

2025 - 26 PROGRAM GUIDE



OLDS COLLEGE
OF AGRICULTURE & TECHNOLOGY

**INDUSTRY TRAINING &
CONTINUING EDUCATION**



WHO WE ARE,
WHAT WE DO,
WHERE WE DO IT,
& **WHY** WE DO IT!



A LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Industry Training & Continuing Education at Olds College of Agriculture & Technology is operated by a passionate and dedicated group of professionals committed to supporting you through your lifelong learning journey as you look to upskill in your current profession or reskill for that next role.

We offer a variety of industry-aligned courses and programs across various sectors from Agriculture and Animal Science to Horticulture and Heavy Equipment Operator Training. We also have courses in Business, Trades and the Service Industry. We really have something for everyone!

In addition, if you're looking for customized industry training for your organization, school district, First Nation or industry association, please contact us, so we can explore your needs and collaborate on a solution that will help take your organization to the next level.

Our top-notch instructors, first-class facilities and long-standing industry relationships allow us to deliver the highest quality programming with a strong focus on practical, hands-on training. In addition to in-person training on and off campus, we also offer online courses, where you can learn at your own pace in the comfort of your home or office. We strive to offer flexible delivery modalities to allow for the many different schedules and life situations out there.

In the end, we're here to provide quality programming that will benefit you in your career.

Best Wishes,

Chris Wharton
Director, Olds College Industry Training
& Continuing Education



CONTENTS

Agriculture	4
Animal Science	6
Business	8
Industry Training	9
Equine	10
Horticulture	11
Land & Environment	12
Service Industry	14
Trades & Industry	16
Microcredentials	18
Green Certificate	19

AGRICULTURE

Harvest Your Potential:

Elevate Your Agricultural Expertise

Agriculture Sales & Customer Support Certificate

Our Agriculture Sales and Customer Support certificate program, developed in collaboration with industry leaders, equips you with essential skills through four online courses and work-integrated learning. Earn a certificate upon completion or enrol in individual courses to enhance your knowledge base.

Agronomy Certificate Level 1 & 2

Level 1: Get essential agronomic skills for entry-level agriculture roles with our program. Complete five online courses and a blended learning course with on-campus field school for a solid foundation.

Level 2: Build upon the agronomic skills gained in the Level I certificate. Upon completion of these courses, you will be able to integrate agronomic concepts and make general recommendations regarding crop production. As with Level I, this program will include interactive online discussion emphasized to meet learner needs.

Agribusiness Finance Certificate

Enhance your rural enterprise with our online program, tailored for both rural business owners and agricultural lenders. Improve management and financial assessment skills through four required courses and one elective. Designed for those seeking to upgrade their capabilities and promote better business practices in both conventional and non-conventional agriculture.



Indoor Agriculture Certificate

Explore Canada's sustainable, high-tech agriculture and Controlled Environment Agriculture (CEA) with our innovative program. Gain hands-on experience and essential knowledge for optimizing plant growth indoors. Our comprehensive curriculum blends production techniques, technology and business strategies for success in this emerging field.

Short Courses & Workshops

- Agriculture Lenders Workshop
- Beekeeping Level 1
- Certified Crop Adviser Tutorial
- Introduction to Agriculture

Microcredentials

- Agriculture Technology Equipment Operator
- Awareness of Agricultural Technology IP Commercialization
- On-Farm Climate Action Fund (OFCAF)
- Vertical Farming Technologies



ANIMAL SCIENCE

Advancing Animal Science Education:

Where Innovation Meets Passion for Next-Level Learning



Beef Production Certificate

Delve into the world of beef production with our dynamic online certificate program, designed for both aspiring and employed individuals in the livestock sector. Each course stands alone to bolster your skills or can be combined to earn your comprehensive beef production certificate. Ideal for farm staff, agricultural writers, farm managers, cattle managers and calf rearing staff, this program covers essential topics including production systems, handling, nutrition, health and more.

Cattle Artificial Insemination (AI)

Join our intensive four-day course covering all aspects of herd reproduction management, including classroom lectures and hands-on sessions where you'll gain expertise in controlled breeding, semen handling and sire selection, while learning from industry experts and acquiring the knowledge and skills needed to confidently kickstart AI practices. This also includes understanding nutrition's impact on reproduction and logistics for setting up AI at home.

Veterinary Practice Management Certificate

Flexible and interactive, our certificate program offers coursework designed for immediate implementation in your veterinary clinic. Led by experienced instructors, each course provides coaching, feedback and opportunities for collaboration through online forums. Ideal for veterinary professionals seeking to enhance business practices, with the flexibility to take courses individually and complete the certificate at your own pace within five years.





Continuing Professional Development Hours

- Canine Conditioning
- Dental Technology Refresher
- Hands-Free Radiology Techniques Refresher
- Registered Veterinary Technologist
- Small Animal Anesthesia Refresher
- Small Animal Emergency Medicine Refresher

Short Courses & Workshops

- Animal Body Condition Scoring
- Bovine Ultrasound
- Introduction to Veterinary Medicine for Teens



BUSINESS

Solutions for Success:

Innovative Strategies for Growth and Experience

Administrative Assistant Certificate

This certificate equips you with versatile skills essential for office environments. This online program offers flexibility, allowing you to study at your convenience. You can take each of the five courses individually to enhance your skill set, or complete them all for the full certificate. Courses cover topics such as Bookkeeping, Computer Applications, Office Procedures, Workplace Communications and Workplace Professionalism.

General Business & Computer Courses

Delivered through Ed2Go, these flexible, entirely online courses feature monthly sessions in a six-week format, covering Accounting, Business and Computer subjects. The Accounting Fundamentals courses, offered in partnership with Olds College, use USA-based examples but align with generally accepted accounting principles relevant to both the USA and Canada at an introductory level. With expert instructors and an interactive learning environment, you'll find a diverse selection of courses in Windows, Microsoft, Adobe, Project Management, Human Resources, Leadership, Writing, Social Media, Marketing and more.

Leadership Training

We are excited to offer an extensive series of Leadership Workshops designed to cater to diverse organizational needs. Our Leadership Workshops are designed not just to educate but to transform. They equip your team with the necessary skills to foster a positive work environment, enhance interpersonal relationships and drive successful outcomes. Engaging in these workshops can help your team navigate complexities with resilience and build a culture of trust and inclusivity, essential for sustained organizational growth.



INDUSTRY TRAINING

Custom Training Solutions:

Empowering Your Team for Success

Tailored Training Solutions

Unlock the full potential of your team with customized training solutions from Olds College. With our extensive experience spanning over a century, we understand that every organization has unique goals and challenges. Let us work closely with you to design and deliver training programs that address your specific needs, ensuring maximum impact and success. We also work with certifying bodies to deliver third-party training directly to industry.

Our Process

We follow a comprehensive process to ensure the success of your customized corporate training. Our team begins with a thorough needs assessment, gaining insight into your organization's requirements. From there, we design a tailored curriculum and delivery plan, leveraging various methods such as instructor-led classes, online learning and blended approaches. Throughout the training, we continuously evaluate effectiveness to guarantee desired outcomes are achieved.

Benefits & Funding Opportunities

Investing in customized corporate training can yield significant benefits for your organization. By enhancing employee skills, knowledge, productivity and workplace safety, you're positioning your team for long-term success.



EQUINE

Ride into the Future:

Saddle Up for Success with Equine Education



Professional Racetrack Exercise Rider Certificate

Join our "Learn and Earn" Professional Racetrack Exercise Rider Program to gain the expertise and confidence needed to become a licensed Exercise Rider at Alberta Horse Racing Tracks. With a unique blend of online study and hands-on training under industry professionals, you'll master the skills required to safely and effectively exercise racehorses on the track.

Professional Racetrack Groom Certificate

Enrol in our "Learn and Earn" Professional Racetrack Groom Course to develop the confidence and skills necessary to become a licensed Groom at Alberta Horse Racing Tracks. Through a hybrid learning approach combining online instruction and hands-on practice with industry experts, you'll learn to provide elite racehorses with the intensive professional care they require while earning a wage within the industry.

Short Courses & Workshops

- Basics of Equine Massage Therapy Workshop
- Equine First Aid
- Horse Hoof Care & Trimming



HORTICULTURE

Cultivating Green Futures:

Grow Your Horticultural Skills to New Heights



Prairie Horticulture Certificate

Designed for the unique landscapes of the prairie provinces, this program offers four distinct streams tailored to your interests: fruit and vegetable production, landscaping and arboriculture, greenhouse crop production and nursery crop production. Delve into online courses curated to provide comprehensive knowledge and practical skills, allowing you to flourish in your horticultural endeavours. With flexible scheduling and expert guidance, you'll unlock the full potential of prairie horticulture and emerge with a valuable credential to advance your career.

Turf Science Certificate

Designed for both newcomers and seasoned professionals, these online courses cover the science, cultural systems and construction practices vital for success in the turf industry. From foundational knowledge to specialized expertise, you'll explore topics ranging from turfgrass biology and soil properties to cultural practices and pest management. This program offers accessible and practical learning opportunities tailored to your professional goals. Whether you're interested in parks, sports turf or golf courses, this program equips you with the skills and knowledge needed to thrive in this dynamic field.

Microcredentials

- Growing Media: Selection, Management and Assessment
- Pest and Disease Management
- Plant Development for Greenhouse Crops
- Propagation Methods
- Site Selection and Environment Components
- Weed Identification

Collaborative Learning Powerhouse!

The Prairie Horticulture Certificate is a joint effort by Olds College, Assiniboine Community College and University of Saskatchewan, uniting expertise for unparalleled education.



LAND & ENVIRONMENT

Green Practices for a Healthy Planet:

Discover Environmental Conservation and Resource Management

Surface Land Management

The Surface Land Management courses will equip learners with essential knowledge and skills, preparing them to navigate the complexities of land management in Canada, particularly within Alberta. Students will develop knowledge of foundational principles, regulatory processes and stakeholder engagement, particularly with Indigenous communities.



Lawn & Garden Pesticide Dispenser

All provincial sales outlets carrying regulated Domestic Class Lawn and Garden Pesticides must employ a certified Lawn and Garden Pesticide Dispenser to ensure that consumers have access to correct information regarding pest control, pesticide regulations and safety requirements. Certification requires completing an exam within one year of registration, and is valid for five years. There are two ways to get your certification - we offer a home study course or corporate online live lecture training.



Workshops & Other Courses

Reclamation Workshops

Reclamation transforms industrial sites, like those in mining or oil and gas, back to their natural states. Olds College offers courses that teach these fundamental practices, focusing on reducing environmental impacts to promote sustainable industry operations.

Introduction to Geographic Information Systems

Olds College provides introductory customized training in QGIS and ArcGIS Pro. This provides companies an opportunity to train employees with their own data points. These programs are widely used in Agriculture, Environmental Services, Construction Companies, Engineering Firms and Municipal Planning Departments.



Pesticide Applicator Tutorials

Tutorials:

Industry experts will help you prepare for your Agriculture, Industrial and Landscape exams in-class and with hands-on sessions! We have several tutorial sessions options available:

- Authorized Assistant (Core Only)
- Agricultural, Landscape & Industrial Designations (No Core)
- Agricultural, Landscape & Industrial Designation



Pesticide Applicator Recertification

Recertification:

We offer four different workshops with up to 10 Alberta Environment Approved CEUs that will keep you up-to-date with the newest ideas and technology as well as build your professional network. There are a variety of concepts offered for CEUs.

Workshops will include approved Alberta Environment CEU concept areas for training: Application Technology, Emergency Response, Environment, General Information, Human Health, Labelling, Pesticide Safety, Pest Management, Professionalism and Regulations.



SERVICE INDUSTRY

Mastering the Craft:

Elevate Your Service Industry Skills

AHLA Hospitality Training

The AHLA (Alberta Hotel & Lodging Association) Hospitality Training Course offers comprehensive video-based learning designed for both newcomers and seasoned professionals in the hotel sector. Delve into over 100 tailored video assets crafted by industry leaders, providing invaluable insights and practical knowledge essential for success in hospitality. Whether you're exploring the basics of hotel operations or aiming for leadership roles, our courses empower you to elevate your career with confidence and expertise.



Craft Distilling

Embark on a journey into the art and science of craft distilling with our comprehensive program designed to equip you with essential hands-on training and sustainable production practices. Explore fermentation theory, distillery operations, sensory evaluation and quality assurance, gaining invaluable skills for success in the distilling industry. This program features a blend of online courses and a field study, providing a holistic learning experience. Join us and unleash your potential to create exceptional spirits that captivate the senses and meet market demands with precision and finesse.

Introduction to Craft Beverages and Brewing

Discover the essence of craft beverages and brewing in our comprehensive online program tailored for aspiring brewers entering beer-related and brewery-related industries. Dive into the science, technology and recipe formulations across five dynamic courses covering brewing ingredients, equipment, calculations, microbiology and packaging. Join us online to unlock the secrets of crafting exceptional brews and kickstart your journey in the vibrant world of brewing.



Animal Welfare & Humane Slaughter

Embark on a comprehensive journey into humane slaughter practices with our online program, tailored for professionals in Canada's meat processing industry. Designed to meet the evolving needs of both newcomers and seasoned veterans, this program offers a cohesive overview of theory and applications relevant to the slaughter of various species. Dive into six individual courses covering animal welfare, bleeding, stunning, handling, barn environment assessment and poultry slaughter. Delve into each aspect at your own pace over a three-month span, conveniently fitting into your professional schedule.

Short Courses & Microcredentials

- Cider Beverage
- General Beverage
- Home Game Butchering
- Industrial Value Added Meat Processing

“

The course was a great and challenging learning experience for me. As I am new to the subject, the instructor was available and resourceful. He provided us with detailed and accurate learning material. I would definitely recommend this class to anyone interested in the subject whether you are experienced or a beginner.

”

- Stanley L
Craft Distilling Student



TRADES & INDUSTRY

Forge Your Path in Trades & Industry:

Explore Diverse Opportunities and Hands-On Training



Heavy Equipment Operator Certificate

Prepare for a rewarding career with Olds College's 12-week certificate program, approved by Alberta Advanced Education. Our immersive curriculum blends online instruction with hands-on training in a simulated work environment, providing industry-relevant project experience. Led by experienced instructors, you'll master a variety of equipment, including skid steers, loaders, dozers, graders, excavators and rubber tired hoes. Upon completion, you'll be equipped with the skills needed for employment in various industries, supported by our industry-developed curriculum and mandatory practicum.

If you're already an experienced operator, contact us for Advanced HEO Safety Certification options!

Individual Equipment Training

Olds College offers specialized training for novice operators across key equipment: skid steer, dozer, loader, rubber tired backhoe, grader, rock truck and excavator. Each course runs for two to four weeks with up to 75 hours of hands-on equipment time. Training includes First Aid, CPR, H2S Alive and more, focusing on safety regulations, preventative maintenance and basic operational techniques. Courses aim to equip operators with necessary skills and industry-standard competencies. For more details and customization options, please contact Olds College.

Apprenticeship & Industry Training (AIT) Entrance Exam

Prepare for success in your journey toward apprenticeship preparation courses. These online, self-directed modules offer interactive learning experiences and innovative strategies tailored to equip you with the competencies necessary to excel in the Alberta Apprenticeship & Industry Training Entrance Exam. With flexibility to customize your learning path, these courses empower you to focus on areas relevant to your individual needs and exam requirements. Our program covers essential subjects including Math, Science and English.



Air Brake Endorsement

If you're looking to complete the requirements to achieve the Alberta Transportation "Q" Endorsement, then look no further. After successful completion of the practical and written exams at the conclusion of the course, you will be eligible to apply for the "Q" endorsement through a Registry agent.

Small Engines

Learn theory and techniques to diagnose and repair small engines such as motorcycles, lawnmowers, garden tractors, snowmobiles and other small engines.

Explore two areas of focus:

- Small Engines - Overhaul Procedures
- Small Engines - Tune Up & Regular Maintenance

Introduction to Welding

Designed for beginners and for welders who would like more hands-on practice. This course will cover the theory, techniques and shop practice of oxyacetylene welding of mild steel brazing, flame cutting, arc welding and MIG welding.

Blacksmithing

Discover the art of blacksmithing through one or two-day courses that guide you from fundamental forging techniques to more advanced skills. Choose from a variety of project-based options and leave with at least one completed piece in hand.

Powder Coating

Embark on the opportunity to learn about the essential aspects of powder coating, including the benefits and costs of powder selection, safety precautions, surface preparation, substrates, hanging systems, booth design, powder application, curing processes and quality control.

Customized on-site consulting and training to increase efficiency and skills for powder coating businesses is available.



MICROCREDENTIALS

Olds College Industry Training & Continuing Education is excited to introduce online microcredentials. From beverage production to horticulture to cannabis – these self-directed, online microcredentials align with some of the most desired skills sought by top industries. Through earning microcredentials, individuals will be able to boost their careers with practical skills, recognize what they've learned while on the job and share their skills with employers.

What is a microcredential?

A microcredential is a short course that provides a certification of assessed competencies that is complementary to a formal qualification. They can be achieved through the completion of the training, including assessment or through the assessment only.

Who is a microcredential best suited for?

That's the wonderful thing about each microcredential, often they can be taken by anyone and do not require prerequisites or previous training. Microcredentials provide the opportunity for those currently in associated industries or those looking to enter the industry with the competencies they will need to take their career to the next level.

Digital badges

Once learners have demonstrated proficiency in the microcredential, they are provided with a digital badge. Learners have control over where they share digital badges, future employers are immediately able to view qualifications related to specific skills through Olds College's digital wallet, MyCreds.ca. Upgrading microcredentials to badges allows students to further increase their knowledge and reflect their professional skills.



Interested in learning more?
Scan the QR code.

Green CERTIFICATE

Agricultural Training

**REGISTER FOR & TRAIN IN THE GREEN CERTIFICATE PROGRAM!
GET RECOGNITION FOR WHAT YOU ALREADY DO ON THE FARM!**



APPRENTICESHIP-STYLE - WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT - TRAINING PROGRAM

Training Alberta's High School students for their future in our provinces Agricultural Industries

- Earn 16 High School credits - All credits count toward Grade 12 graduation requirements
- Receive three, Grade 12 course marks that count towards your Rutherford Scholarship
- Have fun learning more about agriculture in a practical, hands-on environment
- Increase your knowledge and skill level and gain valuable work experience
- Explore career options in the agriculture industry

Alberta Agriculture & Irrigation work in partnership with Alberta Education and the agriculture industry to offer the Green Certificate to all Grade 10-12 Alberta High School students.

Trainees select a specialization and under the guidance of their trainer, work towards mastering all the skills within their training program.

Specializations:

Cow Calf / Equine / Field Crop / Feedlot / Dairy
Sheep / Swine / Greenhouse / Poultry / Beekeeper / Irrigated Crop

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