innis college
academic orientation session
WELCOME TO INNIS COLLEGE

TODAY’S SCHEDULE

10:35  How to Use the Calendar
11:30  Selecting Your Courses
12:15  Lunch with professors & upper-year students
       Student Life Roundtables
       Residence Tour
2:00   Money Matter$ & Using ACORN
2:55   Professional Faculties
       or
       Intro to Libraries
The Calendar and Degree Requirements

DONALD BOERE
REGISTRAR
23 JUNE 2018

AGENDA

• introduction
• A&S (Faculty of Arts & Science) and you
• tour of the online calendar
• degree requirements
• student responsibilities
• important dates
• a few tips
INTRODUCTION

• you’ve joined a large academic community with unparalleled breadth and scope
• perhaps you know exactly what you want to study
• perhaps you are trying out areas of interest

→ we know you’re here to learn . . .
   . . . and to apply that learning

• you will feel the crosswinds between disciplines and communities
• you will witness the ricocheting of ideas and experiences

• you’re not doing this alone
• you’ve joined a supportive academic community that wants you to succeed.
INTRODUCTION: innis registrar’s office

Your registrar’s office can help with the challenges of being a student:
• coming up with strategies for choosing courses and programs;
• ironing out academic, financial and administrative details of registration;
• adjusting to new learning styles;
• juggling personal and work priorities with academic commitments;
• wondering what to do with your degree.

We are a reliable first stop for accurate information and sound advice in an atmosphere of trust, confidentiality and comfort.

Online resources – such as UofTStarterKit – can help you. So can mentors, specialized services and other students. But if you’re feeling restless about any matter of being a student, your registrar’s office is a good first point of contact.
INTRODUCTION: innis registrar’s office (cont’d)

what qualifies us as a reliable first stop for assistance?

we’re custodians of a lot of information about
• registration and enrolment
• fees and funding
• rules and regulations
• petitions and appeals

we’re also custodians of your information, and we take our accountability to you very seriously.

and we are witnesses of the student experience from 1st year through graduation and beyond.
INTRODUCTION: innis registrar’s office (cont’d)

we can help you connect to answers, reflect on options, project solutions, and create opportunities to excel.

So if you’re looking for help to

• solve a personal or academic difficulty,
• overcome a financial bind,
• formulate or adjust your short- or long-term academic goals, or
• apply your academic learning outside the classroom,

with the accumulated experience of student matters and of A&S, we can offer you objective, personalized advice and help you explore options.
INTRODUCTION: more support at innis

- Office of Student Life
- Residence staff and dons
- Library
- Writing Centre
- Peer mentoring
- Alumni mentoring
INTRODUCTION: online support at innis

askastudent  fastforward  UofT Starter Kit
INTRODUCTION: more support at U of T

Some examples:
• Academic Success Centre
• Accessibility Services
• Centre for Community Partnerships
• Centre for International Experience
• Departments and Academic Program Offices
• First Nations House
• Health & Wellness
• Libraries

NOTE:
Diversity & Equity are fundamental values supported by policies and resources for an inclusive environment and one that actively works against discrimination.
A&S AND YOU: synonyms and not so synonymous

These are the same:
100-series = 100-level = first-year courses
A&S = FAS = Faculty of Arts & Science
First-Year Foundation = the One programs
First-Year Seminar = Seminar 199
ACORN = SWS = Student Web Service (=ROSI)
Subject POSSt = Program of Study
LEC = L = lecture
cancel = drop
Fall/Winter Session = Fall Term plus Spring Term

These are not quite the same:
breadth requirement vs distribution requirement
credit vs course
Faculty vs faculty
cancel (or drop) vs Withdrawal
LWD vs WDR
Term vs Session
A&S AND YOU: an A&S degree

Breadth of knowledge:
Richness of the arts, complexity of global cultures, and the varied structures, processes and concepts of the social and natural world

Depth of knowledge:
rigour in at least one field of study

Competencies in learning and applying learning
Critical and Creative Thinking
Communication
Information Literacy
Quantitative Reasoning
Social and Ethical Responsibility

Integration of skills and knowledge
A&S AND YOU: research and applied learning

Integration of skills and knowledge
Capstone courses (400-series) in your program of study
independent study
internships
field courses
laboratories
studios
Research Opportunity Program (ROP)
Summer Research Excursions Program
service learning
community involvement
Study Elsewhere
Summer Study Abroad
International Course Modules
Jackman Humanities Institute
Professional Experience Year (PEY)
TOUR OF THE ONLINE CALENDAR

The Faculty of Arts & Science Calendar
DEGREE REQUIREMENTS:

Basic Degree Requirements
20.0 credits
No more than 6.0 100-series credits
At least 6.0 300-400-series credits
CGPA of at least 1.85
Program requirement
Breadth requirement
DEGREE REQUIREMENTS:
20.0 credits

“Courses” versus “credits”

Unless stated otherwise, whenever A&S refers to “course” assume they mean full credits or the equivalent in half credits

Full course (1.0 credit)
Half course (0.5 credits)
DEGREE REQUIREMENTS:

courses

Yes, we jumped ahead to number 3! See next page for number 2.

300-/400-series courses are upper-year courses, and this requirement will matter much more to you in later years.
DEGREE REQUIREMENTS:
maximum of 6.0 100-series courses

100-series courses are first-year courses

Remember to count 100-series transfer credits in your total
DEGREE REQUIREMENTS:
tangent: transfer credits from high school

• some 1st-year students get “advanced standing” or transfer credit for course work done in high school (AP, IB-HL exams, GCE A-Level exams, French Bacc, and CAPE)
• this link will look familiar to students getting transfer credit
• transfer credits count as degree credits, so remember to count them in your 6.0 100-series (1st-year) courses.
• read your transfer credit assessment carefully and this link.
• many can be used toward completion of the Breadth Requirement
• in some cases they may be used to fulfill program requirements
• You will be able to forfeit transfer credits you received on admission up until 31 May 2019. This has to be done through an academic counselling appointment.
• scholarship eligibility may still be contingent on complete 5.0 credits in an academic session
DEGREE REQUIREMENTS: tangent: transfer credits from another post-secondary institution

- some new students receive transfer credit for course work done at another post-secondary institution.
- this “On-Admission Transfer Credits” link may be helpful to you
- these transfer credits cannot be forfeited.
- a student who receives a half-credit transfer credit and is excluded from the comparable full-credit course may forfeit the half-credit in order to pursue the full-credit course for degree credit. The half-credit would be designated “extra” and will not count towards your degree.
DEGREE REQUIREMENTS: tangent: “Extra” courses

If you end up wanting to take more than 6.0 100-series courses, all of your 1st-year courses beyond the first 6.0 will be designated “Extra.”

Extra courses
• do not count towards your 20.0 degree credits
• are not included in your grade point average
• can be used to fulfill breadth requirements
• can be used to fulfill program requirements
DEGREE REQUIREMENTS: tangent: credit/no-credit - CR/NCR

Students can designate up to 2.0 credits as CR/NCR.

This must be done before the last date to officially cancel a course (about 2/3 into the academic year) and done using ACORN.

A CR/NCR course is still a degree credit and can be used to satisfy Breadth Requirements but typically not to fulfill program requirements.

There is no grade for the course, so the course is not used in the calculation of grade point average. (More on grade point average right now.)

The CR/NCR designation cannot be used for First-Year Seminars, Foundation Year Program courses, VIC One Hundred courses or field courses or independent study courses.
DEGREE REQUIREMENTS: LWD

You may request to withdraw without petitioning to the FAS from a total of 3.0 FCEs, provided the request is made by the last day of classes in the relevant term.

You make the **Late Withdrawal** request in your registrar’s office. Advisors have the authority to approve requests if circumstances warrant approval of an exception to the normal drop deadline.

Noted on transcript as “LWD”.
DEGREE REQUIREMENTS:
CGPA of 1.85

When you finish a course, you get
• a percentage grade (50% is a pass, which gives you standing, or a credit)
• a corresponding letter grade

The letter grade is converted to a grade point value

Grade point values are combined to determine grade point average

You need a Cumulative Grade Point Average of 1.85 (out of a possible 4.0) in order to graduate

GPA Equivalency Chart
DEGREE REQUIREMENTS: CGPA of 1.85 (cont’d)

GPA is only calculated on courses taken in A&S. Transfer Credits earned on admission do not have grades attached to them and are not included in your GPA. (Exception: Transfer students from UTM and UTSC, whose receive a “Retained GPA.”)

The GPA is a weighted sum. Full-credits carry twice as much weight as half-credits.

SGPA | AGPA | CGPA

3.20 – 3.49 to graduate with Distinction
3.50 – 4.00 to graduate with High Distinction
<table>
<thead>
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Passing vs failing and the GPA impact
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Cumulative CGPA 1.50 = In Good Standing
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1.85 – minimum CGPA required to graduate
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3.50+ = Dean’s List when you attain 5.0, 10.0 and 15.0 credits in A&S
= Graduate “With High Distinction”
DEGREE REQUIREMENTS: academic standing

- In Good Standing (CGPA of 1.5+)
- On Probation
- On Suspension
- Refused Further Registration

**Academic standing** is assessed for the first time at the end of the session in which a student achieves final standing in at least 0.5 credits (excluding CR/NCR and Pass/Fail)
DEGREE REQUIREMENTS: programs of study

Towards the end of the session in which you will be completing your 4th degree credit, you will need to apply to an acceptable combination of programs.

You must enrol in at least 1 and no more than 3 programs of study (of which only two can be majors or specialists). Minimum combination of acceptable programs of study include:

1. Specialist (9-16 courses)
2. Majors (6-8 courses)
3. 1 Major and 2 Minors (minors are 4 courses)

If you aren’t signed up for a suitable combination of programs, you will not be able to choose courses in the subsequent academic session.
DEGREE REQUIREMENTS:
(aside: year of study)

• 0.5 to 3.5 credits = 1<sup>st</sup> year
• 4.0 to 8.5 credits = 2<sup>nd</sup> year
• 9.0 to 13.5 credits = 3<sup>rd</sup> year
• 14.0+ credits = 4<sup>th</sup> year

• affects when you enrol in courses
• affects when you can enrol in Programs of Study
• not the same as how many calendar years you have been here
Every program is identified as an Arts, Science or Commerce program in the Calendar.

If you complete one Major in the Arts and one Major in the Sciences, you can choose an Honours Bachelor of Arts or Honours Bachelor of Science.

If you complete [1 Major + 2 Minors] and want an HBSc, either the Major or both Minors have to be in the Sciences. If 1 Major and 1 Minor are in the sciences, you automatically qualify for an HBSc.

You are required to have 12.0 distinct credits in any combination of [2 Majors] or [1 Major + 2 Minors].
DEGREE REQUIREMENTS: getting into programs

Ensure you are completing the first-year courses required to apply to your choice of program(s) of study in April of 2018.

The Calendar shows what courses (and grades) are required.

Watch language! Sometimes a minimum grade in a course (or across courses) gets you into a program, and sometimes it makes you competitive (i.e. for a program with enrolment).

Speaking of language, the Language Citation Program is not a Program of Study, but it does offer official recognition on an academic transcript for students who complete two full courses beyond the first-year level of language instruction.
DEGREE REQUIREMENTS: choosing programs

To see a simple listing of all programs offered in A&S, visit the A-Z Program List found on the New Students pages of the A&S website. (Path: Home → Course Selection → Programs).

The Calendar has a section called Program Search that highlights courses required in 1st year for admission to programs.
DEGREE REQUIREMENTS: breadth requirement

Every course description in the Calendar includes the breadth category of the course:
1. Creative and Cultural Representations (CCR)
2. Thought, Belief, and Behaviour (TBB)
3. Society and Its Institutions (SII)
4. Living Things and Their Environment (LTE)
5. The Physical and Mathematical Universes (PMU)

Some full courses count for a half credit in two categories (e.g. ANT100Y, HIS109Y)

A few have no breadth category (e.g. ENG100H, MGT100H, INI103H)
DEGREE REQUIREMENTS: breadth requirement (cont’d)

you need at least . . .
. . . 1.0 credit from 4 of the 5 categories
OR
. . . 1.0 credit from each of 3 categories and 0.5 credits from the remaining 2 categories

courses you take for program requirements can also satisfy BR

First-Year Seminars, the First-Year Foundations and the VIC One Hundred Seminars also count for BR (but the FLC’s do not)

Your BR does not have to be completed in first year!
DEGREE REQUIREMENTS: reading a course description

How to read a course in the Calendar (e.g. CHM135H1)
• 3-letter course designator = sponsoring department
• 3-number code:
  - the 1st number in the course code indicates level of difficulty (100-series versus 400-series).
  - the 2nd and 3rd numbers seldom indicate level of difficulty within that series. (Exception: MAT157Y, CHM151Y, PHY151H & 152H)
• Y1 and HI suffixes
  - credit value/weight (Y/H) plus campus (1/3/5)
    - 1 = St. George  3 = UTSC  5 = UTM
• hours
• types of instruction: L(ecture); T(utorial); P(ractical)
• prerequisites, co-requisites, and exclusions
  - comma (,) semi-colon (;) ampersand (&) and plus sign (+) all mean AND
  - the slash (/) means OR
• breadth requirement
remember this slide?
synonyms and not so synonymous

These are the same:
100-series = 100-level = first-year courses
A&S = FAS = Faculty of Arts and Science
First-Year Foundation = the One programs
First-Year Seminar = Seminar 199
ACORN = SWS = Student Web Service (=ROSI)
Subject POS = Program of Study
LEC = L = Lecture

These are not quite the same:
Breadth Requirement vs Distribution Requirement
Credit vs Course
Faculty vs faculty
Cancel vs Withdrawal
LWD vs WDR
Term vs Session
student responsibilities

There is a lot of support available

But doing things correctly and completely falls to the student

Collect as much information as possible and use a critical lens.

Not sure? Registrar’s Office is a good first point of contact.
important dates

Much more in the next session. For now:

• **Start-date** to sign up for courses – 26 July 2018 (for first-year students with 0 – 3.5 courses)

• Day to pay or official defer fees and not lose courses – 29 August 2018

• Other dates and deadlines:
  • to add courses
  • to cancel/drop courses without academic penalty
  • to LWD
  • Posting of examination schedule
TIPS: poll

Type: pollev
TIPS: from a past student

• sit towards the front of the class if possible
• study harder for your first test than you’ve ever studied before
• treat school like a job
• dress up for tests

Other tips:
• discover Degree Explorer
• don’t hesitate to talk to your professors. (You can start at today’s lunch!)
TIPS: from a past innis principal

There are a number of really excellent instructors at UofT. They can have different teaching styles. There are professors who view you . . .

→ as an audience (these professors are performers who enjoy teaching gigantic classes and often elicit laughter and applause)

→ as a vessel (these professors are like Aquarius, pouring water from his cup. These professors can be like talking books, and students feel they need shorthand to take notes)

→ as versions of Eliza Doolittle to their Henry Higgins (these professors would like to mould students to their viewpoint on the world)

→ as Socrates viewed his pupils (these professors use dialogue to draw out knowledge from students)

→ as a supplement to their research (these professors might not appear very engaged in teaching, but they will sometimes have students from their class join their research)

They're all smart. The trick is to figure out how to take in the knowledge they are imparting!
TIPS: support

help abounds

Consider your Registrar’s Office a reliable first stop for accurate information and sound advice.