

# Important Academic Vocabulary

MSVU International Education Centre

September 22, 2022



# Reminder

Today's session:

PPT slides will be posted to  
[www.msvu.ca/international](http://www.msvu.ca/international)



# Presenter



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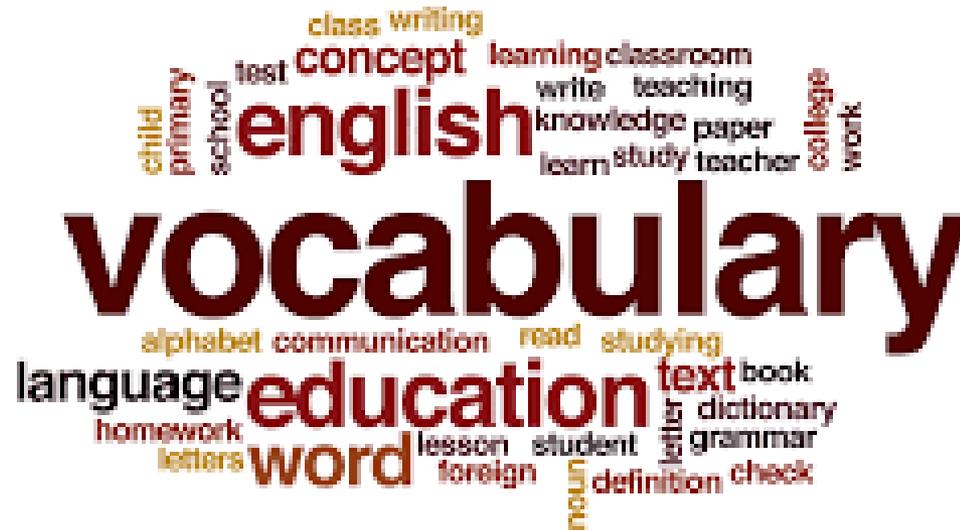
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# Important Academic Vocabulary



# Vocabulary. Must learn.

## 1. Program – can be:

- A Master's/Graduate degree
- A Master's/Graduate diploma (TESOL)
- A Master of Arts/Science (thesis route)
- An Undergraduate degree
- An Undergraduate diploma
- An Undergraduate certificate

## 2. Courses vs Classes

- Courses are subjects taken to meet program requirements  
(Ex. THTM 1101, COMM 2211, GAHN 6601, GCRD 6560)
- Classes are the lecture components of your courses  
(Ex. M/W 10:30-11:45 a.m.)

## 3. Subject vs Program -

Subjects = topics that are studied within programs (Ex. History, Math, Curriculum Studies, TESOL)



# Vocabulary. Must learn.

## 4. A Major – Undergraduate

an area of focus in Bachelors of Arts, Science, Business.  
Between 8.0 - 10.0 units in BA & BSc. and 6.0 units for  
Business

## 5. A Minor – Undergraduate

a secondary area of focus in any undergraduate degree  
program comprised of 3.0 units. Minors are mandatory  
for some programs (BA and BSc Major programs)  
and optional for others

## 6. Master of Arts – a Master's/Graduate program that requires a thesis



# Vocabulary. Must learn.

7. **Required Course** – This is a courses that you must take, specific Course Name and Number given (Ex: MATH 0027, NUTR 1010); mandatory, related to your program
8. **Elective** – this is a course in any subject/program/discipline; chosen in consultation with your Academic Advisor
9. **Prerequisite** – NOT VERY COMMON IN MASTERS DEGREES – except MEd, this is a course that must be completed before you can register for another course
10. **Asynchronous** - is recorded and can be accessed anytime within the semesters it's being offered. Students must follow a course outline and the class is not live
11. **Synchronous** - is real time delivery of lecture but will also likely be recorded and the video may be available AFTER class
12. **Multi-Mode Online** – a combination of online synchronous classes and online asynchronous classes
13. **Multi-Access Classes** – a blend of on-campus classes and online classes
14. **On Campus** – is live, in the classroom with professor and classmates



# Full-time vs Part-time

**15. Units vs. Credits** - these are the same thing, MSVU uses units

**0.5 units = 1 MSVU course**

**1.0 units = 2 MSVU courses**

## **Programs:**

- Graduate programs: 5.0 units = 10 courses
- Bachelor's degree: 20.0 units = 40 courses
- Diploma: 12.0 units = 24 courses
- Certificate: 6.0 units = 12 courses

## **Fall + Winter Semester:**

- 1.5 units – 2.5 units (3 - 5 courses) per semester = **full-time status**
- .5 units – 1.0 units (1 or 2 courses) per semester = **part-time status**



# Vocabulary. Must learn.

## 16. Academic Standing – at MSVU, to be in “good academic standing”

### Graduate students:

- maintain an overall 3.0 GPA in all courses
- not have received a final grade of “C” in more than 1.0 units (2 courses) of coursework
- not have received a final grade of “F” or “F\*” in an any course

\*\* if a graduate student fails to maintain “good academic standing”, they are in jeopardy of being removed from the program \*\*

Please refer to page 21 of the graduate academic calendar:

<https://www.msvu.ca/academics/university-academic-calendars/graduate-academic-calendar/regulations/>



# Vocabulary. Must learn.

## 16. Academic Standing

### Undergraduate students:

At MSVU, undergraduate student grades are reviewed annually in May, after 3.0 units completed, for academic progress.

- “good academic standing” - maintain a Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) of 1.7 or higher
- “academic probation” – CGPA is between 1.0 - 1.699
- “academic suspension” – CGPA is between 0 – 0.9 (suspension for 12 months)

Please refer to page 29 of the undergraduate academic calendar: <https://www.msvu.ca/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/RO-2022-2023-Undergraduate-Academic-Calendar-July-12-compressed.pdf>



# Vocabulary. Must learn.

## Graduate Level Grading Scheme

Letter Grade	Descriptor	Grade Points	Numerical Guidelines
A+	Outstanding	4.3	94-100
A	Very Good to Excellent	4.0	87-93
A-		3.7	80-86
B+		3.3	77-79
B	Acceptable to Good	3.0	73-76
B-		2.7	70-72
C	Minimally Acceptable	2.0	60-69
P	Pass in Courses on P/F Scale	Neutral	
F	Failure	0.0	below 60
F*	Failure Resulting from Academic Offence	0.0	
NCR	This mark indicates no credit, repeat and is allowed in certain courses graded only on the Pass/Fail scale	Neutral	
NXM	This notation is given in full unit courses for which no December grades are given	Neutral	
INC	Incomplete with Deadline for Completion (Regulations and deadlines noted below)	Neutral	
IP	In Progress at End of Term (Regulations and deadlines noted below)	Neutral	
DEF	Deferral for Illness (Regulations and deadlines noted below)	Neutral	
W	Withdrawal without academic penalty (deadline driven)	Neutral	
WP	Late withdrawal without academic penalty (deadline driven) Regulations noted below	Neutral	
WF	Late withdrawal with academic penalty (deadline driven)	0.0	

## Undergraduate Level Grading Scheme

Letter Grade	Descriptor	Grade Points	Numerical Guidelines
A+	This mark indicates outstanding performance. In addition to having mastered the content of the course, the student has demonstrated the ability to apply the course material in new and creative ways and/or has shown an understanding of its wider context and significance.	4.3	90-100
A	This mark range indicates excellent performance. The student has mastered the content of the course.	4.0	85-89
A-		3.7	80-84
B+	This mark indicates good to very good performance. The student has demonstrated a thorough knowledge of the course material and comprehension of its essential concepts.	3.3	77-79
B		3.0	73-76
B-		2.7	70-72
C+	This mark range indicates satisfactory performance. The student has demonstrated an adequate knowledge of course material.	2.3	67-69
C		2.0	63-66
C-		1.7	60-62
D	This mark indicates poor performance. The student has minimally fulfilled the requirements for the course.	1.0	50-59
F	This mark indicates that the student has failed to meet the minimum requirements of the course and has not demonstrated an adequate grasp of the material.	0.0	0-49
F*	This mark (F with notation) indicates that the student has failed the course as a result of an academic offence.	0.0	
P	This mark, Pass, is given in courses graded only on the Pass/Fail scale.	Neutral	
NC	No Credit. Used exclusively for Challenge for Credit marks where the grade is C- or lower.	Neutral	
NCR	This mark indicates no credit, repeat and is allowed in courses graded only on the Pass/Fail scale.	Neutral	
NXM	This notation is given in 1.0 unit courses for which no December grades are given.	Neutral	
INC	Incomplete with Deadline for Completion (Regulations and deadlines noted below)	Neutral	
DEF	Deferral for Illness (Regulations and deadlines noted below)	Neutral	
IP	In Progress at end of term (Regulations and deadlines noted below)	Neutral	
W	Withdrawal without academic penalty - deadline driven	Neutral	
WP	Late withdrawal without academic penalty - deadline driven (Regulations noted below)	Neutral	
WF	Late withdrawal with academic penalty - deadline driven	0.0	

# Vocabulary. Must learn.

To calculate your Cumulative Grade Point Average:

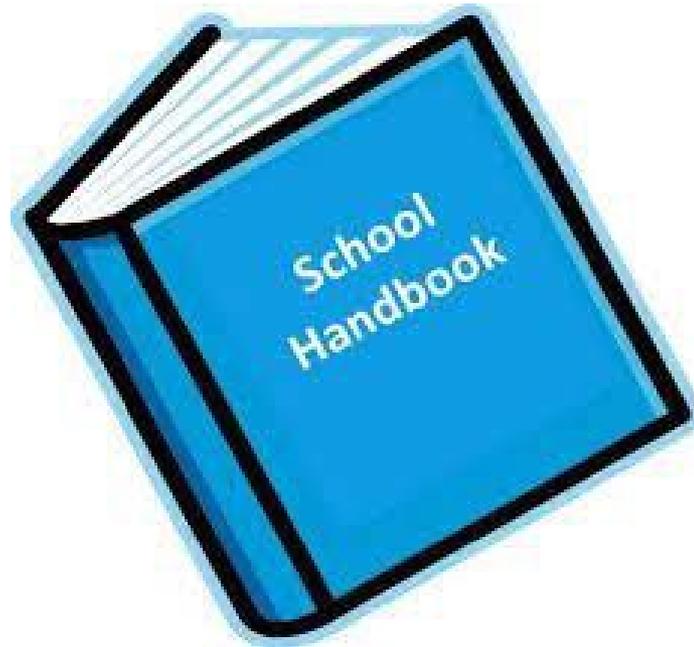
Letter grades have a numerical value called a Grade Point Value, which is used to calculate your Cumulative Grade Point Average.

$$\text{GPA} = \frac{\text{The total grade points achieved}}{\text{The total number of courses taken}}$$



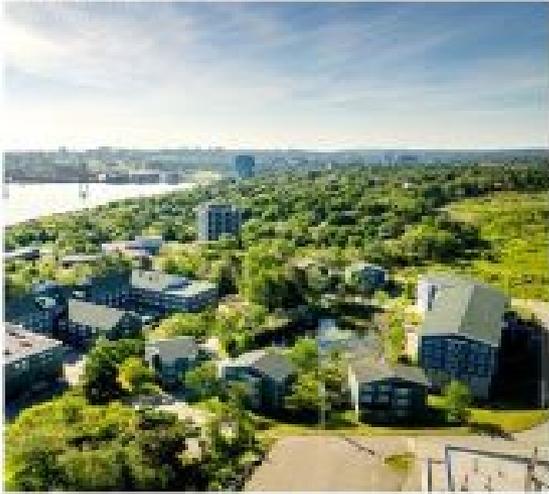
# Academic Calendars

What is an Academic Calendar?



# Graduate + Undergraduate Academic Calendars

2022-2023  
GRADUATE ACADEMIC CALENDAR  
MSVU.CA/CALENDAR



2022-2023  
UNDERGRADUATE ACADEMIC CALENDAR  
MSVU.CA/CALENDAR



An annual publication listing key dates in the academic year, important vocabulary, admissions requirements, program requirements, rules and regulations and courses. Course information changes from year to year but the degree requirements described in the Calendar in the year of your admission to the degree remain in force as you complete your program. Available for pick up in the Registrar's Office and Deans' Offices. The Graduate Calendar is available online at [msvu.ca/calendars](https://msvu.ca/calendars).



# Academic Calendars

## University Academic Calendars



The Academic Calendar is a Senate approved comprehensive guide to programs and courses, and is the official record of academic policies and procedures.

[msvu.ca/calendars](https://msvu.ca/calendars)



### Calendar Links

[Important Dates »](#)  
[Calendar Archive »](#)

### Additional Resources

[Tuition & Fees »](#)  
[Scholarships & Awards »](#)  
[Online Learning »](#)  
[Co-operative Education »](#)

### Academic Calendar Disclaimer

1. The University hereby gives notice that while the information contained in this Calendar is considered accurate at the time of its preparation, changes may be made subsequent to publication without prior notice.
2. In the interpretation of academic regulations, the Senate is the final authority.
3. Although advice is readily available on request, the responsibility of selecting the appropriate courses for graduation must ultimately rest with the student.
4. Not all courses listed in the Calendar are offered each year. Students are advised to check the timetable, which is available online via myMount at [msvu.ca](https://msvu.ca), for course availability.
5. The academic calendar year begins on September 1 and extends through the following August 31 in any given year. Students who begin study at any point within this period are governed by the regulations in the Calendar which came into effect on the previous September 1.
6. Notwithstanding any other provision of the Calendar, it is expressly understood by all students that Mount Saint Vincent

### University Academic Calendars

It is the responsibility of all students to familiarize themselves with the University's academic regulations and policies in general, and those which apply specifically to their program of study.

[2022-2023 Undergraduate Academic Calendar »](#)

[Glossary of Terms »](#)

[Programs & Course Listing »](#)

[Admissions Regulations »](#)

[Academic Regulations »](#)

[Full Undergraduate Calendar \(PDF\) »](#)

[2022-2023 Graduate Academic Calendar »](#)

[Glossary of Terms »](#)

[Programs & Course Listing »](#)

[Admissions Regulations »](#)

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[Full Graduate Calendar \(PDF\) »](#)

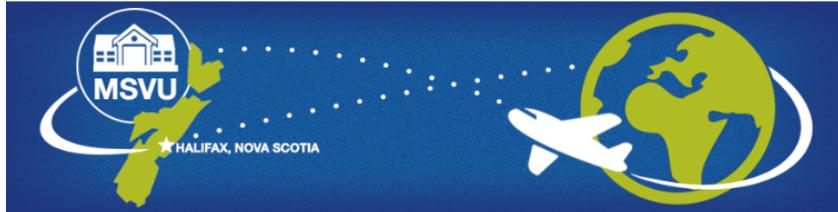
Click here:  
2022-2023  
Undergraduate  
Academic Calendar

Click here:  
2022-2023 Graduate  
Academic Calendar

# To Review this Presentation

[www.msvu.ca/international](http://www.msvu.ca/international)

## International Education Centre



The International Education Centre (IEC) at MSVU offers personal, academic, cultural and immigration advising to international students in Canada, as well as any student or faculty wishing to study, research or conduct projects abroad. The IEC is also home to the University's English for Academic Purposes programs. [Learn more about us.](#)

### FALL 2022 INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ORIENTATION

As the university transitions to in-person classes, our orientation delivery will be both online and in-person. **The in-person orientation will be hosted from Wednesday, August 31st, to Friday, September 2nd, 2022. Registration required!**

We are delivering a number of online webinars to help you get settled into your new home and to ease your academic transition to MSVU. These webinars are scheduled throughout July to August 2022.

Attend as many webinars and answer quizzes correctly for a chance to win a \$20 gift card from the MSVU bookstore.

A promotional graphic for the Fall 2022 New International Student Orientation. It features the MSVU logo and the text 'INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION CENTRE' and 'www.msvu.ca/international'. The main heading is 'FALL 2022 New International Student Orientation' followed by 'Pre-arrival Webinar, July &amp; August, 2022'. Below this, it says 'A CHANCE TO WIN PRIZES' with an arrow pointing to a gold seal that says '\$20 MSVU Bookstore Gift Card'. At the bottom, it lists 'Step 1: Register and attend pre-arrival webinars.' and 'Step 2: Complete pop quizzes after each webinar.'



### Traveling to Canada: COVID-19 Requirements

MSVU international students are no longer required to have their quarantine plans approved by the International Education Centre. However, you are still required to have a quarantine plan to enter Canada. Please continue to check this website as it will help you create your own quarantine plan and will prepare you for your travel to Canada.

If you need further support, please email [international@msvu.ca](mailto:international@msvu.ca).



### Pre-recorded Online Supports

We've gathered a number of online support webinars and workshops that will help you in your transition to Canada. The list is a combination of academic and student life support services and information. Please continue to visit this page as we are continuously adding to the list.



Thank You!  
Questions?

