

IDENTIFICATION

Department	Position Title	
Aurora College	Program Head, General Studies	
Position Number	Community	Division/Region
91-17173	Fort Smith	Education and Training

PURPOSE OF THE POSITION

The Program Head, General Studies is responsible for the academic and administrative leadership and direction for the General Studies program college-wide. The General Studies program provides students with a broad liberal arts and sciences education with a focus on northern, Indigenous content. The General Studies program is a first and second year university program that allows students to meet the third year admission requirements for a variety of university degree pathways. The incumbent utilizes their subject matter expertise in General Studies and adult education while instructing courses related to the General Studies program, evaluating the courses, and leading curriculum development/revision as required. The Program Head oversees program scheduling, delivery, marketing, reporting, spending, and budgeting for this program. The incumbent is responsible for leading the recruitment, evaluation, leadership, and management of students and faculty for this program college-wide. The incumbent manages and maintains a safe and stimulating learning environment, which is conducive to providing the highest level of education possible within his/her program area.

SCOPE

Reporting to the Chair, School of Arts and Science, the Program Head, General Studies makes a significant College-wide contribution to the General Studies program and the School of Arts and Science; the incumbent has a direct and indirect impact on instructors and students enrolled in this program. The incumbent must be devoted to developing and delivering quality programs and courses to a broad client base, while maintaining the appropriate diversity for the range of student needs.

The Program Head, General Studies is responsible for strategic direction and program planning, management, promotion, recruitment, delivery, evaluation, spending, budgeting, and program-related reporting. The incumbent oversees, plans for, and identifies instructor

workloads to ensure program delivery needs are met, and ensuring academic standards and integrity are met and are consistent college-wide. The Program Head works directly with the Chair, School of Arts and Science on the strategic planning and delivery of the General Studies program college-wide. The Program Head is responsible for ensuring that the program and courses allow students to meet the entry requirements for year 3 admission to the Bachelor of Social Work, Bachelor of Education, and other degree pathway programs. The incumbent is responsible for promoting a positive image of the College and ensuring quality delivery within the program area and related programs. The Program Head, General Studies acts as the representative for this program college-wide and as a liaison with other campuses, institutions, and organizations on committees and teams and coordinates curriculum and program advisory committees. As part of the College team, the Program Head is required to complete, and ensure that all faculty complete, a variety of non-instructional duties that may be required to attain the goals of Aurora College. The Program Head represents Aurora College and the General Studies program on both internal and external committees and teams related to program delivery, curriculum, accreditation, and partnerships.

The Program Head, General Studies directly and indirectly consults with and supports the work of the instructional staff and fosters the development of teamwork college-wide. The incumbent also fosters an environment which is supportive of student learning and scholarship, and strives for student satisfaction with the General Studies program, courses, program delivery, and the quality of instruction. The Program Head encourages instructors to be innovative in approaches to teaching and learning. The Program Head attends to human resource matters jointly with the Chair, Arts and Science, affecting recruitment and replacement of instructors, as well as the orientation, training, and professional development of instructors, the development of job descriptions, and the performance planning and appraisal of instructional staff.

The Program Head has instructional responsibilities in the General Studies program and may be required to instruct in a variety of other programs, such as the Environment and Natural Resources Technology program, Certificate in Adult Education program, and Developmental Studies program. The incumbent must be devoted to developing and delivering quality programs and courses and promoting positive career development of students within communities of the Northwest Territories. The incumbent conducts program-related needs assessments as well as delivers and evaluates programming to meet those needs. As the lead instructional staff for the General Studies program college-wide, the incumbent is responsible for ensuring all aspects of student counseling, programming, and discipline as necessary.

Instruction can be scheduled in a number of ways depending on the particular delivery approach of the course and/or program (e.g. semester, block, remote delivery, evening). The incumbent will be required to teach courses or modules in community locations or other campuses from time to time as required by the design format of the particular program being taught. The Program Head must instruct, and ensure that all faculty instruct in order to meet

defined and detailed instructional objectives and program standards. Those standards are often imposed by relevant partner institutions, external accreditation organizations, associations, agencies government departments, and/or boards. The incumbent is required to complete ongoing professional development and maintain certifications and licenses as required by the Collective Agreement and program needs. The incumbent must also maintain currency of knowledge and expertise through regular professional development, work experience, and study.

The Program Head, General Studies is required to coordinate, lead, and attend regular program meetings, and report regularly to the Chair, Arts and Science on student progress, faculty issues, and program delivery. The Program Head seeks input and support from program faculty to lead program and course curriculum development and revision. The Program Head works collaboratively with the Chair, Arts and Science on relationships with institutional partners and accreditation particularly related to program delivery college-wide.

The Program Head, General Studies is directly responsible for a program budget of between \$600K and \$2.0 million annually, which includes O&M, staff, and programs. The Program Head works collaboratively with the Chair, Arts and Science on budget development, monitoring, and reporting.

The practical nature of instruction may require the instructor to be involved with lifting heavy objects daily for up to half an hour such as boxes of books. The incumbent is required to instruct in field camp settings in multi seasonal conditions (fall, winter, spring) for up to two weeks per year.

The incumbent may need to travel between various College locations occasionally; therefore travel by winter road and/or small aircraft is sometimes required.

RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Provide and direct overall academic program leadership college-wide.

- Develop and direct program delivery in collaboration with other appropriate staff college-wide.
- Oversee development of master timetables and instructor workloads in collaboration where necessary with other program leadership.
- Develop short and long-term program plans in consultation with Chair, School of Arts and Science.
- Develop partnerships and collaborative supports for program and students.
- Lead curriculum development, review, and revision.
- Review and approve course syllabi for courses within program college-wide to ensure consistency of academic standards.

- Deal proactively and constructively with staff and student issues/concerns.
- Ensure curriculum standards are understood and programming is offered to meet standards: program, safety, external, internal, occupational, professional, national, and territorial.
- Ensure curriculum is relevant and appropriate for the NWT and employment of graduates.
- Oversee the scheduling of courses to ensure optimum instructor, resource and equipment utilization.
- Contribute to student satisfaction by ensuring quick response to student complaints, concerns, and suggestions and ensure student surveys/evaluations are completed for each course/program.
- Provide students with academic counseling, tutoring, and discipline.
- Work with partner institutions and departments regarding student matters, transferability, instructor approvals, and delivery of partner courses.
- Ensure that all relevant College policies and procedures are followed appropriately.
- Maintain knowledge of current developments and trends in post-secondary education and program area.
- Determine college-wide program institutional requirements and identifies appropriate institutional needs jointly with Chair, School of Arts and Science and other appropriate staff.
- Collaborate with student services staff such as counselors, tutors, registrar, finance, and residence to ensure supports are available for all program students.
- Ensure support services and other resources necessary for effective teaching is available to faculty and recommend purchase of library resources and other resources relevant to program.

2. Manage and supervise instructional faculty.

- Attend to college-wide program personnel matters jointly with Chair, School of Arts and Science, including staffing and progressive discipline.
- Review and approve college-wide program faculty professional development plans.
- Define and detail instructor and senior instructor qualifications for the General Studies program.
- Recruit, hire, supervise, and evaluate program instructional faculty.
- Support the work of instructional staff and foster teamwork.
- Encourage program faculty to liaise with and support faculty at other campuses and community learning centres.
- Prepare and present college-wide program faculty orientation and training sessions.
- Monitor program delivery and assist college-wide program faculty with effective instruction and encourage faculty to be innovative with instructional methods and curriculum development.

- Ensure regular, thorough evaluation of the instruction and instructional methods used in the program college-wide.

3. Provide administrative direction of program college-wide.

- Manage budget, variance reports, and O&M for program delivery, college-wide.
- Jointly manage related programs in concert with main program delivery and in consultation with appropriate related program leadership.
- Strategically plan for and acquire facilities, resources and equipment for program delivery, college-wide.
- Oversee admission procedures and standards for students seeking admission to the program.
- Works with Registrar on processes and issues related to admissions, registrations, dismissals, terminations, transcripts and completions.
- Review and acquire recommended course materials and supplies.
- Provide pertinent information for new initiatives as required.
- Prepare funding proposals and secure funding for new initiatives.
- Develop proposals, reports, briefings, contracts, agreements with other agencies, departments, partners, and institutions as related to program delivery college-wide.
- Negotiate and manage agreements, contracts, and partnerships with other institutions, organizations and departments.
- Manage annual review report for program and other appropriate reports as necessary.
- Develop and maintain effective communication with faculty, other programs, other campuses, and the Aurora College community as a whole.
- Organize, plan, and lead regular program meetings building teamwork with all program faculty college-wide.
- Organize, lead and participate in Aurora College committees and various ad hoc committees, teams, and task forces.
- Liaise with community organizations, agencies, stakeholders to build positive partnerships.
- Lead program marketing and promotion in consultation with other program leadership.

4. Instructs in assigned courses.

- Plan courses, units, and lessons.
- Prepare syllabi and lesson plans.
- Deliver/instruct content using appropriate and varying instructional methods.
- Develop/prepare instructional material.
- Develop and revise course resources to ensure content is relevant, current, and meets professional and occupational standards.
- Maintain adherence to program objectives and accreditation standards.

- Present content which accurately reflects the cultural, political, social and environmental realities of the NWT and Canada.
- Provide academic counseling and tutoring.
- Develop, revise, update and administer evaluation instruments to monitor student progress and to provide feedback.
- Develop and maintain a goal-centered progress plan for each student.
- Assist other faculty and regional programs as needed.
- Plan, implement, and supervise student learning in classrooms and field-based culture camps, and ensures safety of all relevant areas and experiences.
- Ensure learning environments comply with all regulations, requirements, and laws consistent with all applicable safety, workplace, and environmental standards.

5. Develop and routinely revise course materials that are relevant, current, and consistent with subject content.

- Initiate and maintain contact with a broad base of human resources including professional, traditional knowledge, educational, and occupational resources.
- Develop materials using a variety of media including print, visual, and technology-based to enhance instruction.
- Lead and participate on College program, curriculum, course, and articulation committees.
- Develop, review, and revise program and course outlines, syllabi, and lesson plans.
- Collaborate with third-parties to develop unique tailored training, courses, and programs.
- Support instructional faculty in efforts to develop and routinely revise course materials.

6. Undertake administrative tasks related to the delivery of instructional activities.

- Complete reports as required such as student progress, registration, course, and clearance reports.
- Ensure program faculty comply with and apply College policies and procedures, and Collective Agreement.
- Recommend and acquire materials, equipment, supplies, and resources for student instruction.
- Review and acquire recommended program/course materials, books, supplies, equipment, and other resources.
- Ensure program faculty maintain student records/files, as appropriate, including attendance, correspondence, and evaluations.
- Coordinate and ensure instructors undertake instructional administrative tasks.

7. Promote Aurora College activities, maintain public relations and market program activities.



- Organize events and presentations that promote Aurora College and the program.
- Select and prepare materials for local and territorial career fairs.
- Assume other tasks as may be initiated from time to time, including assistance with promotional activities.
- Attend graduation, convocation, and completion ceremonies.
- Coordinate and attend College and program team-building functions.
- Encourage instructors to promote Aurora College and maintain public relations.

8. College service.

- Lead and attend regular and extraordinary program, committee, faculty, and general staff meetings.
- Support College, Campus, and departmental instructional goals.
- Assist other faculty and programs as required.
- Undertake special projects to support adult learning in the community and through the College.
- Participate in an appropriate share of institutional service assignments.
- Encourage program faculty to participate in appropriate share of institutional service assignments.

WORKING CONDITIONS

Physical Demands

Instructors are required to be on their feet for up to 80% of their working day.

Environmental Conditions

During field camp courses that occur approximately 2 weeks per year, the incumbent will be exposed to seasonal elements including extreme cold and other weather conditions, insects, and wildlife.

Sensory Demands

No unusual demands.

Mental Demands

No unusual demands.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES

- Knowledge and skills in program-related areas of study, theory, and practice.
- Knowledge of post-secondary program delivery, management, and leadership.
- Knowledge of post-secondary program scheduling and timetabling.

- Knowledge of research methods and needs assessments to investigate program enhancement, improvement, and revision.
- Knowledge of education of specific subject matter of instruction.
- Theoretical and practical understanding of most program subject matter.
- Knowledge of adult education theory, program design, development, management, delivery, and evaluation.
- Knowledge of adult instructional methods, program/project development and management, needs assessment, and curriculum development.
- Knowledge of all applicable laws, acts, regulations, rules, policies, guidelines, requirements, Collective Agreements, and codes in specific subject matter of instruction
- Knowledge of and/or the ability to acquire knowledge of the organization and structure of the College and the relationships between the College and various partners in the communities and across the Territories.
- Knowledge of and/or the ability to acquire knowledge of northern culture, cross cultural processes, communities, and politics.
- Skills in budgeting, financial and budget management, and administration.
- Ability to anticipate long-term budgeting needs and requirements of the program.
- Organizational skills including project and program planning, management, leadership, and delivery.
- Skills in leadership, team-building, mentoring, and motivation in order to maintain faculty morale and a high level of performance.
- Skills in persuading, influencing, listening, academic counseling, and facilitation when doing committee work or consulting with staff and students, or initiating change.
- Skills in creative, critical, and analytical thinking to monitor programs and results as well as program budgets.
- Computer skills relating to programs such as: word processing, spreadsheet, database, email, PowerPoint, and Internet programs.
- Oral and written communication skills.
- Ability in human resources management, team building, and educational leadership.
- Ability to lead and facilitate change, and manage program instructional faculty.
- Ability to innovate and initiate new curriculum, teaching methods, and policy.
- Ability to conduct basic academic counseling and provide life skill coaching.
- Ability to be involved in progressive, relevant, and ongoing professional development activities as these activities are a required part of the profile of an instructor.
- Ability to research and update course materials and delivery methods to maintain current programs.
- Ability to be adaptable and flexible in teaching approach.
- Ability to commit to actively upholding and consistently practicing personal diversity, inclusion, and cultural awareness, as well as safety and sensitivity approaches in the workplace.



Typically, the above qualifications would be attained by:

A Master's Degree in Adult Education or related education; and four (4) years of instructional experience at the post-secondary level; and one (1) year of relevant supervisory experience.

Two (2) years of experience working in education of Indigenous students in northern communities, and one (1) year of experience in program/curriculum development and research will also be included in the five (5) years of experience indicated above.

Equivalent combinations of education and experience will be considered.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

A bona fide requirement of the job is the completion of six weeks of full time coursework in adult education within the first two years of employment and completion of a Certificate in Adult Education within five years of hire.

Position Security

- ☐ No criminal records check required
- ☒ Position of Trust – criminal records check required
- ☐ Highly sensitive position – requires verification of identity and a criminal records check

French language (check one if applicable)

- ☐ French required (must identify required level below)

Level required for this Designated Position is:

ORAL EXPRESSION AND COMPREHENSION

Basic (B) ☐ Intermediate (I) ☐ Advanced (A) ☐

READING COMPREHENSION:

Basic (B) ☐ Intermediate (I) ☐ Advanced (A) ☐

WRITING SKILLS:

Basic (B) ☐ Intermediate (I) ☐ Advanced (A) ☐

- ☐ French preferred

Indigenous language: Select language

- ☐ Required
- ☐ Preferred