

4825 Mount Royal Gate SW, Calgary AB T3E 6K6
T: 403.440.6821 E: conservatory@mtroyal.ca
W: www.mtroyal.ca/conservatory

Many students enter Mount Royal University with work, academic, and life experiences that may reflect sound knowledge of subject matter covered in certificate/diploma and professional designation programs offered by the Faculty of Continuing Education and Extension. Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition is a method of recognizing and accrediting the demonstrated knowledge that has resulted from those experiences. Most areas of study are eligible for Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition; however, certain programs may have industry or curriculum requirements that exempt them from eligibility. Please go to your program information on our website, www.mtroyal.ca/conservatory, for more information. Requirements and eligibility vary with each program.

Mount Royal University fully supports the following academic principles with respect to prior learning assessment and recognition which have been developed and endorsed by the Alberta Council on Admissions and Transfer.

Recognition of prior learning will be :

- based on demonstrated learning.
- appropriate to the course or program in which it is accepted.
- consistent with the achievement levels required by the post-secondary program in which it is accepted.
- a balance, appropriate to the subject, between theory and practical application.

At Mount Royal University, demonstrated prior learning resulting from work, life, and academic experiences may be assessed by any one or more of the following evaluation methods:

- Formal examinations (including challenge examinations and standardized external examinations);
- Course equivalencies involving evaluation of university/collegiate, non-university/collegiate, and/or non-credit programs, courses, certificates, and designations;
- Documentation and demonstration of achievement through portfolio assessment and portfolio-assisted assessment (including product assessment, work samples, simulation/performance assessment, interviews and oral examinations, and practical and laboratory demonstrations).

The most appropriate evaluation method in any particular case is to be determined by the Program Coordinator, acting on the advice of the content specialists for the subject for which recognition is requested.

Procedures:

1. Students who wish to avail themselves of this service are strongly advised to explore and, as appropriate, to initiate the PLAR process outlined here as early as possible. Requests should be submitted with students' Application to Graduate. The PLAR form will be provided by the Program Coordinator.
2. If approval of PLAR is granted, the student record will display "transfer equivalencies assessed." A course grade will not be assigned.
3. Students may confirm awarded PLAR by accessing their student account through MyMRU, mymru.ca (ContEd & Conservatory tab then Academic Transcript).

Limitations:

1. The purpose of prior learning assessment is to allow students to complete their studies at Mount Royal University successfully. Prior learning assessment is not intended to be used to aid students in transferring to another institution.
2. In cases where prerequisites exist, students should request prior learning assessment and recognition for prerequisite courses initially, then apply for subsequent courses.

3. No student may receive prior learning recognition in more than 50% of the program hours in PLAR 1 (based on academic course equivalency) and no more than 10% of the program hours in PLAR 2 (based on work experience and/or previous knowledge), unless otherwise specified by the program or, in special circumstance, approved by the Dean.
4. Students should be aware that awarded prior learning recognition is guaranteed only toward Mount Royal University Conservatory requirements. Other institutions may or may not allow transfer credit towards degrees, diplomas or certificates for courses recognized or accredited through Mount Royal University's prior learning assessment process.

Applying for PLAR:

PLAR 1: Recognition based on academic or course equivalency

Granting requirements to qualify for PLAR:

1. 80% of the course content and experiential learning must be comparable to one or more of our courses.
2. Prior course must be at least the equivalent number of hours of the MRU course.
3. The prior course must have been completed at a post-secondary institution or equivalent.
4. The prior course must have similar academic assessment.
5. The applicant must have achieved a grade equivalent to the MRU program requirement.

Documentation Required:

1. Complete the PLAR application form.
2. Attach documentation that includes, as a minimum, the following information for each course. Applications will be assessed when all required materials are received:
 - name of the course you completed,
 - official proof that you successfully completed the course (e.g., transcript, grade achieved),
 - name of the organization providing the course and the location you attended,
 - date and duration (days and hours) of the course,
 - course syllabus/outline including learning outcomes or objectives, showing what course content was covered on each day, and the course assessment, including all assignments and exams,
 - name and brief biographical information on the course instructor
3. Submission does not guarantee recognition will be granted. Submit completed forms directly to the Program Coordinator of the Academy or Advanced Performance Programs. The Program Coordinator will send the completed form to the Conservatory Registration for data entry.

Processing time is approximately 10 business days after the Program Coordinator receives all documentation.

PLAR 2: Recognition based on work experience and/or previous knowledge

The first step in PLAR 2 is to contact the Program Coordinator to obtain detailed learning outcomes and objectives for all courses in order to evaluate your knowledge and skills against the learning outcomes and objectives of the courses you wish to challenge.

Granting Requirements

Guidelines are determined by each program. Due to industry or curriculum requirements, only selected programs are eligible for PLAR 2. Please contact the Program Coordinator for specialized requirements and to ensure the program will consider recognition for work experience.

Documentation Required:

1. Complete the PLAR application form (PLAR 2 Section).
2. Attach program specific PLAR 2 package/documentation as outlined by the Program Coordinator (if applicable).
3. Submission does not guarantee recognition will be granted. Submit directly to Academy/Advanced Performance Program Program Coordinator.
4. Processing time varies by the specific program based on the submission package. Contact the Program Coordinator for approximate timelines.

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PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Have you previously applied or attended Mount Royal University? Yes No

Student ID Number

Personal Information

Last Name (Legal)		First Name (Legal)		Middle Name (Legal)	
Previous Name(s) (if applicable)					
Address					
City/Town			Province		Postal Code
Telephone - Home ()		Telephone - Business ()		Telephone - Cell ()	
E-mail Address		Date of Birth (dd mm yyyy)			Gender
					Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/>

Course Information

Seeking Transfer For: Name of MRU Program / Certificate					
MRU Subject Code and Course Number (e.g. VCNS CNSTR)					
MRU Course Title					
PLAR 1					
Checklist of required accompanying documentation					
<input type="checkbox"/> Previous Educational Institution		<input type="checkbox"/> Dates and Duration of course			
<input type="checkbox"/> Subject Code and Course Number		<input type="checkbox"/> Date Completed			
<input type="checkbox"/> Course Title		<input type="checkbox"/> Course syllabus/outline			
<input type="checkbox"/> Final Grade		<input type="checkbox"/> Instructor name and academic/professional qualifications			

Office use

PLAR 2					
<input type="checkbox"/> Agreed upon prior learning package/documentation as required by Program Coordinator.					
PLAR Applied / Conservatory Registration					
<input type="checkbox"/> PLAR 1	<input type="checkbox"/> PLAR 2	Conservatory Reg Initials		Date Processed	
The Conservatory – Program Team					
<input type="checkbox"/> This course is part of a previously negotiated transfer agreement. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No					
<input type="checkbox"/> Approved by Program Coordinator: Signature _____ Date: _____					
Program Coordinator: Please print _____					

Method of Submission

Please submit completed forms via one of the following methods:

Contact

Mail: Mount Royal University
Conservatory Registration Services
4825 Mount Royal Gate SW, Calgary AB, T3E 6K6

In Person: Room ED 1330 (third floor)
Taylor Center for Performing Arts
Mount Royal University
4825 Mount Royal Gate SW, Calgary AB

Fax: 403.440.7277

Email: conservatory@mtroyal.ca