

Adult Education at UBC

The Adult Learning and Education (ALE) program is the oldest graduate adult education program in Canada with historical roots in traditions of social welfare, community development and extension education. ALE is concerned with the development of scholars and practitioners who will shape society in ways that promote lifelong learning for all. Our ALE program challenges students to understand the diverse contexts in which adult learning occurs and their role in these from a wide variety of theoretical, conceptual and philosophical perspectives.

The ALE program is located within the Department of Educational Studies (EDST) at the University of British Columbia. EDST is concerned with the study of education in a broad sense and conceives of education as both lifelong and life-wide. In addition to the ALE program, EDST includes programs in Educational Administration and Leadership, Higher Education, and Society, Culture and Politics of Education.

Who are our students?

Students in ALE come with a wide variety of backgrounds including: health education; post-secondary education; community centres and non-profit organizations; social justice movements; business, unions, industry and government; adult basic education; literacy; English as an additional language; international and/or community development; museums, libraries, art galleries and other cultural organizations; and professional organizations. Our international students also bring perspectives and practices from around the world.



What kinds of jobs do ALE graduates get?

Our ALE graduates are highly regarded in the field. Many continue to work in their respective jobs and organizations. Some are promoted with their advanced degree. Other graduates find new work teaching, planning, designing and administering adult learning and education in a wide variety of contexts and institutions including: colleges, continuing professional education, human resource development, government, health care, international development agencies, and community-based organizations. Many of our doctoral graduates are professors in universities around the world.

What programs do we offer?

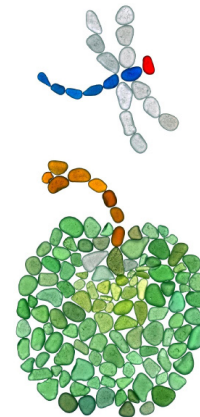
Adult Education Diploma: This program is designed for educators wishing to acquire new skills or to build on their current knowledge base. The Diploma program is particularly appropriate for those who do not want to pursue a graduate degree but are interested in the practical aspects of organizing, conducting, evaluating or administering programs in education. Students must complete 30 credits including four required courses (12 credits) plus electives.

Master of Education (MEd): The MEd program is a professional degree for people who wish to enhance their knowledge and skills as practitioners in any adult education setting. MEd students take three core courses, one research methods course and several electives which can include courses in other departments and faculties. Students have the option of completing the program with 30 credits of coursework or completing 27 credits of course work plus a graduating paper/project focused on an issue or concern in their field of practice.

Graduate Certificate in Adult Education: The certificate is designed to meet the continuing professional development needs of those involved in the broad field of adult learning and education. Students must complete 12 credits including the three MEd core courses and one elective.

Master of Arts (MA): Students can also apply for the department-wide MA program and identify their specialization as ALE. MA students must complete three core MA courses, plus three of the core ALE courses, one research methods course, and one elective. They must also undertake research and write and defend a graduate thesis. The MA is oriented towards research; the MEd is focused on professional practice.

Doctoral Programs: We have two department-wide doctoral programs in EDST, both requiring the completion of a research-based dissertation. The PhD program is for those pursuing a research and/or academic career; the EdD in Educational Leadership and Policy is for those pursuing educational leadership positions.



Who are the ALE Faculty?

The ALE faculty in EDST includes Drs. Shauna Butterwick, Jennifer Chan, Garnet Grosjean, André Mazawi, Dan Pratt, Kjell Rubenson, Hongxia Shan, Tom Sork, Robert VanWynsberghe and Pierre Walter.

Like the students in our program, our faculty team is a diverse group with wide-ranging interests including:

- » Adult learning
- » Community-based inquiry
- » Feminist adult education
- » Learning & social movements
- » Lifelong learning policy & practice
- » International & comparative adult education
- » Globalization & multiculturalism
- » Migration & immigration
- » Learning, organizations & work
- » Teaching adults
- » Health professions education
- » Professional ethics
- » Sociology of adult education
- » Continuing professional education
- » Environmental & sustainability in adult education
- » Gender & development
- » Adult learning, citizenship & democracy

For more information about the ALE faculty, please go to edst.educ.ubc.ca/facultystaff/faculty.

Are you interested in applying?

For more information, please contact the Coordinator of ALE: ale.coordinator@ubc.ca or the

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For application, admission and other information, please visit our website:

edst.educ.edst.ca



Adult Learning and Education (ALE) Program

Department of Educational Studies

The University of British Columbia

EDST DEPARTMENT of
Educational Studies



Education is life—not a mere preparation for an unknown kind of future living. . . The whole of life is learning; therefore, education can have no ending. This new venture is called adult education—not because it is confined to adults but because adulthood, maturity defines its limits.

Lindeman, E. (1926). *The Meaning of Adult Education*. New York: New Republic, 6.



a place of mind

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Faculty of Education