

# Welcome U1 Students!

Department of Biochemistry  
Information/Q&A Session  
2023



**McGill**

**Biochemistry  
Department**

**Département de  
biochimie**

# Agenda

- **Greeting speech by the Department's Chair – professor Thomas Duchaine**
- **Introduction by the Undergraduate Program Director – professor Maxime Denis**
- **Brief Presentation by the Undergraduate Students Advisor – Janna Sakijanova**
- **Introduction to BUGS – BUGS President Farah Ali and BUGS council**
- **Q&A**

# Programs in Biochemistry

- **Liberal Program – 47 credits**
  - This is the most flexible of departmental programs offered, providing you with a useful concentration in Biochemistry, while allowing you to pursue a minor in another speciality or to broaden your education in the sciences.
- **Major Program – 64 credits**
  - The **MAJOR** program becomes **more specialized** in Biochemistry during the final two years, providing and building on knowledge from diverse areas of chemistry, biology, physiology, microbiology and immunology, statistics, and pharmacology.
- **Honours Program – 73 credits**
  - The Honours program in Biochemistry combines the strong background given by the Major program with a challenging opportunity to carry out laboratory research projects in the U3 year under the supervision of a professor in the Department.
- **Interdepartmental Honours Program in Immunology (IHI) – 75 credits**
  - IHI involves the Departments of Biochemistry, Microbiology and Immunology, and Physiology. It incorporates elements from each of these disciplines, includes a research project course, and provides an excellent foundation for students interested in pursuing a career in biomedical research and/or medicine. Admission to IHI requires completion of 30 credits of U1 courses with a minimum GPA of 3.30. More detailed information is available on the [IHI Webpage](#).

# What is a Complementary? What is an Elective?

- **Complementary courses:** are **REQUIRED** and count towards your program requirements. You must choose a specific number of credits from a complementary courses in order to complete the program requirements.
- **Electives** are courses that you take outside of your selected program, in order to reach the 120 credits necessary for obtaining your degree.
  - Make sure that the course you wish to take is acceptable for credit, see “List of courses outside the Faculty of Science approved for credit towards the B.Sc.” at 3.2.2:  
[https://www.mcgill.ca/science/undergraduate/handbook#BSc\\_requirements\\_eCalendar](https://www.mcgill.ca/science/undergraduate/handbook#BSc_requirements_eCalendar)
  - Suggested Electives:  
<https://www.mcgill.ca/science/undergraduate/new-students/firstyear/bscfreshman#Electives>

# General Information

- You need a **“C” or better** in any required and complementary courses.
- Good idea to plan out your schedule/courses for the next 3 years.
- See your advisor at least once a year (either Department – me! or SOUSA Advisor)
- Verify your McGill e-mail account regularly; and **always provide your McGill ID number in ALL correspondence.**
- Complete the Academic Integrity Tutorial - AAAA 100 – in MyCourses during your first semester. **This tutorial is mandatory!**

## Example of U1 class schedule

Fall 2023		Winter 2024	
Course	Credits	Course	Credits
BIOL 200 (Required)	3	BIOC 212 (Required)	3
CHEM 204 (Required)	3	BIOC 220 (Required)	3
CHEM 212 (Required)	4	BIOL 202 (Required)	3
PHGY 209 (Complementary)	3	CHEM 222 (Required)	4
Elective or Complementary	3	PHGY 210 (Complementary)	3

**\*This is an example of U1 class schedule, if you have completed all of your freshman courses.**

# Can't get into a BIOC course?

- Email: [Zhannat.sakijanova@mcgill.ca](mailto:Zhannat.sakijanova@mcgill.ca)
- For other courses, you need to contact the Department where the course is offered. See in Faculty of Science page – “Who to contact in Science”.

<https://www.mcgill.ca/science/student/newstudents/ul/course-registration-problems-who-contact>

Need help?

- **Undergraduate ADVISING:**

Janna Sakijanova [Zhannat.sakijanova@mcgill.ca](mailto:Zhannat.sakijanova@mcgill.ca)

It is recommended to book a virtual appointment; you can use the link <https://outlook.office365.com/owa/calendar/DepartmentofBiochemistryAcademicAdvisingZhanna%40McGill.onmicrosoft.com/bookings/>

**OR**

You can email me to book another time if it is more convenient.

- **SERVICE POINT:**

Please go to this link for in-person, virtual, call/chat, and email/web form options.

<https://www.mcgill.ca/coronavirus/resources/resources-students>



## Good to Note:

- **Coronavirus Information:**  
<https://www.mcgill.ca/coronavirus/>
- **COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions:**  
<https://www.mcgill.ca/coronavirus/faqs>
- **Deadline to add/drop courses :** Tuesday, September 13<sup>th</sup>
- **Important Dates for Students:**  
<https://www.mcgill.ca/importantdates/key-dates>
- **Faculty of Science Undergraduate Handbook:**  
<https://www.mcgill.ca/science/undergraduate/handbook#bsc-continuing>
- **Program Advisors – Course Registration Issues**  
<https://www.mcgill.ca/science/undergraduate/advice/program-advisors>

A red speech bubble with a white outline and a white drop shadow, pointing downwards. The text 'Q&A' is written in a white, sans-serif font inside the bubble. The background features a pattern of thin, light gray concentric circles and dashed lines.

Q&A