

Enrolling in Your Level 1 Humanities, Music or Art Program

After you have accepted an offer to study in the Faculty of Humanities at McMaster, the next step will be to select and enrol in courses.

Online registration for Humanities, Music and Studio Art students entering the University in September 2015 will begin in late June. Individual online enrolment appointments have been allocated to all McMaster students entering a Level 1 program. Check your Mosaic Student Centre to find out when yours is.

Students register for both the Fall 2015 Term and Winter 2016 Term in the summer.

How to Select Your Courses

When it comes to Level I course selection, you must spend some time researching your options and your specific program requirements, before you can begin to actually enrol for courses. Follow the steps outlined below:

Step 1 - FIND OUT ABOUT YOUR LEVEL I PROGRAM

As a new student, your first step should be to find out more about the Level I program to which you have been admitted.

- Humanities students go to our [Humanities I Program](#) page.
- Music students go to the [Music I Program](#) page.
- Art students go the [Studio Art I Program](#) page.

Be sure to make note of your Level I program requirements.

Step 2 - FIND OUT ABOUT UPPER LEVEL PROGRAM OPTIONS

The general Level I program not only introduces you to university, but acts as a gateway to the subject-specific degree program that you will enter in Level II. The program options available to you in Level II will depend on the courses you choose in Level I. Your second step should be to find out more about the degree programs we offer in Humanities so you can plan ahead. So, now go to our [Undergraduate Programs](#) page and take note of the entrance requirements for each program that interests you. You can research the programs offered by all faculties in the *Programs* section of the [Undergraduate Calendar](#).

Step 3 - FIND OUT ABOUT REQUIREMENTS FOR ANY MINORS YOU MAY WISH TO PURSUE

You should also research the Minor options that we have at McMaster so that you can make sure you are taking any necessary courses in Level 1. You can find a list of Minors (including interdisciplinary minors) in the [Undergraduate Calendar at the bottom of the Programs](#) page. Many minors have fairly general requirements and it's a good idea to include 3 or 6 units of courses in that subject in Level 1. However others have very specific requirements. For example, if you are interested in the [Specialized Minor in Commerce for Students Completing a](#)

[Single Honours B.A. in Humanities](#), you must complete ECON 1B03 with a grade of at least B-, and one of MATH 1M03 or ECON 1BB3 in order to be considered.

Step 4 - FIND OUT ABOUT SPECIFIC COURSES

Now you have a good idea of the direction you would like to head in, it's time to choose specific Level I courses for the 2015/16 academic year. Go the [Undergraduate Calendar course listings page](#) to search for descriptions of courses offered by subject (course prefix). Make a list of the courses that interest you and that will allow you to meet your Level I program requirements. When researching the courses you want to take, make note of the course code (e.g. *MMEDIA 1A03*) not just the name (e.g. *Multimedia and Digital Society*) so you know exactly what to search for when selecting your courses on Mosaic.

Step 5 - CHECK THE TIMETABLE

You must check the timetable for Fall 2015 and Winter 2016 to ensure that the courses you wish to take are running this year and will fit into your schedule **before** you start to enrol. If two of the courses you wish to take run at the same time, you'll have to give up one of them and find an alternative as Mosaic will not allow you to enrol in courses that conflict. You also have to make sure that you are not choosing too many courses that run in the same term. As a Level 1 student, you must have a balanced course load, which means no more than 15 units of courses per term. You will have access to the timetable in the Student Centre on Mosaic, but you can also [click on this link to access the timetable](#) without logging into Mosaic.

How to Enrol in Your Courses

Once you have found out about the courses that you need to take to meet your Level 1 Requirements (see 'How to Select Your Courses page'), you will enrol in courses using the online [Mosaic](#) system.

To become familiar with the Mosaic system, please start by watching two videos which will explain how to select and enrol in courses.

- [How to Plan and Preselect Courses on Mosaic](#)
- [How to Enrol in Courses on Mosaic](#)

You can also read about the steps outlined in the videos on the Registrar's [Steps to Enrolling](#) page.

Now you are ready to go to onto [Mosaic](#)

Step 1 - ACTIVATE YOUR MAC ID

You must activate your Mac ID before you can log into Mosaic and begin enrolling for courses. Your Mac ID is the unique username that has been assigned to you and is based on your family name and initials. You will use your Mac ID throughout your university career to log onto

Mosaic, and to access your McMaster email account and other university computer services. In order to activate it:

- Check your student number and barcode which are indicated on your Offer of Admission letter.
- Go to <https://adweb.cis.mcmaster.ca/CIS/UD4031> and input your student number, barcode and date of birth.
- Follow the instructions to set your password.

Step 2 - CHECK YOUR ENROLMENT APPOINTMENT IN YOUR STUDENT CENTRE

Your personal enrolment appointment will be indicated in your student centre on Mosaic. This is the earliest possible time that you can begin to enrol for courses. Once the time of your appointment has arrived, the Mosaic system remains open to you for changes and updates to your enrolment all the way up to September (for Term 1 and full year courses) and into January (for Term 2 courses). Enrolment appointments are assigned randomly to students by level. **The first enrolment appointments for Level 1 students began on June 25.**

Step 3 - SELECT AND PLAN YOUR COURSES AHEAD OF TIME

You can use the 'Shopping Cart' feature on Mosaic to preselect your courses in anticipation of your enrolment appointment.

Step 4 - ENROL IN COURSES

We encourage you to enrol in courses as close to your enrolment appointment as possible as all McMaster courses have a fixed number of places available, which are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Therefore, you should try to enrol as early as possible if you are very keen to get into specific courses. If the course is already full, you will be notified immediately so you can make an alternate selection (it's always good to have selected a few back up courses, in case one or two of your first choices are already full).

Step 5 - CHECK YOUR ACCOUNT INFORMATION

Each time you add or drop a course, your fees will adjust. Check your Student Account by selecting Account Inquiry in the Finances section of the Student Centre to update your fee information. The [Student Accounts and Cashiers](#) website provides information on your tuition fees and payment options.

Step 10 - ENABLE YOUR MAC ID SERVICES

Make sure you enable your MAC ID services. This will give you access to a range of technology services, including your McMaster email account. Do this by clicking 'enable MAC ID services' when you enter Mosaic.

Level 1 Humanities, Music and Studio Art FAQs

WHAT PROGRAM AM I IN?

- If you have been accepted into the Faculty of Humanities, your first year program is called **Humanities I**. If you are in **Music I**. If you are in Art, your program is **Studio Art I**.
- You won't enter a subject-specific program until Level 2 and will apply for your admission to this program towards the end of your Level 1 year.

HOW MANY UNITS OF COURSES SHOULD I REGISTER FOR IN MY FIRST YEAR AT MCMASTER?

- To meet the Humanities I and Studio Art I requirements, you must complete 30 units of courses, which is the maximum load.
- Students in Music I take 33 units of courses.

HOW DO I KNOW HOW MANY UNITS EACH COURSE IS WORTH?

- Each course is worth either 3 or 6 units. A 3-unit course usually lasts for one term, and a 6-unit course usually lasts for two terms (although there are some exceptions - for example, quite a few 3-unit Music courses run for a full year). Courses that run for a full year have an A/B at the end of the course code, e.g. ENGLISH 1C06 A/B, or MUSIC 1CC3 A/B.
- You can tell how many units a course is worth by looking at the last digit in the course code. For example, **Italian 1206 Beginner's Intensive Italian** is worth 6 units and runs from September-April. **ENGLISH 1CS3 Studying Culture: A Critical Introduction** is worth 3 units and will run either September-December or January-April.
- The first digit in the course code indicates the level of the course (1, 2, 3 or 4).

HOW MANY COURSES SHOULD I TAKE EACH TERM?

- Your course load should be balanced between the fall (September-December) and winter (January-April) terms. For most people this means taking 5 courses (or 15 units) each term.

DO I REGISTER IN THE SUMMER FOR ALL MY LEVEL I COURSES?

- Yes. When registration opens for you in June, you will choose and register for courses for the full academic year, i.e. both Fall 2015 and Winter 2016 terms.

ARE THERE ENROLMENT LIMITS ON COURSES?

- Yes! All McMaster courses have a fixed number of places available, which are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Therefore, you should try to register as early as possible

(preferably on the day registration opens) if you are very keen to get into specific courses. If the course is already full, you will be notified immediately so you can make an alternate selection.

WHAT IF I CHANGE MY MIND ABOUT TAKING A COURSE, AFTER I'VE ALREADY ENROLLED?

- If you decide that you want to change some of the courses you have enrolled in, you can do so. It is possible to make adjustments to your registration in Fall and Full-year courses until the end of the change period - Wednesday, September 16, 2015. The change period for Winter Term courses runs until Wednesday, January 13, 2016. You should bear in mind that some courses may be full if you try and add them at the end of the change period.

DO ALL MY COURSES HAVE TO BE FROM HUMANITIES?

- No. If you are a Humanities student, you must register for at least 12 units of Humanities courses (chosen from course list 1). The other 18 units can be chosen from courses offered by Humanities (course list 1 or 2) or other faculties, as long as you meet any prerequisites individual courses may have.
- If you are a Music student, you must register for 21 units of required Music courses. Your remaining 12 units can be chosen from courses offered by Humanities (course list 1 or 2) or other faculties.
- If you are a Studio Art student, you must register for 18 units of required Art and Art History courses. Your remaining 12 units can be chosen from courses offered by Humanities (course list 1 or 2) or other faculties.
- See Required Course Lists for [Humanities](#), [Music](#), and [Studio Art](#).

CAN I TAKE ANY LEVEL I COURSE?

- As long as you meet your Humanities I, Music I, or Studio Art I requirements, you have a great deal of flexibility in choosing your courses.
- Most Level I courses are open to everyone, however some courses have **prerequisites**, which means you must meet certain conditions in order to take them. For example, you may have to have a specific U/M, or be registered in a certain program (e.g. Engineering I). Other courses may only be taken if you have already completed a preceding McMaster course. Be sure to check in the Undergraduate Calendar beneath each course description, to see if the course you want has any prerequisites.
- Some courses may have an **antirequisite**, which means you cannot take the course if you meet that condition. For example, since *GERMAN 1Z06 A/B Beginner's Intensive German* is for those with no prior knowledge of the language, U/M German and other McMaster German courses are the antirequisites for the course.

IF I'M NOT IN THE MUSIC I PROGRAM, CAN I STILL TAKE MUSIC COURSES?

- Yes. **Music IA03 and 1AA3** are open to non-music students. If you wish to take other courses normally restricted to Music I students, you must contact the School of the Arts (sota@mcmaster.ca) to request special permission. Normally you will have to take a qualifying test.
- **MUSIC 1EE6 SOLO PERFORMANCE** is a course open to non-Music students who wish to take private tuition in their main instrument. Performance level equivalent to RCM Grade 8 is required. Interested students should contact the [School of the Arts](#) as soon as possible over the summer to arrange an audition. Additional lesson fees are charged for this course.
- If you would like to take one of the Music ensemble courses, you should audition at the beginning of term in September. If successful, you'll be able to register for the course by changing your registration during the change period. In the meantime, register for another course that you would take should you not pass the ensemble audition. If you pass an audition for a music ensemble, you can also choose to participate out of interest, and do not have to take it as a course credit.
- Search for Music courses in the [Undergraduate Calendar](#) for more details.

CAN I TAKE STUDIO ART COURSES AS ELECTIVES?

- Yes! While most Level 1 art courses are restricted to students in the Studio Art I program, the School of the Arts offers two elective art courses that are open to any student and no previous art experience is required. The courses are **ART 1UI3 MAKING ART AND UNDERSTANDING IMAGES** and **ART 1TI3 MAKING ART AND UNDERSTANDING IMAGES AND TECHNOLOGY**. Art History courses can also be taken as electives.

HOW DO I QUALIFY FOR ADMISSION TO A LEVEL II PROGRAM?

- Admission to a Level II program will depend on your academic performance in Level I as well as the courses you have taken. You'll need to have taken the required courses - usually 3 or 6 units of Level I courses in the program subject(s) - and have achieved the minimum academic standard for the program of your choice (3-year B.A., 4-year honours B.A., or 4-year combined honours B.A.).
- See the [undergraduate programs](#) listings for specific entrance requirements to Level 2 Humanities programs.
- Please note that **Multimedia** is a limited enrolment program. Entrance to the program is quite competitive and is based on academic performance in Level I.
- Entrance to the **Justice, Political Philosophy and Law** program is also limited. Admission is based on Level 1 grades as well as a [supplementary application](#) which students must submit by April 30 at the end of their first year.

DO I HAVE THE OPTION OF A B.A., SINGLE, OR COMBINED HONOURS PROGRAM IN ALL HUMANITIES SUBJECTS?

- No. While all three program types are available in several Humanities subjects, some are only offered at the honours level (single and combined). Peace Studies is only available as a combined honours program, which means you **must** take it with another subject. Check our [programs](#) page for more details.

I AM INTERESTED IN SUBJECTS WHICH ARE ONLY OFFERED AS 4-YEAR HONOURS PROGRAMS. WHY DO YOU RECOMMEND THAT I ALSO REGISTER IN THE LEVEL I QUALIFYING COURSES FOR A 3-YEAR B.A.?

- As a Humanities I student, you should register in the qualifying courses in at least one subject that is offered as a 3-year B.A. program. This way, even if you're intending to take a degree in a subject which is only offered at the honours level, you'll have a back-up plan and would still be able to continue at university, should your end-of-year grades be too low to qualify for entrance to your chosen honours program. Students who enter a 3-year B.A. program and whose grades then improve sufficiently, are able to transfer into an honours program.

IS IT POSSIBLE TO COMBINE SUBJECTS FROM DIFFERENT FACULTIES IN AN HONOURS DEGREE PROGRAM?

- Yes. It is quite common for students to combine Humanities and [Social Science](#) subjects in a combined honours program. You must meet the admission requirements for both programs. Most Social Science programs require at least 6 units of Level I courses in that subject, however some (such as Psychology) may have additional requirements. Be sure to check program requirements in the [Undergraduate Calendar](#) for any area in which you may wish to specialize, so you can choose the right Level I courses.
- Combinations of subjects from Humanities and faculties other than Social Sciences are not possible, apart from the special B.A. honours programs in [Philosophy and Biology](#), [Philosophy and Mathematics](#), [French and Mathematics](#), [History and Mathematics](#), and [English and Mathematics](#).
- If you're doing an honours degree in Humanities, it's also possible to complete a Minor in a Social Sciences, Science or Business.

WHAT IS A MINOR?

- If students in Honours programs concentrate a sufficient number of elective courses in one area during their degree, they may have the option of declaring a Minor in that subject upon graduation. Minors usually require the completion of up to 6 units of Level I courses and a further 18 units of upper level courses in a subject. If you are interested in completing a Minor, it's a good idea to include at least 3 units (and 6 units of courses

if offered) in that subject in Level I. Scroll down to the end of the [Undergraduate Programs](#) page in the Calendar to see which Minors are offered, including the interdisciplinary Minors, Archaeology, Globalization Studies, and Jewish Studies.

- A brand new and very exciting option for students entering Humanities this year, is the [Specialized Minor in Commerce](#). This is available for students completing single honours degrees in the following Humanities subjects: Art History, Classics, Communication Studies, English, French, History, Linguistics, Multimedia, Philosophy, or Theatre & Film Studies.

WHEN DO CLASSES BEGIN? WHAT ARE THE TERM DATES?

- This year, the first day of class will be Tuesday, September 8, 2015. You can find all the sessional dates for the 2015/16 academic year [here](#).

HOW DO I GET MY ENTRANCE AWARD?

- Your entrance award is calculated on final average (of courses completed by June 30) and will be deposited directly to your student account.

Links to Important Web Sites

- [Undergraduate Calendar](#)
- [Course Timetable](#)
- [Dates and Deadlines](#)
- [Activate Your Mac ID](#)
- [Access Online Registration via Mosaic](#)
- [Student Accounts and Cashiers: Paying Your Fees](#)
- [Financial Aid and Scholarships](#)
- [OSAP](#)
- [On-Campus Housing](#)
- [Off-Campus Housing](#)
- [Parking Services](#)
- [Biking to Campus](#)
- [GO Bus](#)
- [Student Success Centre - Orientation](#)
- [Student Accessibility Services](#) (offers various support services for students with disabilities)
- [Student Wellness Centre](#)

Contact

If you have questions, please feel free to contact us by email: humanities@mcmaster.ca or phone: 905-525-9140 ext. 27532.