

# EXPAND YOUR RESUMÉ

## WITH ADVANCED COUNSELLING SKILLS CERTIFICATE AT GEORGE BROWN

George Brown College offers an Advanced Counselling Skills Certificate program that helps you learn more advanced counselling interventions by building on the basic skills that you have already acquired. The

certificate is intended for graduates of community services or human services counsellor programs from community colleges or universities.

Aurora Rodulfa wasted very little time getting settled in her new country.

A graduate of the program who works as a settlement counsellor, Rodulfa is an immigrant who uses her George Brown training in her work as a settlement counsellor for newcomers to Canada. In September 2008, she began

taking classes toward the Advanced Counselling Skills Certificate and was pleased with her decision. "I was hooked instantly," she says. "I was very impressed with the teachers' credentials and what they do in the classroom. To be honest, that's why I keep coming back."

This is her third program since 2008. She completed Advanced Counselling in 2009 and Community Mental Health Case Management in 2010.

"Every year, I always have something significant added to my resumé," she says.

The certificate program consists of two compulsory courses — Advanced Counselling Techniques and Mental Health Assessment Skills and three elective courses from a selection of five. To be admitted to the Advanced Counselling Skills Certificate program, you must have graduated from a college or university counselling program, and you must be currently employed or seeking employment in counselling.

Rodulfa explains, "Education is truly an investment in one's self. It helps you to prepare better for the challenges in the Canadian labour market. The opportunity to network with professionals in your field gives you added advantage to resources you can use in your career. There are systemic barriers for internationally-trained professionals to access their profession, but there are boundless possibilities to a good education."



GEORGE BROWN COLLEGE PHOTO

## EXPLORE FINE ARTS OPEN HOUSE

The fine arts are alive and well at George Brown College. So alive, in fact, that Continuing Education has its own building dedicated exclusively to the arts.

There will be a Continuing Education Fine Arts Open House at George Brown College's Fine Arts Building Dec. 11. The open house runs from 2-5 p.m., and the building is located at 207 Adelaide St. E., Suite 209. There will be an exhibition of works created in the past semester by students registered in fine arts courses offered through Continuing Education, and instructors will be on hand to answer questions.

# CHALLENGE YOURSELF WITH GROWTH

## GEORGE BROWN OFFERS GARDEN DESIGN PROGRAM

The George Brown College Continuing Education Garden Design certificate is offered in partnership with the Toronto Botanical Garden.

This certificate takes a practical approach to gardens and landscapes by looking at both the art and the process involved in layouts and planting. It has been designed to be relevant for both beginners and avid gardeners.

Samantha Armstrong was ready for a new challenge after 17 years of long hours in the film industry. "I was looking for a career change," she says. "Garden design was one of the things that attracted my interest immediately. I had enjoyed gardening on my own for many years; it was something I wanted to try professionally. It would be a big change, but I knew I would still need many of the organizational and other



GEORGE BROWN COLLEGE PHOTO

skills I developed working in the film industry."

After deciding on a path to pursue, Armstrong began to research her educa-

tion and training options. "Some places didn't offer garden design while others only offered it as part of a full-time horticulture program or something else," she says.

"I wanted an in-classroom experience, and George Brown had exactly what I wanted."

George Brown's courses also deal with a gardening reality for many people: Life in the city. While container gardening and edible gardening in the city teaches students how to choose the right plants, soil mixes, fertilizer and watering methods or maintaining those plant choices, the classes also teach students to garden in a variety of settings — from patio containers and vertical gardens to raised beds and community plots.

"Urban gardening is an increasingly popular pursuit and these courses offer gardeners an opportunity for personal development and professional entry-level training," says Lynne Kurylo, chair of Liberal Studies in the School of Continuing Education, George Brown College.