



# First-Year Essentials

## Your Guide to UWinnipeg

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January 2025





## Credit Hours And Academic Terms

**Courses are normally 3 or 6 credit hours.**

**Three credit hour courses** are offered from September through December (Fall term) or from January through April (Winter term).

**Six credit hour courses** are typically offered from September through April (Fall/Winter term). Occasionally, however, a 6 credit hour course is offered in a condensed format in the Fall or Winter term.

**All courses** offer lectures for 3 hours per week (3 credit hours), however Fall/Winter courses continue over two terms ( $3 \times 2 = 6$ ), so they total 6 credit hours.

**Spring Term** (May-August) is structured differently than the Fall and Winter terms. Courses are condensed and, therefore, intensive, and can range in length from one to twelve weeks. Start and end dates for Spring term courses will vary throughout the term.

Fall Term	Winter Term
<b>Course A:</b> 3 Credit Hour Course	
<b>Course B:</b> 6 Credit Hour Course	
<b>Course C:</b> 3 Credit Hour Course	

## Course Names And Numbers

Some of your courses will last one term, and others will run across both Fall and Winter. No matter how you schedule it, for each course you will be in 3 hours of lecture per week, plus additional time in the lab, **IF** the course has a lab component. Language courses and many science courses have labs. Labs are a required component of the course and do not count as credit hours.

For example, in the Academic Calendar:

GEOG-1202(3) INTRODUCTORY EARTH SCIENCE (3 hrs Lecture | 2 hrs Lab)

This course has three hours of lecture time per week and two hours of lab time per week. The first two to four letters refers to the area of study (i.e. GEOG represents Geography). 1202 is the course number, which identifies it as a first-year course as it is a 1000 level course.

In Student Planning and in the Timetable, you will see the lab component of the course designated by an **L** (i.e. GEOG-1202**L**) and worth 0 credit hours.

The Timetable and Student Planning will also include a three-digit code following the course number (i.e. GEOG-1202-**002**). This is called the **section number**

## Student Status

Students are admitted to the university with a specific student status; either as Regular Status, Mature Status, Conditional Status or Probationary Status. If you are admitted with a status other than Regular Status, it is recommended that you meet with an Academic Advisor to discuss course load and implications of your Student Status. Your status can change over the course of your academic career, based on your Grade Point Average, number of credit hours attempted, and how you are doing in your studies.

## 2. Degree Requirements

Every degree has General Degree requirements and Major requirements.

### Major Requirements

Major requirements refer to the specific courses and the minimum (or maximum) number of credit hours that must be taken within your major.

The General Degree Requirements are listed in detail in the Degree and Major Requirements section of the Academic Calendar. Students are **strongly urged** to familiarize themselves with this section of the Academic Calendar and refer back to it often. Your Degree and Major Requirements can also be viewed in Student Planning.

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## 3. Choosing Courses

There are several ways students typically select courses. Sometimes there is a field which interests them and they would like to explore it further by taking a course in that Area of Study. Several other things to consider when making course selections are noted in the following:

### **Course Selection Based On Skills & Interests In High School**







Using the list of courses you decided to take in the school year (see above regarding choosing courses), do your planning and draft your schedule on Student Planning before your actual registration date and time.

Steps to help you make a schedule (on the interactive schedule in Student Planning):

1. Start by adding in your 6 credit hour Fall/Winter courses
2. Then try adding in different combinations of 3 credit hour Fall and Winter courses to complete your schedule. It usually takes a few tries to get a schedule that works.
3. Also, identify what you have to add in any lab sections as well!
4. Also, identify at least one backup option for each of your choices in case your selected course fills up before your registration time.
5. If the class is full, add yourself to the waitlist and check your [student webmail](#) regularly for seats to become available. Visit the [Wait List](#) page on the university website for important information on the waitlist process.

When you are scheduling your courses, think about whether you want breaks between classes or a block of classes in a row. Do you prefer early mornings, mid-day or

## YOUR STEPS TO A SUCCESSFUL REGISTRATION!

1. Identify your interests and consider what you want to study.
2. Explore options available at The University of Winnipeg using the [Accepted Students Website](#) and the main University website.
3. Register for a [First-Year Information Session](#) for information on registration, university requirements, and more! Also, watch the FYI [video series](#).
4. Log into WebAdvisor and use Student Planning to create a schedule with your course selections . For instructions, see [WebAdvisor/Student Planning Guide](#) and watch the series of [Student Planning](#) ~~the series of~~

Access to a listing of current course offerings (the Timetable); the department and course information (the Academic Calendar); suggested first-year course selections (Sample First-year Programs)

WebAdvisor/Student Planning Instructions: if the course is full, how to add your name to a waitlist; how to add/drop a course; how to audit a course; how to register if you do not have access to online registration

After Registration: this section describes the next steps: how to pay your tuition fees, get your student ID, and purchase your textbooks

## Webadvisor/Student Planning

[WebAdvisor/Student Planning](#) is the online registration and degree planning system. After the registration period begins, you will receive an email from the University regarding the upcoming term. This information will be sent to your [Student Webmail](#) (university email) account. Be sure to check your Student Webmail account regularly to ensure you are not missing out on important correspondence from the University.

Your Registration date and time is the earliest and optimum time for you to register using Student Planning. You should register at that time. If you do not register at that time, you can still register and make changes after your assigned date/time. Students who missed the initial registration period or who are starting in Winter term will be able to register as soon as they have received their Official Letter of Acceptance.

You will register for Fall, Fall/Winter and Winter term courses at the same time. Your assigned date/time will be sent to you in early June. A separate registration date/time will be provided for Spring term courses in late February.

You can also use Student Planning to:

You can also:

- Get a print-out of your current financial statement, which includes information on your financial account (what you owe), and the courses you are registered for
- Withdraw from (drop) courses using Student Planning if it is before the final Voluntary Withdrawal deadline (or final drop date)
- Review your unofficial transcript
- View your course schedule
- Access your final grades
- Plan your entire degree, from your first course, to the last
- Track your degree progress
- View alternative or additional degree programs you may be interested in
- Request a review of your academic plan from an Academic Advisor



## Orientation

The University of Winnipeg Student Services will be offering [Orientation](#) for first-year students prior to the start of each term. Students are invited to [sign up](#) in advance for one day of orientation to prepare for their first year at The University of Winnipeg! A family member is welcome to attend with the first-year student and gain an understanding of important information relevant to new students at The University of Winnipeg.

## Introduction To University

This is a three (3) credit hour course offered by both U of W Professional, Applied and Continuing Education program (PACE) and at University of Winnipeg as **MULT-1000**. This course covers useful and practical strategies for reading texts, taking notes, getting the most out of lectures, studying for exams and writing term papers. It is for prospective, newly admitted and current students who wish to improve their study skills.

## Study Skills Workshops

At the beginning of each term, the University offers a series of one-hour free study skills workshops. Topics include note taking, managing your time, the basics of essay writing, and test-taking strategies. See website: [Study Skills Workshops](#)

## Tutoring

If you are having difficulty with course material, consider getting tutoring help. The University of Winnipeg [Tutoring Centre](#) offers professional and peer tutors for first-year Math and Science, as well as peer tutors for Writing.

## Uwinnipeg Accepted Students Website And Main Website

Check out the [Accepted Students website](#) and [Student](#) website.