

Congratulations!

Dear Parents & Guardians,

On behalf of the University of Alberta Students' Union (the UASU), I'd like to welcome you and your University student(s) to the UofA! The UASU is the official representative body for all undergraduates on campus: we provide advocacy to the University and all levels of government, execute engaging programming, and ensure we operate a wide range of student services designed to meet the needs of all of our members.

In that first week, New Student Orientation, hosted by the UASU, provided a welcoming place where I was able to meet senior students, learn about the resources available on campus, and make lasting friendships. Your student(s) will be embarking on a similarly transformative journey, full of unending potential.

I remember being dropped off at Lister in my first year, eager and nervous - for being away from family for the first time is often a time of challenge and growth. Over the next few years, I had the amazing opportunity to engage with many facets of the campus experience - from living at Lister and St. Joseph's College, to playing trombone with the UofA Concert Band, volunteering across campus, and learning great things through undergraduate research. UAlberta became a home for me, where I learnt from my peers, faculty, staff, and through the invaluable experiential learning opportunities available both in and out of the classroom. Nevertheless, as a Science student, I never thought I would take an interest in student governance.

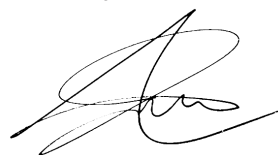
Now, it can be a daunting experience being in a new university environment, maybe a new city or new country.

The classrooms are larger, you may not share a lunch break with your friends, and you are suddenly given much more freedom and responsibility. The Students' Union offers a place that feels like home on a campus that spreads over 30 blocks, with over 32,000 undergraduate students, with thousands of classrooms and dozens of buildings. Whether your student needs to access our Exam Bank, the Tutor Registry, the Peer Support Centre, the Landing, emergency funding, the Campus Food Bank, or any of the other services we offer (which can all be found at uasu.ca), know that the UASU will always have their back. We are the voice of students, ensuring that while they are attending a top Canadian University pursuing academic excellence, their needs are being met and advocated for.

This year, COVID-19 has brought many challenges. In these uncertain and unprecedented times, the University of Alberta Students' Union exists not only as a predictable and dependable force, but one that is flexible to the ever-changing winds we are all facing together. The UASU has and always will be at the forefront, ensuring student leadership reflects the student body, and that our values keep students at the core of what we do.

I am honoured to serve as the 2020/2021 University of Alberta Students' Union President, and I warmly welcome you and your student(s) to the University of Alberta!

Sincerely,



Joel Agarwal
University of Alberta Students' Union President

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Photographers:

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*The 2020-2021
University of
Alberta Calendar
is available in
electronic form at:
uab.ca/calendar*

History and Pride

The University of Alberta has grown tremendously since its opening in 1908. With an initial class of only 45 students, the U of A now boasts a student population of nearly 37,000. Occupying about 50 city blocks, North Campus holds over 90 buildings and has its own police and mail services, making it a small city unto itself.

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA HISTORY AT A GLANCE



The U of A opened in the present-day Queen Alexandra School in 1908 with 45 students. There were only five faculty members, including the university's first president, Henry Marshall Tory.

With the completion of Athabasca Hall in 1911, the U of A moved to its modern site, North Campus. It alone housed the facilities for the entire campus: classrooms and labs, a library, a gymnasium, administrative offices and residences for both students and staff. That year, the school boasted 185 students and had its first graduating class of 20 graduates. Next year, Pembina Hall and Assiniboia Hall were built on the north and south sides of Athabasca Hall, respectively.

During World War II, the Royal Canadian Air Force commandeered the three halls, forcing students to live in boarding houses in Garneau. However, it was also during this time that the Faculty of Education was established.

By 1947, registration had tripled from post-War enrollment, bringing a period of rapid development. The first incarnation of the Students' Union Building (now University Hall) opened in 1950.

In the 1960s, when the Baby Boomers reached university age, the population jumped from 5,000 to 17,500. In 1983, which was the U of A's 75th anniversary, the university hosted the World University Games. Over 6,000 athletes from 87 countries were hosted, and for the competition, the Universiade Pavilion (a.k.a. the But-terdome for its very apparent yellow colour), the Tennis Centre (located at South Campus) and Garneau Housing (now East Campus Village) were all built.

The University of Alberta celebrated its centennial in 2008. The centennial celebrations brought much reflection on the successes of the past 100 years, as well as new dreams for the advancement of our university in the future.

FAST FACTS

- 1 The University Motto, Quaecumque vera, is taken from the Latin Vulgate version of the Bible, the Epistle of St. Paul to the Philippians, Chapter 4, Verse 8. It means "Whatsoever things are true."
- 2 The colours of the university, green and gold, were suggested in 1908 by the wife of one of the original four professors. She drew her inspiration from the autumn colours of the river valley below the campus. The green represents the deep spruce forests and is symbolic of hope and optimism; the gold represents the golden prairie harvest fields and is symbolic of the light of knowledge.
- 3 The University of Alberta has over 400 teaching and research agreements with governments and partner institutions in over 50 countries. Key examples include Ludwig-Maximilians (Munich), IIT Bombay, and IISc Bangalore.



- 4 A keen eye might notice that the Eskimos, Edmonton's football team, share the same colours as the U of A. This is no coincidence - when the team first started, they had to borrow jerseys from the U of A's Golden Bears, and it seems to have stuck!



- 5 Getting involved in research at the U of A is often as simple as talking to a professor about opportunities in their lab. Confidence (and a strong work ethic) are key!
- 6 The U of A is considered one of the world's top research universities, as recognized by these quantitative rankings: The 2019/2020 QS-Times Higher Education World University Rankings saw the UofA ranked 113th in the overall world ranking and 4th in Canada (www.topuniversities.com).
- 7 University of Alberta researchers participate actively in many of the federal Networks of Centres of Excellence that link industry, universities, and government in applied research and development. Our university is the national scientific and administrative headquarters for the Canadian Glycomics Network.

Distinctively UAlberta

THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR NANOTECHNOLOGY

is a joint project between the National Research Council, the Government of Alberta, and the U of A. It is the heart of nanotechnology research in Canada. The 20,000-square-metre building is one of the world's most technologically advanced research facilities.

NINT is one of the few buildings at the U of A that not just anyone can walk into. It has keycard-access only, right from the front door, in order to minimize the amount of vibration and disturbance in the building.

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA MUSEUMS

is a network of 29 diverse collections housed within departments across campus, from art and archeology to paleontology and zoology. Totalling more than 17 million objects, the collections are used to fuel discovery and advance knowledge through teaching, research, and community outreach.

THE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

is Canada's first stand-alone faculty dedicated to public health to focus on safety, wellness, and prevention. The School of Public Health was also the first Canadian school to be accredited by the U.S Council on Education for Public Health.

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA LIBRARIES

rank 11th in size among research libraries in North America. Our libraries constitute Canada's second-largest research library system, and gives access to more than one million electronic books and more than 1,500 electronic databases.

THE FACULTY OF NATIVE STUDIES

Canada's only such faculty, provides an undergraduate program specializing in the study of aboriginal experiences and issues of language, culture, land, and resources.

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA BOTANIC GARDEN

established in 1959, is a stunning 190-acre property located just south of Edmonton's city limits and is made up of manicured gardens, mixed woodland vegetation, and an extensive nature trail system. Highlights of the garden include the beautiful Kurimoto Japanese Garden, butterfly and cactus show-houses, ornamental flower gardens, alpine gardens, herbs, sensory and healing gardens, and more.

It's no surprise that the Botanic Garden is such a popular location for wedding pictures. This stunning property is an often overlooked gem of the University.

AUGUSTANA CAMPUS

is a University of Alberta campus located in Camrose with a body of roughly 1,000 students. This campus is committed to student development in the liberal arts and sciences. Their programs are oriented towards a broad education realized through engagement, knowledge and skills.

TIMMS CENTRE FOR THE ARTS

is regarded as the finest educational theatre facility in the country. A spacious rehearsal hall and a flexible second performance space complement the 289-seat theatre, providing exceptional teaching and performance facilities.

CAMPUS SAINT-JEAN

Often referred to as "the U of A in French"—is a gem in the heart of Edmonton's francophone community. Part of the U of A since 1976 after existing for nearly 70 years on its own, Campus Saint-Jean remains the only institution west of Winnipeg, where students can pursue diverse studies at a French language institute.

Campus Saint-Jean is nestled within the francophone district of Edmonton, which contributes to the deep sense of community on the campus.

THE CENTENNIAL CENTRE FOR INTERDISCIPLINARY SCIENCE

Built in 2011 as the first of its kind in Canada (and one of just a handful around the world) represents an interdisciplinary approach to scientific discovery that facilitates an unprecedented cross-fertilization of ideas and techniques. New lecture halls and teaching labs provide an unprecedented learning experience for students campus-wide.

THE ALBERTA DIABETES INSTITUTE

is a research facility dedicated to discovering ways to prevent, treat, and cure diabetes through multidisciplinary research and teamwork.

Campus Leadership



Chancellor
Peggy Garrity
(June 18th, 2020 — present)

The Chancellor is the titular head of the University and represents the public interest in the university. Elected for a four-year term of office by the Senate, the Chancellor is the chair of the Senate, ex officio member of the Board of Governors, confers all degrees, and represents the University of Alberta at ceremonial occasions.



President and Vice-Chancellor
Bill Flannigan
(July 1st, 2020 — present)

The President, who is also the Vice-Chancellor, is entrusted with the general supervision of the academic work and the business affairs for the University and may recommend to the Board of Governors on any matter affecting the University.

Bill Flannigan has also served as the dean for the Faculty of Law at Queen's University, and as a law clerk for the Hon. Justice Estey of the Supreme Court of Canada in 1986-87.

Board of Governors (Undergraduate)
Undergraduate Representative: Dave Konrad
Chair: Kate Chisholm

The Board of Governors (BoG) is the University's governing body and ultimate authority, responsible for the conduct and management of the University—from setting tuition and residence rates to hiring academic staff upon the President's recommendation. The 20 members consist of members from the public, the University administration, the Senate, academic staff, the Alumni Association, and the student body, plus an observing support staff member.

Provost and Vice President (Academic)
Steve Dew
(July 1, 2015 - present)

The Provost is the senior Vice-President, collaborating with the President on policy regarding administrative and academic matters, and leading the team of vice-presidents to ensure alignment with the university's vision. Academic leadership and institutional planning are the Provost's responsibility, as is liaising with government and industry regarding academic programs, their funding, and coordinating the university's international relations. In the absence of the President, the Provost is acting President.

Senate

The Senate is an independent advisory body of community leaders. It plays a critical role, acting as a bridge between the University and the wider community in northern Alberta, working to enhance the reputation of the university. The Chancellor is the Chair of the Senate, which has 62 members including four students—the Vice President (External) of the Students' Union and three students elected by the committee.

General Faculties Council (GFC)

The General Faculties Council, subject to the authority of the Board of Governors, is responsible for the academic and student affairs of the University, including the granting and conferring of degrees, course and program approvals for students, and for the hearing of certain appeals.

The GFC determines standards and policies of admission and may make recommendations to the BoG concerning affiliation with other institutions, academic planning, campus planning, the budget, appointment procedures, promotion, dismissal of academic staff, and any other matters considered of interest to the University. The GFC is chaired by the President and has 158 members consisting of all university Vice-Presidents, all Faculty Deans, professors, students, librarians, and academic and non-academic staff.

The University of Alberta Students' Union (UASU) represents all undergraduate students at the University of Alberta. The UASU aims to improve the student experience, while also providing advocacy on behalf of students, and opportunities for students and leader in the governance and pursuit of its mandate.



Joel Agarwal
PRESIDENT

The President is the official spokesperson and representative to the University, all levels of government, and the community at large. The President provides long-term strategic guidance for the UASU, and coordinates activities and responsibilities of the Executive Committee.



David Draper
VICE PRESIDENT (ACADEMIC)

The VP (Academic) is responsible for academic concerns and initiatives including teaching, research, grades, textbooks, and technology. This includes acting as an advocate for students to the Administration and Faculties, sitting on various UASU and University boards and committees, in addition to promoting and facilitating student involvement in governance.



Rowan Ley
VICE PRESIDENT (EXTERNAL)

The VP (External) ensures that the student voice and student concerns are appropriately brought to the media, off-campus community and all levels of government. Specific issues they handle involve government funding, tuition, and student finances.



Alana Krahn
VICE PRESIDENT (OPERATIONS & FINANCE)

The VP (Operations and Finance) supervises all UASU funds through the monitoring of the annual budget. This portfolio also assists in the operations and strategic direction of the Students' Union Building and all UASU Businesses.



Katie Kidd
VICE PRESIDENT (STUDENT LIFE)

The VP (Student Life) is responsible for developing the student identity outside of academia. They have a diverse and well-rounded portfolio that includes overseeing student services, promotion of events and programming, and advocacy efforts, including student health, residence, and safety issues.

Family Transition

COPING WITH STRESS



It's important to drop the books once in while, and there are many services and facilities on and around campus to help students do just that.

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Coping with stress is an inevitable part of any student's life, but it is important to know the difference between good stress and bad stress. Students can find themselves in difficult situations when stress becomes unmanageable. Luckily there are many things students can do — and many resources available — to help alleviate and manage stress.

Talk — Sometimes talking through stress with someone you trust is the best thing to do. Many turn to friends and family for support. A good strategy for listening is to not attempt to solve their problems or patronize them. Instead, be an active listener and supportive. There are services available, like the Peer Support Centre, which has professionally trained volunteers available to talk to students about anything. Nothing is too big or too small.

Plan — Good time management is a proactive strategy to reduce stress. Setting up a routine schedule helps ensure that everything can get done on time, and that nothing is forgotten — which can lead to panicking.

Find out what helps you relax — Whether it's taking a hot bath, going for a jog, painting, lighting some scented candles, or doing yoga, we all have different things that help us reduce stress. By picking an enjoyable, relaxing activity, it can be an easy escape when things get overwhelming.

Coping with stress is an inevitable part of any student's life, but it is important to know the difference between good stress and bad stress. Stress can help students study and get those assignments in on time and can be a healthy reminder of midterm week. However, students can find themselves facing troubles if the stress becomes unmanageable. There are certain things that students can do to alleviate and manage their stress.



Coming to town to visit your student at university? The Conference Centre at Lister Centre features 20 hotel-style guestrooms offering a choice of one queen bed, one queen bed with a double sofa bed, or two double beds. Each room features a private bathroom, clock radios, cable TV, telephones with free local calls, hair dryers, irons and ironing boards, as well as comfy duvets and extra pillows. Rooms start at \$109/night.

The importance of trust — It can be difficult to “find yourself” in university, and second-guessing the decisions of a university student is no help at all. Instead, trust them. It's one of the most important things a family member can do.

Don't ask if they're homesick — Suggestion really can be powerful. Sometimes, someone might not realize they're homesick until it's suggested. With all of the excitement in the first few weeks of university life, students might not realize they are homesick. Even if they might not say it, they miss you.

Be patient — You'll hear the “Nothing-Is-Going-Right-I-Hate-This-Place” kind of stuff from your student. You provide a real service when you are an advisor or can sympathize with student frustrations about university. Yes, it may not be the best for you, but it will work wonders for them.

Prepare for their return — When your student returns home for breaks or when the year is over, plan to discuss the rules of living at home. As a family member, you need to respect your student's newfound individuality and independence — however, they may need to be reminded of your expectations when living at home.

Fees and Payments

Tuition Deposit

New/incoming undergraduate students who have been offered admission must pay a non-refundable \$500 Tuition Deposit before they can become eligible to register in courses.

- Newly admitted students pay the Tuition Deposit for the term they are admitted. They can pay as soon as their admission has been offered.
- There is no deadline to pay this deposit. However, the sooner it is paid, the sooner students can register for classes. If a student waits long they risk not getting in their first-choice classes.
- The \$500 payment will be credited towards their final tuition amount. The Tuition Deposit payment will be displayed as a credit on their account. Once fees have been assessed for the terms that they have registered in, the credit will then be applied towards those terms. Fees are assessed mid-July for Fall/Winter terms and mid-February for Spring/Summer terms.



There are many options available to pay both your confirmation deposit and tuition fees, including online or telephone banking at your Financial Institution, Interac Online through BearTracks, Student Loan, Scholarships, Cashiers Office, by mail, ETF, or Registered Education Savings Plan.

For more information please consult ualberta.ca/admissions-programs/tuition/tuition-payment-options/index.html

HOW TO PAY YOUR FEES

BearTracks

A Financial Hold will be displayed on BearTracks if the Tuition Deposit is required and students have not made the payment.

- The Tuition Deposit displays as a financial hold of \$500 in Bear Tracks. However, students will see a message of "you have no outstanding fees at this time" or "you do not have any outstanding charges to pay." Students still need to submit a Tuition Deposit payment of \$500 in order to become eligible to register in classes. In this instance, Bear Tracks indicates there are not any outstanding fees because the student is not registered in classes and tuition for those classes has not yet been calculated.
- There may be a delay in removing the "Tuition Deposit Required" Financial Hold, depending on the time of day that the payment is processed.
- If students have paid the Tuition Deposit, Bear Tracks will display that they have "No Holds." If their Enrollment Date has passed, they may begin registration in classes.



Note that fees may change year to year and fluctuate from program to program. For more specific information about your student's tuition and fees, please see www.registrarsoffice.ualberta.ca

Also note the opt-out option for many fees. For more information about Students' Union Dedicated fees, visit www.uasu.ca/fees

Courses

Course Load

When deciding how many courses to take each semester, a student should consider the following classifications:

- Part time students: students with less than 9 credits (3 regular courses) per semester
- Full time students: students with 9 credits or more (3 or more regular courses) per semester
- Full course load: 5 regular courses (15 credits) per semester

Please note that in the Academic Calendar and on BearTracks, credits are represented as stars.

Part time students may not be eligible for as many loans or scholarships as full time students. For more information regarding these differences, please visit registraroffice.ualberta.ca/Financial-Support

Additionally, some programs require you to take a full course load. Course load may vary depending on your program. Taking a full course load does not necessarily mean that you need to take 5 courses. This information can be found on your student’s program website, in the calendar, or by visiting their faculty advisor.

In terms of time commitment and work load, being a full-time student is like having a full-time job. If your student is planning on working part-time as well as going to university, they should register with a part-time course load, in order to balance work, school and play. A good guideline to follow: for every 8-10 hours of work, your student should take one less course.

Professors

If students approach professors, they can create new learning opportunities. Professors have a wealth of experiences and advice that they can share with students both inside and outside the classroom. Some of them have even worked outside of academia, in government or in the private sector, and can provide insight into these areas as well.

Benefits from these learning/mentoring relationships are:

- First contact information with regards to the course(s) you are taking
- Some professors may offer summer jobs to students or have contacts with other professionals in the same field that are offering summer jobs to students
- Getting professors to write you reference letters for a job, professional degree, or grad school

Professors are required to have office hours, so use that time to either ask anything about your course or to build that learning/mentoring relationship with your professor.

Many students choose to take four courses per term for five years in order to reduce their academic workload and stress.

Students often check third party websites like ratemyprof.com for reviews of their professors. For a more balanced perspective, make sure to check out the university’s own website, ist.ualberta.ca/at/tsqs/usri, where student reviews of courses and professors are compiled.

TEXTBOOKS

Professors will indicate on the course syllabus whether or not textbooks are required, or if they are recommended.

Required | students need the textbook for reference throughout the course

- The textbook may contain additional information that the professor will not cover in class but will test on
- Depending on the course, the textbook may contain questions for assignments
- Reliable access to a textbook is necessary to do well in the course

Recommended | sometimes professors recommend textbooks for students to augment their understanding of the course objectives or concepts

- Additional material in the textbook will not be tested on exams
- Not mandatory but may be useful to students

Textbooks can be bought at any time, although it’s not always a good idea to buy all your textbooks before classes begin. Consider the pros and cons of buying textbooks at different times.

Before classes

- **Pros:** often avoid crowds and lineups. Best selection of new and used books. Able to start reviewing the material in the textbook earlier
- **Cons:** May not really need/use the textbook in the course. The class may not be what your student expected it to be, and they may have to change classes.

During the first week of classes

- **Pros:** avoid buying unneeded textbooks (students will have attended the first class and will know whether or not the textbook is required or recommended, and what edition is needed)
- **Cons:** lineups and crowds will be greater since it’s the first week of classes. Selection is not as good

When you need them

- **Pros:** avoid buying unneeded textbooks. Can avoid crowds/lineups by buying later in the semester.
- **Cons:** textbooks may not be readily available in the bookstore (may be back-ordered), which could cause delays

Depending on the textbook, new copies are typically of the latest edition, while used copies can be of the latest edition (depending how recently it was published), but will sometimes be older editions.

It’s also not always necessary to purchase the newest versions of the textbook. Older does not necessarily mean outdated. Sometimes professors will post assigned readings for both the latest edition and the previous edition of the textbook so that students can either buy the latest edition new, or older editions.

Also, courses will on occasion make use of a custom edition textbook, which is a modified version of the full edition. They have certain chapters/content cut out, resulting in a more concise book.

Buying used books is often a wise alternative to buying new, and don’t forget that selling your textbooks is often a great way to recoup your costs.

The University Bookstore has an excellent website where you can find textbooks (and their costs) by typing in the codes of the courses you’re registered for.

GRADING

Lastly, there are many places you can buy textbooks:

- The University Bookstore (Students’ Union Building)
- Offers new and used textbooks, class materials and supplies, and a comprehensive selection of fiction, nonfiction, and reference books
 - Also has crested clothing, gifts, and home accessories
 - Option to purchase either in-person or online
- For more information, visit www.bookstore.ualberta.ca

- Used Book Registry
- Search for and buy used textbooks. If you find the book you are looking for, just call or e-mail the person who posted the ad to make arrangements
 - Offered through InfoLink (uasu.ca/usedbook)
 - Look for posting on bulletin boards, Facebook groups etc.
 - Sometimes cheaper than buying in store

- Online
- For example: Amazon, Chapters/Indigo, etc
 - New and used textbooks
 - You’re able to avoid lineups and are sometimes able to find textbooks cheaper than in store
 - Not all textbooks will be available, and delivery can be delayed if they are out of stock.

The University of Alberta uses a 4-point scale of numerical equivalents for calculating grade point averages (GPA). Letter grading scales are commonly applied throughout North America.

Undergraduate Student Grading Scale

Descriptor	Letter Grade	GPA
Excellent	A+	4.0
	A	4.0
	A-	3.7
Good	B+	3.3
	B	3.0
	B-	2.7
Satisfactory	C+	2.3
	C	2.0
	C-	1.7
Poor	D+	1.3
Minimal Pass	D	1.0
Failure	F	0.0

Understanding the GPA

The Grade Point Average is a measure of a student’s weighted average, obtained by dividing the total number of grade points earned by the total units of course weight, where a unit of course weight is equivalent to three credits.

Rules for computing the GPA

- The GPA for any period is calculated based on the final grades taken during a specific period.
- Failing grades are also included in this calculation
- A reexamination mark or a deferred examination mark replaces the original final examination mark. The revised final grade is included in the computation of the GPA.
- Grades of W (withdrew) are excluded from the computation of the GPA
- Standard rounding rules to the nearest decimal are used in calculating the GPA

COURSE WITHDRAWALS

Students considering withdrawing from a course should talk to their academic advisor in order to determine how it will affect their future years at the university... or just for sound advice.

There are many reasons why your student may want to withdraw from a class. In the long run, a withdrawal (a grade of ‘W’ on their transcript) leaves your child with better academic standing than a poor or failing mark. It is important that the proper procedure is followed when withdrawing, adding, or dropping a class.

It is very important to note the Add/Drop dates (September 15th and January 15th), as well as the Withdrawal dates (October 2nd and February 3rd for 50% fee refund; November 30th and March 31st for withdrawal with full fees assessed).

The Add/Drop Deadline is nearly two full weeks after the first day of classes, however this will give your daughter or son a chance to attend all of their classes a few times. At this point, if a class seems to be too challenging or not challenging enough, they may drop it or drop it and add another. When adding a class, it is important to note that it will require extra work to catch up the missed assignments and lectures from the first two weeks of classes.

If your student withdraws from a class on or before **October 2nd** in Fall Semester or **February 3rd** in Winter Semester, they will receive a grade of ‘W’ and they will also receive a 50% refund for the class from which they withdrew.

The final Withdrawal Deadlines are **November 30th** for Fall Semester and **March 31st** for Winter Semester. If your student withdraws on or before these dates, but after the fee refund deadlines, he or she will receive a grade of ‘W’. No withdrawals can be made after this date.

Students should never stop going to a course under the assumption they have dropped it. Paperwork must be completed in order to be officially withdrawn. Otherwise, a failing grade is assigned. All the important information pertaining to this subject can be found in the Calendar.

A few Withdrawals over the course of a degree program are considered to be acceptable. When a student withdraws, a grade of ‘W’ will appear on the transcript. While a student does not want too many ‘W’s on their transcript, they will not be penalized for having a few.

Students that fail or withdraw from a class are only permitted to take that class once more without special consent of the department.

APPEALS

There are free services at the University of Alberta that can help clarify administrative details and provide counseling on appeals and other academic procedures. See the services list beginning on page 69 for more info.

Before a student launches a petition or formal appeal they should understand why there is an appeal procedure and learn how to present their case in a clear and objective way. You can use the following guideline to help your student through the appeals process:

1 The appeal procedure was established to deal with those instances where a student’s academic standing has been adversely affected by a decision of the University. Students must demonstrate that there has been a miscarriage of justice. Not every frustration of university life can or should become the object of an appeal. Ask this question: Does this rule create a surmountable hardship or is it truly unjust?

2 Students should decide the basis of the appeal before they make their dissatisfaction officially known. They must examine their rights and options first.

3 Students should not write the final draft of the appeal until they can write in a clear, objective manner. Review the original drafts and remove any slanderous and/or unsubstantiated comments.

4 The first person who should be made aware of a complaint is the person whose decision or action is in question. If it is a course problem, talk to the instructor. If it is another administrative matter, speak to the person who made the decision.

5 Students should look at the possibility of a compromise. Evaluate the compromise to see whether it allows the student to accomplish their goals. Avoid a posture of obstinacy. Students should approach their appeal with confidence; the University is concerned with students being treated fairly. If students encounter a negative reaction from certain staff members, they should not be discouraged, they are, after all, exercising their rights to appeal.

6 Conflict resolution is part of our daily lives. No problem is so great that it cannot be solved. Students will learn valuable personal and career skills when they attempt to resolve their problems. Students will learn the values of negotiation and to accept responsibility for their actions.

EXAMS



Exams can be daunting for many students, but most students don’t realize university exams are just like the exams they are used to writing in high school... sometimes just a bit longer.

Throughout a student’s university career, they may experience several different types of exams. Students can expect multiple choice, essay, short answer and practical exams as well as combinations of these and many other different types. Midterm exams are set by each professor and are laid out in the course’s syllabus. The University of Alberta sets final exam schedules; final exam schedules are available on BearTracks in November and March for Fall and Winter exams.

What if a student misses their exam?

When a student is absent from a term or final exam without acceptable excuse, a final grade will be computed using a raw score of zero for the missed exam.

An excused absence in a:

- Term exam is granted by the discretion of the instructor
- Final exam is granted by the faculty

Excused absences may be granted in the case of:

- Incapacitating illness
- Family emergency/domestic affliction
- Other compelling reasons (e.g. religious conviction)

Exam Deferral Process

Students must go to their Faculty Office to apply for a deferred exam. The application and any required supporting documentation (varies by Faculty) must be turned into the Faculty Office within two working days following the missed exam or as soon as the student can (depending on the student’s reason for absence). There is a fee associated with writing a deferred exam.

For more information on Examinations, please see Section 23.5 of the University Calendar.

Advising

It is highly recommended that students meet with an academic advisor at least once a year. This will help to ensure students are on the right track and enrolled in the proper courses for their program.

Faculty of Agriculture, Life and Environmental Sciences

2-06 Agriculture-Forestry Centre
780-492-4933
www.ales.ualberta.ca
questions.ales@ualberta.ca

Augustana Campus

4901-46, Camrose, Alberta
780-679-1100
www.augustana.ualberta.ca
info@augustana.ca

Faculty of Arts

1-17 Humanities Centre
780-492-4295
www.ualberta.ca/arts
arts.undergrad@ualberta.ca

Alberta School of Business

3-23 Business Building
780-492-7676
www.business.ualberta.ca
ugradbus@ualberta.ca

Faculté Saint-Jean

8406 Marie-Anne Gaboury Street
780-465-8700
www.csj.ualberta.ca
conseiller@csj.ualberta.ca

Faculty of Native Studies

2-20 Pembina Hall
780-492-0525
www.ualberta.ca/nativestudies
nsadvisor@ualberta.ca

Faculty of Education

1-107 Education North
780-492-3659
www.education.ualberta.ca
educ.info@ualberta.ca

Faculty of Nursing

4-141 Edmonton Clinic
Health Academy
780-492-5300
ualberta.ca/nursing/
nursing.undergraduate@ualberta.ca

Faculty of Engineering

2-300, Donadeo Innovation
Centre for Engineering
780-492-3320
www.engineering.ualberta.ca
enggadvising@ualberta.ca

Faculty of Kinesiology, Sport, and Recreation

3-134 University Hall,
Van Vliet Complex
780.492.5604
ualberta.ca/kinesiology-sport-recreation/

Faculty of Science

1-001 Centennial Centre for
Interdisciplinary Science
780-492-4758
www.science.ualberta.ca
advisor.science@ualberta.ca

Students in General programs will usually see general faculty advisors, whereas students in Honours or Specialization programs are often directed to their specific program advisor. For general academic advising, information about faculty advising procedures, and help navigating the University Calendar, students should access InfoLink.

Student Life

THE IMPORTANCE OF GETTING INVOLVED

It's important to get involved on campus.

Students often tend to forego extra-curriculars in their first year while they adapt to life at university, but getting involved is one of the best ways to adapt to life at university!

There are many, many unique ways to get involved on campus—from getting involved with student groups and clubs, to volunteering, or the

various governance and leadership opportunities available. Or, get a part-time job on campus!

There are many avenues to find volunteer opportunities, employment opportunities, or student groups on campus. We recommend getting familiar with what the University of Alberta Students' Union (UASU) has to offer—which you can read more about on the next few pages!



Students often tend to forego extracurricular involvement in their first year in order to help them adapt to their life at university. However, getting involved is one of the best ways to adapt to life at the university!

At the U of A, Student Life is commonly referred to as the things students do outside the classroom. Campus houses a vibrant community full of diverse and unique opportunities for students to learn and acquire knowledge outside lecture halls and laboratories. Encourage your student to engage in their U of A community... the benefits are endless!



Being involved on campus helps make you involved in the community, which is extremely important. Being involved in the community gives individuals a sense of belonging. There are many major benefits of getting involved on campus, like building skills and relationships to enhance your resume, expanding your social network by connecting with others, and capitalizing on endless opportunities for personal growth.

In addition to these benefits, studies have also shown that students who are involved in extracurricular activities actually tend to do better than their uninvolved classmates—as seen in Unmasking the Effects of Student Engagement on First-Year College Grades and Persistence in the Journal of Higher Education.

Students' Union

STUDENT GOVERNMENT & ADVOCACY

Vote in the UASU election in March! The executive committee is the voice of U of A students at all levels of government and on campus. Make sure you're represented well!



For more information on what the Students' Union does, please visit uasu.ca

The Advocacy branch of the SU, which includes Student Government, represents student interests in the media and to every level of government (Federal, Provincial, Municipal and University). The Advocacy department helps the elected executives reach their goals in the short time they are in office by providing research, maintaining media contact, fostering government relationships, lobbying University officials, and coordinating events.

The Student Government aspect of Advocacy consists of the following:

Students' Council

Students' Council is the UASU's ultimate authority pertaining to operations and policy. Governed by the Constitution and Bylaws of the UASU, this group consists of elected undergraduate representatives from each faculty.

The Executive Committee

The Executive Committee is responsible for the overall operations of the UASU — including political activities, student services, business operations, and advocacy portfolios. The Executive Committee is comprised of the President and four vice-Presidents (Academic, External, Operations & Finance, Student Life), and the General Manager (non-voting member) — all are also members of the Students' Council.

Your student may have been involved with student governance in high school, and here at the University of Alberta, the Students' Union offers myriad opportunities for student involvement.

In addition to advocating on behalf of students through the student government pillar of the UASU, the organization is also a business owner/operator, service provider, building owner, programmer, and overall supporter of students.

The University of Alberta Students' Union is one of Canada's strongest student associations and represents all undergraduate students at this institution. Using its over \$10 million budget, the UASU employs hundreds of paid and volunteer staff and provides support in a manner that is second to none.





Did you know... the Horowitz Theatre and Dinwoodie Lounge on the second floor of SUB host many non-academic events?

Throughout the year, you can attend events there—including concerts, movie nights, our infamous “Night at the Horowitz” and more!”

STUDENTS' UNION SERVICES



Different UASU eateries on campus serve different locations and purposes. Whether you want to grab a quick meal in between classes, are looking for a place to watch the hockey game, or want to play a game of pool with friends, there's somewhere on campus to suit your needs.

The UASU owns and operates many businesses and venues on campus, which largely fund the services and advocacy efforts of the UASU.

Located on the top floor of SUB, **Room at the Top** is the perfect place to unwind and take in the incredible view of campus—while treating yourself to affordable food and drinks.

Kick back and relax or play a game of pool at **Dewey's**, the licensed lounge of campus. Did we mention all-day breakfast?

Recently awarded as one of the top Green Spaces on campus, you can grab a cup of organic, certified free trade coffee and freshly baked treats at **The Daily Grind** in SUB. Bring your reusable mug for extra discounts!

SUBmart is the campus general store on the main floor of SUB, where you can grab a few groceries, a snack, toiletries and more, alongside UASU swag and other goodies.

SUBprint is a full-service printing facility offering everything from large-format printing, to binding services, to getting your Econ 101 paper printed conveniently and affordably.

Horowitz Events Centre venues can host anywhere from 50 to 300 people. Additionally, catering services offer breakfast, lunch, dinner and snack options for any group size, timeframe or budget.

As a member of the UASU, students have access to a variety of student-centric events and services to help improve their experience, in addition to providing opportunities for students to get involved with—from leadership, to volunteering, to job opportunities.

Infolink is able to help with any questions you might have about campus, academic resources, campus programming or just about anything else related to the university.

Sustain SU provides peer-to-peer learning and sustainability initiatives including a bike library, community garden, campus farmers' market and more.

UASU Events hosts a variety of events throughout the year, including movies, music, comedy shows, dodgeball games and everything in between.

With more than 400 student groups on campus, **Student Group Services** can help direct you to groups with similar interests, or help you start your own!

Safewalk provides a safe alternative to walking home alone at night. Volunteers will walk and take public transit with you to make sure you get where you need to be safely.

The **Peer Support Centre** provides highly trained student volunteers that are available to provide supportive listening and crisis management. No issue is too big or too small.

New Student Orientation is your official welcome to the University of Alberta—including campus tours, fun events and opportunities to make new friends.

Celebrate the new school year at **Week of Welcome**, featuring beer gardens, concerts, free pancake breakfasts, and many other special events!

The Landing is a student space offering support for gender and sexual diversity, located in the basement of SUB.

The **LEAD Centre** offers leadership based programming designed for students to engage in personal development opportunities related to leadership.

With more than 90 awards offered each year, the UASU recognizes outstanding students not only for academic work, but for extracurriculars too.

The UASU is always offering leadership development opportunities, like courses, conferences, focus groups and special events like Student Leaders Week to get involved with!



Intramurals are a boatload of fun! From innertube water polo to ultimate frisbee, there's a sport for everyone.

RECREATION AND ATHLETICS

The University of Alberta has a number of world-class recreation facilities and offers great programming to help your student get active while on campus. Your student's tuition and fees include the Athletics and Recreation Fee, which allows them to access the fitness facilities in the Van Vliet Centre as well as the programming provided by Recreation Services. Some activities do require an extra fee for administration, equipment, and instructors (fitness classes, climbing wall, intramurals, etc.). However, Recreation Services is still a very inexpensive way to get fit and have fun. For more information on everything Recreation Services offers, please visit www.recservices.ualberta.ca.

These are some of the features of Recreation Services:

Programs – Everything from yoga to bellydancing to kickboxing is offered by Recreation Services. Classes can be found in the Activity Guide published in August, December, and April. This guide is also available online in a PDF format.

Intramurals – Each semester brings lots of different opportunities to get a team together for one of the many intramurals. The teams can take many forms, and if your student wants to play but cannot get a team together, they can go on a free agent list and join a team looking for more players.

Sports and Recreation Clubs – There are many clubs and teams available that cover a wide variety of activities. Some are competitive while others are merely for fun.

The University of Alberta has a strong tradition of excellence in both the Golden Bears and Pandas sports teams. Bears and Pandas conference games are always a great time and tickets are FREE for students, which is a great deal for such high caliber sportsmanship. Encourage your student to check out some of the Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) action!



Students living in residence have separate accounts for their meal plan and other services. The meal plan account is automatically loaded at the beginning of each term, whereas the other account (accessible to all students) must be loaded manually.

ONECARD

The University of Alberta ONEcard – several cards in ONE!

Student Identification Card – Official identification for exams, security, and student discounts.

Access Card – Access to services such as the Library System and the University Health Centre. Allows students access to Recreation Services Programs and Facilities such as Intramurals and the Fitness and Lifestyle Centre. Can be activated as an access card to labs added by various departments on campus.

U-Pass – Validated ONEcards serve as the access card to the Universal Transit Pass on Edmonton, St. Albert, and Strathcona County, Leduc, and Spruce Grove Transit. New stickers must be obtained for each semester a student is registered..

Debit Card – By putting money on your student's ONEcard, he or she will be able to use it as cash for photocopying and printing (including colour printing), purchases at the University Bookstore, food purchases at many vendors on campus, and at some vending machines on campus.

Residence Use – In Lister, the ONEcard is their meal card and allows them to access residents' only areas. In HUB, money can be added for laundry and allows access to HUB community areas. In Residence Saint-Jean, the ONEcard provides residents access to the residence building.

Lost ONEcards

If your student loses their ONEcard, they should contact the ONEcard Office (9104 HUB Mall, 780-492-7924) immediately to put the account on hold. If the card is found, it can be taken off hold. Replacement cards can be purchased for \$20 (\$25 for residence proximity cards), but if you wish to replace your U-Pass as well, an additional \$129.17 will be charged. All balances on ONEcard accounts will be carried over from one card to the next.



Students can ask questions and file claims at the Student Health & Dental Plan Office in 6-14 SUB or by calling the Member Services Centre at 1 866 795-4430.

UASU HEALTH & DENTAL PLAN

The Health and Dental Plan is designed to help students pay for the health services they need, a collective health and dental plan has been put in place by your student union.

- The coverage includes: Health, Dental, Vision, and Travel Benefits. It also includes tuition insurance, a benefit not likely covered by a parent's plan. The plan covers the unexpected and provides you with preventive care services to keep you in good health.
- All full-time or part-time undergraduate students who pay Students' Union Health and Dental plan fees will be covered, including International and Augustana Students.
- The cost is \$140.60 for the health portion and \$151.62 for the dental portion, for a total of \$292.22 for the entire year (September 1, 2019 to August 31, 2020).
- Students can opt out of this plan for any reason during the Change-of-Coverage Period (see website for dates).
- For full details, please visit www.studentcare.ca



Looking for a better view? Book a Lister Residence tour with the Campus Visits Program or view 3-D floor plans at residence.ualberta.ca/OurResidences.

CAMPUS RESIDENCES

Our first year communities are intentionally designed and resourced to help support students' transition from high school to university.

Lister Residence

Lister residence is made up of four residence halls, including one of our newest residence buildings, Thelma Chalifoux Hall, for first year residents. Lister features furnished single and double dormitory rooms with private or shared washrooms in a room and board style that provides an "all you care to eat" meal plan, providing meals and snacks from early morning to late evening.

Peter Lougheed Hall

One of our newest residences opened in 2017 with space for 140 students. A room and board residence providing furnished single bedrooms with private or semi-private washrooms, and an "all you care to eat" meal plan, providing meals and snacks from early morning to late evening.

Résidence Saint-Jean

Furnished single dormitory style rooms with private washrooms for students fluent in conversational French. Priority is given to first year Campus Saint-Jean students.

Our Other Residences

Aspen & Maple House

Furnished 1, 2 & 4 bedroom apartments for upper-year undergraduate students.

International House

Housing both international and Canadian upper year undergraduate and graduate students with an interest in global education and enhancing intercultural understanding. Offering furnished single dormitory style rooms with private washrooms.

Graduate Residence

Furnished bachelor and 2 bedroom suites for professional and graduate students.

HUB

Furnished and unfurnished studio, 1, 2 and 4-bedroom apartments for upper-year undergraduate and graduate students.

Linden House

Private, furnished bedrooms with semi-private washrooms, kitchens and living space for upper-year engineering students.

Nipisîy House

One of our newest residences, opened in fall 2018, featuring furnished 4 and 6-bedroom apartments for upper-year undergraduate students.

Pinecrest & Tamarack House

Furnished 2 and 4-bedroom apartments for upper-year undergraduate students.

St. Joseph's College also provides residence options on campus.

Have Questions about living on campus?

*Residence Services
Administration Office*

1-044 Lister Centre

*780-492-4242
housing@ualberta.ca
www.ualberta.ca/residences*

Main Campus is beautiful, but the University of Alberta's Cortona campus might just have a better view.

LEARN ABOUT RESIDENCE

BaseCamp

BaseCamp is an orientation program for first year residents living at the University of Alberta. Designed to set you up for success by providing new students living in residence early access to experiences, learning opportunities and resources that can support you through the transition into university. Throughout the four day program, you will have the opportunity to meet other students on your floor, while getting familiar with the campus and your residence community.

BaseCamp gives you the chance to:

- Settle into your new home
- Discover campus and where your classes will be
- Bond with your floormates and make new friends
- throughout residence
- Develop a personal and academic support network
- Make connections with helpful resources

Cohorts

CUSTOMIZE YOUR EXPERIENCE

There are many options available to customize your residence experience when you receive your residence Confirmation Letter. Live with like-minded peers in Lister Residence through themed, academic cohort or lifestyle floors. Groups of students who share common academic programs, interests or lifestyles, live and learn together on each floor. These communities are a great opportunity for you to broaden your learning outside of the classroom, share experiences and connect with your peers. We do our best to assign students who apply for specialty communities to these floors based on yearly offerings, however, space in Lister is limited and may not be available.

Students can choose to live in one of the following communities:

- Arts Leadership Cohort
- Science Cohort
- Nursing Cohort
- Engineering Cohort
- Substance-Free Communities
- Quiet Communities

**We will do our best to assign students who apply for specialty communities to these floors, however, space on these floors is limited.*



WORKING & STUDYING ABROAD

AIESEC

Brings international students to Edmonton and sends U of A students abroad for International Work Exchanges. Works on a one-to-one system, i.e. for every opportunity created here, one is created for a U of A student elsewhere

780-492-2453
aiesec@ualberta.ca
2-04, School of Business

School in Cortona

Students are given the chance to spend a semester in Cortona, Italy and enroll in courses that take advantage of the school's unique Tuscan location. Classes are given by U of A faculty members and since Cortona is a U of A campus, there are no transfer credit issues

780-492-4295
Simply search for "Cortona" on the UAlberta website.

EAP

The Education Abroad Program (EAP) office promotes and administers over 300 Education Abroad opportunities in 40+ countries to UAlberta students. These programs range from study abroad exchanges and summer programs, to faculty-led initiatives and international internships.

University of Alberta International, Education Abroad Office
8920 HUB | 780-492-6040
www.international.ualberta.ca
goabroad@international.ualberta.ca



New Student Orientation

Suite 2-800, Students' Union Building, University of Alberta
8900 - 114 Street NW Edmonton, AB T6G 2J7
Phone: 780 492 1480 | Email: orientation@su.ualberta.ca