

International Graduate Students: An Academic Introduction



November 7, 2024

Today's presentation will be recorded and posted to:

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



The screenshot shows the Mount Saint Vincent University website. At the top left is the university logo. To the right are links for myMount / Email, Moodle, WebAdvisor, Library, and Contact Us, followed by a search box. A navigation menu below contains links for Future Students, Academics, Campus Life, International (circled in red), Alumni & Donors, Research, and About MSVU. A breadcrumb trail below the menu reads: Home » International Education Centre » Webinars and Workshops (highlighted with a red box). A large blue banner below the menu contains the text "Webinars and Workshops". On the left side, there is a sidebar menu for the International Education Centre with a dropdown arrow, listing "International Team" and "Our Mission, Vision and Values". The main content area features the heading "Online Support for International Students" and 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."



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**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:

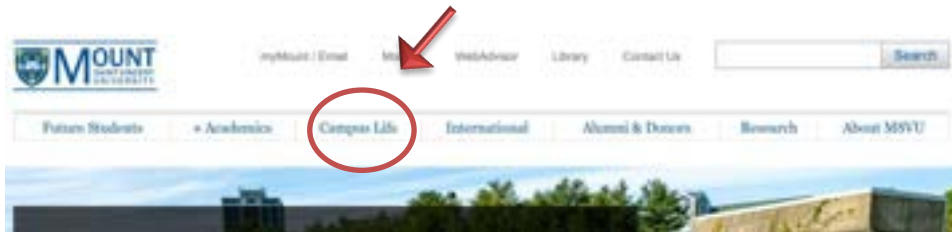
- 1. Go to MSVU.ca
- 2. Click on “Campus Life”
- 3. Click on “Registrar's Office”
- 4. Click on “Academic Calendars”

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 in January)

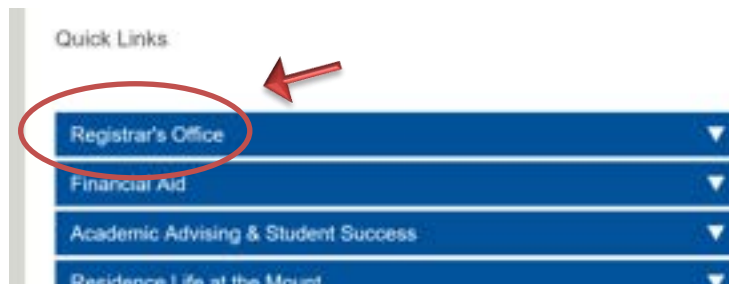
The Academic Calendar contains:

- 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

1.5 unit selected from the following:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> GAHN 6609 | 0.5 unit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GAHN 6675 | 0.5 unit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GAHN 6670 | 0.5 unit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GFSG 6613 | 0.5 unit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GAHN 6720 | 0.5 unit |

Elective Courses

- 2.5 units of GAHN Electives*:
 - 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. Some courses may be offered in alternate years*

- 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.

Required Courses

1.5 unit selected from the following:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> GAHN 6609 | 0.5 unit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GAHN 6675 | 0.5 unit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GAHN 6670 | 0.5 unit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GFSG 6613 | 0.5 unit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GAHN 6720 | 0.5 unit |

Elective Courses

2.5 units of GAHN Electives*:

- | | |
|-----------|----------|
| 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. Some courses may be offered in alternate years

- | | |
|---|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1.0 unit of graduate level electives | 1.0 unit |
|---|----------|

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

1.5 unit selected from the following:

<input type="checkbox"/> GAHN 6609	0.5 unit
<input type="checkbox"/> GAHN 6675	0.5 unit
<input type="checkbox"/> GAHN 6670	0.5 unit
<input type="checkbox"/> GFSG 6613	0.5 unit
<input type="checkbox"/> GAHN 6720	0.5 unit

Elective Courses

2.5 units of GAHN Electives*:

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. Some courses may be offered in alternate years

1.0 unit of graduate level electives 1.0 unit

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

1.5 unit selected from the following:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> GAHN 6609 | 0.5 unit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GAHN 6675 | 0.5 unit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GAHN 6670 | 0.5 unit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GFSG 6613 | 0.5 unit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GAHN 6720 | 0.5 unit |

Elective Courses

2.5 units of GAHN Electives*:

- | | |
|-----------|----------|
| 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. Some courses may be offered in alternate years*

- | | |
|---|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1.0 unit of graduate level electives | 1.0 unit |
|---|----------|

Finding (and Understanding!) Your Program Requirements

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

1.5 units = 3 courses

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

2.5 + 1.0 = 3.5 units
= 7 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

1.5 unit selected from the following:

<input type="checkbox"/> GAHN 6609	0.5 unit
<input type="checkbox"/> GAHN 6675	0.5 unit
<input type="checkbox"/> GAHN 6670	0.5 unit
<input type="checkbox"/> GFSG 6613	0.5 unit
<input type="checkbox"/> GAHN 6720	0.5 unit

Elective Courses

2.5 units of GAHN Electives*:

GAHN 6715	0.5 unit
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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. Some courses may be offered in alternate years

1.0 unit of graduate level electives 1.0 unit

Finding (and Understanding!) Your Program Requirements

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

1.5 unit selected from the following:

<input type="checkbox"/> GAHN 6609	0.5 unit
<input type="checkbox"/> GAHN 6675	0.5 unit
<input type="checkbox"/> GAHN 6670	0.5 unit
<input type="checkbox"/> GFSG 6613	0.5 unit
<input type="checkbox"/> GAHN 6720	0.5 unit

Elective Courses

2.5 units of GAHN Electives*:

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. Some courses may be offered in alternate years

<input type="checkbox"/> 1.0 unit of graduate level electives	1.0 unit
---	----------

Note: Electives should be selected in consultation with the

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.



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 Monday, January 6th.
The last day to drop a course is January 13th.
The last day to pay your fees is January 13th.
 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.



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.

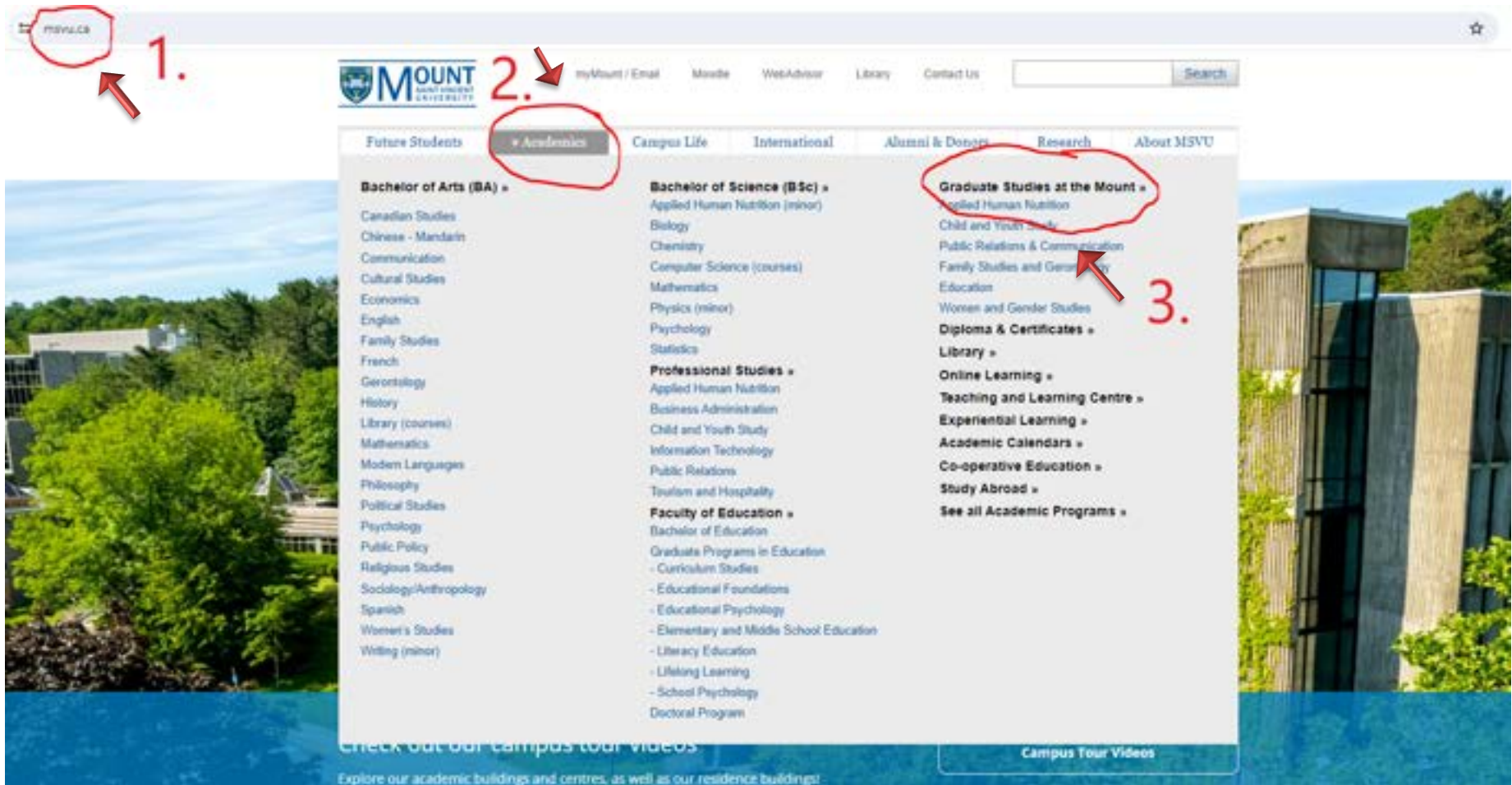
You can also email graduate@msvu.ca with questions. Be sure to include your name, student number and degree (academic program) in your request.

Replies often 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 MSVU website with three red annotations: 1. A red circle around the 'msvu.ca' address bar with an arrow pointing to it. 2. A red circle around the 'Academics' menu item in the top navigation bar with an arrow pointing to it. 3. A red circle around the 'Graduate Studies at the Mount' link in the 'Academics' dropdown menu with an arrow pointing to it.

1. msvu.ca

2. **Academics**

3. **Graduate Studies at the Mount**

- 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**

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



Any Questions?



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 Friday, Jan 3rd
for the **International Day** of
MSVU Orientation!!!

