

Course selection: where to start?

Now that you have decided to make Western University the destination of your choice for your exchange experience, we would like to provide you with some key information on how to navigate our academic system. Selecting the right courses can be quite confusing and a time-consuming task, if you are not familiar with some of our concepts. **We strongly recommend that you read all of the information below before selecting your courses.**

1. Grading system

At Western, courses are graded on a percentage scale of 100%.

Undergraduate

Arts and Humanities, Business, Education, Engineering, Health Sciences, Information & Media Studies, Medicine & Dentistry (BMSc), Music, Science, Social Science, Continuing Studies at Western, and the Affiliated University Colleges: Brescia, Huron, King's

A+	90-100%
A	80 -89%
B	70 - 79%
C	60 - 69%
D	50 - 59%
F	below 50% or assigned when course is dropped with academic penalty

Source: <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2013/pg104.html>

2. What is the structure of the courses at Western?

At Western, and at most Canadian Universities, you will often find, depending on the subject/program, that courses will encompass up to three components: Lectures (LEC), Tutorials (TUT) and/or Laboratories (LAB). Students are expected to attend all of the course's components as these make up the 100% overall grade. In addition, you will need to take all of the course's components into consideration when creating your timetable as to avoid time conflicts (more information on how to create your timetable will be provided in the next couple of weeks). For example, you will find that the LAB of a course may be taught on a different day than the LEC. You will have to attend both of these.

3. Course load

Students on exchange are expected to take the corresponding work load of a full time student, at Western this work load is the following:

Student's Length of Study	Maximum Course Load	Minimum Course Load
One term	5 half courses (2.5 UWO credits)	4 half courses (2.0 UWO credits)
Full Year	5 UWO credits (combination of full and half courses)	3.5 UWO credits (combination of full and half courses)

Source: <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2013/pg98.html>

4. Can I take more courses than the maximum course load per term?

At Western, the practice of taking more than the allowed course load is referred to as a "course overload". Overloads are rarely approved, however, if you have a valid reason to request this you may contact your Exchange Coordinator for more information about this process. Please note that submitting a request for an overload, does not guarantee its approval, it means that our faculty will evaluate your request.

5. Can I take courses outside of my field of studies?

Yes, provided you meet the pre-requisite requirements, you are able to take courses from programs outside of your field. Please note that MIT, BMOS, Economics and practical courses from our Kinesiology program (i.e skiing, basketball, etc.) are restricted to students from those fields.

6. Selecting courses (Suffixes)

When selecting courses from our timetable, you need to pay close attention to the suffixes, as these indicate when courses are being taught and for how long (i.e one term courses vs. one year courses). Please see these descriptions below:

Suffixes	Description/Duration of Course
no suffix	Full course not designated as an essay course (September – April)
A	Half course offered in first term (Sept. – Dec.)
B	Half course offered in second term (Jan. – Apr.)
A/B	Half course offered in first and/or second term (Sept. – Dec./Jan.-Apr.)
E	Full essay course (September – April)
F	Half essay course offered in first term (Sept.- Dec.)
G	Half essay course offered in second term (Jan. – Apr.)
F/G	Half essay course offered in first and/or second term (Sept. – Dec./Jan.-Apr.)

Source: <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2013/pg108.html>

Glossary

Essay courses: A Western course may be designated as an essay course if it has a significant writing component (defined by Senate) involving written assignments (essays or other appropriate prose composition, excluding examinations) to demonstrate the student's competence in essay writing. These courses can be identified by the suffixes: "E" essay full course; F/G/Z essay half-course. Example 2131 E is an essay course.

**TIP: If your writing skills in English are not at a high level, you might find these courses quite challenging in terms of work. We advise students whose first language is not English to take only one essay course per term.*

7. Course description

To view a short description of the courses, please visit our academic calendar below. If you scroll to the bottom you will find our different programs. Click on the program that you are interested on viewing courses for, and you will find the course code numbers. Click on the number and you will see the course description. Please note that not all of these courses are offered on an ongoing basis, the updated course offering for the next academic cycle is published every June.

<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2013/pg882.html>

Glossary:

Pre-requisite

A course that must be successfully completed prior to registration for credit in the desired course.

Co-requisite

A course that must be taken concurrently with (or prior to registration in) the desired course.

Anti-requisite

Courses that overlap sufficiently in course content that both cannot be taken for credit.

8. To view our timetable

The link below will direct you to Western's timetable, please note that this has not been updated yet. However, we advise you to browse through it so that you become familiar with the content and learn how to read the information provided there

<http://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/Timetables/mastertt/ttindex.cfm>

9. How to read the timetable

https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/timetables/master/tt/index.cfm

Western Undergraduate

Fall/Winter Academic Timetable 2012/2013

Search

Subject: **Course Suffix:**
Course Number: **Course Type:** **Status:**
Component: **Starting Time:**
Day of Class: **Campus:**

EARTHSCI 1081B - RES, ENVRNMNT & SUSTAINBLTY

Section	Component	Course	Days	Start Time	End Time	Location	Instructor	Notes	Status
001	LEC	2192	Tu Th	10:30 AM					Not Full
002	LAB	2194	Tu	3:30 PM	5:30 PM	B&GS-1015	Tsujita	ADDITIONAL LAB SECTIONS WILL OPEN WHEN THESE FOUR LAB SECTIONS ARE FULL.	Full
003	LAB	2196	W	10:30 AM					Not Full
004	LAB	2198	W	12:30 PM	2:30 PM	B&GS-1015	Tsujita		Not Full
005	LAB	2200	Th	1:30 PM	3:30 PM	B&GS-1015	Tsujita	OPEN WHEN ALL OTHER LAB SECTIONS ARE FULL.	Full

Indicate course with 'LEC' and class number.

If course includes a lab, indicate 'LAB' and lab #.

Lecture/Tutorial/Lab Location

Lecture/Tutorial/Lab Timing

Course Lecturer's Name

EARTHSCI 1083F - LIFE ON PLANET EARTH

Section	Component	Course	Days	Start Time	End Time	Location	Instructor	Notes	Status
001	LEC	2202	M W F	9:30 AM					Not Full
002	TUT	9018	M	10:30 AM					Full
003	TUT	9020	Tu	10:30 AM	11:30 AM	B&GS-1015	Tsujita		Not Full
004	TUT	9022	F	10:30 AM	11:30 AM	B&GS-1015	Tsujita		Not Full

If course indicates Tutorial, indicate 'TUT' and tutorial #.

Status of Course:
Full = no more space for students to register
Not Full = space available for students to register

10. Course selection

Once our academic calendar has been updated for the next academic terms, I will send you an email with instructions on how to select courses. You can expect to receive this in early June. If you are coming for one term, the maximum amount of courses that you can take is 5 half term courses (remember to look at the course suffixes when making your selection); we recommend that in your selection you enter up to 8 courses, so if some of these courses are denied there are others you can take.

11. Course enrollment

After you have entered your course selections, we will send this to our corresponding faculty for evaluation. Once these have been evaluated, the faculty will let us know if you are able to enroll in the courses. I will also be sending you an email closer to the date with instructions on how to enroll and secure a seat in the classes.

12. Courses at affiliated colleges

There are some courses that are offered outside main campus at our affiliated colleges (for example, Religious Studies) Huron College (HC), Brescia College (BC) and/or Kings College (KC). If you are interested on taking courses offered at one of our affiliated colleges, we will need to request permission from that particular college. Enrollment in each affiliated course is limited and, in some cases, the demand exceeds that limit. The University is unable to guarantee registration in any particular course and reserves the right to withdraw course offerings. You can select up to 1 course per term at one of our affiliated colleges.

13. How can I know if a course is being taught at an affiliate college?

When looking at the course description in the Western Academic Calendar, the description will let you know if the course is offered at an affiliate college.

Example:

Religious Studies 2130 - An Introduction to the Living Religions of the World

A study of the history, faith, and practices of the major living religions - selected from Hinduism, Jainism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Taoism, Shintoism, Zoroastrianism, Islam, Judaism, and Christianity.

Antirequisite(s):

Prerequisite(s):

Corequisite(s):

Pre-or Corequisite(s):

Extra Information: 2 hours, 1.0 course.

(Huron) ← letting us know that it's offered at Huron College

In addition, the timetable will show you which building the classes take place in, i.e. HC = Huron College, BC = Brescia College, KC = Kings College

https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/timetables/mastertt/ttindex.cfm

Western Undergraduate

Fall/Winter Academic Timetable 2012/2013

Search

Subject: **Course Suffix:**
Course Number: **Course Type:** **Status:**
Component: **Starting Time:**
Day of Class: **Campus:**

RELSTUD 2124G - INTRO NEW TESTAMENT

Section	Component	Course	Days	Start Time	End Time	Location	Instructor	Notes	Status
550	LEC	14106	Th	2:30 PM	5:30 PM	HC-V210	Smith		Not Full

HC stands for Huron College