### 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 (3x2=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**

courses and many science courses have labs. Labs are a required component of the

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.

First-year students who are not sure of what to major in still have many options of courses they can take that will fulfill their degree requirements. Starting with a few courses that meet General Degree Requirements is an excellent way to become familiarized with the structure of university courses and campus life.

In particular, first-year students should consider taking **Academic Writing (1000 level Rhetoric, Writing and Communications or RHET courses)** in their first-year since it is a degree requirement for most students\*. The Academic Writing course, which has various course numbers depending on focus area, helps all students refine their university level critical reading, academic writing and research skills. It is best taken within your first-year of study so that you can apply these skills to all future university courses.

\*To see if you meet the criteria for an exemption from Academic Writing, refer to the "Degree and Major Requirements" section of the Academic Calendar.

### **ELECTIVES**

Courses that do not meet particular degree requirements are considered electives. They fulfill the need for a required number of credit hours for graduation and give you the opportunity to explore related fields of study or very different ones from your major.

### TRANSFER CREDIT

Transfer students and those who have previously completed courses or a degree, please note:

If you are coming to The University of Winnipeg with transfer credits from another institution, or have already completed an undergraduate degree, some of the above requirements may already have been met with courses you have done as part of past studies. Transfer credits, or the possibility of transfer credits, will only be assessed by an Admissions Officer during the application process. A list of specific transfer credits

Once you understand pre-requisites for your professional program of choice, you can select first-year courses which prepare you for your chosen field of study. For example, you need 3000 level Chemistry in order to apply to Dentistry

### COURSE LOAD

How many courses should you take? How do you create a balanced schedule? University is much more demanding than high school - and will require you to commit a substantial amount of time every week to get good grades.

To meet the demands of a university level course, you need to commit an additional 6 to 9 hours per week to study for each course.

What will you be doing in that out-of-class time? You should be reading your text in anticipation of the next lecture, reviewing your lecture notes, researching for assignments, studying for tests, preparing to participate in a group presentation or discussion, and planning for a lab or writing a lab report. Therefore the total time commitment per week per course is 9-12 hours (3 hours in class and 6-9 hours studying.)

When you register, keep in mind that registration is a two-step process:

1. First, you will be selecting courses and

### 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 <u>Accepted Students Website</u> and the main University website.
- 3. Register for a <u>First-Year Information Session</u> 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 <a href="WebAdvisor/Student Planning Guide">WebAdvisor/Student Planning Guide</a> and watch the series of Student Planning Video Tutorials.
- 5. Register for courses using Student Planning on your assigned registration date and time.
- 6. Register for Orientation on the Orientation website (and attend!).
- 7. <u>Buy your textbooks</u> in the summer or during Orientation and <u>pay your fees</u> by the <u>deadline dates</u>.
- 8. Ask for help if you need it at any time from Academic Advising, Student Central or other Student Services. Call 204.786.9257 or email advising@uwinnipeg.ca
- 9. Enjoy your first year!

## **5. IMPORTANT DATES**

Academic dates and deadlines are of the utmost importance and it is imperative that you know all of these dates. You will be able to find them in the Academic Calendar and several other locations such as the University website, WebAdvisor/Student Planning, campus signage, course outlines, and even on social media! Refer to the <a href="Important">Important</a> <a href="Dates">Dates</a> section of the Academic Calendar now and make note of them in your day planner, smart phone, calendar, white board or even a post-it note on the refrigerator door!

# 6. RESOURCES, SOURCES OF INFORMATION, AND SUPPORTS

### REGISTRATION SECTION OF UWINNIPEG.CA

The <u>Registration Process</u> webpage brings together all the information you need for selecting and registering for your courses. It is ordered to correspond to the steps you will be taking to set up your first-year courses. Below is a brief description of what you will find on this webpage:

• Summary of the registration process; glossary of university terms

- View alternative or additional degree programs you may be interested in
- Request a review of your academic plan from an Academic Advisor

### ACADEMIC ADVISING

An Academic Advisor can give you feedback on your course selection and schedule, suggest strategies for future course selection and answer further questions you have not found answers to in this Guide or the Accepted Students Website. The advisor can also help with:

- Detailed information related to programs, courses, student services, academic supports
- Decision-making skills and strategies with regard to your education
- Feedback on your selection of courses
- Understanding university requirements, policies and procedures
- Development of educational plans and evaluation of progress toward your academic goals
- Referrals to and use of other university and community support services
- Assistance with academic appeals processes

#### CONTACTING ACADEMIC ADVISING

**Appointments**: Make a 30 minute in-person or telephone appointment well in advance by emailing <a href="mailto:advising@uwinnipeg.ca">advising@uwinnipeg.ca</a> or calling 204.786.9257. You can meet with any advisor, or one of the specialized advisors for Aboriginal students, International students, Immigrant and Refugee students, Adult Learners, or First Year students. See website: <a href="mailto:Academic Advising">Academic Advising</a>.

**E-mail**: You can e-mail your questions to one of the advisors, or to: <a href="mailto:advising@uwinnipeg.ca">advising@uwinnipeg.ca</a>. Be sure to identify yourself by your full name, student number, and include your phone number. Please only use your assigned university Webmail e-mail address.

**Drop-In**: Come in, or call in, for a brief, 10-minute Drop-In session. Drop-Ins are reserved for clarifying information, for getting a quick review of your first-year course selection, or discussing urgent matters such as appeals. During drop-in hours, students are served on a first-come, first-served basis.

Drop-Ins are available Monday to Friday, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (Mon– Friday either in the Student Services Centre, (First floor, Rice Centre, 489 Portage Avenue)

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### **TUTORING**

If you are having difficulty with course material, consider getting tutoring help. The University of Winnipeg's free <u>Tutoring Centre</u> 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 <u>Accepted Students website</u> and the "<u>Student</u>" section at the top-left corner of University's main site (<a href="https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/index.html">https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/index.html</a>), which contain information and links to all student services and resources available to you. If you have questions, the answers are likely on these sites. Other areas of note on the website are the Academic Calendar, the Timetable, Student Planning, and much more. Take some time to become familiar with the university website, and explore the extensive resources and information available to you there!

### STUDENT SERVICES

Visit <u>Student Services</u> on the University website to find a comprehensive list of services. There is the Aboriginal Student Services Centre, Accessibility Services, Student Health and Wellness, Awards and Financial Aid – to name just a few!

Contact us with your questions. We are here to help you make your first year at The University of Winnipeg an enlightening, fun and engaging educational experience!