Preparing for the Fall Term

With the summer term already underway, it seems as though the Fall term is not far behind. As many of us prepare to adjust to the new normal brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, York University has already announced that the vast majority of classes will be held online. The move to online classes will no doubt bring forth challenges, with regards to how students learn and prepare for a virtual school term. Here at ACMAPS, we’ve compiled a checklist of tasks to help you prepare to succeed for the Fall term!

Note: This blog is for current mature students, if you are a first-year student, please visit the YU START page.

Find out your enrolment date

Enrolment for the Fall 2020 - 2021 undergraduate term will begin at the end of June. To find out when you can begin enrolling in classes, you can click on Student Web Services and View My Enrolment Access Times. Enrolling in classes on time is important, as it increases the likelihood that you will gain access to your preferred class times.
Visual Schedule Builder

Once you’ve found your enrolment date, you can begin planning out the courses you need to take. The Visual Schedule Builder, available on the York University website, is a great tool that helps students view potential schedule options based on their preferences for morning classes, night classes, or certain blocks during the week where they would prefer to have no classes. The Visual Schedule Builder helps you to create an optimal schedule that meets your needs during the week, especially if you’ll be balancing dropping your children off to school, a part-time job, or other commitments.

Academic Advising

With many York University buildings still being closed to the public, academic advising has now moved online. Regardless of your faculty, academic advisors can now be contacted via email or other methods, through which students can ask questions and expect responses. If you’re unsure of the courses you may have to take this upcoming year, have questions about prerequisites or about your degree progress, we highly recommend contacting your respective academic advising office. Speaking with an academic advisor can help ensure that you are meeting your degree requirements and ease some of the anxiety that comes with choosing courses.

Apply for OSAP

Once you’ve used the Visual Schedule Builder to plan out your classes and then chosen them through the Registration Enrolment Module, it becomes time to apply for OSAP. If you’re applying for OSAP, the recommended date to apply to receive funds by the beginning of the fall term, is June 30th. Students may choose to receive only grants or a mix of both grants and loans. While loans must be paid back, grants are not to be paid back and are usually awarded on the basis of financial need and other factors.

Learning Skills Services

The move to online classes will also affect how we study and complete assignments, therefore, Learning Skills Services has compiled resources on how to study effectively during the COVID-19 pandemic, including how to tackle online exams and make the most of distance learning. Each of Learning Skills Services select workshops will also be held as online webinars via Zoom, ranging from topics on time management to exam preparation.
These are just a few tasks you can complete to prepare yourself for the upcoming school year. While we are all struggling with the uncertainties brought forth by the COVID-19 pandemic, ACMAPS is here to help mature and part-time students succeed, by hosting weekly Virtual Cafe Hours with peer mentors and other events throughout the year. We wish you the best of luck with the Fall/Winter 2020 – 2021 school year!