



Bachelor of Science in Agriculture

ACADEMIC INFORMATION SESSION

Who Am I?

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

Goals of this Meeting



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 Science in Agriculture degree program
 - ▶ Four year, honours degree, five with co-op
 - ▶ Undeclared (for now!)
 - ▶ FOUR majors to choose from:
 - ▶ Honours Agriculture
 - ▶ Horticulture
 - ▶ Crop Science
 - ▶ Animal Science
 - ▶ Minor? Yes.



Being Informed



Undergraduate Calendar

Polices, degree requirements, dates, course information etc.

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate>



Listservs

Emails from me, SFOAC and Registrar's Office.



Websites

Search bar on uoguelph.ca

<https://oac-program-counselling.uoguelph.ca/>

Being Informed by People

- ▶ Faculty Advisors:
 - Animal Science – Dr. Andy Robinson
 - Horticulture – Dr. Barry Micallef
 - Crop Science – Dr. François Tardif (next year!)
 - Honours Agriculture – Dr. Lee-Anne Huber
- ▶ No Meeting for Majors!
 - ▶ We will set up a meeting in Winter semester to dig into majors a bit more
- ▶ NOT your friends
 - ▶ They are great people, but sometimes are not correctly informed.

SFOAC (Student Federation of the Ontario Agricultural College)



Will send listserv
emails with
information



Plan events for all
OAC students



Website: aggies.ca

Viewing your Schedule

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
9am					AGR*1110*0102 SEM	CHEM*1040*05/ EXAM	
10am							
11am							
12pm		BIOL*1050*0110 LEC		BIOL*1050*0110 LEC		BIOL*1050*0110 EXAM	BIOL*1050*0110 LEC
1pm			BIOL*1050*0110 LAB				
2pm		AGR*1110*0102 LEC		AGR*1110*0102 LEC		AGR*1110*0102 LEC	
3pm					CHEM*1040*05A6 LAB		
4pm		CHEM*1040*05A6 LEC		CHEM*1040*05A6 LEC		CHEM*1040*05A6 LEC	
5pm							
6pm		MATH*1080*0203 LEC		MATH*1080*0203 LEC	MATH*1080*0203 LAB		
7pm			AGR*1110*0102 EXAM	MATH*1080*0203 EXAM			
8pm							
9pm							

Schedule Print Feature



Fall 2025						Planned: 0 Credits	Enrolled: 2.50 Credits	Waitlisted:
Schedule Details								
Status	Course Title	Credits	Time	Location	Instructor			
Registered, but not started	AGR*1110*0101: Intro to Agri-Food Systems	1 Credits	LEC MWF 1:30 PM - 2:20 PM 9/4/2025 - 12/12/2025 SEM T 8:30 AM - 11:20 AM 9/4/2025 - 12/12/2025 EXAM T 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM 12/2/2025 - 12/2/2025	LEC ALEX, 100 SEM CRSC, 121A EXAM TBD, TBD	Robinson, A Raizada, M Pudasaini, R			
Registered, but not started	BIOL*1050*0102: Biology of Managed Ecosystems	0.50 Credits	LEC MWF 11:30 AM - 12:20 PM 9/4/2025 - 12/12/2025 LAB W 3:30 PM - 5:20 PM 9/4/2025 - 12/12/2025 EXAM F 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM 12/5/2025 - 12/5/2025	LEC ROZH, 104 LAB CRSC, 121B EXAM TBD, TBD	Robinson, A Klarie, E Kalischuk, M Gebre, M			
Registered, but not started	CHEM*1040*0485: General Chemistry I	0.50 Credits	LEC MWF 8:30 AM - 9:20 AM 9/4/2025 - 12/12/2025 LAB Th 7:00 PM - 8:50 PM 9/4/2025 - 12/12/2025 EXAM Th 8:30 AM - 10:30 AM 12/4/2025 - 12/4/2025	LEC WMEM, 103 LAB SSC, 2102 EXAM TBD, TBD	Auzanneau, F			
Registered, but not started	MATH*1080*0303: Elements of Calculus I	0.50 Credits	LEC MWF 12:30 PM - 1:20 PM 9/4/2025 - 12/12/2025 LAB Th 5:30 PM - 6:20 PM 9/4/2025 - 12/12/2025 EXAM W 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM 12/10/2025 - 12/10/2025	LEC ROZH, 104 LAB ROZH, 101 EXAM TBD, TBD	Kraus, D			

Course Notes

Confirm you have
no conflicts NOW!

- Note how long some labs/lectures are
- Exam conflicts

Why do some of
my classes still say
times are TBD?

- Distance Education (DE) vs. Virtual

I don't have a
scheduled exam. Is
that normal?

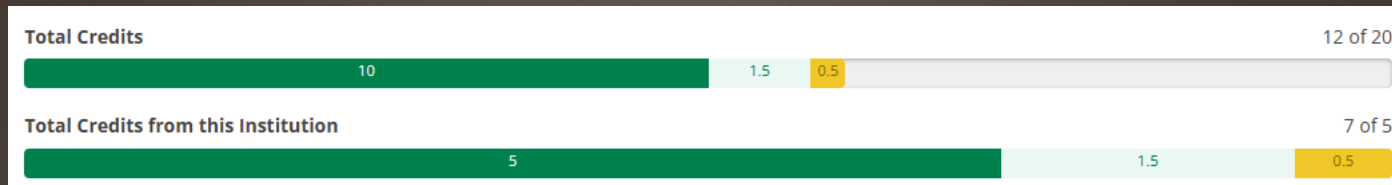
- Alternates to exams

Textbooks

- Required ones in course outline

My Progress and Planning Tools on WebAdvisor

- ▶ Very helpful!
- ▶ Look at total credits and (once declared), lists of requirements



Timeline in WebAdvisor

Timeline

	Fall 2025	Winter 2026	Summer 2026	Fall 2026
	<div>AGR*2320*0102: Soils in Agroecosystems ✓ Credits: 0.50 Credits</div> <div>AGR*2470*0106: Intro to Plant Agriculture ✓ Credits: 0.50 Credits</div> <div>BOT*2100*0103: Life Strategies of Plants ✓ Credits: 0.50 Credits</div> <div>FARE*2700*01: Survey of Natural Res Econ Credits: 0.50 Credits</div> <div>MATH*1080*DE01: Elements of Calculus I ✓ Credits: 0.50 Credits</div> <div>MBG*2400*0107: Plant & Animal Genetics ✓ Credits: 0.50 Credits</div>	<div>AGR*2050*01: Agroecology ✓ Credits: 0.50 Credits</div> <div>BIOC*2580*010D: Introduction to Biochemistry ✓ Credits: 0.50 Credits</div> <div>ENVS*2040*01: Plant Health & the Environment ✓ Credits: 0.50 Credits</div> <div>ENVS*2080*0104: Intro. Env. Microbiology ✓ Credits: 0.50 Credits</div> <div>STAT*2040*DE01: Statistics I ✓ Credits: 0.50 Credits</div>	<div>BIOL*2060: Ecology Credits: 0.50 Credits</div> <div>BIOL*2400: Evolution Credits: 0.50 Credits</div>	<div>AGR*3450: Research Methods Credits: 0.50 Credits</div> <div>FOOD*3090: Food Science & Human Nutrition Credits: 0.50 Credits</div> <div>HORT*3010: Annual, Perennial & Indoor Pl Credits: 0.50 Credits</div> <div>HORT*3150: Principles Plant Propagation Credits: 0.50 Credits</div> <div>HORT*3270: Medicinal Plants Credits: 0.50 Credits</div>
its	2.50 Enrolled Credits, 0.50 Planned Credits	2.50 Enrolled Credits	1 Planned Credits	2.50 Planned Credits

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.

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!

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.

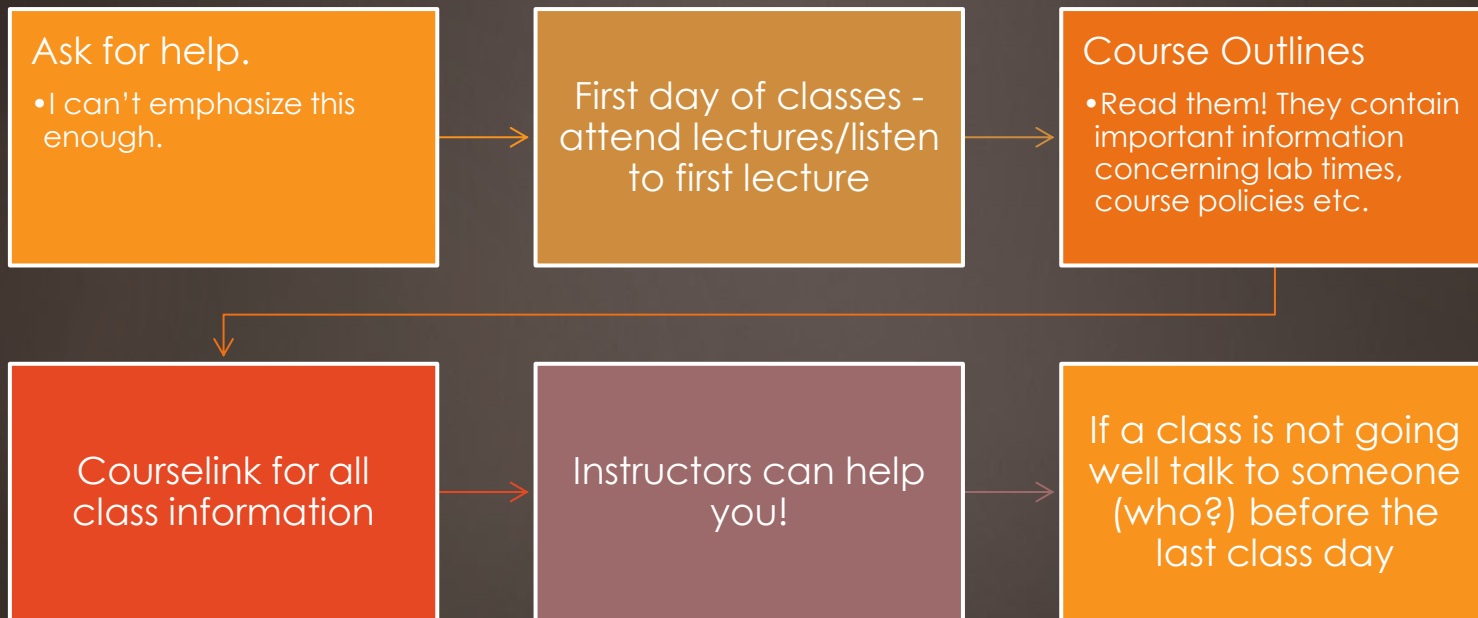
What's with all the Acronyms?

- ▶ OAC is Ontario Agricultural College
 - ▶ The college you are associated with
- ▶ B.Sc.(Agr.) is your degree program (or BSAG)
 - ▶ 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

Really? There are more?

- ▶ TA is Teaching Assistant
 - ▶ Work with instructors to help students with specific courses
- ▶ 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 Experiential Learning Hub
 - ▶ Runs job fairs, mock interviews, resume writing help
- ▶ 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



More Course Notes

Labs/Seminars

- Might not be running this week; check course outline/Courselink

Finding classrooms:

- <https://classfind.com/guelph>
- <https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/scheduling/buildingcodes-col>

Know the academic policies!

- For example, the continuation of studies and student's rights and responsibilities; summer courses count!

Important Dates



Last day to add classes:

September 12th



**Last day to drop classes
(Last Class Day):**

November 28th



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

- Academic Advising 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
- Learning Commons: <https://www.lib.uoguelph.ca/using-library/spaces/learning-commons>
- EL Hub: <https://www.recruitguelph.ca/cecs/>
- The Cannon: www.thecannon.ca
- Athletics: <http://gryphons.ca/>

That Melinda Sure is Helpful...

- Office Location: Johnston Hall room133A
 - Melinda's email: mavanryn@uoguelph.ca
- Program Counselling Office Doors Open:
 - 10am – 3pm Monday to Thursday and 10am – 12pm Friday
 - August is available at the front desk for quick questions
- Booking appointments:
 - Book by contacting August: oac.pco@uoguelph.ca
 - Virtual and In-Person appointments available
 - August is available at the front desk for quick questions
- My availability:
 - Only during work hours (no weekends or nights)

Drop In Hours

For quick questions answered (in the order students arrive):

- ▶ Tuesday, September 2nd – 2pm to 3pm
- ▶ Thursday, September 4th – 1pm to 3pm
- ▶ Monday, September 8th – 1pm to 3pm
- ▶ Tuesday, September 9th – 1pm to 2pm
- ▶ Wednesday, September 10th – 2pm to 3pm
- ▶ Thursday, September 11th – 11:30am to 12:30pm
- ▶ Friday, September 12th – 10am to 12pm
- ▶ In Johnston Hall, room 133A (talk to August when you arrive)

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
- ▶ 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
- ▶ Guelph-Wellington Women in Crisis (24/7 crisis line) – [519-836-5710](tel:519-836-5710) or adminrec@gwwomenincrisis.org
- ▶ HERE 24/7 – [1-844-437-3247](tel:1-844-437-3247)
- ▶ Suicide Crisis Helpline – [Text or call 988](#)