

NOVA SCOTIA

Connections

October 2019



*Nova Scotia - A Place Where You Can
Study • Live • Thrive*



Highlands National Park • Cape Breton • Nova Scotia

A Message From the Premier of Nova Scotia



*The Honourable Stephen McNeil
Premier of Nova Scotia*

Dear future students:

On behalf of the Province of Nova Scotia, I want to thank you for your interest in studying in Nova Scotia.

Located in eastern Canada and surrounded by ocean, Nova Scotia offers high quality education, and a safe, friendly and vibrant community in which to study and live. With the highest concentration of post secondary institutions on a per capita basis, Nova Scotia is referred to as Canada's education capital.

China is one of Nova Scotia's top educational partners and we welcome thousands of international students every year to attend our post-secondary institutions. Today, students from China represent the highest proportion of international students studying at Nova Scotia universities and colleges. The Nova Scotia high school curriculum is being taught in 15 Chinese schools giving students a unique opportunity to earn a Nova Scotia high school diploma. Nova Scotia's language schools help students improve their English skills and prepare them for the future.

We are proud of the relationship we have developed with China. In April 2016, the Province launched Partnering for Success: The Nova Scotia – China Engagement Strategy, and since that time, we have built mutually beneficial economic and cultural relationships with China.

Nova Scotia also has partnership agreements with Guangdong, Shandong Fujian Provinces. Within Nova Scotia we have signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Chinese Embassy which encourages a regular dialogue with the Chinese Ambassador.

Trade between Nova Scotia and China has grown steadily, and China is now Nova Scotia's second-largest trading partner. Most of this growth is in the seafood sector, and we are well-known in China for our premium quality lobster. Nova Scotia is committed to furthering economic partnerships and cultural exchanges with China and we appreciate those partnerships and friendships.

As Premier of Nova Scotia, I encourage you to study in Nova Scotia and experience all that Nova Scotia has to offer.

Yours sincerely,

Honourable Stephen McNeil, M.L.A.
Premier of Nova Scotia

Join Us in Nova Scotia to Study, Stay and Thrive



Robert Batherson
Interim President & CEO, EduNova

Dear students and parents,

On behalf of EduNova and our members, we are delighted to welcome you to Nova Scotia. We provide an extraordinary international student experience to students from more than 150 countries around the world, including thousands of students from China. At the core of every educational institution is its students—we invite you to join us in Nova Scotia to study, stay and thrive.

Nova Scotia has a long history of education excellence as we are home to some of the top learning institutions in Canada. From our public and independent schools to our language schools, community college and universities, Nova Scotia offers world-class education for every age, in a friendly, clean and safe environment.

Studying in Nova Scotia gives you access to many opportunities. EduNova's Study and Stay™ programs, for example, support international students during their studies and post-graduation to live and work in Atlantic Canada—providing students with the essential connections, resources, and mentorship needed as they transition from 'student' to 'professional'.

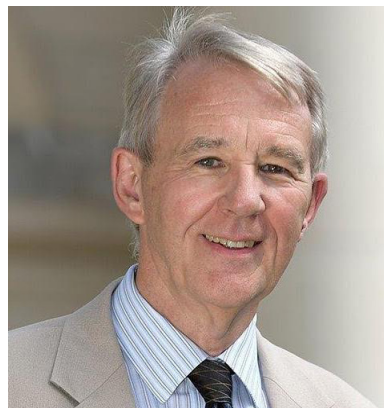
Nova Scotia is one of North America's foremost seacoast destinations—experience the culture, history, and growth of one of the most beautiful areas in Canada, while attending a world class institution.

We would love for you to join our growing, diverse, international student body, and we look forward to meeting you in Nova Scotia.

Sincerely,

Robert Batherson, Interim President & CEO, EduNova

Peter Ricketts, PhD, President of Acadia University & Chair of the Board of Directors, EduNova



Peter Ricketts
President of Acadia University &
Chair of the EduNova Board

Welcome and Thank You



Wilbert Huang
President,
Chinese Society of Nova Scotia

Dear all,

I would wish to express my sincere gratitude to all of you for your attention to Nova Scotia.

Nova Scotia is located on the East coast of Canada, its provincial capital Halifax is one of the biggest cities, the center of economics and culture in Atlantic Canada. The province is almost surrounded by water. The range of temperature is around 0 – 25 degrees, which is a very comfortable temperature for living.

You will also get the best education whatever your major is. There are a lot of options for you such as Dalhousie University, Saint Mary's University, Mount Saint Vincent University and NSCAD University.

As the biggest Chinese Society in East Canada, the CSNS has always contributed to support the Canadian policy of Multiculturalism. We are also making an effort to preserve and promote Chinese culture in Canada.

We organize a series of activities to gather friends together, so that international students and immigrants can study better and live better. These events include but not limited to, the Bowling Night, the Christmas Party, the Chinese New Year Banquet, the Mother's Day Celebration, the Dragon Boat Festival, and Mid-Autumn Festival Celebration.

Recently, more and more students and immigrants join us as members and volunteers. I believe that through our effort together, the Chinese Society of Nova Scotia will grow stronger and have more positive impact on everyone's life.

Last but not least, if you would like to study and live in a multicultural environment, Nova Scotia is a great place to decide. We are grateful for your support and look forward to meeting you here.

Sincerely,

Wilbert Huang
President, The Chinese Society of Nova Scotia

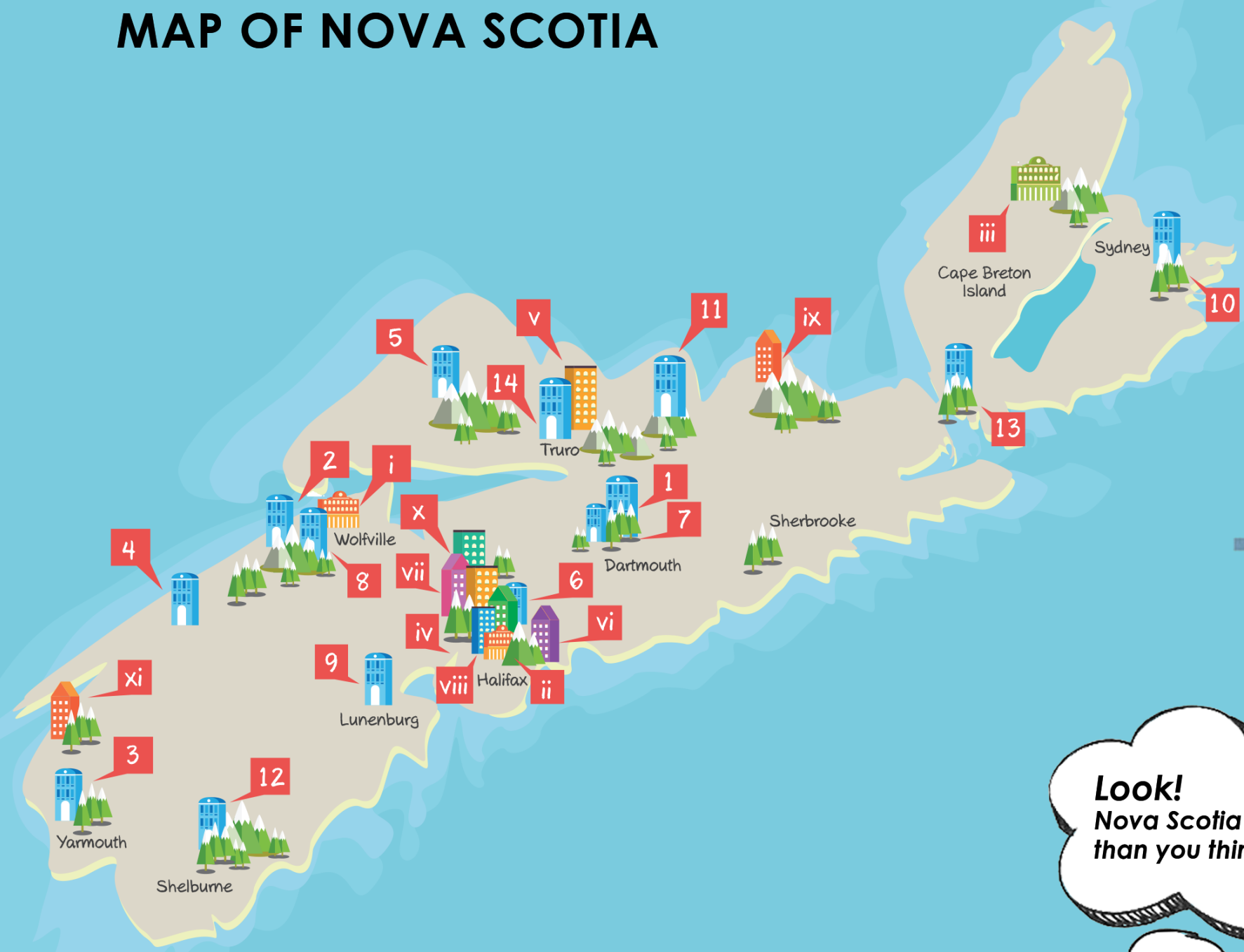


Street Art • Downtown Halifax

TABLE OF CONTENTS

3	Welcome
6	Map of Nova Scotia
10	University Highlights
26	Student Stories
42	A Message from Tourism Nova Scotia
46	How NSBI Considers China A Priority
48	Interview with Promising Education Ltd.

MAP OF NOVA SCOTIA



Halifax - Montreal:
1 hour 30 minutes by airplane

Halifax - Ottawa:
1 hour 40 minutes by airplane

Halifax - Toronto:
2 hours 10 minutes by airplane

Halifax - Boston:
1 hour 25 minutes by airplane

Halifax - New York City:
2 hours 15 minutes by airplane

Look!
*Nova Scotia is closer
than you think!*



A list of Nova Scotia universities and Nova Scotia Community College campuses, and their locations

- i. Acadia University, Wolfville, NS
- ii. Atlantic School of Theology, Halifax, NS
- iii. Cape Breton University, Cape Breton, NS
- iv. Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS
- v. Dalhousie University Agricultural Campus, Truro, NS
- vi. NSCAD University, Halifax, NS
- vii. Mount Saint Vincent University, Halifax, NS
- viii. Saint Mary's University, Halifax, NS
- ix. St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish, NS
- x. University King's College, Halifax, NS
- xi. Université Sainte-Anne, Pointe-de-l'Église, NS

- xii. NSCC – Nova Scotia Community College 13 campuses plus 1 learning centre
- 1. Akerley Campus, Dartmouth, NS
- 2. Annapolis Valley Campus, Middleton, NS
- 3. Burrigge Campus, Yarmouth, NS
- 4. Centre of Geographic Sciences (COGS), Lawrencetown, NS
- 5. Cumberland Campus, Springhill, NS
- 6. Institute of Technology Campus, Halifax, NS
- 7. Ivany Campus, Dartmouth, NS
- 8. Kingstec Campus, Kentville, NS
- 9. Lunenburg Campus, Bridgewater, NS
- 10. Marconi Campus, Sydney, NS
- 11. Pictou Campus, Stellarton, NS
- 12. Shelburne Campus, Shelburne, NS
- 13. Strait Area Campus, Port Hawkesbury, NS
- 14. Truro Campus, Truro, NS



Peggy's Cove • Nova Scotia

The following section illustrates some of the innovative research and exciting projects happening at Nova Scotian universities.

Acadia University
Cape Breton University
Dalhousie University
Mount Saint Vincent University
St. Francis Xavier University
NSCAD University
Saint Mary's University



Acadia University • Wolfville • Nova Scotia

Acadia University

Acadia University ranks among Canada's best, recognized for teaching and academic excellence through a personalized educational experience.

Acadia University has a long tradition of research in coastal

“Government of Canada invests \$1.4 million in support of coastal science for Dr. Mark Mallory’s research lab at Acadia University, Nova Scotia.”

environments, which support some of the most important and threatened habitats in the world.

Just in the recent decade, three Tier II Canada Research Chairs (O’Driscoll, Stokesbury, Mallory) as well as the Acadia Centre for Estuarine Research, the Centre for Analytical Research on the Environment, and numerous other Acadia researchers have focused on coastal science.

Dr. Mark Mallory was a Tier II Chair at Acadia, and this advancement will see his lab undertake an increased focus on Atlantic Canada (in addition to existing work in the Arctic), as well as more policy and social aspects of coastal science.

Prior to coming to Acadia, Dr. Mallory was a biologist with Environment Canada for 20 years, working on environmental issues

like acid rain, climate change, Arctic seabird populations, and environmental contamination. He has expanded this work since joining academia in 2011, supporting over 40 students and working from Ellesmere Island to Portugal to Florida and many points in between.

In 2014, he was inducted into the Royal Society of Canada, College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists (2014), and in 2018 he was awarded a Fulbright Chair at the University of Washington during his first sabbatical. He

collaborates extensively within the university, as well as nationally and internationally, and this broad engagement has provided new opportunities for his students, and collectively has allowed him and the lab to publish 270 peer-reviewed papers.

Acadia is committed to continuing research on coastal environments, and Dr. Mallory’s new Tier 1 CRC will serve as a hub for this research in the years to come.



Garden Room • Acadia University • Wolfville • Nova Scotia

Cape Breton University

Cape Breton University (CBU) is an Atlantic Canadian post-secondary leader, with an international focus.

Students from more than 50 countries study at CBU.

Currently home to nearly 5,500 students, CBU's vision of post-secondary education allows students to pursue dynamic fields of study that are ideally suited for success in liberal arts, business, health, education, science and technology.

Students from more than 50 countries study at CBU and benefit from the university's unique commitment to community, economic development, Indigenous learning, and research into many aspects of environment and culture.

CBU has a number of partnerships in China, outlined below.

Beijing Normal University - Zhuhai (BNUZ)

CBU has signed an MOU and Student Exchange agreement; we regularly welcome students from BNUZ. Various CBU staff have visited the university over the past number of years.

Students have the ability to partake in research projects with faculty in the SSOB and Science and Technology schools, as well as innovative research through partnerships in the Verschuren Centre for Sustainability and Energy in the Environment.

Henan Agricultural University (Zhengzhou City)

Beginning in 2007 with a 2+2 in Business and expanding from there, CBU has welcomed many HAU students who transferred into CBU's Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA), Bachelor of Hospitality and Tourism Management (BHTM) programs under the current articulation agreement, some transfer into the Bachelor of Engineering Technology program and some have been admitted into the Master of Business Administration-Community Economic Development program.

Shenzhen Polytechnic

CBU has an ongoing faculty exchange and a research collaboration agreement with Shenzhen Polytechnic. Shenzhen Polytechnic is a Higher educational institute (College) located in Xili, Nanshan District, Shenzhen, Guangdong, China. It was founded in 1993 by the government of Shenzhen, the most developed city in China at that time.

Each of our partnerships strengthen our relationship with China and our dedication to the internationalization and recognition of our university.



Dalhousie University

With campuses in the heart of Halifax and Truro, Nova Scotia, Dalhousie University is one of Canada's leading research-intensive universities.

As one of the most prestigious research universities in Canada, Dalhousie University takes pride in its world-class research, especially in the field of ocean studies. Located in a coastal province, the school hosts Canada's largest university aquatic research facility—the Aquatron—and some of the best ocean researchers in



Dalhousie University • Halifax • Nova Scotia

“The partnership has opened the door for exciting exchanges and joint research projects.”

the country. Similarly, Shandong University also enjoys the advantages of being in a coastal province and has a keen interest in marine science and technology.

The two top-level universities decided to join forces and build a joint lab to advance their marine research and education. In 2018, the two universities launched an agreement called LORE (Laboratory for Ocean Research and Education), signifying the formalized collaboration between the two parties and, according to Dalhousie Aquatron Manager John Batt, it is a collaboration much needed to achieve the goal as marine research is not only a world-wide issue but an extremely complex one.

“For instance, some people have the tanks; some people have the resources to use the tanks, but no one group in the world has all the tools we need to explore the problems. So by working together we have the opportunity to do more good science,” Batt said.

The LORE agreement stipulates that the two universities would utilize the MEC (Marine Environmental Chamber System) at Shandong University and the Aquatron Laboratory at Dalhousie. It also



Henry Hicks Building • Dalhousie University • Nova Scotia

gives researchers from Shandong University access to the Aquatron at Dalhousie University which will help them to understand how this kind of facility operates before they design and eventually build one in China as well.

The partnership has opened the door for exciting exchanges and joint

research projects according to Dr. Chris Moore, Dean of Science, who has travelled to Shandong province many times. Moore said he's very “fond of Shandong province”.

“I love the people there they are incredibly friendly—just like Nova Scotians.”



Evaristus Hall • Mount Saint Vincent University • Halifax • Nova Scotia

Mount Saint Vincent University

Mount Saint Vincent University gives students the best personalized learning experience and opportunity to conduct world-class research.

When you think about the advantages of a western educational system, in addition to the many world-leading research projects, one of the first things that we think of is the practical, creative methodology that many professors adopt in their teaching. The project led by Assistant Professor at Mount Saint Vincent University, Shane Theunissen is a testament to that argument.

“The best way to teach is often applying it in a real-life setting,” said Theunissen. “Because those are the things that the students are going to be able to remember. Marginalized youth don’t have access to the resources the majority of the population have. And they don’t see themselves contributing to the society in valuable ways. The boat building

program wasn’t just about building a boat. It became about building confidence.”

Theunissen started the program a year ago collaborating with a local museum in Nova Scotia. The program brings the museum, marginalized youth, and students from the Department of Child and Youth Studies at MSVU together to build a 12-foot-long wooden row boat. It aims to help marginalized youth build their confidence and give the students at MSVU the opportunity to learn how to provide a safe and diverse environment for youth.

Theunissen argues that the best way to help youth that are marginalized in the long term is to teach them skills that would allow them to contribute to society and to find that cultural identity themselves. “If you give someone a fish, I feed you for one day; but if I teach you how to fish, I feed you forever.”

“The best way to teach is often applying it in a real-life setting.”





Port Campus • NSCAD University • Halifax • Nova Scotia

NSCAD University

**NSCAD University is
Canada's premiere
university dedicated to
advancing the visual arts.**

NSCAD graduate Jenny (Yujia) Shi has a stellar resume that any young and ambitious artist would dream of having. She holds two bachelor's degrees from NSCAD University, one in art history and another in fine art, and works

as an art instructor/facilitator at numerous art studios, including one working with adults who have Down syndrome. She has held five solo exhibitions and was also featured in multiple group exhibitions.

“There’s a really strong community of professional artists that work very hard at what they do and I just felt like I wanted to stay in Nova Scotia and be a part of that energy.”

Even for an accomplished artist like Shi, there have been moments of uncertainty. During those challenging times, her mentor Charley Young — also NSCAD alumna — has always been a champion for her. It was Shi and Young’s shared experience that fostered their bond as local artists in Nova Scotia.

“I remember sending Charley a message saying I feel really stressed, I’m not sure what to do. And she is always very positive, always gives me what I really need to hear, at the right moment.”

Shi said she felt quite uncertain about her first application for a big-budget public art project in Cape Breton. She wasn’t sure what to talk about in the application or what work to present, all of which was brand-new for a young artist like her.

Although the two of them had known each other since 2013,

Shi and Young started working closely ten months ago through a mentorship program under Visual Arts Nova Scotia, a local artist-run organization that strives to advocate for the visual arts industry in the province.

The ten-month program pairs established and emerging artists at the beginning of their artistic career. During the ten months, the mentee will meet regularly with the mentor and join group meetings with all mentors and mentees in the program.

The program is a way for Visual Arts Nova Scotia to help build a sustainable, vibrant art community. It is this sense of community that brought Young, originally from Calgary, Alberta all the way to Nova Scotia.

“I was 20 when I moved out here. I loved being in Nova Scotia, and I have a great community,” said Young.

Young came to Halifax as an exchange student to NSCAD in 2008 and decided to make Nova Scotia her second home.

“I think one of the things about NSCAD, and the greater arts community in Halifax, is that there’s a lot of support and encouragement,” said Young. “There’s a really strong community of professional artists that work very hard at what they do and I just felt like I wanted to stay in Nova Scotia and be a part of that energy.”

Both Shi and Young are confident that the mentorship program is only a beginning of a fruitful life-long friendship between them, with more exciting collaborations yet to come.



The Academy Campus
NSCAD University
Halifax • Nova Scotia



Fountain Campus • NSCAD University
Halifax • Nova Scotia

Saint Mary's University

Saint Mary's University offers a truly international experience with 30% of students coming from outside Canada to study in all the institutions academic disciplines.

Founded over two decades ago, the Saint Mary's University Entrepreneurship Centre (SMUEC) is a leading provider of university-

based business support services in Atlantic Canada. It is the hub of numerous student-based and employer-focused programs. These programs offer unique experiential learning opportunities for students, including job placements and idea acceleration.

"Our programs are extremely diverse with two specifically focused on providing international students

"...he couldn't have started his business without the help from SMUEC."



with the skills, resources, and connections necessary to progress their careers and business ideas," said Michael Sanderson, Director of the Saint Mary's University Entrepreneurship Centre, "We ensure every student at Saint Mary's is exposed to entrepreneurship in some capacity, prior to graduating."

Over the past 25 years, the SMUEC has helped thousands of students, both nationally and internationally. Mubdu Alali is one of the international student-entrepreneurs at Saint Mary's who says he couldn't have started his business, Bloxo, a sports game matching app, without the help of the Centre.

"I think when you are young, you think of a dream but you don't really study it well because you don't know the market." Alali said. Before Bloxo came to mind, Alali says he thought of many "bad ideas", and it was the experienced professionals at the SMUEC that helped him to land on the right one.

Mubdu Alali is in his second year at Saint Mary's University pursuing a Bachelor of Commerce from the Sobey School of Business. The business program is ranked among the best in the country. More importantly, it's also a champion in creating a diverse community.

"Within the business school, over 46% of the students are international and they come from



The Patrick Power Library • Saint Mary's University • Halifax • Nova Scotia

83 countries", said Dr. Harjeet Bhabra, Dean of the Sobey School of Business.

In addition to offering insightful business advice to students, the Centre is also the hub for student organizations focusing on social entrepreneurship. Enactus is the largest student leadership organization worldwide, focused on using entrepreneurial action as a way to create positive change in the community.

Enactus Saint Mary's Co-President, Bethany Ripoll, feels inspired by being part of a diverse team of students all focused on addressing local challenges. "It's incredible how much Enactus helps students develop their professional skills and gain real-world experience," Ripoll said.

St. Francis Xavier University

St. Francis Xavier University (St.FX) combines the three things students want: an outstanding reputation, high-quality learning, and an extraordinary residential community.

Getting real-world research exposure is a great resume booster for a Computer Science undergrad, according to Dr. Jacob Levman, St.FX's new Canada Research Chair.

"The students who have come to work with me and have done something related to machine learning, the ones

who have graduated, they all have jobs. They are doing great," Dr. Levman said there's a great demand for machine learning programmers, and the hands-on experience provided by his research lab helps to make students stand out.

"The students who have come to work with me and have done something related to machine learning, the ones who have graduated, they all have jobs."

Dr. Levman's academic excellence spans from technical engineering to medical data analysis. He completed his postdoctoral research fellowship with Harvard Medical School and still



Oland Stadium • St. Francis Xavier University • Antigonish • Nova Scotia



Gerald Schwartz School of Business • St. Francis Xavier University • Antigonish • Nova Scotia

has an ongoing appointment with the school as a research associate. He also received training in neuroimaging at the University of Oxford's Institute of Biomedical Engineering after finishing postdoctoral training in medical physics at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Center. He completed his PhD in medical biophysics at the University of Toronto. Dr. Levman

also has extensive technical industry experience including working in Silicon Valley in California.

Dr. Levman said the practicality St.FX emphasizes as well as their world-class research quality is a good fit for his academic background. "St. FX's overall research is extremely high from what I've seen," Dr. Levman said. In the newest Maclean's

ranking, the Computer Science department at St.FX ties for the 1st in the country with the University of Toronto before University of Waterloo in terms of average citations.



The following section highlights a number of Chinese students who have successfully graduated from Nova Scotia universities.

These are their stories.

Acadia University – Fenggang Zhou

Cape Breton University – Yun Jin

Dalhousie University – Zilong Chen

Mount Saint Vincent University – Lingyang Wang

NSCAD University – Jiani Wen

Saint Mary's University – He Man

St. Francis Xavier University – Yiwei Liu

周冯刚 (*Fenggang Zhou*)

Acadia University

Xi'an Bodi High School

Fenggang Zhou sounds older than he really is on the phone. The 24-year-old recent graduate landed an opportunity as the International Education Program Officer Intern at Acadia University; the same university Zhou graduated from in May 2018. Zhou came to Wolfville, Nova Scotia to complete his degree in Environmental Science in 2014. A month after his graduation, Zhou received a job offer from Acadia University. As an international graduate who had never worked full-time in Canada before, the job offer is a testament to Zhou's excellence.

The major Zhou chose to study, Environmental Science, is quite challenging for international students, according to Zhou. Zhou said that because it's difficult for international students to graduate from the program, not many students would choose this major.

"I'm one of those people who are drawn to challenges—the more difficult people think it is, the more I want to give it a try," Zhou said.

Before coming to Nova Scotia, Zhou studied at UESTC, Zhongshan Institute in China. Zhou said he decided to study abroad when he was in middle school. "I've always wanted to go abroad. I want to see the outside world. If I keep staying in the same place, doing the same thing, I'd feel pretty bored."

Zhou said the first time he hopped on a plane to Canada he felt as if he had been in a movie. "I can still remember what the houses looked like as the plane was flying through the clouds. Everything was new to me. I even wondered what the grocery stores would look like."

Zhou said his dream is to go to medical school and become a doctor. In order to achieve this goal, he has been volunteering in an emergency room at a local hospital in Wolfville since he was a student at Acadia University.

"You have to really get your hands dirty before you know whether you actually like something or not."

Zhou said after being a volunteer at the hospital, he realized that he tends to thrive in a high-pressure environment, and he enjoys the feeling of being able to help others.

"I'm one of those people who are drawn to **challenges.**"



“They (professors) really want to know you as a person. **You are not just one of many — you matter to them**”

Yu Jing, a graduate from Cape Breton University (CBU), said she decided to study abroad when she was studying at another university in China. Yu had already spent a year at a university in China before she came to Canada. Yu said after spending some time in that university in China, she had made up her mind to experience a different education style.

Since Yu came to Cape Breton University in 2014, she has stayed on top of her class through her education. Yu kept herself busy with many part-time jobs, including working at the Student Center and for the university as a teaching assistant. All those working experiences paved her way of landing on a job at an accountant firm in Nova Scotia after graduation, and her relationship with Cape Breton University became stronger.

“After the graduation, I would sometimes bump into my professors and we would still have long chats on the street with each other,” Yu said.

Yu thinks that the small-size classrooms at Cape Breton University are the reason that she was able to establish a close relationship with her professors.

“Our class had 50 students at one point and that’s the most people we had had. We interacted a lot with the teachers. They were always ready to help and they really wanted to know you as a person. You are not just one of many—you matter to them,” Yu said.

Yu is currently the board member of two local not-for-profit organizations and is considering about starting her own business.

余璟 (*Jing Yu*)

Cape Breton University
Shenzheng Hongling Middle School



陈子龙 (Zilong Chen)

Dalhousie University

HeNan Experimental High School, Sino-Canadian Program

“Dalhousie provides you with a lot of options. **You could dip your toes into a lot of things before you decide on anything**”

“**I** realized acting is something that interests me. I would willingly take time to do it and not feel tired from it,” Zilong Chen is in his last year of a four-year honour program in Bachelor of Arts in Acting at Dalhousie University. Chen is from Zhengzhou, the capital city of Henan province. The 22-year old came to Halifax three years ago after finishing high school.

Chen started his university as a journalism student. During his first year, he took an acting course as an elective and found his passion for theatre.

“Dalhousie provides you with a lot of options. You could dip your toes into a lot of things before you decide on anything.”

Chen said the flexibility of the educational system here allows him to really explore his passion and hobbies.

In addition to a good educational system which he enjoys, Chen said the lifestyle in Halifax also makes it easier for him to live abroad.

“Halifax is a place where you can actually live slow,” Chen said compared to most cities in China and other bigger cities in Canada such as Toronto or Vancouver where everything moves fast and people have little patience, Halifax is a place where he can focus on art and delve deep into it.

Chen said all his theatre-related courses are two-years long, which gave his professors time to actually get to know him.

“If you have a really strong relationship with your professors, and they know you very well, they are going to have a better idea of how to help you.”

Chen plans to apply for another degree in Arts Management at Chinese University of Hong Kong. Chen said the experience he had at Dalhousie helped him to become a well-rounded actor and he felt more confident going into a master's degree now.

“I like programs that are more **engaging.**”

The Bachelor of Public Relations is one of the most nationally respected degrees at Mount Saint Vincent University (MSVU). Every year its graduates land jobs at reputable companies across the country. The program's high academic standard also makes it quite challenging for students to complete this well-know program. Lingyang Wang is one of the international students in the program.

“I like programs that are more engaging. I want to actually do something rather than just writing papers all day,” Wang said.

All the students enrolled in the Bachelor of Public Relations program are required to complete a co-operative education component consisting of three work terms built into their study. Wang can take his knowledge to the real world with hands-on experience. By the time he graduates, he will have a full year of work experience. This working experience can be essential for an international student like him who wants to stay and work in Canada after he graduates.

Wang came to Halifax in 2014 right after he graduated from Beijing No.25 High School. Because of the collaboration between Wang's high school and Nova Scotia, he had the chance to meet Ashley-Jane Chow, the International Business Development Consultant at MSVU, from whom he heard about the small-size classrooms the university has to offer.

“I knew I would be facing people from all parts of the world if I go abroad and I didn't think I would do really well if I'm in a big university environment. So I chose MSVU, which is a lot smaller.” Wang said.

Wang is graduating in the fall of 2019 and he said he plans to stay in Halifax afterward.

“I've seen a lot of changes since I came here. I think, as the biggest city in the east coast, Halifax has a bright future ahead and I believe it's a good decision to stay.”

王令洋 (*Lingyang Wang*)

Mount Saint Vincent University

Beijing No.25 High School, Sino-Canadian Program



文嘉妮 (*Jiani Wen*)

NSCAD University
Zhuzhou No.4 High School

“I could let my
imagination go wild
and keep refining the
project”

Jiani Wen showed a good taste in fashion when I first met her. Unsurprisingly, this young 26-year-old lady from Hunan province is a professional designer. Wen came to Halifax four years ago to complete a Master's Degree in Interdisciplinary Design at NSCAD University, a unique program at NSCAD with a focus on interdisciplinary study that sets itself apart from other art schools in Canada.

Wen said all her classmates come from a different kind of visual art background; some of them studied interior or graphic design, while others did something more science-based such as software or industrial design.

“We had a lot of group projects covering various disciplines. You could then learn things that are completely different from what you originally studied,” Wen said.

Wen completed her Bachelor degree in China before coming to Halifax. Having studied in both countries, Wen has a deep understanding of the different methodologies the two systems adopt. Wen said the universities in China use a result-oriented method, whereas the ones in Canada focus more on the process. She said the students in China are usually asked to present a complete design plan and follow it through and Canadian students could end up with a design that's completely the opposite to the original idea after some intensive research.

“As a student, I think when I focus on the process rather than the result, I could learn more because I don't have to worry. I could let my imagination go wild and keep refining the project,” Wen said.

After completing two rounds of interviews and numerous design projects, Wen graduated in April in 2018 from NSCAD, and now she works as a graphic designer at a Halifax-based company named Dormie Workshop and J Design.

“Everyone is so friendly here.
They really **care**.”

He Man was born and raised in Beijing and came to Halifax two years ago in 2016 after she finished the international high school curriculum in the capital city. Now she’s a second-year student at Saint Mary’s University and she said she’s enjoying her life here in Halifax.

“I like the weather here—it’s not as hot as in Beijing. Also, it’s peaceful here; and not as crowded as Beijing so I have the time and energy to do things I like,” Man said.

The high school curriculum that Man completed in Beijing was the same high school curriculum that students complete in Nova Scotia, according to Man.

“Our teachers were Canadian teachers and we had a variety of cool subjects that are not provided in a traditional Chinese high school. We even had a drama course where we performed a Shakespeare play.”

Man said the experience helped her to better adjust herself as an international student at Saint Mary’s University.

“At least I know what a group project is. I know what deadlines mean. I know in a traditional high school setting; you don’t get to do any of those—you have exams and that’s pretty much all.”

Although Man is doing well as an international student now, when she first came to Halifax, she felt quite homesick.

“I still remember when I first came here, I really missed my mom. Luckily, I lived in the residence on campus where we had a lot of floor events with other students. And after living there for a while, I didn’t feel like missing home.”

Man said people at Saint Mary’s University are genuinely nice which makes her “feel at home”.

“Everyone is so friendly here. They really care.”

满贺 (*He Man*)

Saint Mary’s University

Beijing No.25 High School, Sino-Canadian Program



“I think what really sets us (St.FX) apart is the comradery we share between the students. We have a very **close relationship** with each other.”

It's always easy to spot an alumnus from St. Francis Xavier University (St.FX) on the street because almost all of them wear the same 'X' ring.

“Since I graduated from St.FX, whenever I saw people with an X ring, I always immediately feel close to them. I have a lot of friends who graduated long before I did, but we became friends with each other right after we recognized the ring,” Liu said.

Every student at St.FX can, and most of them will, purchase the ring at the time of their graduation. The letter 'X' on the outside stands for the university's name, and the inside of the ring is engraved with the student's initials, making the seemingly identical rings unique to each graduate.

St.FX is located in the small town of Antigonish, Nova Scotia. The university has small classes.

According to the university's website, each class has about 34 students on average.

“I think what really sets us (St.FX) apart (from other universities) is the comradery we share between the students. We have a very close relationship with each other.”

Liu said because there is a small population on campus, she was able to get to know people from different departments and received a lot of help from the university as an international student.

“I remember one of my friends had a family emergency and needed to go home on Christmas Eve and there was no bus to take her to the airport that day. One of the staff offered to help take my friend to the airport that night,” Liu said, “I think in a culture where people value quality time with families during Christmas time, her offer was extremely generous.”

刘忆葳 (*Yiwei Liu*)

St. Francis Xavier University

Xingtai No.1 Sino-Canadian International High School



Friendly people, beautiful scenery and good quality for your money, Tourism Nova Scotia knows the province has a lot to offer.

Coastal cities have always been a hot spot for tourists from China.

Over the years, cities on the west coast such as Vancouver, or Victoria, have attracted thousands of visitors across Asia. But as we all know, trips to the west coast can be expensive and most of the time, crowded. That's when Nova Scotia, according to Tourism Nova Scotia's long-time media relation expert Pamela Wamback, would come into play, offering something quite different.

"People here are very approachable, willing to help. But it's not crowded. So it's good quality for their money. And it's easy to get around."

Pamela said she often hears from her colleagues and other visitors that Nova Scotians are among the friendliest in the country, something that the province takes great pride in.

But Nova Scotia is more than just its friendly people. It offers a variety of

scenery within an easy drive.

Within an hour of Halifax you can be at the small fishing community of Peggy's Cove or Lunenburg. Or if you go an hour in the other direction towards the Bay of Fundy, home of the world's highest tides, you'll be in the agriculture region, which is loaded with wineries, farm markets and orchards.

Or you can go up to the Eastern Shore if you are interested in surfing or kayaking—it's a great spot for water activities. There are countless things to see and do in this charming province.

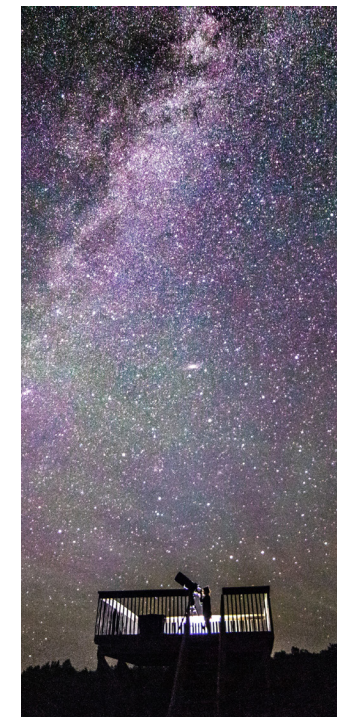
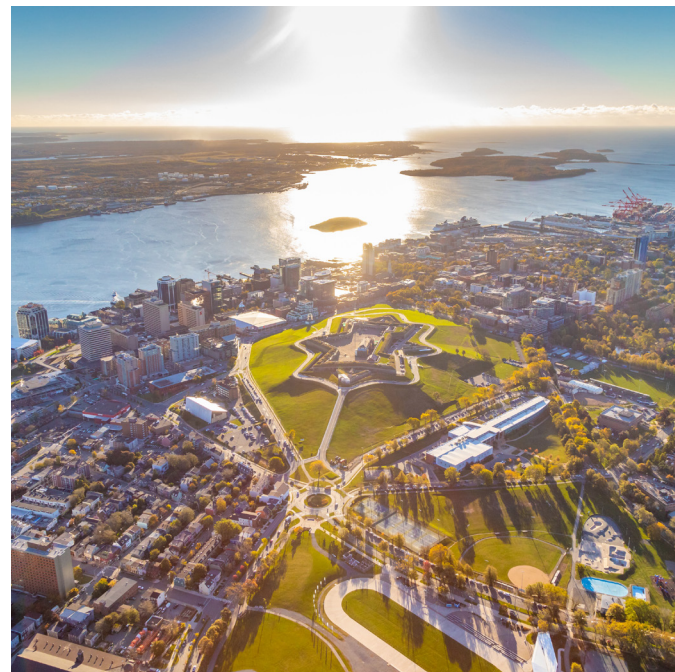
"You tell me what you like, we

probably have it," Wamback said.

People always associate fancy lobster with Nova Scotia. While that is absolutely true, Nova Scotia is also the home for some world-renowned wineries.

"They are good wineries that are competing on an international level and winning awards against the top wineries in the world," Wamback said.

If you are an explorer interested in a trip with nearly endless possibilities, a friendly province like Nova Scotia might just be what you'll need.



UNCOVER
a province that speaks
to every part of you.

Listen closely. Listen to each ocean breeze that whispers across our seaside towns, sandy shores, working fishing villages, over the foothills of our many wineries and the mountains of our highlands. Every whisper brings the promise of surprise. The delight of the unexpected. The sounds, sights, flavours and stories of a place and people you never imagined could offer so much.



Burntcoat Head Park, Bay of Fundy



Cabot Trail

OUR HISTORY
IS ALIVE
in our culture and people.

In Nova Scotia, we take deep pride in preserving the things that make our varied historic cultures unique and fascinating. The traditions of our Mi'kmaq, Acadian, African Nova Scotian and Gaelic influences live strong in our everyday. With five UNESCO World Heritage Sites, 16 National Historic Sites, two National Parks and 28 provincial museums—we have a lot of history to explore.



Peggy's Cove

FEED YOUR SOUL
and delight your senses.

Welcome to a province that inspires chefs from around the world to set up shop. Sit down, relax and dig into cuisine shaped by our fresh local ingredients. Savour authentic culinary experiences born from the passion of our farmers, fishers, chefs, winemakers and craft brewers. Our seafood often gets top billing. A visitor favourite, explore the Lobster or Chowder Trail with seaside lobster boils and authentic chowders. But that's just the beginning of why foodies keep coming back to our tables. Whether you discover a unique local café, take a cooking class at Hatfield House or Trout Point Lodge or dress up in costume for the famous Beggar's Banquet—you'll find our food to be as incredible as everything else around here.



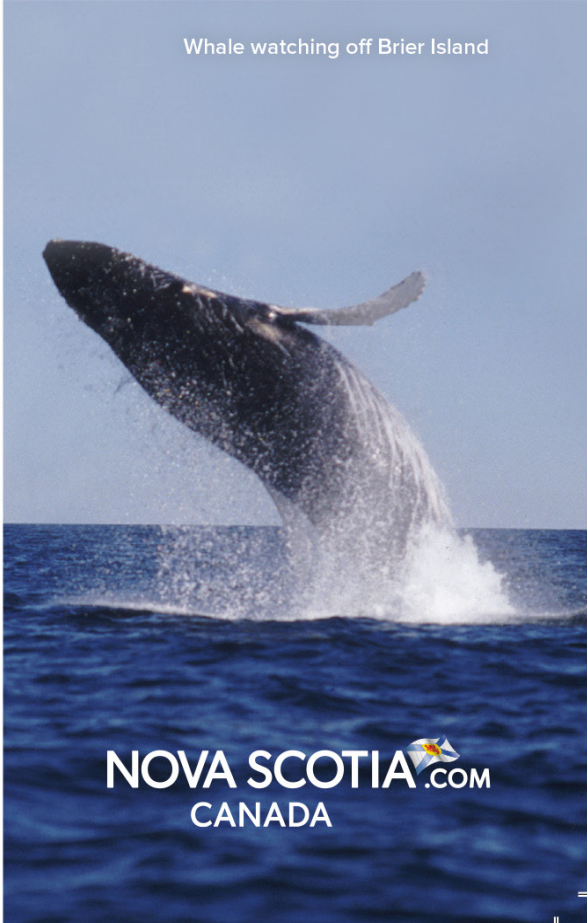
Lobster picnic in
Cape Breton Highlands
National Park

WET YOUR FEET
in Canada's ocean playground.

Kick off your sandals and hop on a surfboard, paddleboard or aboard a zodiac tidal bore rafting expedition. The only board not on the menu is "bored". Whether you relax on one of our warm-water beaches, lace up your hiking boots for a seaside trek, rock hop or lighthouse hop—there are countless ways to enjoy our endless coast. You'll be surprised by the rush you feel when you're in no rush at all.



Lunenburg



Whale watching off Brier Island

How one Nova Scotian agency is keeping China a priority

Nova Scotia Business Inc. (NSBI) is Nova Scotia's business development agency working closely with local businesses to help them grow. EduNova had the chance to ask NSBI some key questions regarding our ties with China and its economical impact.



Laurel C. Broten
President & Chief Executive Office
Nova Scotia Business Inc.

Q: NSBI has been helping local companies to grow internationally. What's new about how you work with companies?

A: We've taken a proactive approach to economic development when it comes to trade diversification. Over the past few years, we've focused on identifying new markets of opportunity for our companies, and have been working with them to explore and enter new

markets, including China. Our staff travel to China several times a year and support companies in attending trade missions there.

"China remains a priority for our region, because it remains a priority for our businesses across the province,"

says Laurel Broten, President

Ocean Tech • China Strategy • Diversity

and CEO, Nova Scotia Business Inc. "We recognize the importance of a long-term commitment to efforts in Asia when it comes to trade and investment, and our role is to support our companies as they continue to build partnerships with this key market."

Q. Attracting investment has been one of the key missions for NSBI. In your opinion, what do we as a coastal province have to offer to investors compared to the bigger cities such as Toronto?

A: Nova Scotia has a very vibrant Oceans Economy that is leading Canada and has the highest concentrations of researchers including the Bedford Institute of Oceanography and research institutes in NS universities & college campuses. There is availability of loyal skilled labour, and the provincial government very supportive of its development via incentives and policy support.

Q: How would that then contribute to the people

who actually study, work and live in Nova Scotia?

A: Our private sector works closely with our partners at post-secondary institutions, which brings many opportunities to our students. Our universities and colleges are an integral part of our business ecosystem and are a hub for research and development, allowing students to connect with industry and gain valuable experience.

Nova Scotia launched the Nova Scotia-China Engagement Strategy in 2016 to develop our relationship with China. NSBI has been very active in the implementation of the plan.

Q: What is the newest progress so far?

A: Our exports to China jumped from \$420 million in 2015 to \$793 million in 2018. There have been investments made by a Shanghai-based real estate company and a couple of large Chinese

seafood companies into the province.

Q: Where do you see Nova Scotia in the next five years?

A: The Canadian government has a strategic goal for diversification in trade, and Nova Scotia has been working hard to achieve that. At Nova Scotia Business Inc., we're focused on a future for Nova Scotia that is connected to the world through trade and investment, strong international partnerships, and increased immigration.

Interview with Promising Education Ltd.



Vincent Zhang
President, Promising Education Ltd.

Promising Education Ltd. is an authorized agent licensed by the Ministry of Education of China. Founded in 2000, Promising Education now has 12 offices located in major cities in China. The company provides services for university application and supports students while they are studying abroad.

We had the pleasure to talk to Vincent Zhang, the President, as well as Judy Liu, the Marketing Manager, about their perspectives on international education. The following paragraphs are adapted from the transcript.

Q: Judy, how long have you been working in international education?

A: I have been working in the industry since 2004. So, 14 years.

Q: Why did you want to get into the industry?

A: Well, because I benefited from the North American educational system, I've studied abroad, and I know how to choose how to study. I really want to help them (students) to make the right decisions.

Q: In your own experience, what are the differences between the Chinese vs. Canadian educational system?

A: A typical model in a Chinese educational system is the teacher being the instructor and the students being the follower, finishing the tasks given to them. They are not asked to put what they've learned into practice, whereas most business programs in Canada are project-based.

Q: Vincent, what do you think has changed over the years among international students?

A: (international) students think differently when they choose their major now. The majority of them used to choose engineering majors because they believed it would be easier to find a job. That's how people thought ten years ago. Now, more and more students would rather pick business degrees instead. It's almost a 50/50 split between those two majors. This means Chinese families are better-off and are able to support their children to study something that they actually like—finding a job is not the only concern anymore.

Q: What differentiates international high schools from schools that offer IELTS or A-level courses?

A: It is an all-rounded experience. International high schools offer students a whole English-immersed educational experience—they learn everything English. This would help them in the long run in the future.