

What Can I Do With a Minor in Asia-Canada Studies?

THE ASIA-CANADA PROGRAM

There is an increasing importance in the complexity of intercultural understanding and trans-Pacific relations. British Columbia, most especially in Vancouver and its suburbs, continues to undergo a major demographic shift, through which the legacy of Asian cultures will be increasingly important to the experience of all its citizens. At the same time, there is rapid growth in economic opportunities for Canada across the Pacific. For Canadians of Asian heritage the program provides the means to develop a fuller understanding of their own complex relations between Asian countries and Canada. Part of the program is a study of one or more Asian languages.

(Source: <http://www.sfu.ca/AsiaCanada/ascdept.htm>)

WHAT SKILLS HAVE YOU DEVELOPED WITH YOUR DEGREE?

While the academic knowledge you acquire through your BA may be directly applicable to some careers, the general skills you gain with an Arts degree are the most valuable to employers. These skills are not limited to course work, and may be gained through paid and/or volunteer work both on and off campus. The knowledge and skills gained through work experience, volunteering and extra-curricular activities are relevant to future work.

Communication Skills

The ability to communicate ideas clearly and efficiently in a variety of mediums (written, oral, visually and electronically).

Information Management

Locate, gather, and organize information using appropriate technology and information systems.

Use research skills to access, analyze, and apply knowledge.

Problem Solving

Use critical thinking skills to evaluate and solve problems.

Demonstrate the ability to be creative and innovative in identifying solutions.

Problem solving abilities in conducting fieldwork, mapping, surveying and excavating.

Teamwork Skills

Able to work effectively within a group.

Demonstrates the ability to lead or support the group while monitoring the success of a project and identifying ways to improve it.

Personal Management Skills

Ability to work effectively and independently under deadlines.

Plan, design, and carry out projects from start to finish, with well-defined objectives and outcomes.

WHERE CAN YOU GO FOR MORE INFORMATION?

Career Services is your one-stop shop for more information. Through our workshops, one on one career and work search advising, and groups, you'll have access to information, resources and career and peer educators to help you no matter what stage of planning you are in, from exploring your interests to practicing for an interview, we can help.

For the self-directed, our on-line and print self-help resources covering topics from career exploration to researching careers to conducting a targeted work search are easily accessible. Check us out!

Visit the CSI—our blog with articles, job postings, employers and events on campus, and tips from the Career Services staff!

SFU CAREER SERVICES

Simon Fraser University
Burnaby Campus, MBC 0300

Come to the Maggie Benston Centre and go down to the lowest level. You will find us there Monday to Friday 9:00am to 4:30pm. Check out our blog for the latest articles, tips and news!

Phone: 778-782-3106
E-mail: career_services@sfu.ca
Website: www.sfu.ca/career.html
Blog: www.sfu.ca/career/csi.html

WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH ASIA-CANADA STUDIES?

What are some of your Career Options?

The following is a non-exhaustive list of career options. Some of them may require further education than a minor in the Asia-Canada program.

DIRECT Career Options: A minor in the Asia-Canada program will serve as a credential for getting any of the following career choices as the skills required are similar to the skills acquired throughout obtaining your degree.

COMMUNITY EDUCATOR FOR ASIA/ CANADA ISSUES

Plans and conducts outreach presentations to the public on various issues concerning current social and political concerns in the Asian-Canadian society and the relationship between Canada and Asia. Researches materials and provides visual aids to supplement speech. Works for non-profit organizations or special interest groups.

CULTURAL AFFAIRS OFFICER

Works for organizations that support the preservation and celebration of cultural heritage. Coordinates and assists with the planning, promotion, and encouragement of programs that further public awareness of, accessibility to, participation in and support for artistic and cultural development.

FESTIVAL PROMOTER AND ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Coordinates and provides administrative support to festival coordinators, committees and juries. Updates and maintains festival databases including volunteer, merchant, artist, display artist, craft market and donor lists. Researches community patterns for programs and funding.

IMMIGRATION AGENT

Assists in the regulation of immigration into Canada, including prevention of illegal immigration. May serve as a publicist, a translator, or a border patrol officer. May provide special services to refugees.

MULTICULTURALISM EDUCATOR/CROSS CULTURAL RELATIONS CONSULTANT

Implements programs devoted to promote multiculturalism across different communities. Coordinates programs and services for immigrants including promotion of culture, workshops and consulting services, community and diversity assessments as well as leadership development across cultures.

LESS DIRECT Career Options: A minor in the Asia-Canada program may be less pertinent to these positions and the degree alone may not serve as a credential for employment.

FILM RESEARCHER/COPYWRITER
Reviews scripts, checks for factual and technical accuracy, requires copy, assists in creating storyboard representations of scenes. Relevant coursework or prior experience preferred. Works for entertainment, documentary, educational, and industrial film producers.

PUBLIC OPINION INTERVIEWER

Responsible for completing interviews with the general public for public opinion polls. Conducts in person/ telephone interviews, establishes contacts for interviews, conducts interviews following the outline of questionnaires and surveys, records answers and organizes databases. Edits all information gathered for accuracy and presents it.

SOCIAL POLICY RESEARCHER

Develops social programs, social legislation, or proposals based on demographic, social and economic analysis and the evaluation of pilot projects.

INDIRECT Career Options: On the surface, the following jobs may not appear to have much to do with the Asia-Canada Program. Yet the primary skills required in these jobs are significantly related with some of the skills the program requires.

INTERNATIONAL AND EXCHANGE STUDENT COORDINATOR

Provides services to international students including orientation, health insurance, advising, study permit assistance, referrals to student services, and general advising on various issues. Other responsibilities include coordinating international opportunities for domestic students, such as study-abroad programs, study tours, internships, and student exchange programs.

TRAVEL CONSULTANT

Provides travel advice and information to people planning trips. Helps travelers to resolve questions and problems that come up on a trip. Works for travel clubs, state and local tourist bureaus, resorts, travel associations, credit card companies, and tour groups.

PROGRAM COORDINATOR

In an activist organization, program coordinators may supervise long-term public education and organize public events or demonstrations. Other responsibilities include administrative, research-oriented, organizational, and public-relations duties.