

Q: My child is considering a couple different programs. What advantage does studying in ALC offer a young person for the future?

A: ALC offers a unique fusion of practical and theoretical/analytical training that provides important transferable skills for a variety of future careers and experiences. A broad and holistic education is proving to be the key to success in our rapidly changing world, and ALC is dedicated to teaching students the critical thinking skills that allow for life-long learning.

Q: Will my son/daughter have homework?

A: Yes. And many projects to finish outside of class time

Q: What tools will my son/daughter need?

A: Depending on the option, there are many answers to this question. Our program tries to keep student costs down. The most expensive item is the textbook for Universe of the Arts 1, 2 and 3, a core course which all students must take. This book is \$99 and will carry the student through all three sections of the course. Students in the media option are asked to buy a USB key. In the Languages option, a student will need to buy a headset and microphone.

Q: What will production classes look like in the fall IF classes are not face to face?

A: Our program will be doing as much as we can online along with some (safe) in person meetings. Students will also have the option to borrow equipment. Our teachers are also being very innovative and finding creative and free solutions for online learning.

Q: What options exist after the ALC program for students?

A: Our students go into a variety of programs after graduation including Communication Studies, Journalism, Education, Law, Translation, ESL teaching, Film studies, Filmmaking (see testimonials)

Q: Do you recommend that students have a part-time job?

A: We recommend that students do not work more than 15hrs a week, and at times in the semester even that may be too much.

Q: Is my son/daughter eligible to take math?

A: Short answer: no. Long answer: talk to an academic advisor.

Q: Can you tell us something about your teachers? [about the expertise of your faculty?]

A: We pride ourselves on the diversity of backgrounds and approaches of our faculty. We have well known published authors, filmmakers, journalists, actors, photographers etc. on staff and all our first-rate educators are adept at meeting the common as well as the particular needs and learning styles of a wide range of students. While providing clear theoretical context, ALC courses allow important "hands on" learning - even during these challenging times of social distance and online education: see the Virtual Vernissage our graduating class achieved with the help of dedicated professionals.

Q: What further support services does the program & college have for students?

A: JAC has a number of such resources: our teachers, of course, have generous availability to students and welcome one on one discussion. JAC also has a Student Access Centre for students who require accommodations; the English Department has Writing Tutors to help students with essays in any discipline; there are other student tutoring services available including peer tutoring with the core course, Universe of the Arts.

Q: What if I am a Native / near Native speaker of a Language taught in ALC (Spanish, Italian, German, Mandarin)? Can I still take the course?

A: While the Languages taught in ALC cover Levels 1 - 4, they are not designed or meant for Heritage/Native or near native speakers. Students should take advantage of their opportunity and time at JAC to open new horizons, explore other languages and/or opt for other Option ALC courses.

Q: What is the difference between "Elective Option", "Elective" and "Complementary" courses?

A: As an ALC student, you will receive a program planner that helps you navigate the program, indicating which courses should be taken every semester to graduate. Where it says "Elective Option", you must take courses from the list that pertains to your ALC Option of choice (Media, Literature, Languages, Theatre or Multidisciplinary). Where it says "Option", you must take courses that are offered within the ALC program, but can be taken both in and outside of your Option of choice. Complementary courses (2 in your whole CEGEP career) are mandatory, College-wide courses that all CEGEP students must take. These are chosen from a list of courses offered by the College and must be outside the ALC list of courses.

Q: What is theatre Workshop?

A: Theatre Workshop has been a course at John Abbott College since 1971. It pre-dates the creation of the Professional Theatre program. It is conceived as an opportunity for students to learn about theatre by participation in theatre productions. Over the last 12 years, we have modified the course to include an initial semester of training in both acting and technical theatre, before embarking on productions in their 2nd, 3rd and final semesters. Q: Is there an audition for the theatre option? A: No, there is no audition to get into the Theatre Option in ALC, nor is there an audition to get into the Theatre Workshop courses themselves. However, there are auditions for the productions we do. Students who are not cast in the show have the option of doing tech that semester. The auditions are held early enough in the semester that students can drop the course without penalty if they do not want to take the technical option.