

Olds College Olds, Alberta



Olds College: Land Sciences Building

The city and the region: A major service center and market for its region, Olds is a town of 7,300 located in scenic south-central Alberta, Canada. It hosts winter festivals in November and December and a fair and rodeo in August and boasts, in the surrounding countryside, some of the most productive farmland in the province. Many of the province's major attractions are in close proximity to Olds. The town is less than one hour from the majestic Rocky Mountains (which form the border with British Columbia), one hour from Drumheller and the prehistoric Dinosaur Valley, and two hours from the UN World Heritage Site at Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump. Alberta's two largest cities, Calgary, of Stampede fame, and Edmonton, the provincial capital, are short drives from Olds along highway 42, the province's busiest north-south transportation corridor.

The university: Established in 1911 by the province as a demonstration farm, Olds College expanded rapidly and was chartered in 1913 as Olds Agricultural College. Today, Olds is recognized as one of Canada's premier

agricultural institutions. Located on a residential campus of 1,500 acres, Olds offers approximately 50 certificate and degree programs in agriculture, horticulture, land and environmental management, and business administration. A second, urban campus in Calgary supports a certificate program in Fashion Marketing. The Olds campus also boasts an arboretum, a botanic garden, and various professional facilities: a John Deere Training Center, an Industry Training Center, and a Bell eLearning Center. A newly-created School of Innovation conducts research on composting technology (including bio-gas energy), environmental microbiology, livestock genetics and nutrition, natural fibers, and new products from crops and bio-processing. To enhance its academic offerings, Olds College works closely with partners in business and industry, such as the Canadian Cattleman's Association, Alberta Ingenuity, Alberta Value-Added Corporation, and Cetac West.

Programs available to UTM students: UTM students in agriculture, agribusiness, and fashion merchandising, may enroll in our student exchange program with Olds and spend the Fall and/or Spring Semesters at this institution. Occasionally, UTM faculty in agriculture take students to Olds and Alberta in the Spring or Summer on travel-study programs. In addition, UTM students can work with Olds faculty and students through on-line courses and video conferences. For further information about study opportunities at Olds, students should contact Dr. Craig Darroch, Professor of Animal Science, 143 Brehm Hall, ext. 7259 [cdarroch@utm.edu] or the Center for Global Studies, 124 Gooch Hall, ext. 1023.