need-to-know

Course drop deadline

The deadline to drop a fall session course without academic penalty is **October 27**. Late drop requests (after the deadline) are normally only considered for documented health or other serious personal circumstances and will need approval of the graduate unit offering the course, your home unit and the School of Graduate Studies. Use the Course Add/Drop form for late drop requests.

Undergraduate courses and 500-level courses have their own deadlines to drop without academic penalty. Consult your home unit if in doubt.

Withdrawal from courses or programs without academic penalty does not necessarily result in a refund. See Student Fees for the refund schedule.

Graduating in November?

The Office of Convocation has a handy Graduation Checklist to keep you on track for November graduation. As of **October 15** you can book your gown and hood, request guest tickets and RSVP your attendance at the Office of Convocation website. Unable to attend? The Office of Convocation offers diploma delivery service.

**Fees paid up?** Please note that in order to receive a diploma, order transcripts, or receive a letter certifying completion, all your fees must be paid in full.

**Submission deadline:** All degree requirements must be met by **October 3**, including degree recommendation (for Master's students) and submission of a final approved thesis for all doctoral and doctoral stream master's students. See Producing Your Thesis for details.

Change of status or international fees exemption

If your immigration status changes in the fall session or if you qualify
for an international fees exemption, you have until October 31 to apply for an adjustment to domestic fees for the fall session. To qualify, you must present evidence of your status change or eligibility for exemption from international fees at the SGS student information desk at 63 St. George Street.

**Supervision: It's a shared relationship**

Good supervision is a foundation of graduate education, a responsibility shared by the student, supervisor and the graduate unit. SGS has guidelines for Graduate Supervision as well as advice for maintaining a good supervisory relationship and what to do if problems arise.

**money matters**

**Canada Graduate Scholarship (Master's Program), NSERC, SSHRC & CIHR**

The CGS M competition is now accepting applications for NSERC, SSHRC and CIHR scholarships. Apply early and enter your referee information ASAP! The application deadline is December 1.

Information about Doctoral level NSERC, SSHRC and CIHR scholarships is available on the SGS Federal Awards website.

**OGS application opens October 15**

Graduate students applying for an Ontario Graduate Scholarship (OGS) to hold at U of T in the 2015-2016 academic year, must apply online before your home unit's published deadline. The U of T online OGS application goes live October 15.

**Master's Tuition Fee Bursary (MTFB)**

Master's students who must register beyond their degree program length to complete a modest amount of work (e.g. FOE or 0.5 course only) due to unanticipated factors, may be eligible for an SGS Master's Tuition Fee Bursary (MTFB). MTF bursaries are available for the fall and winter sessions but applications should only be submitted once all program requirements have been completed. Check the MTFB webpage to see if you're eligible and deadlines.

**SGS Conference Grant: October 10 deadline**
The Fall 2014 SGS Conference Grant competition provides funding for full-time doctoral-stream students to present their research at an academic conference that takes place between September 1 and March 31. Apply now! The application closes October 10 at 4:00pm.

**UTAPS Grants: Financial Aid for Students**

Out of province students receiving financial aid from their home provincial/territorial government, or a First Nations band, may be eligible for additional financial support from UTAPS. Use the UTAPS Online Estimator to see if you qualify for a UTAPS grant. Students receiving OSAP are automatically considered based on your OSAP needs assessment; a separate UTAPS application is not required.

**Trudeau Foundation Scholarships**

Trudeau Foundation Scholarships are available to first or second year social sciences and humanities doctoral students pursuing research of compelling present-day concerns. Valued at $40,000/year and renewable for up to three years, Trudeau Foundation Scholarships target students who are expected to become leading national and international figures. For more information on how to apply and a look at our U of T 2013 and 2014 winners visit SGS External Awards. Applications are typically due to your graduate unit in October – ask your graduate administrator for details.

**National Student Loan Service Centre (NSLSC): New email system**

The NSLSC will no longer correspond with students by mail about their student loan. Instead a new “Funding Confirmed notice” will be posted to the student’s secure online mailbox within the NSLSC On-Line Services website. Students who do not currently have an account with NSLSC On-Line Services, will be notified by email to register. See the NSLSC website for details

**events**

**Mental Wellness Month**

Join us during the month of October for a series of events to help you identify your strengths and build new skills that will help you cope with whatever challenges you may face. Reach out. Slow down. Build skills.

- Learn how to balance responsibilities and relaxation
- Reach out and engage with your community
- Slow down and be mindful of your experiences
- Learn how to apply these skills to the rest of your university experience and beyond
Muffin Madness

Everyone is welcome to escape their studies, chat with amazing people and eat delicious muffins on Wednesdays at 4:00pm at the Meeting Room, Multi-Faith Centre.

Traditional Canadian Thanksgiving Dinner

Experience a traditional Canadian Thanksgiving Dinner on October 9, Great Hall, Hart House. This traditional feast, prepared by Chef Marco Tucci will feature turkey with all the trimmings, a variety of local side dishes, vegetarian entrée plus a number of aboriginal dishes. Tickets are required.

Grad Escapes: Get to know Toronto & Femme Playlist

Experience thesis avoidance with style! Join Grad Escapes for an exploration of the Annex on October 16 (free) or Femme Playlist at the Buddies in Bad Times Theatre on October 23 ($16 each, limit 2). Tickets are available via bookit.

Open Mic Night

Whether you are a songwriter, poet, dancer or wish to perform and share your skills, we want to see it! Join CIE for their bi-weekly open mic sessions, October 3, 17 & 31 from 6:00pm-8:00pm. To register, please contact Marco Adamovic, Global Lounge Coordinator, indicating what you would like to perform, and what materials or equipment you will need.

CIC Information sessions

Join the International Student Immigration Advisor on October 14 from 3:00pm-5:00pm as he highlights Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) changes to the Study Permit program, and the impact on working in Canada. Registration requested.
Culturally Diverse Students and Career Choices

Dr. Caidi (U of T) and Dr. Dali (UWO) are conducting a web based survey of culturally and linguistically diverse students who considered a graduate program in libraries and information studies, but ultimately decided on a different career path. They would like insight into your decision making process. If you would like to participate, click here.

International Transition Advising back to full office hours

Monday through Friday, and most evenings during the week, graduate international students are invited to meet one-to-one with an international transition advisor. Locations include: Architecture, Engineering, OISE, SGS, Grad Room & Grad House, Chestnut Street Residence, and soon, the Sidney Smith Lobby.

supports & resources

Graduate Professional Skills (GPS)

GPS has a variety of offerings to strengthen your professional skills for success within and beyond the academe. Sign up for some of the GPS fall offerings.

Entrepreneurship 101: MaRS is launching a free Entrepreneurship 101 series that you can attend in person or online. It is an excellent way to gain business skills from some of the most innovative minds in the industry. For more information or to register visit Entrepreneurship 101.

Getting through graduate work with ELWS

The Office of English Language and Writing Support will be offering a series of free workshops through October on topics related to getting through your graduate work. No registration is required for these single-session workshops, but space is limited, so arrive early. Check the workshop schedule for topics, locations and times.

Online registration for October ELWS courses starts October 7 at 10:00am.

Health Services
U of T's health services provide confidential, student-centred health care, including comprehensive medical care, travel education, immunization, counselling, and referrals.

St. George Health Service
Mississauga Health and Counselling Centre
Scarborough Health and Wellness Centre

MyGradSkills.ca

Ontario graduate students have a new way to enhance their professional skills. MyGradSkills.ca has online courses designed for you. Learn how to manage your research, plan lessons, become a mentor, improve your intercultural competency skills and much more.

Sexual and Gender Diversity Office

The Sexual & Gender Diversity Office (SGDO) provides innovative education, programming, resources and advocacy on sexual and gender diversity for students, staff and faculty across the University's three campuses. Learn more on line, email or call the Sexual and Gender Diversity Office at 416-946-5624.

SGS financial counselling service

Don't let financial problems get out of control. SGS Financial Counsellors are trained to assist students in all aspects of financial management including planning a budget and debt load management. For more information or to schedule an appointment call the Graduate Awards Office (GAO) at 416-946-0808.