



INDIGENOUS STUDIES PROGRAM (ISP) (Formerly known as Native Ministries Program)

DIPLOMA IN THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

OVERVIEW OF PROGRAM

This Diploma is designed primarily to provide and/or augment local training for ordained ministry, but it would also provide an ample foundation for lay ministry. Depending on the course configuration and delivery method selected, it could also provide seminary-transferable credits for students who later decide to obtain a Master of Divinity degree.

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

This is a 24-credit program consisting of eight courses developed by VST faculty for the Indigenous Studies Program - Master of Divinity by Extension. It is designed to be delivered by extension with the assistance of a VST-trained tutor in the student's locale and some student attendance at the Indigenous Studies Program summer school. Course work is evaluated by VST faculty. It is anticipated that a student could complete the program in three to four years, based on our current experience that most, if not all, students work part time.

ADMISSIONS

The Indigenous Studies Program Committee is the admissions committee for the diploma. There is a \$75 application fee. Based on transcript information, credit may be given for prior work at other institutions.

COURSE OFFERINGS

Courses are chosen from the following themes, History of Christianity, Christian Theology, Christian Ethics, Indigenous Spirituality, Christian worship, Scripture, Ministry Theory and Practice.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

A more complete description of the Programs' courses and evaluation is available through the Indigenous Studies Program Program Office. This guide identifies the content of each course and the means by which students demonstrate their competency in the various knowledge and skill areas. The Office can be reached by telephone at 604-822-9480 or by e-mail: isp@vst.edu

Inquiries can also be made through the ISP's website at www.indigenoustudies.ca