

Contact

Raymond Pelletier, Associate Director
Canadian-American Center
154 College Ave
Orono, ME 04473

207-581-4220
FAX: 207-581-4223

E-mail: raymond.pelletier@umit.maine.edu
Web site: www.umaine.edu/canam

Curriculum

Undergraduate students may obtain a minor in Canadian Studies by taking 18 credit hours of Canadian courses. The courses must include: CAN 101, plus any two courses that contain 100% Canadian content, and any three courses that contain 25% or more Canadian content.

Students may select from more than eighty courses about Canada. The course offerings are particularly strong in Anthropology, Archaeology, Economics, French, History, and Political Science. In addition, there are course offerings in these departments and professional schools: Art, Business Administration, English, Forestry, Franco-American Studies, Geography, Geology, and Native American Studies.

See this web site for a full list of Canadian courses:

<http://www.umaine.edu/canam/courses.htm>

Note: Courses taken at a Canadian university through the Canada Year Program or Study Abroad in Canada semester may also be included in the minor and applied toward the 18 credits.

Canadian-American Center

Program Description

The Canadian-American Center administers one of the largest and most comprehensive Canadian Studies programs in the country. UMaine students with any major, from any department in all five colleges, have a unique opportunity for an interdisciplinary study of Canada. With the wide range of courses offered, a student may explore one or more areas of historical and contemporary Canada.

The primary goal of this minor is to prepare students with a background that reflects both local and national needs. At the local level, ties between Maine and Canada are long-standing and varied. Although part of New England, the state of Maine is virtually surrounded by the Canadian provinces of Quebec and New Brunswick. And, almost half of the state's population has ancestral roots in Canada. Close economic connections, from energy to tourism, and environmental issues, frequently demand international cooperation.

At a national level, Americans need to know much more about Canada. Significant reasons for studying the Canadian-American relationship include growing integration of the U.S. and Canadian economies aided by the North American Free Trade Agreement; common environmental concerns, particularly, over-harvesting of natural resources and pollution of common waterways and airspace; and long-standing social and cultural ties. In addition, many Canadian developments have considerable relevance for the United States, including the continuing debate in Canada about the place of minority languages and cultures in confederation; the role of the Canadian government in social and welfare issues; the emphasis that Canada has placed on international organizations and multilateral cooperation; and the ongoing efforts made by Canadians to develop a distinctive cultural tradition in the face of homogenizing tendencies of mass culture. Also for Americans, to study Canada allows us to better understand ourselves.

Specialized Information

Canada Year Study Abroad

Undergraduates are encouraged to spend one or two semesters studying at a Canadian university. It provides the opportunity for students to add to their academic resume, and to explore new cultures and varied geography. Most universities in Canada are English-speaking, and there are French-speaking universities for students studying French. Canadian university credits transfer to the student's UMaine degree. Apply to the Canada Year Program at the Canadian-American Center located at 154 College Avenue, Orono, ME or talk with Betsy Arntzen (betsy.arntzen@umit.maine.edu), Canada Year Coordinator.

Other opportunities open to Undergraduates:

- Consider Canadian Studies Internships at the Canadian Parliament (Ottawa) or Canadian Embassy (Washington, DC)
- Work in Canada on a 6-month work visa
- Student teach 6 weeks at a Canadian school
- Canadian-American Center work study jobs are available

Graduate Work

Canadian Studies may be pursued at the M.A., M.S., M.A.T., and Ph.D. levels in the following departments:

Department of History - at M.A. and Ph.D. levels, offering training in Canadian History, Canadian-American History, and Franco-American History.

Department of Modern Languages and Classics - offers an M.A. and M.A.T. in French. This program is especially strong in its focus on North American French.

Climate Change Institute - offers M.S. and Ph.D. degree programs to investigate human and global change, past, present and future.

In the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture, the Forest Ecosystem Science and the Forest Management Programs offer M.A., M.S., and Ph.D. level training in Canadian topics.

Graduate students may choose to study Canadian topics offered in departments in other colleges. For example, current Canadian studies graduate students are working toward advanced degrees in the departments of Business, Economics, English, Geology, Marine Biology, and Wildlife Biology.

Academic Programs 2008-2009

Please refer to the web site (<http://factsheets.umaine.edu/>) for the most updated version of the fact sheets.

This fact sheet is intended for informational purposes only and is subject to change.