writing, explore a variety of ways of presenting your thoughts and ideas, become comfortable using writing as a way of exploring and learning, and receive constructive feedback on your writing and academic literacy skills.

This course is designed with new university students in mind, but all students who want or need to become more comfortable and confident in their academic literacy skills are encouraged to take FALX99. This course helps students to become effective writers, problem-solvers, thinkers, and active learners. Students will also learn academic presentation skills.

Who must take FAL X99?

Any new SFU student who does not meet the literacy competence requirement when they are admitted to SFU is required to take FALX99.

I'm transferring from another college or university. How do I meet the FAL admission requirements?

If you have completed a post-secondary English course that is transferable to SFU for English credit, or have completed a college course that has been certified by SFU as a transferable Writing intensive course with a grade of C- or better, you will be deemed to have met the FAL admission requirements.

If you do not meet either of these conditions, you will need to meet the same admission standards as high school graduates.

I am coming from outside Canada. What do I need to do to meet the FAL admission requirements?

International applicants may satisfy SFU's literacy competency requirement in one of several ways. Applicants may submit an acceptable IELTS score. Applicants admitted on the basis of their IELTS score will be "streamed" into W courses or the Foundations of Academic Literacy course on the basis of that score. Applicants admitted on the basis of a score earned on a

different English language proficiency test (e.g., TOEFL, CAEL, etc.) will also be required to take the LPI before the conclusion of their first semester at SFU. Details of acceptable scores in tests of English language proficiency are available at students.sfu.ca/admission/requirements/english.html under the heading "English language requirements".

I am a BC high school student. How do I figure out whether or not I need to take FAL X99?

Students' English 12 final grade is provided to the University by the BC Ministry of Education.

1 Students with English 12 grades of 75% or higher are admitted and eligible to register directly into writing intensive (W) courses.

2 Students with English 12 grades between 60% and 74% are admitted and must write the Language Proficiency Index test (LPI) or register directly into Foundations of Academic Literacy (FALX99).

a Students who opt to write the LPI exam must achieve a score of 4 on the essay portion of the LPI and a minimum score of 50% on all parts of the LPI to be eligible to register in W courses. Students who score below this threshold must register in FALX99. BC high school students are encouraged to write the LPI at test sittings held in their schools. Because LPI testing sites are generally limited to locations within BC, out-of-province applicants with English 12 grades below 75% will be able to access sittings at SFU. Such students are advised to write the LPI as early as possible in their first semester at SFU.

b Students who elect or must register in FALX99 must do so within their first 30 credits at SFU and complete it with a grade of C or better within their first 45 credits before being allowed to register in a W course.

For more information about FAL please visit our website. fal.educ.sfu.ca

FAL

FOUNDATIONS OF ACADEMIC LITERACY
FACULTY OF EDUCATION



PROGRAM OVERVIEW



FAL is designed to welcome students to Simon Fraser University, and to provide them with an opportunity to develop and strengthen their academic literacy skills in preparation for university-level studies. Foundations of Academic Literacy (FALX99) will help students:

- to feel comfortable in the university classroom and to increase confidence to take on further studies;
- to be able to apply the knowledge that they learn on the FAL course to the discipline-specific practices of their ongoing studies;
- to receive individualized advice on their learning needs;
- to practice working individually and on group projects.

The course is intended to support students as they make the transition from high school-to undergraduate-level studies at Simon Fraser University, and to prepare them to be successful in their academic pursuits.

ABOUT THE COURSE

The course is designed around 4 units of study as set out below. There will be two two-hour classes per week. A variety of presentation methods will be used.

Unit 1: Writing about yourself

In this unit, students will:

- Write about their learning style and about their own lives
- Develop personal & narrative voice
- Practice skimming and scanning texts
- Discuss learning issues one-to-one with instructor
- Write a diagnostic task

Unit 2: Group project

In this unit, students will:

- Work on a group presentation & a group writing activity
- Practice critical thinking
- Present work orally
- Edit own work
- Receive diagnostic writing task marked with FAL marking code
- Visit SFU Library & Learning Commons (Surrey or Burnaby)



IS FAL FOR ME?



Developed in support of the new University Undergraduate Curriculum Initiative, FALX99 was designed with new university students in mind, but is open to all students who want or need to become more comfortable and confident in their academic literacy.

Students who have met SFU's literacy requirement can still take FALX99. The course will be particularly beneficial to students with Grade 12 English scores of between 75% and 80%, and new undergraduate students who are interested in academic literacy.

To determine your eligibility to register in FALX99, please visit our web site.
fal.educ.sfu.ca

Unit 3: Different audiences and different styles: reading and writing learning outcomes

In this unit, students will:

- Write summaries
- Add critical component to summaries
- Demonstrate an awareness of style and audience through reading and writing
- Apply to context: evaluate own work & rewrite to improve style

Unit 4: Writing the discussion essay: beginning, middle and end

In this unit, students will:

- Go through the processes of essay writing in class
- Analyze a title for topic, focus, task
- Brainstorm ideas
- Organize a critical-analytical outline
- Write an introduction
- Write main body paragraphs
- Write a conclusion

