

Founded in 1970, [Thompson Rivers University \(TRU\)](#) is a public, degree-granting institution with a current enrolment of approximately 10,000 students, including more than 900 [international students](#) representing over 60 countries. Over 100 different [programs](#) are available at TRU, including four-year degrees in over 40 disciplines, and a growing number of [post-graduate](#) specialties.

As one of the most comprehensive universities in Canada, TRU offers a wide range of programs from [MBA](#) to career diploma programs and various distance education options.

Additionally, TRU offers 19 major career diploma programs that provide an option to ladder into a [bachelor's degree](#). TRU also offers a wide range of one-year certificate programs, and [English as a Second Language programs](#).

The 92-hectare (230 acre) [university campus](#) is located in the heart of [Kamloops](#), close to all amenities and easily accessed by regular bus service. TRU students are supported by many services and outstanding facilities on campus, including [support services](#) career counselling, [Co-op Education](#) Student Employment Centre, and a Health Clinic. The campus provides students with wireless internet access lounges, food services, a bookstore, internet cafe and pub.

Athletic facilities include the gymnasium and weight room, Aquatic Centre with Olympic-size swimming pool, and Hillside Stadium field and track facilities. Varsity athletic programs offer scholarships for men and women in soccer, basketball, badminton and volleyball. Accommodation is available in [campus dormitories, student apartments and residences](#) near campus, or [homestay](#) placements with local families for international students. [Kamloops](#) is a multicultural city of 85,000 that offers all the benefits of a small, safe and friendly community with the full range of services and activities usually found in a large city. Located in a scenic river valley in the southern interior of British Columbia, Kamloops is known for warm and dry weather, and is famous for year-round outdoor activities.

BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE CUSTOMIZED FOUR WEEK LANGUAGE AND ACTIVITY PROGRAM

I. PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The aim of the English language immersion program is to develop the learner's communicative skills through classroom instruction, integrated activities and authentic interaction in English. The program will build upon the skills and knowledge of each student, extending their abilities to the next level. The student will be encouraged to be an active language learner and speak English at all times in order to take full advantage of being in an English environment.

By the end of the program, we expect the learner to:

- Further develop language skills (with an emphasis on listening and speaking) in order to communicate effectively in day to day situations.
- Gain confidence and fluency in using English and apply the appropriate communication strategies and skills in real-life situations.
- Develop an awareness and understanding of Canadian culture, as well as share their own culture and ideas using English.

- Explore issues and topics of interest using English as a medium of expression.

Program features:

- Class sizes: 10 – 20 students
- Each class taught by one faculty member, supported by an instructional assistant
- There is a Welcome Reception and a Graduation Ceremony
- Each student receives a completion certificate for the program
- Homestay accommodation option

II. COMPONENTS OF THE IMMERSION PROGRAM

Classroom instruction:

Objectives: Develop the English language skills and knowledge
 Learn communicative strategies
 Study about Canada and Kamloops and Canadian cultural components.

Educational and recreational activities:

Objectives: Practice what is learned in the classroom in an authentic setting.
 Participate in recreational activities typical to Canada and Canadians.
 Interact with Canadians.

Homestay:

Objectives: Experience Canadian culture, food and lifestyles.
 Opportunity to practice speaking and listening to English.
 Develop friendships.
 The Homestay experience permits a “total immersion” environment.
 This enhances the learner’s ability to make faster progress in their English language.

III. CLASSROOM THEMES

Over the course of the program, students will study the language skills associated with using English in commonly encountered situations. Within each theme area, a range of language skills are explored depending on the English level of the learner. Students learn idioms, common expressions which allow them to interact with more fluency and confidence. The interests of the learners are also incorporated into the program. Sample themes:

- Introductions and Social Exchanges
- Orientation to Kamloops and Canada
- Canadian Culture
- Homestay – Making the most of your time
- Occupations and Daily Routines
- Shopping
- Sports and Leisure Activities
- Entertainment
- Preparations for weekend activities and travel
- Food and Restaurant
- Current events: Canadian and International
- Social Issues
- Themes could also reflect a specific focus if requested by clients

IV. RANGE OF POSSIBLE OF ACTIVITIES:

A selection of the activities are integrated into the program (typically one or two activities each week):

Local Year- Round Options

- Secwepemc Museum and Native Heritage Park
- Kamloops Historic Museum
- Western Line Dancing
- Shopping Malls
- Movies and Theatres
- Swimming (Olympic-size swimming facility on campus)
- Indoor sports: Bowling, volleyball, climbing gym, etc.
- Visits to organizations: Fire Hall, Schools, etc.

Summer Options:

- Horseback riding
- Canoeing
- Traditional barbeque in an outdoor lake setting
- Golfing
- Tennis
- BC Zoo
- Sun Peaks alpine tour
- Kamloops Indian Band Pow Wow – Native dancing and cultural exhibition
- “Spirit of Kamloops” steam train rail tours
- Gold Panning
- Trip to a wilderness resort

Winter Options:

- Skiing and Snow Boarding – Sun Peaks Ski Resort (Lessons and Skiing)
- Sleigh Rides and Dog Sledding
- Curling (Learning to Curl)
- Canadian Hockey (Attending a hockey game and learning about the sport)
- Tobogganing – Harper Mountain

V. WEEKEND OPTIONAL TOURS

The following are not included in the core program. These are typically organized by a professional tour company at the request of our clients.

Cost of the optional weekend tours available upon request.

- Banff and/or Lake Louise (Summer and Fall)
- Vancouver (Year round)
- Vancouver and Victoria (Year round)
- Kelowna – (Summer and Fall Winery Tours)

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