

Academic Orientation Session

St. Michael's College

Faculty of Arts & Science, University of Toronto



Overview

Our main aim today is to help prepare you for your transition to the University of Toronto. To do this, there are six different items we want to discuss:

1. Two Online Resources: *Calendar* and *Registration Instructions & Timetable*
2. Degree Requirements
3. Course Enrolment
4. Program Enrolment
5. Fees and Finances
6. Academic Success
7. Extracurricular Involvement



Two Online Resources: Calendar and Timetable

- The Faculty of Arts & Science produces annual versions of the [Calendar](#) and the [Registration Instructions & Timetable](#).
- The Calendar includes information about programs and courses, sessional dates, degree requirements, rules and regulations, and much more.
- The Timetable includes information about course enrolment, program enrolment, fee payment, etc.
- Almost all of the information that we review today can be found in either the Calendar or the Timetable.



Degree Requirements

Type of Degree	Honours Bachelor of Arts (BA)/Bachelor of Science (BSc)	Bachelor of Commerce (BCom)
Number of Credits (Full-Course Equivalents – FCEs)	20.0	20.0 (10.0 RSM/MGT courses, 10.0 other A&S courses [note: this is a program requirement])
Level of Credits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximum 6.0 100-level • At least 6.0 300/400-level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximum 6.0 100-level • At least 6.0 300/400-level, including at least 1.0 400-level
Program Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 Specialist, or • 2 Majors*, or • 1 Major + 2 Minors* <p>* must consist of 12.0 different courses (FCEs)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management, Finance & Economics, or Accounting Specialist
Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA)	1.85	1.85
Breadth Requirement	<p>Must take at least 4.0 credits that have been designated as satisfying the Breadth Requirement. Must be either (a) at least 1.0 credit in each of 4 of the 5 categories below, or (b) at least 1.0 credit in each of any 3 of the 5 categories, and at least 0.5 credits in each of the other 2 categories.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Creative and Cultural Representations 2. Thought, Belief, and Behaviour 3. Society and Its Institutions 4. Living Things and Their Environment 5. The Physical and Mathematical Universes 	



Degree Requirements: Program Requirements

- One of the Degree Requirements is completing an appropriate combination of *programs*. The three options are: (i) 1 specialist, **or** (ii) 2 majors, **or** (iii) 1 major and 2 minors.
- Program enrolment doesn't occur until the end of first year (i.e., once a student has completed 4 full-course equivalents (FCEs)).
- First-year course enrolment should be strategic: *you should enrol in courses that make you eligible for the programs that you will apply to at the end of first-year.*



Degree Requirements: Breadth Requirement

- The Breadth Requirement is designed to ensure that students take courses from across a wide range of academic disciplines.
- There are five different Breadth categories, and each category corresponds to a different cluster of academic disciplines. Recall the five categories:
 1. Creative and Cultural Representations
 2. Thought, Belief, and Behaviour
 3. Society and Its Institutions
 4. Living Things and Their Environment
 5. The Physical and Mathematical Universes
- There are two ways to satisfy the Breadth Requirement:
 - (a) complete 1.0 FCE in four of the categories.
 - (b) complete 1.0 FCE in three of the categories and 0.5 FCE in the other two.
- Note: this is not a requirement that you need to complete in first year. Rather, the Breadth Requirement can be completed during the course of your degree. The [Step Forward](#) site offers suggestions for Breadth Courses if you're looking for helpful tips.



Course Enrolment: The Basics

When do I [enrol in courses](#)?

- First-year students (0-3.5 FCEs) enrol on **July 27th**. They can view their start time on **July 21st**.
- Second-year students (4-8.5 FCEs) enrol on **July 20th**. They can view their start time on **July 14th**.

Where do I enrol in courses?

- This summer, you have two options: [ROSI or ACORN](#).

How many courses do I enrol in?

- The recommended course load for full-time students is 5.0 FCEs during the Fall/Winter Session. This usually translates to five courses per term. (A student who pursues 5.0 FCEs per Fall/Winter Session would have enough credits to graduate after four years.)



Course Enrolment: Course & Section Codes

Every **course code** has four parts: the *course designator*, the *course number*, the *course weight*, and the *campus*. Consider two examples:

MAT135H1

Course Designator: MAT

Course Number: 135

Course Weight: H

Campus: 1

PHL100Y1

Course Designator: PHL

Course Number: 100

Course Weight: Y

Campus: 1

In order to determine the *term* a course is offered, you must look at the **section code**. The three section codes:

F = first half of the Fall/Winter Session (Fall Term), or first half of the Summer Session (May-June).

S = second half of the Fall/Winter Session (Winter Term), or second half of the Summer Session (July-August).

Y = Fall *and* Winter Terms, or First *and* Second subsessions of the Summer Session.

An example: **MAT135H1 F** or **PHL100Y1 Y**.



Course Enrolment: Four Questions

When getting ready to enrol in a particular course, there are **four** questions you should ask.

1. Does this course meaningfully contribute to my academic progress at the university? Your answer should be yes.
2. Does this course have any enrolment controls? (If a course has enrolment controls, they will be listed next to the course offering in the Timetable.)
3. Does this course have any prerequisites, corequisites, or exclusions? (This is made clear in both the Calendar and Timetable.)
4. Does this course have a time conflict with another course in which I'm already enrolled?



Course Enrolment: The Waiting List

- You may try to enrol in a course that is full (i.e., has no remaining enrolment spaces). In many cases, you will be able to place yourself on the *waiting list*.
- During the Fall/Winter Session, you may enrol in up to 2.0 FCEs of waitlisted courses.
- It's important to remember that not all courses have waiting lists—see the 'Wait List' column in the Timetable listings.
- If you're next on the waiting list and a currently-enrolled student cancels the course, you'll be enrolled automatically. You will receive an e-mail to your U of T address that notifies you of your enrolment.



Course Enrolment: First-Year Opportunities

- There are two course-based opportunities that are open to *only* first-year students: [First-Year Seminars](#) and [First-Year Foundations](#).
- First-Year Seminars are 1.0-credit or 0.5-credit courses that focus on topics surrounding a particular discipline (or several disciplines). They are small courses (24 students or fewer) that emphasize the development of critical thinking, writing skills, oral presentation and research methods.
- First-Year Foundations (“ONE” programs) typically combine one or more small-group, theme-based courses with co-curricular events (e.g., guest lectures) and experiential learning opportunities.



Program Enrolment

What is a program?

A program is a group of courses in a specific area. (For example: Economics, History, Mathematics, Philosophy, Computer Science, etc.)

When does program enrolment occur?

Program enrolment occurs at the end of the session during which a student completes their 4th FCE. So, this is usually at the end of first-year (between April-August).



Program Enrolment

- There are two distinct things to keep in mind when enrolling in programs: the *type* of program that you're applying to, and the *level* of program that you're applying to.
- Program type matters only for the purpose of program *enrolment*, but program level additionally matters for program *completion*.
- There are three types of programs: Type 1, Type 2, and Type 3.
- There are three levels of programs: Minor, Major, and Specialist.



Program Enrolment: Type of Program

Recall the three types of programs: Type 1, Type 2, and Type 3.

What's the difference? In short: [their admission requirements](#).

- **Type 1** programs are *open enrolment*. (The only admission requirement is that you've successfully completed 4.0 FCEs.)
- **Type 2** programs are *limited enrolment*. (These programs require certain courses and grades for admission. Consult the Calendar to see what the requirements are.)
- **Type 3** programs are also *limited enrolment*. (While the requirements are similar to Type 2 courses, the application process doesn't occur on ACORN/ROSI.)



Program Enrolment: Level of Program

Recall the three levels of programs: Minor, Major, and Specialist.

What's the difference? In short: the number of courses they require for completion.

- **Minors** always require 4 FCEs.
- **Majors** require between 6-8 FCEs.
- **Specialists** require between 9-14 FCEs.

Many departments or colleges will offer a program at more than one level. For instance, English is offered at all three levels.



Program Enrolment: Appropriate Combinations

- As previously noted, there are three main combinations of programs: (i) 1 specialist, **or** (ii) 2 majors, **or** (iii) 1 major and 2 minors.
- There are two constraints on the combination of programs you can be in:
 - a. The maximum number of programs that you can be enrolled in is three.
 - b. No more than two programs can be specialists/majors. (In other words: if you are enrolled in three programs, one must be a minor.)



Fee Payment & Finances

- The deadline to make the minimum payment for registration is **August 30th**.
[Payment Instructions](#)
 1. You will be able to view your fee invoice on ACORN/ROSI starting **July 14th**.
 2. Pay your fees at a bank, through online/telephone banking, or defer your fees if you're receiving OSAP or Canadian/US government loans.
 3. Check your registration status on ACORN/ROSI. (If your status says *Registered*, then your registration is complete.)
- It is important to consider that there are a number of costs, besides tuition, that are associated with pursuing your degree. The [Financial Calculator](#) is a great tool for planning out your finances for the academic year.
- You will find an “Awards” space on ACORN that details all grants and merit-based awards you may be eligible for, and links to applications for these resources.



Resources for Academic Success

- There are a number of resources available to assist with your transition at the University of Toronto. These include:
 - [Accessibility Services](#)
 - [The Academic Success Centre](#)
 - [Writing Centres](#) and a [Learning Strategist](#) at SMC
 - [Librarians](#)
- It is important that you make good use of these resources as they can make a real difference in your academic progress.



Extracurricular Involvement

- Get involved *beyond the classroom*, this might look like:
 - Joining a FLC (First-Year Learning Community)
 - Explore and join student clubs (more than 800 +)
 - Sports team (weekly drop-ins, or Varsity level....whatever your preference)
 - Exchange (U of T has over 150 partner universities all over the world!)
 - Summer Abroad course (4-6 week course, run over summer in countries all over the world. Leads to one full credit)
 - Research Opportunity Programs (ROPs) – 199, 299 and 399 courses
 - There is so much here for you!



St. Michael's College

Office of the Registrar & Student Services

Office Location

121 St. Joseph Street (Muzzo Family Alumni Hall), Room 207

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday: 9:30am-4:30pm

Friday: 9:30am-4pm

We are closed daily from 12:30pm-1:30pm

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