your future as a science student begins here

uab.ca/SciYear1
You are receiving this booklet because you have been offered admission to the University of Alberta (UAAlberta) Faculty of Science - congratulations!

In April, you will be eligible to register for your first year courses. To help you navigate the registration process, we have developed a step-by-step guide for you to follow. Read through this guide carefully: the more familiar you are with the information presented the better prepared you will be for your first year as a science student. Don’t forget to sign up for a registration workshop (in-person or online) and reach out to us if you have any questions. We’re here to help you every step of the way.

We wish you all the best in your first year.

Sincerely,

Shennella Blake, Recruitment and International Officer
Oksana Feculak, Recruitment Specialist
Science Undergraduate, Recruitment Team
science.recruiting@ualberta.ca

Upcoming events for early admitted students

Registration workshops (in-person)

During each workshop, we will help with course selection, show you how to use Bear Tracks, and answer your registration-related questions.

Location: University of Alberta North Campus Cameron Library 1-30
Date: Saturday March 10, 2018
Time: 11:30am-1:30pm and 2:00pm-4:00pm
Date: Saturday March 24, 2018
Time: 11:30am-1:30pm and 2:00pm-4:00pm
Date: Monday March 26, 2018
Time: 11:00am-1:00pm
Date: Wednesday March 28, 2018
Time: 1:00pm-3:00pm

Out of Town:
A Science workshop or representative will be available in the following cities. (General sessions will be available in other areas) Please visit uab.ca/reg101 for specific times and locations.

Red Deer: Tuesday March 14, 2018
Time: 3:30pm - 5:30pm and 5:30pm - 7:30pm

Calgary: Saturday March 17, 2018
Time: 3:30pm - 5:30pm and 5:30pm - 7:30pm

Vancouver: Saturday April 7, 2018
Time: 9:00-11:00am PST

InSciTE Science Tours:
We will be offering tours for this unique first year experience in conjunction with Registration 101 workshops. To sign up, read the March e-newsletter or visit uab.ca/SciYear1.

Saturday, March 10 @ 1:00pm and 3:30pm
Saturday, March 24 @ 1:00pm and 3:30pm
Wednesday, March 28 @ 10:00am-12:00pm

Online assistance:

Online registration workshops are offered to students who are unable to attend in-person sessions. Hosting a virtual workshop allows us to provide you with the tools you need to successfully register in your first-year courses.

You can also visit our online step-by-step registration guide: uab.ca/afteryouapply

Online workshop dates:
Date: Tuesday March 13, 2018
Time: 5:00pm-7:00pm
Date: Thursday March 22, 2018
Time: 5:00pm-7:00pm

NOTE: Unless otherwise stated, all times listed are Mountain Standard Time (MST)

Registration sessions have limited space.
University of Alberta uses email as an official means of communication with students. For this reason, it is important that you regularly check your UAlberta email account. To set up your email and other university computer accounts, you need to first activate your CCID (this is your Campus ID).

Your CCID was sent to the email address you provided when you first applied to UAlberta. To activate it, visit ist.ualberta.ca

Once you have admission to Science you will receive issues of SciWelcome, our monthly e-newsletter, to your email account. Be sure to read it each month as it contains important information for you.

Bear Tracks is UAlberta’s online, automated student records system. You can access Bear Tracks at uab.ca/beartracks and login with your activated CCID.

Bear Tracks allows you to:
- Monitor the status of your application
- Register in your courses
- Check your account balance and fees
- Update your contact info
- Apply for scholarships/awards

This is the actual date you can begin registering for your courses. You can locate your enrollment date on your Bear Tracks homepage under the Academics tab. We recommend you choose your courses as close to the registration date as possible, because some classes fill up quickly.

Make sure to also note your Student ID number. This is the seven-digit number located on the top right corner of your Bear Tracks homepage. This is different from your CCID.

My enrollment date is:
In order to finalize your course registration, you need to accept your admission offer electronically in Bear Tracks and pay a non-refundable tuition deposit. This fee will go towards your tuition and is required in order to become eligible to register in classes. You will receive an email to your ualberta.ca email account notifying you when you are eligible to log in and accept your offer. Further details and payment options are available at uab.ca/accept.

*Students who receive an admission offer by May 1, 2018 have until June 1, 2018 to accept. (We recommend that you do so at least one week prior to your enrollment date.)

Planning to live on campus? If you have not yet applied for housing, you can still do so online at uab.ca/residence or contact housing@ualberta.ca for more information.

Note: Students who apply before April 30th will be guaranteed a residence offer.

Before you begin creating your schedule on Bear Tracks, there are a few things you need to know about degree planning.

**The credit system**

All degrees in the Faculty of Science require the successful completion of 120 credits, which can be completed over four years.

The majority of the courses you will be taking as a science student will equal 3 credits – this means that throughout your undergraduate degree you will be taking 40 courses.

There are two main terms at the U of A, Fall (September-December) and Winter (January to April). In each of these terms you can take up to five courses (15 credits). There are also Spring and Summer terms, where you can take a maximum of two courses per term.
Your registration dictionary

Lecture: A university course where the professor speaks on various topics for the duration of the class.

Lab: Some classes have required labs. This is the hands-on component of a class.

Seminar: A class based on discussion, project work and/or shared assignments. Seminars give students and professors or teaching assistants the opportunity to meet in a smaller class setting.

Pre-requisite: Other classes you must take before you can enroll in a class.

Major: The main area of focus of your BSc General Degree program.

Minor: Your secondary area of focus of your BSc General Degree program.

Note: Students in the BSc Specialization/Honors programs do not have a Major/Minor.

Electives: Electives, sometimes also referred to as Options are classes you must complete as you work towards your degree.

First-year courses

Before you begin creating your timetable on Bear Tracks, you will first need to know the requirements for your program. Course registration will differ depending on which degree program you have applied for.

BSc General students: As a General Science student, you will be taking courses in a variety of subjects. We recommend you begin selecting courses from the junior core course requirements outlined in the BSc General Degree Program Sheet: uab.ca/SciGeneralDegree

BSc Specialization and Honors students: Locate the course requirements for your program in the UAlberta online calendar.

To help you navigate, visit uab.ca/ScienceSpecialization or uab.ca/ScienceHonors

- Note the credit requirement that has been placed for your program. Every Specialization and Honors program has different requirements set as to how many courses you have to take per each academic calendar year.

- Courses that are listed as "approved options" must be approved by your Specialization/Honors advisor. To find out who your advisor is visit: science.ualberta.ca/deptadvisors

BSc/BEd Students: Locate your specific program combination in Faculty of Science section of the UAlberta online calendar. Visit uab.ca/BScBED

Once you have decided upon which courses to take, you will now move on and register for your courses on Bear Tracks.
Maximize your potential.

Browse our entire course selection: This is the best time to explore our courses and open your mind to new subjects and opportunities.

SCI 101—Foundations of Science
Do you have questions about your science degree, and what to expect in university? Consider SCI 101, a new optional course introducing students to the culture, practice and ways of thinking in science through activities and real-world projects. It will help you find answers to such questions as, "What can I do with a Science degree?", "What really is science and how can it solve the world's problems?", and "What are the best ways to be successful at University and beyond?"
Diversify your first year with InSciTE (Interdisciplinary Science Threshold Experience)

InSciTE allows our students to add an interdisciplinary and experiential learning component to their first year of university.

Adding InSciTE to your first year plan will help you strengthen your understanding of the course material in a completely new way. InSciTE classes contain the same course content as their traditional counterparts, but they are taught using experiential learning—meaning the class material is applied to everyday problems allowing you to explore the scientific process in greater depth, and develop stronger data analysis skills early on. Students also learn through discovery-based labs and projects, and hands-on field excursions.

InSciTE is offered in 2 streams, Life Science and Physical Science, and accounts for only 15 credits of your 30 credit first year. It is designed to fit easily into your timetable, allowing you the freedom to add any electives or additional core courses.

Why not try something new?
Apply now for InSciTE and benefit from a timetable with a blend of courses taught with either traditional or integrated teaching methods.

Visit uab.ca/inscite
“Dear first year,”

We asked our Science Mentors to share their best tip for first-year science students. Here’s what they had to say:

“Be creative! Don’t limit yourself to one style of studying that worked in high school. Make it fun for you then you will procrastinate less and have more time for yourself!”
-Alycia, Biological Sciences

“Don’t let your preconceived views about what you like or don’t like stop you from trying out different courses. U of A has 100’s of courses, so don’t force yourself to do a course you don’t like.”
-Dhriti, Psychology

“Get involved in the campus community! Find a group that sparks your interest and join in, it is one of the easiest ways to meet great people and build new relationships at UofA.”
-Cody, Geophysics

Our science mentors are current science students who are available to answer your questions about university and campus life.

Learn and benefit from the experiences of our mentors. Read more and request your Science Mentor today at uab.ca/ScienceMentor

Registration & Bear Tracks

Add/Search for Classes: When you know what course you want to take (i.e. BIOL 108) simply choose the “add” or “search for classes” tab to see what times the course is available. Proceed to add the class to your Bear Tracks timetable.

Before registering for a course, it is important that you ensure that you have the required pre-requisite courses from high school.

Browse the Course Catalogue:
Explore courses by subject, and read a description of the course. This will give you more detailed information on what the course will actually cover.

My Planner: To make things easier for you, Bear Tracks has a place where you can “store” the courses you find interesting. Instead of writing down the name of a course that you intend to take you can simply add it to your planner – your virtual registration diary.

Watchlist: Use this function when you wish to add a class that is full. By adding the course onto your watchlist, you will receive a notification via text or email as soon as a spot opens up.

*Do you need more detailed Bear Tracks instructions? For a step by step guide on how to add courses and create a schedule on Bear Tracks, visit uab.ca/afteryouapply
August 31, 2018

New students will be welcomed and introduced to a wide variety of social and academic events organized by the Students’ Union. All students are encouraged to participate in Orientation. Sign up at: su.ualberta.ca and follow updates at #UAOrientation.

Orientation programs for International Students:
In addition to regular orientation, international students can also sign up for Transitions which is an orientation program designed specifically for international students.
Sign up at: su.ualberta.ca

Science Internship Program
Explore where your Bachelor of Science degree can take you after graduation by integrating paid work experience into your academic studies with the Science Internship Program (SIP).
· Build your strengths and clarify your interests and goals.
· Apply classroom knowledge to hands-on, real-life situations.
· Graduate with a resume packed with relevant paid work experience.
· Boost your chances of landing a great job after graduation.
Plan ahead now to integrate SIP after your second year of studies. Discover the diversity of SIP opportunities at uab.ca/ScienceInternship

Certificates:
Complement your degree with a certificate. Our embedded certificates are completed during your degree program and are intended to recognize your achievement in a specific area of focus. The following certificates are available from the Faculty of Science:
· Research Certificate in Science (Psychology)
· Certificate in Biomedical Research (offered by the Departments of Biochemistry, Cell Biology, Pharmacology and Physiology
· Certificate in Game Development
· Research Certificate in Science (Biological Sciences)
Learn more at uab.ca/SciCert
Our campus can be your classroom

As a rich natural classroom, the physical University of Alberta campus provides abundant learning opportunities for science students. From the highest tree tops to the depths of Earth’s core, the wealth of resources in our proverbial front yard has served to educate and inspire Faculty of Science students for decades.

A re-defined classroom with new ways of learning

Teaching and learning come in many forms and we are committed to giving you the tools needed to succeed in the world. We continue to re-define the classroom and adopt innovative teaching methods.

Expect to see a variety of teaching formats in your classes. It could be the use of iClickers and inquiry-based learning in BIOL 107 or the peer-led team-learning format of the CHEM 261 labs. Traditional or not, we have something for everybody.

What is Blended Learning?

Blending Learning is a teaching approach where both traditional face-to-face instructional time and online or computer-mediated activities are integrated. Within a course, the online content and classroom activities are meant to complement one another, working to engage students and achieve course objectives.
See you in September

Science Undergraduate Recruitment Team
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twitter.com/ualbertascience
science.ualberta.ca