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# Ontario Tech U Campus Community

## Ontario Tech Student Union

The Ontario Tech Student Union ([OTSU](#)) is a student-led organization dedicated to enhancing the student experience at Ontario Tech university and providing students with services and amenities that support physical and mental well-being, collaborative spaces to pursue passions and foster development, and improve student life through advocacy and leadership.

To learn about student clubs at Ontario Tech U, please visit OTSU's [Clubs](#) page.

## Student Learning Center

The [Student Learning Centre](#) at Ontario Tech offers a variety of academic services for students.

- The [Drop-in Study Hall](#) offers students a place to receive support from a subject specialist or peer tutor as needed. Students can book one-to-one with a [Subject Specialist](#) or [Peer Tutor](#) to go over specific questions or topics students need help with.
- [Workshops](#) provide an interactive way to review difficult concepts through collaborative learning.
- [PASS Sessions](#) are review sessions held weekly and are designed to improve students' understanding of course material, develop study strategies and prepare for tests and exams.

## Other Services Offered

[Student Accessibility Services](#) collaborates with students with disabilities to ensure they are provided with equitable opportunities to achieve success during their academic journey.

[Student Mental Health Services](#) provide consultation related to student mental health. The group runs counseling sessions and therapy, as well as other wellness activities.

The Campus Emergency Response Team (CERT) is a group of student volunteers trained as advanced medical first responders. The team responds to medical- and first-aid related situations on campus to help keep our campus safe and provide emergency care to those in need.

## Financial Aid

[Student Awards and Financial Aid Office](#) provide support for students when it comes to paying tuition fees and other expenses. The office also provides OSAP assistance, runs workshops and counseling sessions that help students achieve financial success while pursuing their undergrad.

The [University Works Program](#) creates employment opportunities for domestic students to help them with their financial needs.

## Academic Calendar 2023 - 2024

To view the academic calendar for 2023 - 2024 and/or important dates, please visit the [Undergraduate Academic Calendar](#) page.

### Map of Campus

To view the campus maps, please visit:

- [North Campus Map](#)
- [Downtown Campus Map](#)

## Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science

Reaching out to the [Academic Advising](#) team is a good starting point to know more about the services available to students that help them succeed throughout their academic journey. There are academic advisors specifically for engineering students with whom students can book one-to-one appointments and discuss their queries and for any other additional support.

### First Year Academic Advisor and Contact

#### Sunya Akhtari

The first-year Academic Advisor – Engineering  
Building: OT – Engineering Building, Room: ENG 1027  
Email: [Firstyear.engineering@ontariotechu.ca](mailto:Firstyear.engineering@ontariotechu.ca)

## Program Map

View the Engineering and Applied Science program map for 2023 - 2024 [here](#).

## Clubs and Societies

There are various [Clubs and Societies](#) engineering students can be part of. Active involvement in these clubs is a great platform for students to attend competitions and get hands-on engineering experience. Attending various conferences is a great networking platform for students to further expand their theoretical knowledge into real world applications.

- [Engineering Student Society \(EngSoc\)](#) represents all students in FEAS as a faculty council under the OTSU, as well as engineering specific clubs on campus. You can contact any of the executive members with ideas or questions at [engsoc@ontariotechu.ca](mailto:engsoc@ontariotechu.ca).
- The [Women in Engineering \(WiE\)](#) Program focuses on professional development from the day our students get to Ontario Tech. Workshops and Speaker Series are held throughout the academic year which allows students to strengthen their professional skills while also connecting them with female leaders in the industry.
- [GEARS](#) is a community within the campus residences for engineering students to live surrounded by their engineering peers. This service creates a learning environment for students to work together, help each other and do combined studies.

## Other FEAS Services

[Engineering Co-op Office](#) assists students in finding a co-op or internship that will help them gain valuable engineering work experience while completing their undergraduate degree program.

[Survival Guide](#) is a guide offered to first year engineering students to help them have a smooth transition to university life. The guide clearly provides details about kick-off orientation, academic advising, various clubs and societies engineering students can be part of, co-op & internship program, and other resources provided by Student Learning Centre, Student Accessibility Services, and Student Mental Health Services.

[Peer Mentorship Program](#) is a program where an upper-year engineering student will be paired with a first year engineering student. These peer mentors are available to assist and guide students throughout their first year, offering their expertise to address any



inquiries, and sharing their personal university journey to ensure a smooth transition and successful academic experience.

[First-Year Engineering Success Program](#) is a program mainly dedicated to students who may experience academic difficulties and aims to provide mentorship to students to boost first-year GPA, registering for courses on time, and also help students prepare to continue to excel academically in upper years. In order to register for the First-Year Engineering Success Program and to know more information about the program, students can reach out to their respective academic advisor.

## **Faculty of Social Science and Humanities**

Reaching out to the [Academic Advising](#) team is a good starting point to know more about the services available to students that help them succeed throughout their academic journey. There are academic advisors specifically for FSSH with whom students can book one-to-one appointments and discuss their queries and for any other additional support.

### **First Year Academic Advisor and Contact**

#### **Matt Lucchese**

First-Year Social Science and Humanities Academic Advisor

Building: Charles Hall, 3rd floor

Email: [Firstyear.FSSH@ontariotechu.ca](mailto:Firstyear.FSSH@ontariotechu.ca)

### **Program Map**

View the Social Science and Humanities program map for 2023 - 2024 [here](#).

### **Clubs and Societies**

Ontario Tech Faculty of Social Science and Humanities has a number of societies and associations for students. Being part of the various [Student Clubs](#) is a great networking opportunity as well as to attend events and workshops aiming for career growth.

[Practicum](#) is an experiential learning tool where a limited number of fourth-year FSSH students are granted an opportunity to participate in a learning experience with a community organization.

The [Faculty of Social Science and Humanities Internship](#) (SSCI 4103U) is a great opportunity for students to acquire workplace skills and knowledge and critically

examine the relationship between work-related practices and theories while cultivating a sense of personal and professional development.

[Community Engagement Projects](#) are experiential learning opportunities for FSSH students that integrate service in the community with intentional learning activities.

FSSH [Research Program](#) provides the highest-quality learning experience to students by opening up research opportunities to both graduates and undergraduates. The program aims to create a platform that allows students to be immersed in a variety of different research topics such as hate crime, gender and sexuality, Indigenous law and politics and homelessness.

The [Social Science, Humanities, and Education Library](#) is a mixture of soft seating, open study space, and study carrels located on the main floor in the former Alger Press Building at 61 Charles St.

## **Faculty of Science**

Reaching out to the [Academic Advising](#) team is a good starting point to know more about the services available to students that help them succeed throughout their academic journey. There are academic advisors specifically for Science students with whom they can book one-to-one appointments and discuss their queries and for any other additional support.

### **First Year Academic Advisor and Contact**

#### **Enas Alesana**

First year Academic Advisor - Faculty of Science

Building: OT - Science Building, Room: UA 2042

Email: [Firstyear.Science@ontariotechu.ca](mailto:Firstyear.Science@ontariotechu.ca)

### **Program Map**

View the Social Science and Humanities program map for 2023 - 2024 [here](#).

### **Clubs and Societies**

The [Science Café](#) is a program developed by the Faculty of Science to provide additional academic support and mentorship to undergraduate Science students. This space is also for students looking to meet and connect with other Science students and Teaching Assistants

The [Science Council](#) at OTU initiates, encourages and supports academic, social and athletic activities within the Faculty of Science. [The committee](#) also aims to create awareness and interest in the Science programs through Open House events.

The [Association for Computing Machinery's Women in Computing \(ACM-W\)](#) Student Chapter aims to connect students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) and STEM-related fields where women are a minority especially in computing. [The chapter](#) focuses on career development, professional networking and educational support.

The Forensic Science Student Association (formally the Forensic Science Society) is a student-run club at Ontario Tech University for those with an interest in the field of Forensic Science.

Ontario Tech and Trent university have joined forces to start a chapter between the two school communities ([OTT-WIC](#)) and aims to seek and promote equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) in the chemical sciences, featuring the promotion of women in chemistry.

[Physics Club](#) & [Hack Club](#) are clubs that exist mainly to bring students together, helping them acclimate to life at the university, connecting them to other students, as well as alumni, and can help students develop transferable skills.

The [Unique Learning and Research Environment](#) at Ontario Tech dedicated to the faculty of science offers a variety of academic services with various research aspects and tech features.

Ontario Tech University's [Decomposition Facility](#) is dedicated to conducting vertebrate decomposition experiments in a realistic outdoor environment.

[Science Computing Facilities](#) include an eight-node dual Intel Xeon processor Linux Beowulf cluster, and a four-way Itanium two midrange Hewlett-Packard (HP rx-7620) server.

The [Computational Science and Visualization Laboratory](#) consists of one SGI Fuel Visual workstation, six all-purpose dual-Opteron 250 IBM A Pro workstations, central data storage system and other necessary infrastructures.

[Crime Scene House](#) is a unique facility is where we stage mock crime scenes as laboratory components within our Forensic Science program

The [Aquatic Facility](#) at OTU conduct studies to determine the effects of contaminants and environmental stressors on freshwater fish and other aquatic organisms

[Forensic Laboratory](#) is composed of microscopy techniques, forensic biology instrumentation, forensic chemistry instrumentation and other miscellaneous forensic equipment.

The [Laboratory for Advanced User Interfaces and Virtual Reality](#) provides a range of specialized equipment for 3D graphics, haptic research and user interface

All students have equal access to the same technology resources and services through OTU's [Technology Enriched Learning Environment](#).

Ontario Tech University is a member of Shared Hierarchical Academic Research Computer Network ([SHARCNET](#)), a high-performance computing consortium of 14 universities, two colleges and a research institute based in south-central Ontario.

## **Faculty of Business and IT**

Reaching out to the [Academic Advising](#) team is a good starting point to know more about the services available to students that help them succeed throughout their academic journey. There are academic advisors specifically for FBIT with whom students can book one-to-one appointments and discuss their queries and for any other additional support.

### **First Year Academic Advisor and Contact**

#### **Desiree Saunders**

First Year Business and Information Technology Academic Advisor

Building: OT - Business/IT Building, Room: UB 4026

Email: [firstyear.fbit@ontariotechu.ca](mailto:firstyear.fbit@ontariotechu.ca)

### **Program Map**

View the Social Science and Humanities program map for 2023 - 2024 [here](#).

## Clubs and Societies

[BITSoc \(Business & IT Student Society\)](#) society oversees and promotes the activities of each of FBIT's clubs, bringing awareness to events, aid in funding for clubs, and encourages communication and interaction within FBIT.

[Women in Business \(WiB\) Association](#) provides resources to women on their corporate and entrepreneurial journey and learning opportunities for both the student population and faculty, addressing common obstacles women face in all areas of the business world.

[Women in IT](#) is a student-run sub-association that is committed to empowering and improving the experience of females in IT fields, both inside and outside Ontario Tech University.

[Human Resource Association](#) is a student-run organization dedicated to representing hundreds of students studying to one day be in the HR industry. It is an information portal providing opportunities for students to gain the needed skills, experience, and connections to thrive in their careers in the Human Resources Profession.

To find out more information on various other clubs and societies under the FBIT faculty, please visit the [Students Clubs and Societies](#) page on the Ontario Tech website.

## Faculty of Education

Reaching out to [Academic Advising](#) would be a good starting point to learn about the faculty as you navigate your academic journey. There are academics specifically for first year students for the Faculty of Education. You can book a one-to-one appointment specifically with the first year advisor.

### First Year Academic Advisor and Contact

#### **Matt Lucchese**

First-Year Social Science and Humanities Academic Advisor

Building: Charles Hall, 3rd floor

Email: [Firstyear.FSSH@ontariotechu.ca](mailto:Firstyear.FSSH@ontariotechu.ca)

### Program Map

View the Social Science and Humanities program map for 2023 - 2024 [here](#).

## Clubs and Societies

Field Experience Handbook: As a teacher candidate you will participate in 3 field placements providing you a minimum of 80 days in both observing and teaching. The field handbook provides detailed information about these placements.

Labs: The faculty of education has various labs that focus on a variety of key areas such as: education, technology, health and wellness, social justice, and leadership.

- Educational Informatics (EI) Lab: This is a lab for all faculty of education students. It focuses on innovation, digital readiness, and cross-cultural running
- Ideas Labs: This lab explores the tension, possibilities and inclusion in STEM learning environments, for typically underserved populations of learners and teachers. They have various ongoing current projects which students can be a part of.
- Mental Health & Digital Age Lab: This lab focuses on how technology influences human development and well-being.
- STEAM-3D Maker Lab: The STEAM-3D Maker lab is where students develop and evaluate work, observe and evaluate the impact of 3-d developments, and build affect for investigating and affecting change in formal and informal educational settings.
- PHE WISE Digital Culture Lab: The PHE lab advocates for physical Health Education and sport in Canada. The lab creates digital lessons that encourage students, teachers and parents to get active.

Workshops & Presentations: The faculty of education hosts various workshops, conferences, and presentations throughout the year which are very helpful for students.

Bachelor of Education Student's Association (BESA) supports student life and engagement within the Faculty of Education by hosting events, fundraisers, and charitable drives in order to foster community and comradeship amongst Teacher Candidates.

Contact - [besa@ontariotechu.ca](mailto:besa@ontariotechu.ca)

## Faculty of Health Sciences

Reaching out to the Academic Advising team is a good starting point to know more about the services available to students that help them succeed throughout their academic journey. There are academic advisors specifically for Health Sciences with

whom students can book one-to-one appointments and discuss their queries and for any other additional support.

## **First Year Academic Advisor and Contact**

### **Andrea Kassaris**

First year Academic Advisor – Health Sciences

Building: OT - Shawenjigewining Hall, Room: SHA 421

Email: [Firstyear.HealthSciences@ontariotechu.ca](mailto:Firstyear.HealthSciences@ontariotechu.ca)

## **Program Map**

View the Social Science and Humanities program map for 2023 - 2024 [here](#).

## **Clubs and Societies**

The Ontario Tech Pre-Medical Society is a student-run organization that serves to educate, guide and provide unique resources to all students who wish to pursue an altruistically rewarding career in medicine. The society holds a number of events including:

- MCAT sessions;
- Medical school information sessions;
- Mock interview and CV workshops; and
- Physician and medical student presentations;
- A variety of diverse fundraising and volunteer opportunities.

Interprofessional Health Student Network (IHSN) is an all-inclusive group at the Ontario Tech University (Ontario Tech). We promote interprofessional amongst the Health Sciences students as well as students outside of the program who wish to pursue a career in the field of health.

Med Lab United (MLU) focuses on uniting all Medical Laboratory Science students and representing the Medical Laboratory program and the profession at student association events and meetings.

The Canadian Nursing Students' Association (CNSA) is the voice of Canadian nursing students in provincial, federal and international governments. For more than 30 years, CNSA has represented the interests of nursing students to these governments and other nursing and health-care organizations.

To learn more about these clubs, please visit the Health Sciences [Student Clubs](#) on the Ontario Tech website.

# International Resources

Meet the [International Academic Advisors](#).

For our international and exchange students, we offer various orientation events. These programs are geared to help ease your transition to Ontario Tech. MyStart International is mandatory for all future international students. We encourage you to monitor the [Orientation web page](#) for updates on events as they become available.

The [English Language Center](#) offers students a highly focused English program so they can enroll in their preferred programme at Ontario Tech University.



# FAQs

## **1. What is the process of switching faculties or programs?**

Your [academic advisor](#) will be able to guide you through this process. Ensure that you speak with them first before starting the process.

## **2. What GPA should I keep to get a Coop?**

Each faculty has their own set of requirements for Co-op. Refer to the [Internship and Coop page](#) to find out more.

## **3. How or where do I get assistance with finding Coop placements?**

The [Student Life Centre](#) helps you create resumes and cover letters and even preparations for interviews. This can also be the place to find Co-op.

## **4. What are office hours and how do they work?**

Office hours are hours provided by professors to help aid learners for additional one on one support. A professor's office hours are stated in the course syllabus with a designated time slot and location. Students are highly encouraged to come to the designated time slots in order to achieve a good understanding of the material.

## **5. What happens if I miss a tutorial or lab?**

If a student misses their tutorial or lab, they should be responsible for contacting their TA or lab instructor either through their email or Canvas. Please refer to the course syllabus for Ta's or lab instructor's contact information. It is best to inform your TA or lab instructor a few days prior to your lab or tutorial with a proper reason for absence. Thus, the TA or Lab instructor can allow you to participate in the next lab or tutorial that is scheduled.

## **6. What courses can I hold off on until the summer or later semesters?**

This is dependent on each faculty. You should communicate with your [academic advisor](#) as the courses offered in the summer changes every year.

## **7. What electives are beneficial?**

This is dependent on your program. You should communicate with your [academic advisor](#) to find the best option.

## **8. How should I contact my professor or TA?**

Professors or TA's can be contacted in two ways. A student can contact them through their email or Canvas. Moreover, professors or TA's can be reached through their office hours (refer to Office Hours instructions provided by your Professor in syllabus).

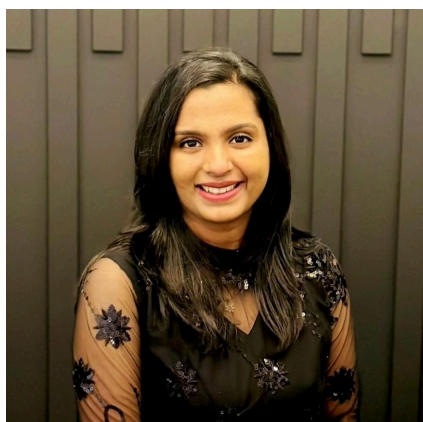
**9. What should I do if I fail a class?**

If a student was unable to achieve a passing grade, they are highly encouraged to contact their [academic advisor](#) provided under their faculty in order to plan their next steps.

**10. Where should I buy textbooks from?**

You can buy your textbooks at the campus bookstore. Another alternative is to rent your books online for a fraction of the price. [Vital Source](#) and [eCampus](#) are great sites to start your research.

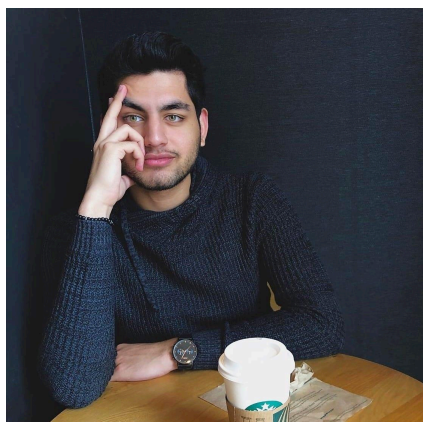
## Meet the OE Lab Team



### **Noopa Kuriakose**

Third year Electrical Engineering – Smart Grid specialization student Noopa joined the OE Lab in May 2021 as a Content Developer and has been a part of the team since. Noopa's all time favorite project is the Multi-Course Case Studies developed for the Faculty of Health Sciences, where she supported the team in the creation of the book.

*"I consider OE Lab as a great platform to apply my skills in a creative and innovative way."* - Noopa



### **Ghufuran Shahid**

Fourth year Mechanical Engineering student, Ghufuran has been with the OE Lab since 2021 as a Content Developer. He is one of the Tech Rovers providing students support with Canvas, as well as an expert in 3D printing models. His all time favorite thing to do is provide drop-in Tech Support as it allows one on one student interactions.

*"I am really excited to see what content we can create for the Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science."* - Ghufuran



### **Aalina Shahid**

Second year Medical Laboratory Science student Aalina is one of our newest Content Developers. She has had the opportunity to work on one of creative projects with OE Lab which is a 3D dissection paper model. With the multiple projects that OE Lab has to offer, I look forward to branching off projects under my faculty and providing resources that upcoming students would appreciate.

*"I usually spend the rest of my time baking, taking long walks, and playing video games."* - Aalina



### **Maria Tifanny Martinez**

Third year Electrical Engineering student Maria, joined OE Lab in the summer of 2022. She has worked on several projects, her favorite one being the Social Justice Collage. As an Engineer herself, she is passionate about creating open content for Engineering students.

*"I want to help my fellow engineers by providing them with open resources to tackle different problems and how to approach it."* - Maria



### **Zainab Nomani**

Third year Software Engineering student Zainab has been with the OE lab as a Content Developer since 2022. She is also one of the Tech Rover, helping students with Canvas support. In her free time she likes to cook and do her very own cooking experiments at home.

*"I like creating and providing solutions to the faculties of the universities."* - Zainab



### **Umer Bashir**

Second year Software Engineering student Umer has worked in the OE Lab for only a short time, but has already been part of several exciting projects. He has helped the lab create various Google workspace tutorials. Aside from work and academics, his hobbies include playing basketball and reading non-fiction books.

*"I look forward to working on multiple projects throughout the year and meeting new people."* - Umer