

International Graduate Students: An Academic Introduction



November 6, 2025

Today's presentation will be available for viewing at:

<https://www.msvu.ca/international/webinars-and-videos>



The screenshot shows the Mount Saint Vincent University website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for myMount / Email, Moodle, WebAdvisor, Library, and Contact Us. A search bar is located on the right. Below this is a main navigation menu with links for Future Students, Academics, Campus Life, International (highlighted with a red circle), Alumni & Donors, Research, and About MSVU. A breadcrumb trail below the navigation menu reads: Home » International Education Centre » Webinars and Workshops. The main content area has a large blue header with the text "Webinars and Workshops". On the left side, there is a sidebar with the heading "International Education Centre" and a dropdown arrow. Below this heading are links for "International Team" and "Our Mission, Vision and Values". The main content area features the heading "Online Support for International Students" in green, followed by a paragraph: "Each semester, the International Education Center offers various online support for our international students. Do not miss the updates listed below that can help you succeed at MSVU. Any questions? Email us at international@msvu.ca."

International Education Centre

International Team

Our Mission, Vision and Values

Webinars and Workshops

Online Support for International Students

Each semester, the International Education Center offers various online support for our international students. Do not miss the updates listed below that can help you succeed at MSVU. Any questions? Email us at international@msvu.ca.



Sarah Jacques

International Student Success Advisor

MSVU International Education Centre

sarah.jacques2@msvu.ca

Which Graduate program are you in?

Please type it in the chat box

- **Applied Human Nutrition**
- **Child & Youth Study**
- **Public Relations & Communication Studies**
- **Family Studies & Gerontology**
- **Women & Gender Studies**
- **Education**



1. Vocabulary & Academic Terms

2. Program Requirements

- ✓ The Graduate Academic Calendar
- ✓ Finding (and Understanding!) Your Program Requirements
- ✓ Rules and Policies

3. Courses

- ✓ Choosing Courses for Yourself
- ✓ Registering for Courses by Yourself
- ✓ Getting Advice from Your Academic Faculty Advisor

4. Helpful Services and Tips

- ✓ Frequently Asked Questions
- ✓ Contact Information
- ✓ Moodle & Online Classrooms





1. **Program**

This is what you applied for and what you will receive a degree, diploma, or certificate for when finished.

Examples:

Master of Applied Human Nutrition

Master of Arts in Child & Youth Study

Master of Education Studies in Lifelong Learning



2. **Courses** vs **Classes**

Courses are what you have to complete to meet your program requirements.

Examples:

GSLI 6200, GAHN 6601

Classes are the individual lecture components of your courses.

Example:

M/W 10:30-11:45

3. **Required Course**

This is a course that you must take as part of your program. It is not optional.

4. **Elective Course**

This is a course that you can take from any grad program. You can choose which courses you want to take as your electives, usually in consultation with your Faculty Academic Advisor or the Graduate Program Coordinator

5. **Special Admission Conditions**

These are additional requirements, listed on your acceptance letter, that you must complete before starting full-time graduate studies.

Examples:

ESL language requirements, additional undergraduate courses, or submission of previous post-secondary transcripts.



6. **Synchronous Online**

This is “real time”, live delivery of an online lecture, and it will also likely be recorded. All students join the virtual classroom at the same time.

7. **Asynchronous Online**

This is a pre-recorded online lecture. All students can access it anytime during the semester. Students must follow a course outline, complete material on their own, and submit assignments by set due dates. The class is not live.

8. **Multi-Mode Online**

This is a course that is a combination of synchronous online classes and asynchronous online classes



- ✓ **The Graduate Academic Calendar**
- ✓ **Finding (and Understanding!) Your Program Requirements**
- ✓ **Rules and Policies**



Finding (and Understanding!) Your Program Requirements

Look in the **Graduate Academic Calendar** to find your specific program requirements:

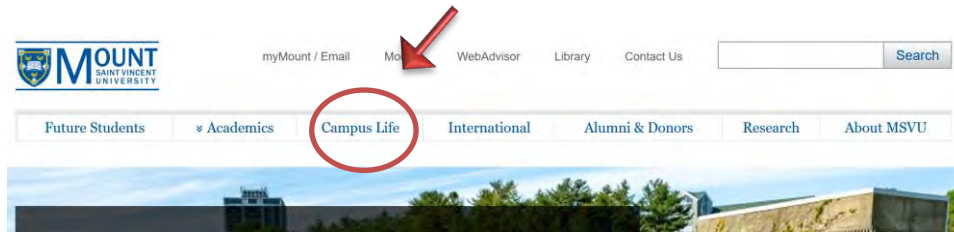
Please note, the Graduate Academic Calendar has all of the information you need. Download it to your computer and read it!

(*We will give you a paper copy at the International Day of Orientation on January 6th)

The Academic Calendar contains:

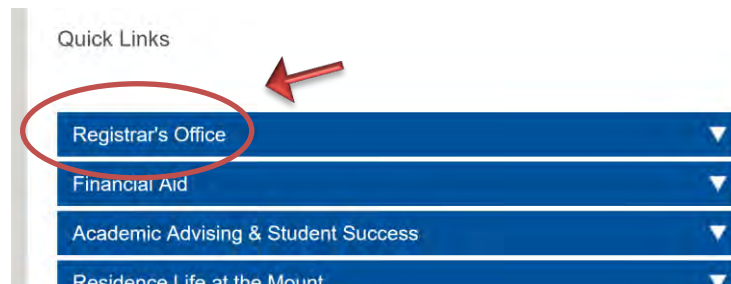
- Your program requirements (i.e. the courses you need to take).
- The rules and policies of the university.

Finding (and Understanding!) Your Program Requirements



1. Go to MSVU.ca

2. Click on “Campus Life”



3. Then, click on
“Registrar's Office”



4. And finally, click on
“Academic Calendars”

Finding (and Understanding!) Your Program Requirements

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.

2024-2025 Undergraduate Academic Calendar»



[Glossary of Terms](#) »

[Programs & Course Listing](#) »

[Admissions Regulations](#) »

[Academic Regulations](#) »

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

2024-2025 Graduate Academic Calendar »



[Glossary of Terms](#) »

[Programs & Course Listing](#) »

[Admissions Regulations](#) »

[Academic Regulations](#) »

[Full Graduate Calendar \(PDF\)](#) »

Click on the Full Graduate Calendar (PDF)



Let's look at it together now...

Finding (and Understanding!) Your Program Requirements

Example from Graduate Academic Calendar:

- **Applied Human Nutrition**
- **Child & Youth Study**
- **Public Relations & Communication Studies**
- **Family Studies & Gerontology**
- **Women & Gender Studies**
- **Education**



Master of Applied Human Nutrition Program Requirements

The program will require completion of 5.0 units. Degree requirements may be completed on a part-time basis.

Required Courses

1.0 unit selected from the following:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| ☐ GAHN 6670 | 0.5 unit |
| ☐ GAHN 6675 | 0.5 unit |
| ☐ GAFS 6613 | 0.5 unit |

Elective Courses

- ☐ 3.0 units of GAHN Electives*:

GAHN 6609	0.5 unit
GAHN 6620	0.5 unit
GAHN 6715	0.5 unit
GAHN 6720	0.5 unit
GAHN 6725	0.5 unit
GAHN 6730	0.5 unit
GAHN 6735	0.5 unit
GAHN 6740	0.5 unit
GAHN 6745	0.5 unit
GAHN 6750	0.5 unit
GAHN 6755	0.5 unit
GAHN 6760	0.5 unit

**May also include any of the Required Courses not selected above. Not all courses are offered every year. Please consult myMount and the department website.*

- | | |
|---|----------|
| ☐ 1.0 unit of graduate level electives | 1.0 unit |
|---|----------|

Note: Electives should be selected in consultation with the graduate studies advisor in accordance with the candidate's

Finding (and Understanding!) Your Program Requirements

1. How many “units” are needed to complete this Master’s program?
2. How many “units” is each course?
3. So, how many courses would you have to take to complete the Master of Applied Human Nutrition at MSVU?



Master of Applied Human Nutrition Program Requirements

The program will require completion of 5.0 units. Degree requirements may be completed on a part-time basis.

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1.0 unit selected from the following:

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☐ GAHN 6675	0.5 unit
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Elective Courses

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☐ 1.0 unit of graduate level electives 1.0 unit

Note: Electives should be selected in consultation with the graduate studies advisor in accordance with the candidate's

Finding (and Understanding!) Your Program Requirements

1. How many “units” are needed to complete this Master’s program?

5.0 units

2. How many “units” is each course?

0.5 units (half of a unit)

3. So, how many courses would you have to take to complete the Master of Applied Human Nutrition at MSVU?

10 courses

Master of Applied Human Nutrition Program Requirements

The program will require completion of 5.0 units. Degree requirements may be completed on a part-time basis.

Required Courses

1.0 unit selected from the following:

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**May also include any of the Required Courses not selected above. Not all courses are offered every year. Please consult myMount and the department website.*

☐ 1.0 unit of graduate level electives 1.0 unit

Note: Electives should be selected in consultation with the

Finding (and Understanding!) Your Program Requirements

1. How many “Required Courses” are needed to complete this Master’s program?
2. How many “Elective Courses” are needed in total to complete this Master’s program?
3. And what is the difference between “GAHN Electives” and “graduate level electives”?



Master of Applied Human Nutrition Program Requirements

The program will require completion of 5.0 units. Degree requirements may be completed on a part-time basis.

Required Courses

1.0 unit selected from the following:

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☐ GAHN 6675	0.5 unit
☐ GAFS 6613	0.5 unit

Elective Courses

☐ 3.0 units of GAHN Electives*:

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☐ 1.0 unit of graduate level electives 1.0 unit

Note: Electives should be selected in consultation with the

Finding (and Understanding!) Your Program Requirements

1. How many “Required Courses” are needed to complete this Master’s program?

1.0 units = 2 courses

2. How many “Elective Courses” are needed in total to complete this Master’s program?

3.0 + 1.0 = 4.0 units
= 8 courses

3. And what is the difference between “GAHN Electives” and “graduate level electives”?

Master of Applied Human Nutrition Program Requirements

The program will require completion of 5.0 units. Degree requirements may be completed on a part-time basis.

Required Courses

1.0 unit selected from the following:

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☐ 1.0 unit of graduate level electives 1.0 unit

Note: Electives should be selected in consultation with the

Finding (and Understanding!) Your Program Requirements

3. And what is the difference between “GAHN Electives” and “graduate level electives”?

GAHN Electives are only this list here.

Graduate level electives are any courses from any graduate program. But this needs to be selected with the approval of your academic faculty advisor.

Master of Applied Human Nutrition Program Requirements

The program will require completion of 5.0 units. Degree requirements may be completed on a part-time basis.

Required Courses

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☒ 1.0 unit of graduate level electives 1.0 unit

Note: Electives should be selected in consultation with the graduate studies advisor in accordance with the candidate's



Use the Graduate Academic Calendar to find all information about your degree program and all information on program and university policies.

- ✓ **Choosing Courses for Yourself**
- ✓ **Registering for Courses by Yourself**
- ✓ **Getting Advice from Your Academic Faculty Advisor**



Choosing Courses for Yourself

- As a Graduate student, you are expected to choose your own courses.
- Here are some helpful tips when choosing them:

1. Taking three courses is considered “full time” status for a student (this is important for immigration purposes).
2. Try to choose in-person classes (not online), and choose Required courses before Elective courses.
3. If your first-choice course is full, add yourself to the “waitlist” for it, and then register for a second-choice course.

You might get in the first-choice course if someone else drops it. Or, if enough people are on the waitlist, they might open another section of it. Check your *myMount* course schedule regularly. If you get in, you’ll want to drop that second-choice course quickly!

4. If registering for elective courses, email your faculty advisor to ask if the ones you selected are appropriate.



Registering for Courses

- You are expected to register yourself for the courses you choose.
- Here are some helpful tips about registration:
 1. Register for courses as soon as possible. They fill up quickly.
 2. Classes start on Wednesday, January 7th.
The last day to add/drop a course is Wed, Jan 14th.
The last day to pay your fees is Wed, Jan 14th.
 3. Use *myMount* to register for courses, as well as to see:
 - your schedule
 - your grades
 - your financial account
 - scholarship/bursary information
 - and how to get help for anything!



Let's look at *myMount* together now...

Registering for Courses

After this presentation, you can click on this link and watch the “[How do I register for courses?](#)” video to review this info and learn more.



REGISTERING FOR CLASSES
USING MYMOUNT

Getting Advice from Your Academic Advisor

You may reach out to your Faculty Academic Advisor directly if you have any questions about course selections during your program planning. Check your Acceptance Letter from MSVU to find the contact information of your Faculty Advisor.

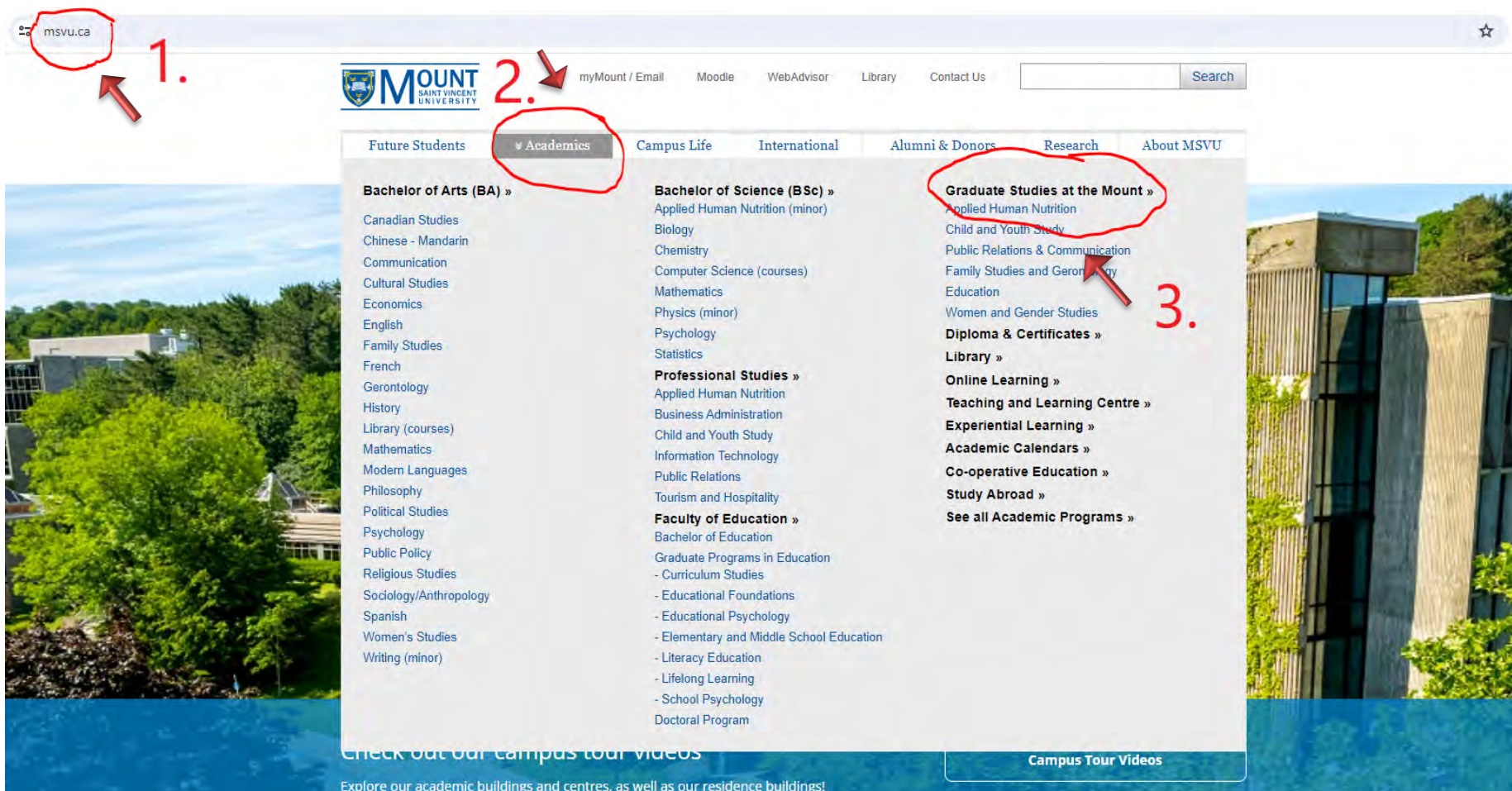
You can also email graduate@msvu.ca with questions. Be sure to include your name, student number and degree (academic program) in your request.

Replies sometimes take several days, so please allow for enough response time (and that will also make it less stressful for you as you wait)

- ✓ **Frequently Asked Questions**
- ✓ **Contact Information**
- ✓ **Moodle & Online Classrooms**



Open “Graduate Studies at the Mount”



The screenshot shows the Mount Saint Vincent University website. The address bar at the top left shows 'msvu.ca' circled in red with a red arrow pointing to it, labeled '1.'. The navigation bar at the top contains links: myMount / Email, Moodle, WebAdvisor, Library, Contact Us, and a search box. The 'Academics' link in the navigation bar is circled in red with a red arrow pointing to it, labeled '2.'. Below the navigation bar, the 'Academics' section is expanded, showing three columns of programs. The 'Graduate Studies at the Mount' link in the third column is circled in red with a red arrow pointing to it, labeled '3.'. The background of the website features a large image of a modern building with a glass facade and a green lawn.

msvu.ca

1.

2.

3.

myMount / Email Moodle WebAdvisor Library Contact Us Search

Future Students **Academics** Campus Life International Alumni & Donors Research About MSVU

Bachelor of Arts (BA) »

- Canadian Studies
- Chinese - Mandarin
- Communication
- Cultural Studies
- Economics
- English
- Family Studies
- French
- Gerontology
- History
- Library (courses)
- Mathematics
- Modern Languages
- Philosophy
- Political Studies
- Psychology
- Public Policy
- Religious Studies
- Sociology/Anthropology
- Spanish
- Women's Studies
- Writing (minor)

Bachelor of Science (BSc) »

- Applied Human Nutrition (minor)
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Computer Science (courses)
- Mathematics
- Physics (minor)
- Psychology
- Statistics

Professional Studies »

- Applied Human Nutrition
- Business Administration
- Child and Youth Study
- Information Technology
- Public Relations
- Tourism and Hospitality

Faculty of Education »

- Bachelor of Education
- Graduate Programs in Education
 - Curriculum Studies
 - Educational Foundations
 - Educational Psychology
 - Elementary and Middle School Education
 - Literacy Education
 - Lifelong Learning
 - School Psychology
- Doctoral Program

Graduate Studies at the Mount »

- Applied Human Nutrition
- Child and Youth Study
- Public Relations & Communication
- Family Studies and Gerontology
- Education
- Women and Gender Studies

Diploma & Certificates »

Library »

Online Learning »

Teaching and Learning Centre »

Experiential Learning »

Academic Calendars »

Co-operative Education »

Study Abroad »

See all Academic Programs »

Check out our campus tour videos

Explore our academic buildings and centres, as well as our residence buildings!

Campus Tour Videos

Let's look at it together now...

Using Moodle



Moodle is MSVU's Learning Management System, and it's used for most courses, including in-person, online, blended and multi-access. It is the online space where faculty post course content, host online discussions, administer quizzes and meet in real time with students. Moodle provides a place where students can access course content, submit assignments, complete activities, and communicate with their peers and their instructor. Log in to Moodle through the tab on the MSVU's homepage

Blackboard Collaborate is our online classroom software. It provides a virtual space where faculty and students can meet in real-time, work in groups, chat, and learn together.



Accessing Online Classes (Blackboard Collaborate)

After this presentation, you can click on this link and watch the [instructional video](#) to learn more about accessing your online classes with Blackboard Collaborate.



In this presentation, we talked about...

1. Vocabulary & Academic Terms

2. Program Requirements

- ✓ The Graduate Academic Calendar
- ✓ Finding (and Understanding!) Your Program Requirements
- ✓ Rules and Policies

3. Courses

- ✓ Choosing Courses for Yourself
- ✓ Registering for Courses by Yourself
- ✓ Getting Advice from Your Academic Faculty Advisor

4. Helpful Services and Tips

- ✓ Frequently Asked Questions
- ✓ Contact Information
- ✓ Moodle & Online Classrooms





We are here to help you!

1. For more explanation about anything in this presentation, you can [book an appointment](#) with **Sarah Jacques**, International Student Success Advisor

2. For help with any matter related to immigration, please [make an appointment](#) with **Kay Balite**, International Student Advisor

3. You can review this presentation anytime at msvu.ca/international

4. For any other questions, feel free to email international@msvu.ca



Thank you!

See you on Tuesday,
January 6th
for the **International Day** of
MSVU Orientation!!!

Don't forget to register on the
msvu.ca/international page
(I'll show you now)

