Congratulations on your acceptance to McGill University! We are very pleased to have you with us in the Faculty of Arts. As you are about to embark on an exciting journey of discovery and learning at McGill, it is important for us to ensure that you receive all the necessary tools to start your degree on the right foot.

We have designed a special step-by-step guide for new Arts students! This contains important information for your transition to McGill. Inside you will find everything you need to know from your arrival until the end of your studies here. This guide takes you through the important dates and deadlines, what you need to do before you come to McGill, who you need to contact when you have concerns, and what you need to know about planning your B.A. degree.

We wish you the best of luck in your studies!

McGill Arts Office of Advising and Student Information Services (OASIS)
McGill Website: http://www.mcgill.ca/oasis
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/McGillArtsOASIS/
Twitter: https://twitter.com/mcgillartsoasis
Email: newstudentadvising.arts@mcgill.ca
Call: +1 (514) 398-1029
Your Summer Academic Checklist

- **READ THE** NEW STUDENTS AND CAMPUS LIFE & ENGAGEMENT WEBSITES to get an idea of what you need to do over the summer and the campus resources available to you throughout the year.

- **SET UP AND CHECK YOUR** MCGILL E-MAIL ADDRESS REGULARLY (or forward it to an e-mail address that you check regularly). You are given a McGill e-mail address and mailbox automatically when you confirm your acceptance to McGill. Notification about your McGill e-mail address is sent to the non-McGill email address you entered on your application form.

- **STUDENTS WITH ADVANCED STANDING**: Determine which courses you may get an exemption/credit for and make sure that your final, official results/test scores are sent to Service Point.

- **DETERMINE WHETHER YOU ARE STARTING AS** Freshman (U0) or Departmental (U1) by consulting the Arts OASIS New Students Website to understand your starting designation at McGill. Information on this can also be found in Section III of this guide. Your status will be confirmed on your Unofficial transcript on Minerva.

- **FAMILIARIZE YOURSELF WITH THE** ARTS ADVISING WEBSITE to answer any questions you have regarding your academic career at McGill University.

- **CONSULT THE E-CALENDAR** for information on your specific programs and courses.

- For **U1 STUDENTS**: Choose your programs (major and minor concentrations). Contact your Departmental/Program Adviser(s) with questions about course selection. A full list of departments and programs can be found on the Arts Faculty website.

- **CEGEP STUDENTS**: Attend a session of CSI McGill (CEGEP Student Information Session – June 9th). This will be your one-stop information session for your entire academic career and potential opportunities after.

- **ALL STUDENTS** should attend Discover McGill (August 30th) to learn more about the campus, the faculty and involvement opportunities.

- **REGISTER FOR YOUR COURSES USING MINERVA**: You should ensure that you have registered for at least one course in the Fall and Winter semester by August 14th to avoid any late registration fees. You can make changes to your course selection up until the end of the first two weeks of classes in each semester (add/drop period), so do your best to choose you classes now and make changes if necessary later on!

- **VIEW THE MCGILL 101 VIDEOS** on MyCourses as they become available throughout the year. They are on a variety of topics that you might like clarification on such as How to use Minerva, How to Register for courses, How to use McGill’s resources etc.

- If you have any **PROBLEMS REGISTERING** on Minerva (error messages, etc.) make sure to read the HELP text carefully, look over the registration website, and read the tips for registration problems.

- **FAMILIARIZE YOURSELF WITH YOUR STUDENT RIGHTS**: At McGill, your student rights are protected by a handful of important charters and policies. Be sure to look over them before classes begin so you will be able to spot possible violations. Don’t forget to also read over the Student Assessment Policy!

- Download the **FREE MCGILL APP** from the App Store. It will help you navigate campus, find any resource locations and phone numbers, connect you to other students and much more.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>DETAILS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CEGEP Students Information Session (CSI)</td>
<td>June 9</td>
<td>Learn everything you need to know about first year and degree planning at this info session for CEGEP students.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration opens for scholarship recipient CEGEP students</td>
<td>June 9 (9 am EST)</td>
<td>How to register</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McGill ID cards available for CEGEP students</td>
<td>June 12</td>
<td>ID cards are available at Service Point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration opens for all other CEGEP students</td>
<td>June 12 (9 am EST)</td>
<td>How to register</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration opens for scholarship recipients with U0 or U1 status</td>
<td>June 16</td>
<td>You can verify your classification year for registration purposes on Minerva by checking your Registration Eligibility and Verify Your Curriculum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McGill ID cards available for international students</td>
<td>June 19</td>
<td>ID cards are available at Service Point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration opens for students with U1 status (from IB, French Bac, A-Levels, Aps, etc)</td>
<td>June 19 (9 am EST)</td>
<td>How to register</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration for Special/Visiting Students</td>
<td>June 19 (9 am EST)</td>
<td>How to register</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McGill ID cards available for Canadian students</td>
<td>June 20</td>
<td>ID cards are available at Service Point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration opens for all students</td>
<td>June 20 (9 am EST)</td>
<td>How to register</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saint-Jean-Baptiste Day</td>
<td>June 24</td>
<td>Administrative offices closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freshman Science Courses without a lab component open to Arts students</td>
<td>June 29 (10 am EST)</td>
<td>Science students are given priority for Science registration hence, Arts students register on a later date.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada Day</td>
<td>July 1</td>
<td>Administrative offices closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Event</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freshman Science Courses with a lab component open to Arts Students</td>
<td><strong>July 13 (10 am EST)</strong></td>
<td>Science students are given priority for Science registration hence, Arts students register on a later date.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deadline to avoid late registration fee</td>
<td><strong>Aug. 14</strong></td>
<td>You must register for at least one course before this date.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residence Move-In Weekend</td>
<td><strong>Aug. 26 &amp; 27</strong></td>
<td>Check the link to see your assigned move-in day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parents Tent</td>
<td><strong>Aug. 26 &amp; 27</strong></td>
<td>Parents Tent is a great event for your parents to learn about the support services available to you both in Rez and at McGill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service Point Weekend Hours</td>
<td><strong>Aug. 27 &amp; 28</strong></td>
<td>To accommodate for move-in weekend, Service Point will be open 8 am - 4 pm Aug. 27, and 8 am - 3 pm Aug. 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Orientation Week</strong></td>
<td><strong>Aug. 28– Sep. 3</strong></td>
<td>Orientation Week kicks off with move-in weekend, followed by Rez and Off-Campus Fest the next day, then Discover McGill, Academic Expectations Day (including the Arts Departmental Program Fair), and lastly (if applicable) Frosh.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rez Fest &amp; Off-Campus Connects</td>
<td><strong>Aug. 28</strong></td>
<td>An event to build community spirit in residence - ask your floor fellow!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discover McGill &amp; Engage McGill</td>
<td><strong>Aug. 29</strong></td>
<td>Discover McGill is your official welcome to McGill - expect a club fair, tour, Arts Faculty Orientation, and lots of sun! Engage McGill gathers the entire McGill community for an evening of food and activities to ring in the new academic year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discover McGill’s Academic Expectations Day</td>
<td><strong>Aug. 30</strong></td>
<td>Don’t let the title scare you – this is a great event if you have questions about adjusting to a university workload or if you are unfamiliar with North American academic culture. You’ll definitely pick up some helpful tips!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Departmental Program Fair</td>
<td><strong>Aug. 30</strong></td>
<td>The one time during the year when all Arts Departmental/Program Advisers are in the same room – make the most of it! Have questions about your programs of choice or just want to browse? This is your chance to see all that the Faculty offers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Event</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Details</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Session d’accueil pour étudiants francophones</td>
<td>Aug. 30</td>
<td>Vous n’avez encore jamais étudié en anglais? C’est à vous que s’adresse la Session d’accueil. Nous vous attendons en grand nombre!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deadline to cancel or defer an offer of admission</td>
<td>Aug. 31</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

and to get invaluable face time with advisers. Location to come.
The Faculty of Arts offers students access to a variety of advisers and mentors with different skills, expertise, and levels of authority. The information below will help you determine whether you need to speak to a faculty adviser, departmental/program adviser, professor/lecturer or peer adviser to help you resolve a given problem. Be sure to seek academic help from the adviser most closely attuned to your academic needs or personal situation.

All advisers provide an atmosphere of trust so you can feel free to talk about your situation in complete confidentiality. The types of advisers you have access to and where to find them are listed below:

**Faculty Advising:**

**Arts OASIS (Office of Advising and Student Information Services)**

Arts OASIS is here to offer you advice and support as an Arts Undergraduate student from first year to graduation. It should be your first stop whenever you have questions about planning your B.A. degree, registration, rules and regulations for Arts students, and opportunities offered outside of McGill - such as study abroad - to enhance your degree. You will be able to consult our advising team during the summer and throughout the academic year.

**Where to find us:** Room 110 in Dawson Hall (Use the App to find this) - located on the ground floor of the East Wing of the main Arts Building. Our main counter is open 10 am - 4pm Monday to Friday. You can also visit our website ([www.mcgill.ca/oasis](http://www.mcgill.ca/oasis)) for the most updated information regarding anything presented in this guide.

**How to see an adviser:** You can meet an advisor on a first-come, first-serve basis. On the day that you would like to meet with someone, arrive at OASIS before 10 am in order to secure your spot. Your drop-in will be booked through the main counter. Often the person at the counter may be able to answer your question immediately so let them know what's on your mind!
THE STAFF AT OASIS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lucyna M. Lach</td>
<td>Associate Dean of Arts (Student Affairs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demetra Pavlounis</td>
<td>Assistant to the Associate Dean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mylena Bergeron</td>
<td>Faculty Adviser</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ruth Kuzaitis</td>
<td>Faculty Adviser</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kanella “Nellie” Voudouris</td>
<td>Faculty Adviser</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ines Scharnweber</td>
<td>Faculty Adviser</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anne Nudo</td>
<td>Student Adviser, Study Away/Exchanges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monica Hotter</td>
<td>Student Adviser, Freshman Program Advising</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brandy Jugandi</td>
<td>Career-Planning Advisor, Student Affairs Administrator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sonia Masand</td>
<td>Administrative Student Affairs Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alejandra Moreira-Cano</td>
<td>Administrative Student Affairs Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sohyun Lee</td>
<td>Administrative Student Affairs Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penny Kaill-Vinish</td>
<td>Administrative Student Affairs Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Margaret Cotton</td>
<td>Administrative Student Affairs Coordinator</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Peer Advising:

**Arts Student Advising Program (ASAP)**

When you are away from campus and need any clarification regarding registration, important dates, McGill policies and procedures; these students are going to be your main resource! ASAPs are senior Arts students who provide peer advising through the OASIS Office. They have a wealth of first-hand knowledge of student life at McGill and university procedures. If you would like to speak to someone who can understand exactly what you are experiencing right now, don’t hesitate to reach out to an ASAP. They will also be the faces you see at the counter all year, as well as people you can contact via the online chat, telephone or email.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chat Online</th>
<th>Telephone</th>
<th>In Person</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M-F, 10 am - 4 pm</td>
<td>M-F, 10 am - 4 pm</td>
<td>M-F, 10 am - 4 pm</td>
<td>Anytime</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access it [here]</td>
<td>514-398-1029</td>
<td>Dawson Hall, Room 110</td>
<td><a href="mailto:newstudentadvising.arts@mcgill.ca">newstudentadvising.arts@mcgill.ca</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>853 Sherbrooke W</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
You can also follow them on social media for reminders of important dates and upcoming advising events!

Departmental/Program Advising:

If you have specific questions related to your program of study or if you would like more information about course selection or Honours programs, then your department advisers are the ones to go to! They can also help you learn about the different scholarships and awards offered in your program and opportunities to do field studies or research in your subject area.

A list of all the course requirements for the different Arts departments and their subsequent program advisers is provided here: https://www.mcgill.ca/oasis/resources/departmental-advising-information

### Which Type of Adviser to See

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty Advising (OASIS)</th>
<th>Departmental/Program Advising</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Degree requirements</td>
<td>• Program planning &amp; course selection for your program option only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Academic standing</td>
<td>• Program requirements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Course load and selection</td>
<td>• Registration for program courses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Exchange &amp; study away</td>
<td>• Verify program requirements for graduation &amp; submit graduation recommendations for program option</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Transfer credits</td>
<td>• Suggest courses suitable to your interests</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Inter-faculty transfers</td>
<td>• Course equivalencies, substitutions, and exemptions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Freshman Program requirements</td>
<td>• Approve &amp; pre-approve transfer credits at the departmental or program level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Reassessments and rereads</td>
<td>• Provide information on internships, graduate programs, scholarships, awards, research fellowships, and exchange &amp; study away programs within their field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• University &amp; course withdrawals</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Supplemental and deferred exams</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Academic difficulty</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Help you define and develop realistic goals</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Assist you with immediate problem solving, long-range planning and courses of action</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Communicate with other advisers within the University and, with your permission, serve as a direct link between you and other University resources</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Section 3: What’s your starting point?

CHECKPOINT 1: U0 or U1?

Arts students must complete a 120-credit degree. In some cases, students have been granted advanced standing credits that count towards this total. At McGill we use U0, U1, U2, and U3 to denote your undergraduate year level.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>U1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CEGEP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If you are a CEGEP student, you are exempt from the Freshman Program as you have been granted 30 advanced standing credits from your DEC. You can automatically register as a U1 student, and declare your major and minor concentrations while registering on Minerva. The same information applies to you if you completed the French Baccalaureate.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IB/AP/A Levels</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>If you are a student who did the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma or Certificate or any Advanced Level (AL), Advanced Placement (AP) courses, depending on whether you achieved at least 24 advanced standing credits, you may also be qualified as U1. Double check with an OASIS Adviser so you can get a head start planning your B.A. degree. With this advance standing you have the option to finish your degree in three years - However, if this feels like a short time, you can take four years without any application!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Note</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your status can be verified on your Minerva transcript. However, if it’s not showing right away, don’t worry! This is a simple processing issue and it will be there soon. In the meantime, make sure you qualify for advance standing here.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>U0</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>If you did not do any programs that grant advanced standing before coming to McGill or have less than 24 advance standing credits, you will be entering as a freshman student (U0), and will follow the Freshman Program!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Keep reading to see how it works!
The Freshman (U0) Program is for students who must complete 97-120 credits to finish their degree. You can think of your U0 year as a chance to explore many different programs before declaring your major and minor concentrations. You might even get ahead in your program requirements without knowing it! There are two options for the Freshman Program:

**OPTION 1: GENERAL OPTION**

To complete the Freshman Program with this option, you will have to take 6 credits from 3 of the 4 categories: **Social Sciences, Humanities, Languages,** and **Mathematics & Science.** A list of the possible courses you can take can be found here. Under the Freshman U0 Category in the “Approved Freshman Courses” section.

Once you make sure you’ve taken the appropriate courses to fulfill the requirement in each category, you can plan what you take to fill the rest of the credits in each of your semesters. Remember, you can take up to 30 credits in a year. The freshman program requirements will only take 18 of them leaving you with 12 more of your choice to register for!

You should keep in mind that in your freshman year, you can take up to 18 credits in one of the four categories but you are allowed a maximum of 12 credits in one department! For example, you can take 18 credits in the Humanities category but you can only take 12 in English and the other 4 in something else such as Art History or East Asian Studies. A table of possible combinations is offered below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Social Sciences</th>
<th>Humanities</th>
<th>Languages</th>
<th>Math &amp; Science</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18* credits</td>
<td>6 credits</td>
<td>6 credits</td>
<td>0 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 credits</td>
<td>8 credits</td>
<td>6 credits</td>
<td>9 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 credits</td>
<td>6 credits</td>
<td>12 credits</td>
<td>8 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 credits</td>
<td>6 credits</td>
<td>9 credits</td>
<td>14* credits</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you have advance standing that totals to less than 24 credits, you are still considered U0. In this case however, the courses in which you have been granted advance standing can potentially count towards your freshman program requirements. For example, if you have been admitted with 9 advance standing credits in French Language and Microeconomics, these could respectively count towards your Language and Social Science requirements. Read more about this here.

**OPTION 2: FRENCH OPTION**

In this option, you will have to do 18 credits of courses conducted in French. These courses may be French language courses, courses conducted in French, or a combination of the two. Keep in mind that you can take a maximum of 12 credits of intensive French language courses. For the French Option, you may be required to take a proficiency test. (See page 30 for details.) The remainder of your credits must be comprised of courses approved for the B.A. Freshman Program.
Making sure you meet the ‘Freshman Program’ requirements can be a little confusing, luckily the Arts OASIS has a handy tool that could help you organize your courses during your degree planning! This tool is the **Bachelor of Arts Freshman Program Planner** which can be found [here](#). This form will help you clearly organize which courses will count towards the program and help you ensure you fulfil your requirements. If you like, you can bring this form to OASIS and we will gladly look it over to ensure you are on the right track!

**THE REAL DEAL: COURSE SELECTION**

Refer to the [Freshman Approved Course list](#) to select your courses. Ensure that you check Minerva for the most-up-to-date information on which classes are scheduled for the upcoming academic year.

The Approved Course List:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Number of Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>African Studies</td>
<td>AFRI 200</td>
<td>Intro to African Studies</td>
<td>3 Credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(also listed under Social Sciences)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art History</td>
<td>ARTH 109</td>
<td>FYTH: Themes in Art History</td>
<td>3 Credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ARTH 200</td>
<td>Introduction to Art History 1</td>
<td>3 Credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ARTH 202</td>
<td>Intro to Contemporary Art</td>
<td>3 Credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ARTH 204</td>
<td>Intro to Medieval Art &amp; Arch</td>
<td>3 Credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ARTH 205</td>
<td>Introduction to Modern Art</td>
<td>3 Credits</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
THE DEPARTMENT PROGRAM for U1 Students!

If you are a student entering with 24 or more advanced standing credits, you will begin your studies as a **U1 Departmental student**. You must **declare your programs** on Minerva and you will not be required to complete the Freshman Program requirements. Instead, you will start taking courses directed towards your major and minor concentrations using the **Multi-Track System**.

What’s the Multi-Track System?

You will find that there are many programs suited to your background and interests. The Multi-Track System allows you to customize your degree by selecting a major concentration complemented by at least a minor concentration. If you can’t decide between two major concentrations, why not pursue a double major? This option, and others, are shown below, note these suggestions assume you have **30 advance standing credits** and **90 credits remaining**.

---

**Option A**
- **Major Concentration**: Art History (36)
- **Minor Concentration**: Medieval Studies (18)
- **Electives**: (36)

**Option B**
- **Major Concentration**: Philosophy (36)
- **Second Major Concentration**: Computer Science (36)
- **Electives**: (18)

**Option C**
- **Major Concentration**: Islamic Studies (36)
- **Minor Concentration**: Social Entrepreneurship (18)
- **Second Minor Concentration**: African Studies (18)
- **Electives**: (18)

---

Need inspiration?

A) Major Concentration **Art History** (36) + Minor **Medieval Studies** (18) + **Electives** (36)
B) Major Concentration **Philosophy** (36) + Major Concentration **Computer Science** (36) + **Electives** (18)
C) Major Concentration **Islamic Studies** (36) + Minor **Social Entrepreneurship** (18) + Minor **African Studies** (18) + **Electives** (18)

*A full list of departmental programs is on the Arts OASIS website and the eCalendar*

Note: Your major and minor concentrations must be in different units, i.e. you cannot complete a major concentration in Psychology and a minor concentration in Behavioural Science as they are offered by the same unit (Psychology), unless you add another minor in something completely different (i.e. Sociology).
Honours

An **Honours program** is excellent preparation for graduate studies, or if you would like to specialize in your field, as it allows you to take more courses in your department of interest. You must meet the program and faculty requirements, while also maintaining a good academic standing.

To register for Honours, you must:

- Have attained a GPA and CGPA of at least 3.00 in the previous year
- Maintain a GPA and CGPA of at least 3.00
- Maintain a program GPA of at least 3.00 or 3.30 in some departments (or higher)
- Complete at least a minor in another academic unit
  - **Exception:** Completing Honours towards a second degree
- Meet department-specific requirements (if any)
  - **English, Psychology,** and **Economics** have special requirements
- Consult with your Departmental/Program Adviser

Need inspiration?

**Honours Mathematics** (60) + **Minor Classics** (18) + **Electives** (12)

**Honours Economics** (42)* + **Minor Communications** (18) + **Minor Women’s Studies** (18) + **Electives** (12)

*note that there are required math prerequisites not included in this total!

**Joint Honours**

The **Joint Honours Program** allows you to study two disciplines at the honours level. To register for Joint Honours, you must:

- Have attained a GPA and CGPA of at least 3.00 in the previous year
- Maintain a minimum GPA and CGPA of 3.00
- Maintain a program GPA of at least 3.00 or 3.30 in some departments (or higher)
- Meet department-specific requirements (if any)
  - **English, Psychology,** and **Economics** have special requirements
- No minor needed
- Consult with a Departmental/Program Adviser

Need inspiration?

**Joint Honours English – Literature** (36) + **Joint Honours Canadian Studies** (36) + **Electives** (18)

**Joint Honours Linguistics** (36) + **Joint Honours Russian** (36) + **Minor World Cinemas** (18) + **NO ELECTIVES**

*this example is possible, but we highly recommend saving room for electives; they give you more flexibility and allow you to make changes in your program if necessary

**Thinking about Honours?**

If you are considering completing an Honours/Joint Honours degree, be sure to talk to the Departmental/Program Adviser of the program you are interested in. Often, there is a designated Honours Adviser.
Faculty Programs

The Faculty of Arts also offers two multi-disciplinary programs, Industrial Relations and Environment (B.A.), called Faculty Programs. They have clearly-defined requirements that span faculties, and require you to complete 54 credits (more than the typical 36-credit major).

Ready to confirm your decision? : How to declare your program

U1 students must declare their programs upon registering on Minerva. Don’t forget that you need a minor concentration or another major concentration as well!

U0 students declare their programs at the end of their first year, once registration for the next academic year opens (usually mid-April).

- On Minerva, select:
- Student Menu
- Student Records Menu
- Change Your Primary Curriculum
- And follow the instructions

Watch a video demonstration

Unsure of your program selection?

Come to the Arts Departmental Program Fair on August 30th to “shop” all the programs in Arts, meet Departmental/Program Advisers and student associations, or simply pick up their brochures to read at home. If you know what you want to study, but have questions about it, you can certainly ask at the Fair! Location and times will be announced on our website soon.

You can change your program if you decide you’re not happy with your initial choice. Just be careful to appropriately change your course choices before the Add/Drop Deadline!
If you’re on exchange, transferring or visiting your credit and program requirements are a little different at McGill! Make sure you read this section to ensure you are registering for the right amount of credits!

**Transfer Students**

If you have transferred to McGill from another university, you need to complete at least 60 credits and two-thirds of your program requirements at McGill in order to complete the residency requirement for your B.A. degree. Your past student record is evaluated by Enrolment Services. Most courses you have completed at your past institution will transfer over if you have received a grade of C or better. However not all courses you have completed previously will transfer over, and it is best that you see your Departmental/Program Adviser to determine which of your approved courses may count for program requirements. More on University Transfer Credits.

**Incoming Exchange Students**

Have you been accepted to McGill on a formal exchange program? Your letter of admission from the Enrolment Services specifies your status as 'Exchange'. Normally, exchange students are accepted to McGill for a period of one year. Your course selection should be approved by your home university, and pre-requisites should be confirmed by the course instructor at McGill. Find more information under Special/Visiting/Exchange on the OASIS website.

**Incoming Visiting Students**

If you are currently registered in a degree program at another university and have completed at least two semesters of study there, you may apply to take courses at McGill University as a Visiting Student. Course credits can be applied toward the program of study at your home university. Admission decisions on visiting applications are final and there is no appeal process.

Your course selection should also be approved by your home university, and pre-requisites should be confirmed by the course instructor at McGill. Find more information under Special/Visiting/Exchange on the OASIS website.

-------------------------------------------------------------
Step 1: Registering on Minerva

- Go to Minerva and log in with your McGill email address and password.
- Select Student Menu, then Registration Menu and follow the steps.
- The Student Registration Tutorial walks you through the course registration process on Minerva.

Step 2: Deciding Your Course Load

A full-time course load is 12-15 credits per term. It is recommended that new students take 4 courses, at least in their first term. You are still considered a full-time student if you take 12 credits in a term (four courses), but you will have to make up the missing credits by either catching up with summer courses or delaying your graduation by staying an extra term or terms.

If you take less than 12 credits in a semester you will be considered a part-time student. This might prevent you from having access to scholarships and bursaries.

Step 3: Planning Your Schedule

An indispensable tool to use during registration is the Visual Schedule Builder (VSB), which will show you any conflicts in your schedule and whether or not a class is full. However, remember that the schedule on Minerva is still your most reliable source to determine if a class is still being offered. Make sure you check where the classes are so that you are not registering for class that you cannot get to in the ten-minute interval between classes. The VSB will also help you ensure you do not book classes with conflicts.

For questions regarding which courses you can take, refer back to the Freshman Approved Course List on page 19. U1s can also use this list as a guide, but should consult with a Departmental/Program Adviser to confirm that their courses are meeting their program requirements.

Here is a sample U0 Fall Term as shown on VSB:
What to Do When a Course is Full

If a course is full, you may want to check Minerva from time to time to see if space opens up. If the course is required for your program but is full or "reserved closed" (meaning all spots reserved for your year/program have been filled) contact the department offering the course to request a "permit to register." Link to oasis registration when dealing with Minerva do you need it this year or can you wait till later// elective stuff

Another Alternative: Join a Waitlist

If the course you want to take is full, joining a waitlist (if your course has one) is the best way to ensure your spot if another student drops the course. Check your McGill email frequently as once a place opens up, you will only have 24 hours to register on Minerva before losing your spot. If all else fails, contact the department offering the course.

Please note the following for scholarship and international students:

Scholarship Students
If you received a one-year entrance scholarship or a renewable entrance scholarship, you are required to complete 27 graded credits during the regular academic year (Fall and Winter terms). This total does not include classes taken under the satisfactory/unsatisfactory option. If you are registered for only one term, you must complete at least 14 graded credits.

International Students
If you are an international student, you must be a full-time student, therefore you must take a minimum of 12 credits per term. Consult an international student adviser should you have any questions or concerns.

Step 4: How to take a Language Course!

French Placement Tests (!!!)

You will certainly have many encounters with French both on and off campus! Learning the language is a great way to help you feel more at home in Montreal. Regardless of your level, you will have to pass a French Placement Test in order to determine which course level would be most appropriate for you. Please note that you will not be able to register for a French language course if you do not take a placement test.

Other Language Courses
If you are interested in taking a language course other than French, you may also have to take a placement test before registering for the course. All language courses have limited enrolment and, as such, may require departmental approval. For more information about language placement tests, please contact the department that offers the language course:

East Asian language courses
Russian, German, Italian, and Spanish language courses
Hebrew language courses
Arabic, Persian, Turkish, and Urdu language courses
Courses in English as a Second Language (CESL)

If your primary language is not English and you have studied for fewer than five years in an English-language institution, you are eligible to take courses in English as a Second Language (CESL courses). You can take up to a maximum of 12 credits of CESL courses. These courses require you to take a placement test. You can refer to the McGill Writing Centre or meet with an Arts OASIS adviser if you have any further questions. Note that these courses are not included in the maximum 12 credits you are permitted to take outside the faculties of Arts and Science. They will count as Arts courses.

Step 5: What If You Want To Withdraw?

Why would you want to withdraw?

You may wish to withdraw for a number of personal and/or academic reasons, which may include simply not liking the course, not doing well in the course (see Grading Procedure), illness, financial difficulty or personal issues.

What is a withdrawal?

After the Add/Drop deadline, dropping a course constitutes a withdrawal. There are two types of withdrawal: Course and University. A Course Withdrawal means you have chosen to discontinue one or more courses. A University Withdrawal means you have chosen to discontinue your entire term or year of studies. When done sparingly, withdrawing from a course is not a bad thing. Remember that your mental and physical health come before academics, and the OASIS Advisers are here to assist you. Read more on the withdrawal policy.

On your transcript

You will receive a grade of “W” on your transcript if you choose to do a Course or University Withdrawal before the Course Withdraw deadline. A grade of “W” does not affect your CGPA as it does not count towards it, and a few over the course of your academic career will not affect future studies or career goals. However, you must consult an OASIS Adviser and officially withdraw on Minerva. Failure to do so will result in a grade of “J”, which is calculated as a zero in your CGPA, meaning that you have unofficially abandoned the course. See an OASIS adviser if this is the case.
# Section 5: Important Dates - Fall and Winter 2017-2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Winter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Registration opens for students starting Winter 2017</td>
<td></td>
<td>Dec. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McGill ID Card Pick-up for Winter Admitted Students</td>
<td></td>
<td>Dec. 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter orientation</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jan. 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deadline to register for at least one class without fee penalty</td>
<td>Aug. 14</td>
<td>Jan. 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classes begin</td>
<td>Sep. 5</td>
<td>Jan. 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course change (add/drop) deadline</td>
<td>Sep. 19</td>
<td>Jan. 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deadline to withdraw from full-year courses (only Winter term is refunded)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jan. 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deadline for course or University withdrawal WITH refund</td>
<td>Sep. 26</td>
<td>Jan. 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thanksgiving</td>
<td>Oct. 9</td>
<td>Offices closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deadline for course or University withdrawal WITHOUT refund</td>
<td>Oct. 31</td>
<td>Mar. 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading week</td>
<td></td>
<td>Mar 5– Mar. 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easter</td>
<td></td>
<td>March 30 - April 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>University closed for Easter</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Study Weekend

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study Weekend</th>
<th>Dec. 7 (Monday Schedule)</th>
<th>Apr. 14-15</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

| Study day     | Dec. 6                   |            |

| Examination period | Dec. 11 – 21 | Apr. 17– 30 | Best of luck with your exams and stay healthy! |

| Holiday break    | Dec. 23 – Jan. 2 |            | Administrative offices will be closed Dec. 23 – Jan. 2 inclusive |

| Deadline to defer examinations | Jan. 15 | May 1 | If you are affected by extenuating circumstances, you may apply to defer an exam |

| Victoria Day | May 22 | Offices closed |

---

### Section 6: Planning Out Your B.A. Degree

You have completed your degree when you have reached 120 credits and met your program and faculty requirements. Note that a minimum of **60 credits**, as well as **two-thirds** of all program requirements (found in the eCalendar) must be completed at McGill. Keep this in mind if you are planning on studying abroad or taking summer courses at another institution.

The best way to track your progress is to fill out a **Degree Planning Worksheet** and revise it as necessary during your degree.

**Steps to Planning your Degree**

**Step 1.** Select your program(s)

**Step 2.** Plan your courses for each program of study

- Review the requirements in the eCalendar
- Use the Degree Planning Worksheet
- Make sure that you have completed the correct prerequisites

**Step 3.** Consult your Departmental/Program Advisers

- Ask questions and confirm you are meeting the requirements
- **Sample questions** to ask your Departmental/Program Adviser

*More detailed information on planning your degree*
Course selection outside of Faculties of Arts and Science

Arts students are permitted to take courses outside of the Faculties of Arts and Science under the following guidelines:

- You are allowed a **maximum** of 12 credits in elective and/or complementary courses taken in faculties other than the Faculties of Arts and Science.
- Continuing Studies courses will not count towards these 12 credits of external courses*

*Note for students wishing to take Continuing Studies courses:
There are some Continuing Studies courses that Arts students are not permitted to take, such as any CEFN course. Instead, you should register for the appropriate FRSL course within the Faculty of Arts. Read more about Cont. Ed. courses on our [website](#) and always check with OASIS before taking a course.

Note for Students in Certain Designated Programs

Designated programs (Industrial Relations, Minor in Management, and Education for Arts Students) allow you to take up to 30 credits in other faculties. For a complete list of these designated programs and further information on courses outside the Faculties of Arts and Science, click [here](#). If you combine any two or more of the programs listed above, you may not exceed 40 credits outside the Faculties of Arts or Science.

First Year Seminars

First-year seminars are unique insofar as they are limited to students in their first year of study at McGill (newly admitted students in U0 or U1) as well as have a maximum capacity of **25 students**. They are a great way to interact on a closer level with peers and professors, as opposed to large introductory courses.

As an Arts student you may only take one First-Year seminar from either the Faculty of Arts or Faculty of Science listings. More information on First Year Seminars can be found in the [Freshman U0 tab](#), under First Year Seminars.

Important Things to Note

- Required courses must meet a grade of “C” or better
- A course can only count towards one program; if there is course overlap between programs, speak to your [Departmental/Program Advisers](#)

Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory Option

Is there an elective course you would like to try, but don’t want it to affect your GPA/CGPA? The S/U option allows you to take courses without them being calculated in your GPA/CGPA total.

Courses taken under the S/U option may be used for elective courses only (i.e. courses not intended to count towards your major/minor) and may be used for up to **10%** of your total McGill credits: if you began your studies with 30 credits of advanced standing, you may take 9 credits S/U; if you had no advanced standing and will complete 120 credits, you may take 12 credits S/U.

Freshman students will not be able to select the S/U option until their U1 year.
How to Apply for the S/U Option

- Go to Minerva
- Select the Quick Add or Drop Course Sections (as if you were registering for courses)
- In the "course grade mode" drop down menu associated with the elective course, select the Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grade mode
- Click submit to save the change

The deadline to add the S/U option is the same as the Add/Drop deadline

Be careful!
Should you accidentally select the S/U option for a required course, you may be required to complete a substitute course approved by your Departmental/Program Adviser to fulfill your program requirements. Verify with your department if you have any doubts about your course choice.

Course Codes And The Level Of Classes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Codes</th>
<th>Level of Classes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100-199 (eg. HIST 195)</td>
<td>100 level courses in Arts are either beginner level French classes (with course code FRSL) or First Year Seminars in various departments (more details below).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200-299 (eg. PSYC 211)</td>
<td>200 level courses are the main introductory courses in all departments, and nearly all courses you take in your first year will be at the 200 level. Most courses do not have pre-requisites and are often ‘survey’ courses. These sometimes split into smaller conferences that go into depth about class topics.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>300-399 (eg. ECON 334)</td>
<td>300 level courses are intermediate courses, meaning they are typically smaller and provide a more in-depth look at a subject than a 200 level introductory course. Often, there will be 200 level pre-requisites you must complete before you are allowed to register for the 300 level courses.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>400-499 (eg. ANTH 403)</td>
<td>400 level courses are advanced courses or seminar courses. They are even smaller and more topic-specific than 300 level courses. Seminar courses are usually capped at 25 students. There will often be 300 level pre-requisite courses you must complete before you are allowed to register for the 400 level courses.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500-599 (eg. ENGL 527)</td>
<td>500 level courses are high-level seminar courses, usually restricted to students in honours programs and graduate level students.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XXXXX 600-699 (eg. POLI 613)</td>
<td>In almost every case, 600 level courses are restricted to graduate level students (i.e. those pursuing an MA or PhD). However some honours programs (eg. in Political Science) may offer you the opportunity to take a 600 level course. Please consult with your departmental adviser for more information.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Your Transcript and McGill’s Assessment Policy

Grading Scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grades</th>
<th>Grade Points</th>
<th>Numerical Scale</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>85 – 100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>80 – 84%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>75 – 79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>70 – 74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>60 – 64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>60 – 64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>55 – 59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>50 – 54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F (Fail)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0 – 49%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

More information on grading

Key Terms:

➢ CGPA Calculation
Your cumulative grade point average (CGPA) is the GPA calculated using all applicable courses you have taken at McGill at the same level. If you change levels (e.g. from undergraduate to graduate) your CGPA starts again.

➢ TGPA Calculation
The term grade point average (TGPA) is the GPA for a given term calculated using all the applicable courses at the same level in that term.

➢ Assessment
Assessments are anything in a class for which you receive you grade. The University Assessment Policy protects you from unfair assessments.

SSMU Know Your Rights

Keep your eye out for the SSMU Know Your Rights Campaign at the beginning of each semester to stay aware of your student protections!
Assessment Policy

As a student, you have various academic Assessment rights ensured by the University Assessment Policy. Be sure to familiarize yourself with it so that you can speak up if you encounter any violations.

- A final examination must be worth no more than 75% of the final grade unless given a choice.
- Within reasonable time after receiving a mark, every student has the right to a reread of any written assessment.
- There should be more than one assessment for each course.
- You cannot be penalized for missed assignments due during Add/Drop Week.
- Students shall be permitted to use either English or French in completing any form of assessment (except for language courses).
- Every student has a right to consult and discuss any written assessment with his or her instructor once a grade has been given.

What should you do if you encounter any violations?

You should first approach your professor about the issue. If he/she doesn’t agree to change it, contact the AUS VP Academic (academic.aus@mail.mcgill.ca) who will determine an appropriate course of action. In addition, you can also reach out to the department/program head yourself.

Academic Integrity

As well as having the responsibility to know your rights as a student, you must also be familiar with the Academic Integrity Policy and hand in honest, original work. As an incoming student you will be required to complete the Academic Integrity Tutorial, which will show up on your transcript as either complete (CO) or incomplete (IC). Make sure to finish this on MyCourses!

If you are struggling with an assignment, remember that your best option is to talk to your prof as soon as you can - it is never too late. If you feel uncomfortable doing so, you can also contact your Faculty and Departmental/Program Advisers to discuss possible solutions.

Understanding your Transcript

Your transcript contains all of your attempted work and final grades. To find your Unofficial Transcript, go to Minerva and select:

- Student Menu
- Student Records Menu
- View Your Unofficial Transcript

To obtain an Official Transcript, you will have to place an order.

In the following pages we have included two sample transcripts for you to review.
Sample U0 Transcript

Because this student had 6 AP credits, she can take 4 classes per term in U0 without having to worry about making up for lack of credits later.

The diamond indicates a full-year course.

Your major will appear after you have declared it in April.

Because this student had 6 AP credits, she can take 4 classes per term in U0 without having to worry about making up for lack of credits later.

Your major in U0 is the Freshman Program, but this will change once you declare your major at the end of the academic year.

Your TGPA and CGPA can be seen here.
As a U1 student from CEGEP, he already has 30 credits.

Full-year course; grade will appear at the end of the winter term.

You don’t have to take this many program courses; between 2 and 3 is normal.
Section 7: Your Campus and Academic Resources

Service Point (Students Records Resource)

Service Point is where you will pick up your student ID card as a newly admitted student. It is also where you can ask questions regarding Minerva, housing and dining services, your transcript, your tuition fees, and important and legal documents (full list of services here.)

Location: 3415 McTavish Street, on the corner of Sherbrooke West

Hours:
- Monday to Friday: 10 am to 4 pm
- Wednesday: 10 am to 5 pm

Extended hours during orientation/move-in weekend:
- Aug. 23 - Sep. 3: 9 am to 5 pm
- Aug. 28: 8 am to 4 pm; Aug. 29: 8 am to 3 pm

Enrolment Services

Enrolment Services, located within Service Point, is where to go if you have any questions regarding your admission to McGill or your documentation.

P@ge Me

Service Point can get extremely busy – to save time, add yourself to the daily queue on your smartphone or laptop, from anywhere on campus, with P@geMe. It will send you an email or text-message when there are less than 10 people in queue ahead of you. Make sure to check-in at the reception desk when you arrive.

Libraries

As an Arts student, the McGill libraries are sure to be indispensable resources to you! The library website has an online catalogue, WorldCat, which you can use to search library materials. The library also offers many helpful workshops throughout the year. Learning how to use the library early will be extremely beneficial when you find yourself writing more research-intensive papers later on. In general, the libraries are also great quiet places to study for exams and you are likely to find yourself spending many hours in them. There are many all over campus so explore your options below!
Scholarships and Student Aid

If you experience financial problems during your time at McGill, stop by the Scholarships and Student Aid Office. They are responsible for administering financial support programs that are based on merit and need for all students at McGill. You should also visit them if you have been awarded an entrance scholarship. You will be notified if you have received a scholarship by receiving a letter from the Scholarship and Student Aid Office. Scholarships are credited directly to your fee account – one half prior to the due date of the fall fees, and the other half in early January. The office is located in the Brown Building, suite 3200.

Please note that applications for all McGill Financial Aid programs can be found on the Student Menu via Minerva.

The Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD)

Are you experiencing barriers to your academic success related to a disability, mental health condition, chronic illness, or other impairment? If so, the OSD may be able to help you reduce these barriers, be they temporary or permanent, visible or invisible. OSD Access Services Advisors are present at the downtown campus Monday to Friday in person or by Skype. Please call 514-398-6009 to set an appointment, or visit www.mcgill.ca/osd for more information.

myAccess (through the Office of Students with Disabilities)

MyAccess is the student service offered by the OSD. If you are a student with a disability, they offer mentoring and learning resources, and can hire a note-taker for you should you be unable to attend your lectures (written note is required). Their office is located in the Redpath Building Library, Room RS56 (Phone: 514 398-6009).
McGill Tutoring Program

McGill offers a tutorial program located in the Brown building (suite 4200) that you can use if you are struggling in one of your courses. Please note that there is a fee that accompanies each session. You can also apply to be a tutor!

Study/Writing Skills

Whether you are unfamiliar with university-level essay styles and conventions, or just want to brush up on your study/writing skills, check out The Writing Centre and the University Success Workshop Series. There are also many resources on the OASIS website.

Student Life

Students’ Society of McGill University (SSMU)

Every undergraduate at McGill is a member of the SSMU. They are there to speak out for you and advocate for your interests. On the local university levels, this means being your representation to the McGill administration. They speak up and organize students for better public funding, and against unsustainable tuition fee increases and aim to provide you with everything you might need during your time here at McGill that isn’t provided by the University itself. One of the most significant features of SSMU is that it operates the University Centre through a wide array of clubs, services and events, thus establishing the SSMU building as the centre of student life on campus. Read more about them here.

The Arts Undergraduate Society (AUS)

The Arts Undergraduate Society is the representative body for all undergraduate students in the Faculty of Arts. Maintained by an elected executive team, AUS provides educational, cultural, and social opportunities for its members through councils, services and events and represents constituent concerns to faculty members and external organizations. The AUS Office and Lounge is located in room B12 of the Leacock Building. AUS also works closely with departmental student associations to ensure that every student is represented and provided for. Familiarize yourself with your departmental association today!

Visit their website at: https://ausmcgill.com/ or 514-398-1993. Contact information for each executive member can be found at the link above, and executive office hours will be posted at the start of the year.

AUS Resources for your First Year

FEARC - Want a fun and impactful way to get involved in your first year? Apply to be a member of FEARC (First-Year Events, Academic, and Representative Council), the AUS first-year committee. FEARC represents
all first-year Arts students, plans events and initiatives, and has a seat on the AUS Legislative Council. Stay tuned for more information!

Join a Committee or Council! - In addition to FEARC, the AUS operates and recruits for a handful of committees and councils. If you want to have a prominent voice in your student community while learning about McGill governance, this is the opportunity for you! Ranging from the Academic Affairs Committee to the Francophone Commission, openings will be publicized at the start of the year, so keep your eye out!

AUS Essay Centre - Have a qualified peer read over your latest paper at the AUS Essay Centre. Unlike McGill Writing Centre tutors, who provides content-oriented feedback, tutors at the AUS Essay Centre will edit for fluency, grammar, and organization. Drop-ins and appointments welcome. For more information, feel free to email aus.essay.centre@gmail.com. Stay posted for the 2017-2018 location and hours.

Residences and Student Housing

If you have any questions about Rez life, check out their website or send them an email at: housing.residences@mcgill.ca

Campus Life & Engagement

Campus Life and Engagement (CL&E) is here to assist and provide support to all new undergraduate students at McGill through Orientation activities and programs, communications and publications, and year-round programs and workshops. Their office is located in the Brown Building, Suite 3100 (Phone: 514-398-6913).

First people’s house

First Peoples’ House is a home away from home for First Nations, Inuit, and Métis students at McGill. They provide a space where students can find academic support and stay connected to Indigenous culture.

International Students Services (ISS)

If you are an international student, the ISS is here to help you with your transition to a new school and home in a new country. Whether your concerns are related to study permits and other documents, or simply adapting to a new culture, ISS is sure to help. Their office is in the Brown Student Services Building, Suite 4400 (Phone: 514-398-434)

Career Services

Career and Planning Services (CaPS)
The McGill Career and Planning Service (CaPS) assists students in their career development and search for permanent, part-time, and summer jobs, as well as internships, by providing workshops, individual advising, a comprehensive job posting service, and an extensive Career Resource Centre. Their office is located in the Brown Student Services Building, Suite 2200 and they are open Monday to Friday, 9 am – 5 pm.

OASIS Career Advisor

Thanks to the generous support of McGill’s Arts donors, OASIS is pleased to be able to offer an in-house Career Advisor exclusive to our Arts Undergraduates. Linking the value of your degree to the quality of your own personal and professional development, the Career Advisor helps you connect your undergraduate experiences to “what comes next.” By learning to strategically develop oneself through access and engagement of University resources, opportunities, and experiences, Arts students learn to leverage their most important asset for life-long learning and success!

OASIS Success Toolkit

The recently-launched Success Toolkit on the OASIS website is designed to get you thinking about your whole person development—personal and professional, as well as how you might best make use of the many university resources and opportunities available to leverage your potential for success on the career path that you choose.
Section 8: Health and Well-Being Resources

Within each of the five domains provided in this Toolkit (Health and Wellbeing, About Yourself, Degree Planning, Co-curricular Engagement, and Career Connector), you will find links to relevant resources offered through McGill University to help you not only connect more fully to your university experience but to also help you better connect this experience to the life you want after graduation.

Students face a variety of stressors from their first year to graduation. The important thing to remember is that stress is completely normal – we need it to get things done. However, if you find yourself carrying an overwhelming amount of stress, you don’t have to suffer alone. McGill has many resources to help you.

Wellness is a balancing act - University culture often tips this scale with an extreme emphasis put on academics, but you can’t let this overwhelm you. Check in with yourself regularly: if your mental and physical wellness are also in check, often the academic side will come easier too.

| Counsellor at the Counselling Service or the Mental Health Service | Works to understand and treat individual and social difficulties, academic challenges, and career concerns through individual sessions and group workshops to optimize personal, academic, and social functioning |
| Psychiatrist at the Mental Health Service | A medical doctor who may confer a diagnosis and provide therapy, medication, and consultation, typically to those who are more severely impaired or may benefit from/are already prescribed medication |

The Counselling and Mental Health Services

From first-year through graduate school, university students often find themselves challenged by a wide variety of stressors - both personal and academic. Whether providing assistance during a crisis, teaching relaxation techniques, or discussing a failed exam or broken heart, the McGill Counselling Service is here to help. We work to provide students with effective therapy, knowledgeable support, and the opportunity to develop the skills they need to be successful in both school and life. Just as each of our clients' situations is unique, so too are their therapy needs. For some, a brief intervention or answers to worrying questions may relieve their concerns, while others will require ongoing therapy in order to achieve their personal goals. Please see Our Services to learn more about what we offer, and watch the video below for an even better idea of how Counselling can help!
Located in the West Wing of the Brown Building, Suites 4200 and 5500 (Tel.: 514-398-3601/514-398-6019)

AHAW (Arts Health and Wellness)

**AHAW Week**, organized through the Arts OASIS office, is an initiative that seeks to connect students to the mental health resources available to them at McGill and in the Montreal area through workshops, talks, and giveaways. Last year we filled a classroom with students at our salad jar workshop – follow us on Facebook to see what we’ll do next!

**Student Health Services**

See a doctor, nurse, or dentist through [Student Health Services](#) for everything from regular check-ups, to immunizations, to emergency attention. Bring your Student ID and be early – appointments fill up fast! If you’re a Canadian resident, don’t forget to bring your Provincial Health Care Card as well, or you may be charged. Located in room 4508 of the Brown Building.

**Sexual Assault Centre of the McGill Students' Society (SACOMSS)**

The [Sexual Assault Centre of the McGill Students’ Society (SACOMSS)](#) is a volunteer-run organization committed to supporting survivors of sexual assault and their allies through direct support, advocacy, and outreach. Additionally, they offer sexual assault sensitivity training to McGill and Montreal groups, provide information and referrals, and organize events to raise awareness about sexual assault.

**Healthy McGill**

[Healthy McGill](#) offers a wealth of information including nutritious recipes, an online “Shag Shop” and safer sex resources, and workshops to help you achieve and maintain a healthy lifestyle, whatever ‘healthy’ may mean to you.

**Office of Religious and Spiritual Life (MORSL)**

The [Office of Religious and Spiritual Life (MORSL)](#) is dedicated to raising religious literacy and enhancing spiritual wellness at McGill. MORSL is a service you can turn to whether you want to connect with others who share your own religious roots or explore new and diverse religious and philosophical framework.

**Peer Support**

[International Buddy Program](#)
The **International Buddy Program** pairs new international students with current students who provide a friendly face, helping hand, and first Montreal friendship that can make a world of difference for new arrivals. Buddies can also offer linguistic support, cultural guidance, and information about life at McGill.

**Peer Support Services**

The **Peer Support Centre** is a group of undergraduate and graduate students who provide one-on-one support to all McGill students who come to weekly drop-in sessions. Their program aims to provide a safe space for students to share what they are going through and receive confidential and non-judgmental support, as well as information on resources that may be helpful for their situation.

**Queer McGill**

**Queer McGill** (QM) is a non-profit organization under the Student Societies of McGill University (SSMU) which aims to create a safe space and community for queer students. Through a variety of programming, including discussion groups, workshops, lecture series, and dance parties, Queer McGill provides space, opportunity, and a voice for queer students on campus and around Montreal.

**Self-help resources**

From apps that let you track your mood to podcasts that address issues of anxiety and depression, these **Self-Help Resources** - assembled by the Counselling Service - are sure to assist you in overcoming your current challenges.

---

**Section 9: Academic Opportunities Outside McGill**

McGill offers many **study opportunities** and **work opportunities** that allow you to earn credit while exploring a new environment! Take this as a chance to learn in and discover a new place!
Go on Exchange!

McGill has many partnerships with universities around the globe – why not take advantage of them and go on an exchange? Not only will you earn credits, but you will also gain cultural experience. You will be exchanging places with another student at the host university for one or two terms (excluding summer term). You will also pay the same tuition fees you would at McGill while studying at the host university. Please note that students must have a minimum CGPA of 3.0 to be considered to go on exchange. Information on exchange can be found on the OASIS website as well as at the Student Exchanges and Study Abroad (SESA) Office.

International Education Week

During the first week of November, make sure to attend International Education week! It is your best entry into the world of study abroad. Do you want an education with a difference? Are you ready to travel and discover other cultures as you work towards your McGill degree? Check out International Education Week to learn more about what McGill has to offer, both inside and outside of the classroom.

Field Studies

McGill Field Studies courses offer you a chance to put theory into practice through local, regional, and international field study semesters and individual courses. Field studies provide practical experience and a chance to integrate and apply knowledge gained in the classroom. In many cases, field courses can be counted towards your major program requirements. You can see either your departmental or faculty adviser for details.

Independent Study Away

An Independent Study Away differs from an exchange in that you pay the host university’s tuition (not McGill’s). If the institution you want to attend is not on the approved exchange list, you may be able to go there on an Independent Study Away (see Where Can I Go?). You must have at least a 2.7 CGPA to participate in an Independent Study Away.

Internships

An Internship will allow you to gain valuable on-the-job experience in your field with the possibility of earning pay or credits for the internship. The Arts Internship Office is your resource to find internships designated for Arts students on campus and beyond.
ARIA (Arts Undergraduate Research Internship Award)

The Arts Undergraduate Research Internship Award (ARIA) is there to support you if you decide to undertake research during the summer under the direct supervision of a faculty member. If you are awarded an ARIA, you can contribute to a professor’s research agenda while also gaining useful academic research skills.

Section 10: Credits

We would like to extend our greatest thanks to Nellie Voudouris, Dr. Lucyna Lach, Monica Hotter, Sonia Masand and the rest of the Arts OASIS office for their constant support and encouragement.

To the Arts Undergraduate Society for their contributions and support.

We are indebted to Roma Nadeem for the original concept design of this guide.

We would also like to thank Ila Astren for doing a wonderful job on the 2016 revision and to our new ASAP orientation coordinator Ishani Mitra for her revisions and ideas this year.

If you have more questions, don’t hesitate to contact us!

McGill Arts Office of Advising and Student Information Services (OASIS)

McGill Website:  http://www.mcgill.ca/oasis
Facebook:  https://www.facebook.com/McGillArtsOASIS/
Twitter:  https://twitter.com/mcgillartsoasis
Email: newstudentadvising.arts@mcgill.ca
Call:  +1 (514) 398-1029