

New Beat

New College



May 2019



Things I Learned My First Year at York

My name is Julien Schuster and I am just finishing my first year at York. This has been a crazy experience and I would be lying if I didn't say I was overwhelmed at times. Through all the fun and all the pain I would say overall it was amazing and I can't wait for next year. Here are the main things I learned in my first year!

Meet your professors in person: As daunting as it may be, I guarantee you will learn more by meeting your professors face to face rather than just sending an email. It will provide a chance to have a good discussion and you will learn about the way they test.

Don't be scared to switch programs: I entered York for HR but I slowly realized it wasn't the program for me. What I was really interested in studying was Gender and Women's studies as it appealed to my interest as an advocate. I was scared to change my program so I kept trying to make HR work. I wish I had taken action sooner instead of wasting so much time.

Don't be afraid to change your major, it is worth it in the long run. Fortunately, I will be studying Gender and Women's studies in the 2019/2020 terms!

Get involved the right way: Being involved in activities outside academics is crucial to your success but don't spread yourself too thin. During my first month I enrolled in so many clubs that I couldn't keep up with everything. I was involved in the TBLGAY (Trans Bisexual Lesbian Gay Asexual at York), African Students Association, Badminton Club and I had a part-time job at Bruno's. I had so many things happening that I couldn't focus on any of them. By the second month I had quit all the clubs and was severely behind in school. I barely went to class and I considered dropping out. Fortunately I took some time to organize my thoughts and during reading week I caught up with school.

Final Thoughts: This has been a crazy year but I wouldn't trade it for anything. I love York and all the amazing people I met. So glad I didn't dropout!

Writer: Julien Schuster, 1st Year BHRM

Why Spring Is the Best Season

With the winter months finally behind us and the cold weather a thought of the past, I am here to tell you why I simply adore the spring weather and why this is my favorite time of year.

Heaps of Sunshine

After the cold and gloomy winter, cozy spring sunshine comes to make your soul smile! Not only that the sun is shining but you actually feel the snug warmth of that big yellow ball in the sky. This means only one thing – no more heavy jackets, but a colourful lightweight coat is awaiting you in your wardrobe!



Perfect Temperatures

Spring comes in between two extreme weather seasons – harsh winter and searing summer. That's why this gorgeous season brings us the ideal temperatures to pursue cool outdoor adventures and still enjoy comfy evenings curled up in a fluffy blanket.

More Sunny Hours in a Day

Thanks to the spring equinox, we're able to enjoy longer days and shorter nights. That's why spring is a perfect season to start a new hobby or project. Have you

ever thought about crafting or gardening? Wait no more and take this spring as the ultimate season of opportunity.

Workout Outside

Ok, let's face it. Who's used the excuse of the blistering weather to skip the outdoor workout? In spring, tender sunshine will persuade us to leave the house even if we don't feel like it! One more reason to start working on your summer figure early on. Surely, there are only positives!

Easter

It's no doubt colourful Easter belongs to the spring season. This festive holiday represents a perfect opportunity to spend much needed quality time with your loved ones, enjoy all the joyful customs and enter this fresh season with a smile on your face!



School is Over

As much as we all *loved* the stress of school, the time to relax and enjoy is finally here. There are 4 months of freedom, spend it wisely! I recommend making the most out of spring by spending time with those who mean the most to you!

Writer: Peter Lam, 1st Year BCom

Pro's and Con's of Summer Classes

As the winter semester has come to a close, many of you are saying bye to school for the next few months. The majority of you probably don't want to even think about going to classes or taking exams. That is completely understandable but before you make a firm decision here are both sides of the argument.

Pros

Get your degree faster: By completing summer courses you can finish your program a few semesters early. This can be very helpful if you are eager to enter the workforce and start earning.

Easier workload during regular terms: If you take a few credits over the summer, you can dramatically ease your workload throughout the year. This can be especially helpful if you have a hard time managing multiple courses or are involved in many activities during the year.

Retake courses: If you failed courses or did not get a desired grade, summer is a great time to retake certain courses. It allows you to focus all your energy towards improving a subject without the stress of multiple responsibilities.

Cons

Less downtime: Summer is after all a time where you avoid the anxiety of school for a period of time. Sometimes it's better to take a break and focus on

rejuvenating so that you are prepared for the year ahead.

Harder to get a summer job: If you are looking to make some money over the summer, taking courses may not be the best option. Summer can be a time where students work to be able to be financially secure during the year. You probably won't be able to work regular hours as well as make class. If this is the case, summer classes may not be the right call.

Less opportunity to try new things: If you are constantly in school without a break you may be limiting yourself from interesting opportunities. Part of university is also exposing yourself to unique experiences and summer is a great time to explore your passions. Things like travel, volunteering, or social change initiatives are usually most active during summer. You should not sacrifice life experience for school experience. They are both important and it is essential to have a balance.

Conclusion

When making your decision you have to understand what's right for you. Evaluate where you currently stand and what fits your personality. If you are still interested in summer courses the deadline to add courses without permission for SU is May 12, S1 is May 3, and S2 June 12.

Info: registrar.yorku.ca/enrol/dates/su19

Writer: Shrey Rao, New Beat Editor