



# Bachelor of Bio-Resource Management

ACADEMIC INFORMATION SESSION

# Who Am I?

- ▶ Melinda Vanryn - Program Counsellor
  - First point of contact
  - General policy help
  - Course schedule difficulties
  - Missed time (long term sickness)
  - Missed final exams

# Goals of this Presentation



- ▶ Meet Melinda.
- ▶ Get Melinda's contact information.
- ▶ Find out more about the program and resources available.
- ▶ Jot down things to keep in mind; note that Melinda sure does have some good information.
- ▶ Absorb at least 50% of what is talked about. 40% if the weather is nice.

# What Did I Sign Up For?

- ▶ Bachelor of Bio-Resource Management degree program
  - ▶ Four year, honours degree
  - ▶ Three majors:
    - ▶ Environmental Management (EM)
    - ▶ Equine Management (EQM)
    - ▶ Food Industry Management (FIM)

OR

- ▶ Five year, honours degree with Co-op
  - ▶ Three majors:
    - ▶ Environmental Management Co-op (EM:C)
    - ▶ Equine Management Co-op (EQM:C)
    - ▶ Food Industry Management Co-op (FIM:C)

# How is University Different than High School?

- ▶ Responsibilities
  - ▶ You are responsible for knowing policies/procedures.
- ▶ No one will chase down your assignments
  - ▶ If you hand it in late, you will lose marks. Not at all? You'll get 0.
- ▶ Deadlines are deadlines
  - ▶ Things are due when they are due.
- ▶ Learning expectations
  - ▶ Less memory work, more connections/problem solving.
- ▶ You can skip class and no one will notice
  - ▶ Sure, but then how will you do well?

# How are they the same?



- ▶ Involvement is good
  - ▶ Get involved, but learn time management.
- ▶ Instructors are there to help
  - ▶ Be comfortable asking for assistance if needed.
- ▶ Lots of great resources
  - ▶ Use the resources available!

# Being Informed



- ▶ Undergraduate Calendar
  - ▶ Polices, degree requirements, dates, course information etc.
- ▶ Listservs
  - ▶ Emails from me, SFOAC, BBRM Student Council and Registrar's Office.
- ▶ Websites
  - ▶ Search bar on [uoguelph.ca](http://uoguelph.ca)
  - ▶ <https://oac-program-counselling.uoguelph.ca/>

# Being Informed by People



- ▶ Meeting for Majors and Faculty Advisors
  - ▶ September 7<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 11am
    - ▶ Environmental Management with Dr. John Lauzon
      - ▶ MacKinnon room 238
    - ▶ Equine Management with Dr. Wendy Pearson
      - ▶ Animal Science and Nutrition room 141
    - ▶ Food Industry Management with Dr. Maria Corradini
      - ▶ Online via Teams
- ▶ NOT your friends
  - ▶ They are great people, but sometimes are not correctly informed.



# BBRM Student Council



- ▶ Will send listserv emails with information
- ▶ Plan events for all BBRM students
- ▶ Email them with questions and to be added to the listserv: [BBRM.studentcouncil@uoguelph.ca](mailto:BBRM.studentcouncil@uoguelph.ca)

# SFOAC (Student Federation of the Ontario Agricultural College)

- ▶ Will send listserv emails with information
- ▶ Plan events for all OAC students
- ▶ Website: [aggies.ca](http://aggies.ca)

# My Progress and Planning Tool on WebAdvisor

- ▶ Very helpful!
- ▶ A bit quirky (don't use the "Progress bar" as a gauge of your progress 😊).

# Why is the University Structure so Confusing?

- ▶ University is founded on colleges including OAC.
- ▶ Programs/Majors are associated with colleges.
- ▶ Some scholarships/bursaries are too.

# What's with all the Acronyms?

- ▶ OAC is Ontario Agricultural College
  - ▶ The college you are associated with
- ▶ B.B.R.M. is your degree program
  - ▶ This is what will be after your name when you graduate
- ▶ LC is the Learning Commons
  - ▶ In the library; offers writing, research, exam help
- ▶ SAS is Student Accessibilities Services
  - ▶ Offers services for students with disabilities
- ▶ SLG is Supported Learning Groups
  - ▶ Small group learning environments for select courses
- ▶ TA is Teaching Assistant
  - ▶ Work with instructors to help students with specific courses

# Really? There are more?

- ▶ FA is Faculty Advisor
  - ▶ Faculty member who is an expert in your major
- ▶ CIP is Centre for International Programs
  - ▶ Department responsible for exchange
- ▶ EL Hub is Coop and Career Services
  - ▶ Runs job fairs, mock interviews, resume writing help
- ▶ BBRM SC is BBRM Student Council
  - ▶ Your program student government
- ▶ SFOAC is Student Federation of the Ontario Agricultural College
  - ▶ Your college student government
- ▶ CSA is Central Student Association
  - ▶ Your university student government

# Course Survival Tips

- ▶ Ask for help.
  - ▶ I can't emphasize this enough.
- ▶ First day of classes – attend lectures/listen to first lecture
- ▶ Course Outlines
  - ▶ Read them! They contain important information concerning lab times, course policies, deadlines, etc.
- ▶ Courselink
- ▶ Instructors can help you!
- ▶ If a class is not going well talk to someone (who?) before the last class day
- ▶ Know the academic policies!
  - ▶ For example, the continuation of studies and students rights and responsibilities; summer courses count!

# Course Notes



- ▶ Confirm you have no conflicts NOW!
  - ▶ Note how long some labs/lectures are
- ▶ Why do some of my classes still say times are TBD?
  - ▶ Distance Education (DE) vs. Virtual
- ▶ Do I need to “attend” synchronous courses?
  - ▶ Read outlines carefully to see what the requirements and resources are for each course
- ▶ I don't have a scheduled exam. Is that normal?
  - ▶ Alternates to exams



# Important Dates

- ▶ Last day to add classes:
  - ▶ September 16<sup>th</sup>
- ▶ Last day to drop classes (Last Class Day):
  - ▶ December 2<sup>nd</sup>
- ▶ All dates:
  - ▶ <https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c03/index.shtml>

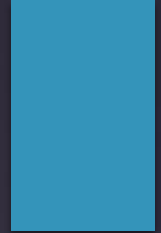
# Take Away Tips

- ▶ Network
  - ▶ Make connections with not only students, but faculty, staff and alumni.
- ▶ Ask for Help
  - ▶ Course selection, job searching, if you are struggling etc.
- ▶ Take Advantage of Resources
  - ▶ Chances are, we have a resource for you!
- ▶ Explore Opportunities
  - ▶ Build your marketable skills through various opportunities to get involved.
- ▶ Reflect
  - ▶ Take the time to think about what you are learning; what skills are you taking away for future employment?

# Helpful Websites

- Program Counsellor Website: <https://oac-program-counselling.uoguelph.ca/>
- SFOAC Website: <http://aggies.ca/>
- Counselling Services: <https://wellness.uoguelph.ca/counselling/>
- Student Accessibility Services: <https://wellness.uoguelph.ca/accessibility/>
- CSA [www.csaonline.ca](http://www.csaonline.ca)
- Learning Commons: <https://learningcommons.lib.uoguelph.ca/>
- Career Services: <https://www.recruitguelph.ca/cecs/>
- The Cannon: [www.thecannon.ca](http://www.thecannon.ca)
- Athletics: <http://gryphons.ca/>
- Experiential Learning Opportunities: <https://experienceguelph.ca/home.htm>

# That Melinda Sure is Helpful...



- Office Location: Johnston Hall room133A
  - Melinda's email: [mavanryn@uoguelph.ca](mailto:mavanryn@uoguelph.ca)
- Program Counselling Office Doors Open:
  - 10am – 3pm Monday to Thursday and 10am – 12pm Friday
  - Robyn is available at the front desk for quick questions
- Booking appointments:
  - Book by contacting Robyn: [oac.pco@uoguelph.ca](mailto:oac.pco@uoguelph.ca)
  - Virtual and In-Person appointments available
  - Watch for the construction in Johnston Hall!

# What if I'm in crisis?

- ▶ Crisis Text Line - [Text UofG to 686868](#)
- ▶ Good2talk Helpline [1-866-925-5454](tel:1-866-925-5454) [www.good2talk.ca](http://www.good2talk.ca)
- ▶ 24-hour Indian Residential School Crisis Line - [1-866-925-4419](tel:1-866-925-4419)
- ▶ Victim Services Wellington – [519-824-1212](tel:519-824-1212) ext. [7304](tel:7304) or [victim@vsw.on.ca](mailto:victim@vsw.on.ca)
- ▶ Guelph-Wellington Women in Crisis (24/7 crisis line) – [519-836-5710](tel:519-836-5710) or [adminrec@gwwomenincrisis.org](mailto:adminrec@gwwomenincrisis.org)
- ▶ Torchlight (24/7 toll-free) – [1-888-821-3760](tel:1-888-821-3760) or [519-821-3760](tel:519-821-3760)
- ▶ HERE 24/7 – [1-844-437-3247](tel:1-844-437-3247)