UPPER-YEAR HOUSING OPTIONS

ON-CAMPUS HOUSING

Residences
Students can continue living in residence after first year and enjoy the convenience of on-campus living, a great community environment, leadership opportunities and an optional meal plan. Plus, upper-year students can choose their preferred residence, select their room, and choose who they live with. There is no lottery system and availability is on a first-come, first-serve basis. Apply now at myhousing.uwo.ca/portal and learn about the benefits of upper-year residence at residence.uwo.ca/upperyear.

Alumni House and London Hall are two suite-style upper-year residences. Students can also choose to live in one of the other seven first-year buildings.

Apartments
The University operates a number of apartment buildings located conveniently on campus. For those interested in more independent living while having the University as your landlord, the University Apartments are an excellent option. More information as well as applications can be found at: apartments.uwo.ca.

OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING

Moving off-campus is an exciting experience for many students. Western’s Off-Campus Housing Service can help students make the best decision for their housing needs. Our free service provides access to thousands of rental listings each year from landlords who want to rent to students. Off-Campus Housing also informs students about provincial rental laws, city bylaws, gives roommate advice, and offers other key pieces of off-campus information at officampus.uwo.ca.

Key tips for your student:
- There is no need to rush into a lease! Over 50% of the listings placed on our rental service are received after March 1.
- Before signing a lease, bring it in to Western’s Housing Mediation Service to have it reviewed. To make an appointment, call 519-661-3787 or e-mail housing.mediation.service@uwo.ca.
- Make a roommate agreement before signing a lease to ensure you are all compatible: officampus.uwo.ca/roommate_agreement.pdf
- Talk to the current tenants about their relationship with their landlord and what the rental unit is like.

Parents: please be aware that if you are the guarantor for your student’s joint lease, you are liable for all tenants on the lease.
In our previous issue we stressed the importance of getting involved in the first year of University. This importance carries over into upper years. Second year is fast approaching and there are many leadership opportunities which must be applied to/run for in the next couple of months. Whether it is student government, Orientation Week, or positions that are academically-oriented, there are plenty of opportunities for your student to get and stay involved on campus and in the greater London community.

Each year the Western student body votes for individuals to comprise next year’s University Students’ Council (USC). If your student is interested in participating in student government, the USC may be a great option.

A list of available positions for the upcoming year can be found at westernusc.ca/elections. It is important for your student to review By-Law 2 if they intend to run for a position.

**Campus Involvement and Leadership Opportunities**

“Investing in a property near Western University could allow your child to live rent free, make enough rental income to cover the mortgage and other house-related costs, and generate a profit when you sell the property after they have graduated.”

Important Dates for the USC Election:

- **Nominations:** January 8 - 18
- **Campaigning:** January 21 - February 3
- **Voting:** February 4 - 5
- **Results:** February 6

Each year Student Experience hires more than 300 student leaders/volunteers to help with our programs (SAO, Career Profile Advisor, LAMP, etc.). This experience allows them to gain leadership skills and develop their resume!

For position descriptions and application information, your student can visit westerncareercentral.ca.

**Deadline:** February 2019 (for most positions)
Campus Involvement and Leadership Opportunities

continued

If your student is interested in student government but the USC seems like too much of a commitment, they may also want to consider their Faculty Council. Each faculty at Western has its own Student Council that runs in much the same way as the USC (just on a much smaller scale).

ARTS & HUMANITIES
ahscwesternu.com
University College – room 2135

ENGINEERING
westernues.com
Spencer Engineering Building – room 1001

HEALTH SCIENCES
uwo.ca/fhs/fhssc
Health Sciences Building, room 8

FACULTY OF INFORMATION AND MEDIA STUDIES
fimssc.ca
FIMS and Nursing Building, room 2010

MUSIC
facebook.com/fomsc
Talbot College – room 436

SCIENCE
westernssc.ca
North Campus Building – room 297

SOCIAL SCIENCE
sscwestern.ca
Social Science Centre – room 1050

Clubs Community
Each club at Western has its own executive committee and each will have its own “election” process. If your student is interested in an executive position within a club, they should contact their club of interest via the email address listed on the USC website: westernusc.ca/clubs.

Leadership Fair
Want to get involved next year? Not sure which student leader position on campus is right for you? Attend our Leadership Fair on Tuesday, January 8th from 10:30am to 2:30pm in the UCC Atrium.

Coordinated through the Student Experience, this event promises to be an excellent opportunity to bring together departments that provide student leader opportunities on-campus. Find out more here: success.uwo.ca/leadership/leadership_fair.

Wellness Calendar
At Western, we recognize the challenges your student faces as they make the transition to university and independence. We’ve provided some suggestions on how you can help your student succeed with a new life on campus: events.westernu.ca/events/wellness

CAMPUS DATES
Here is a sample of some of the upcoming events and information weeks happening on campus. For more events, check westernu.ca.

OFF-CAMPUS, FACULTY, CHARITY, AND SOPH APPLICATIONS
Faculty Soph & Off-Campus Soph Applications are due January 21, 2019.

More Information at www.oweek.ca

CAREER WORKSHOPS
Many workshops on effective job search strategies will be offered in winter term 2019! For more details, check out westerncareercentral.ca

JOB FAIR
Western Student Recreation Centre
February 5

READING WEEK
No classes this week
February 18-22

LAST DAY OF CLASSES
April 9

STUDY DAY
April 10

FINAL EXAM PERIOD
April 11-30

RESIDENCE CLOSURE
April 30 (at noon)

Shop online! Sign up for sales & giveaways!

Show your
Western Spirit!
COME SEE WHAT IS IN STORE

@booksatwesternu www.bookstore.uwo.ca
Western offers a helpful tool for students to track their out-of-the-classroom activities

Students can add activities each year and use the validated record to highlight transferable skills developed through workshops, volunteer opportunities and leadership roles, and more.

This tool allows students to document their involvements and encourages them to reflect on these experiences as they prepare for life after graduation. Western’s Co-Curricular Record can support a graduate’s academic transcript and resume, and help create a complete picture of their achievements at Western.

Visit myexperience.uwo.ca to get started, or contact wccr@uwo.ca with any questions.

Involvement is captured under 6 core areas:

- High Achieving
- Research Oriented
- Global Ready
- Leaders of Tomorrow
- Community Engaged
- Entrepreneurial

Activities can only be added in the year they occur, so students should starting using the record today!

International Opportunities at Western

MAKE THE WORLD YOUR CLASSROOM

- Register for a Faculty-led Study Abroad Course
- Participate in an Exchange in 24+ Countries
- Study a New Language in a Summer Program
- Conduct Research in an International Setting
- Engage in Community Service through Alternative Spring Break
- Work Toward Western’s Global and Intercultural Engagement Honor

Start here: international.uwo.ca

Stop throwing your money away on rent! With 26 years of student housing investment expertise, Call Jason and Monika Now for EXCLUSIVE access the best properties before they are listed.
They've made it through first term. Four months of essays, labs, tests, exams and roommate negotiations are behind your student -- and you!

You may have spent hours on the Western website reading policies and procedures, hoping to help your student. If only you, and they, had known about the Office of the Ombudsperson.

We are a safe, confidential, impartial and independent service open to all Western students. We are co-funded by the students and the University so we don’t advocate for students or for Western, we advocate for fairness. We don’t make decisions and our recommendations are not binding, but we can help guide students through an academic or non-academic appeal, advise them on how to address conflicts with an instructor or a coach, and what to do when they have missed class or an assignment because of illness. In short, we are a first stop when your student doesn’t know where to turn, and a last resort when they think they have exhausted all their options.

The coming months might introduce new challenges to your student. When they return in January, students will receive their first term grades. Perhaps they will receive a grade they don’t understand or agree with. The first step in that situation is for the student to meet with their professor or TA to discuss the final assignment or overall grade and determine where they went wrong. If, after that meeting, the student still disagrees with the grade, they may write a formal appeal letter to the Undergraduate Chair in the department or program. The student should state the purpose of the letter, the facts surrounding why they believe the grade is not accurate, and what they are requesting. For example, the student might request that an assignment be re-graded by another instructor. The letter should also include any documentation that supports their request. Students have until January 31 to appeal a first term grade. If the student disagrees with the Undergrad Chair’s decision, they may appeal to the Associate Dean of the Faculty offering the course.

If your student is having trouble adjusting academically to university and didn’t do as well in first term as they had hoped, be sure they visit their faculty Academic Counsellor. Academic Counsellors can help guide your student to on-campus resources that will help them, including the Writing Support Centre and Learning Skills Services, which are both located on the 4th floor of the Western Student Services Building. Additionally, staff in the Office of the Ombudsperson are always happy to guide students if they don’t know where to turn for help.

Although we appreciate how concerned you can be, we encourage students to contact us themselves. They can e-mail us at ombuds@uwo.ca, phone us at 519-661-3573, or drop in to Room 3135 of the Western Student Services Building. We are open Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Our website – uwo.ca/ombuds – includes some great information on appeals, academic integrity, and other University policies. Best wishes for term two!
Third year Geophysics student, Eric Rops, knew he wanted career-related work when he applied to be in the Science Internship program. What he didn’t expect was the life changing experience that would follow.

“It was actually my parents who encouraged me to do an internship,” said Eric. And after some hard work, he successfully secured a 10-month paid position with Sander Geophysics Limited (SGL).

SGL is a relatively large, family-run company based in Ottawa that provides worldwide airborne geophysical surveys for petroleum and mineral exploration, and geological and environmental mapping.

Eric knew right away that this was going to be a great opportunity, but the real surprise came when his employer told him he would be travelling half way around the world to conduct geophysical surveying for the government of Tanzania. Eric left for Tanzania in August and returned in October.

Being from the small town of Mitchell, Ontario, which has a population of about 4,500 people, Eric’s biggest adventures to date had included a trip to Disney World and a summer work experience in Baffin Island with an Iron Mining Company.

He admits the culture shock in Africa was real. “There is just such a staggering contrast to their way of living as compared to here in Canada. It’s difficult to describe, but after about a week, I began adjusting to it.” The work days were long and the weather was hot, but he is very excited to be returning right after New Year’s for another two months. “I am hoping I will even get to go back a third time to see the end of the project.”

Contrary to popular belief, interns do not fetch coffee all day. In the field, Eric tests equipment, monitors the aircraft and processes airborne geophysical data to determine prospective areas for petroleum and mineral development for the project’s client.

In addition he is compensated very well and given extra vacation time for the weeks he is away. “After this second trip, I plan to stay abroad for continued…”

Eric stands in front of the 3 airplanes which measure the magnetic field strength, the force of gravity, and the radioactivity coming from the ground. Location: Dodoma, Tanzania.
two weeks and maybe even go on Safari." Western’s Earth Sciences department offers professional programs that fulfill all course requirements for professional registration as a Geoscientist, as set by the Association of Professional Geoscientists of Ontario (APGO) and the Canadian Council of Professional Geoscientists (CCPG). Internships can be counted towards the work experience that is required for registration.

Science internships are available to any student who is completing at least one major in Science or the Bachelor of Medical Sciences program. This year 72 Science and BMSc students are working in a variety of government and industry positions, including product quality control, pharmaceutical research, laboratory testing, software development, manufacturing, and much more.

While some students are concerned about the idea of taking a year away from school to work, Eric describes it as “such a positive long-term investment in your future. Plus, you will return to school with the confidence to go to professional school or better compete in the job market after graduation.”

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**Adding and Dropping Courses**

**Students are able to adjust their courses and timetable for 2nd term up until January 15th**

It is important that students understand the consequences of adding and dropping courses, and they should ensure they’ve reviewed the program requirements for degrees/modules they wish to pursue. Program information can be found in the Academic Calendar: westerncalendar.uwo.ca

If a student wishes to discuss their program requirements or progression, they are encouraged to meet with a Faculty Academic Counsellor.

- **January 7 - April 11** - Second Term Courses
- **January 15** - Last day to add/drop/swap online (11:59pm EST)
- **March 7** - Last day to drop a second-term half course (paper form only)

Unsure of whether you should drop a course? See our Things to Consider page here.

**Note:** You are responsible for ensuring that your registration is accurate and complete. Make sure that you have satisfied the academic requirements for your program/module after you have completed any adds or drops. There are financial and transcript implications to dropping courses, which can be found in the Academic Calendar.

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**Western Continuing Studies**

**Keep Learning…**

courses and programs designed with your career and life aspirations in mind.

wcs.uwo.ca
Is your son or daughter undecided about their next steps related to their career? It’s very common for students to be concerned about where their degree will take them. It’s never too early to gather information and to plan ahead for the future. Student Experience offers a variety of career-related workshops that can assist students in their career wellness. We also have a website focusing on career-related wellness: [careerwellness.uwo.ca](http://careerwellness.uwo.ca).

For information and to register, go to the event calendar at [westerncareercentral.ca](http://westerncareercentral.ca).

If your company or someone in your network is interested in hiring extraordinary talent, look no further than Western students. There is a wide range of Work Integrated Learning opportunities (internships, co-ops and practicum) available and you can recruit students for summer and/or post graduate employment positions. To learn how a Western student can add value to your organization and discover the suite of recruiting and hiring services available at Western, visit [hirewesternu.ca](http://hirewesternu.ca), email [hirewesternu@uwo.ca](mailto:hirewesternu@uwo.ca) or call 519-661-6319.

**SUMMER JOB STRATEGIES**

1. Attend the [hirewesternu Job Fair](http://hirewesternu.ca) on February 5, 10am - 3pm at the Western Student Recreation Centre.
2. Attend [Career Workshops](http://hirewesternu.ca) (see “Career Prep”)
3. Get their resume reviewed at [WERC - Western’s Employment Resource Centre](http://werc.uwo.ca)
4. Meet with a [Career Counsellor](http://werc.uwo.ca) for individualized job search help
5. Begin the job search process early in the winter term. See [success.uwo.ca](http://success.uwo.ca) for more details on these programs and services.

### TOP 5

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 15</td>
<td>4:30 – 5:30 pm</td>
<td>Effective Resumes and Cover Letters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 16</td>
<td>2:30 – 3:20 pm</td>
<td>Your Elevator Pitch: How to Talk to Employers</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 17</td>
<td>1:30 – 2:30 pm</td>
<td>Informational Interview: Your Way To a Job</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 22</td>
<td>4:30 – 5:30 pm</td>
<td>New to Networking? Learn The Basics!</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 23</td>
<td>4:30 – 5:30 pm</td>
<td>Get a Job After Graduation: Employers are Hiring Now!</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 24</td>
<td>1:30 – 3:30 pm</td>
<td>Interview Skills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 28</td>
<td>4:30 – 6:30 pm</td>
<td>International Students: What You Need to Know to Get a Job</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 29</td>
<td>1:30 – 3:00 pm</td>
<td>LinkedIn: I’ve Signed Up - Now What?</td>
</tr>
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Stop Throwing Away Your Money On Rent

Western Students put thousands of dollars each year into the pockets of landlords. Jason Sims can help you and your parents save on these expenses by getting you access to exclusive student homes around Western. Email or call me now to find out how:

[jason@agentrealtypro.com](mailto:jason@agentrealtypro.com)

Direct 519-640-1900
Agent Realty Pro Inc. Brokerage

Jason Sims, Owner/Broker of Record

**hirewesternu**

If your company or someone in your network is interested in hiring extraordinary talent, look no further than Western students. There is a wide range of Work Integrated Learning opportunities (internships, co-ops and practicum) available and you can recruit students for summer and/or post graduate employment positions. To learn how a Western student can add value to your organization and discover the suite of recruiting and hiring services available at Western, visit [hirewesternu.ca](http://hirewesternu.ca), email [hirewesternu@uwo.ca](mailto:hirewesternu@uwo.ca) or call 519-661-6319.
The transition between first and second year can be slightly confusing for students. Soon it will be time for them to indicate which path they wish to take in the coming year. This process is called Intent to Register (ITR) and must be completed by the end of March. The ITR process itself is very straightforward, but getting there can be tricky. We have compiled a list of questions that are commonly asked by first year students during this time of year. The most important thing for students to know is that their ITR selections are not set in stone – they can always change their mind. Be open to having conversations and exploring alternative options. The vast majority of students will change their major at some point during their years of study. In fact, the average Western student will change their program 2.25 times during their undergraduate career!

**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**What is Intent to Register?**

*Intent to Register* is the time of year during which undergraduate students declare which module or program they intend to be enrolled in for the following academic year.

**What if I am not 100% sure which program/module I want to register in?**

If all else fails, go to see an Academic Counsellor in your faculty to discuss your options.

**Do I have to fill out the Intent to Register form?**

Yes! If you fail to indicate your *Intent to Register* by the dates specified either via the online service or a paper form with authorizing signatures, you will forfeit priority registration and may also miss being reviewed for Limited Enrollment Programs. ([registrar.uwo.ca/course_enrollment/intent_to_register](http://registrar.uwo.ca/course_enrollment/intent_to_register))

**When will I know which program/module I am registered in?**

Each student is adjudicated at the end of the academic year. The adjudication process happens in May, and usually students are able to login to Student Center by mid-June to check their grades and to see what program they are eligible for.

**What if I change my mind?**

Students who change their mind about their requested program should contact their academic counselling office to discuss the change and to complete a program change form. Academic Counsellors will inform students of academic implications of changing programs.

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**FINANCIAL LITERACY**

**BEST PRACTICES**

to pass on to your student!

1. Build a budget a stick to it. It makes you aware of your spending and will save money for the things you really want.
2. Avoid "Buy Now, Pay Later" - save for your purchases and you will save money in the long-run.
3. Pre-paid credit card are a great starter card for young Canadians.
4. Pay yourself first - make saving a priority, for rainy days, for wants and for your retirement.
5. Credit Card use: Only use credit cards on items that endure past payment date (education, car repairs, etc) and avoid using on purchases that are gone before you pay (movies, gas, etc).

Source: ABC Life Literacy abclifeliteracy.ca