

FIRST YEAR

MIDDLE YEARS

FINAL YEAR

ACADEMIC SUCCESS



DEVELOP

a Course Plan and Build Academic Skills

- Check out the [Academic Support Zone](#) for writing and tutoring support.
- Consider elective courses that interest you. Consider areas you may want to study in the future - think about getting necessary prerequisites for future courses.
- Check program requirements on the [Academic Calendar](#).
- Familiarize yourself with your [MyInfo](#) account, self-help and degree audit tools.
- Understand the [Academic Regulations](#).
- Meet with [Student Accessibility Services](#) if needing academic accommodations.
- Introduce yourself to your Chair! Let them get to know you.
- Consider taking the Co-op Option to gain on the job training! Get in contact with coop@lakeheadu.ca.

- Meet with your Chair or a [Student Central](#) Professional to discuss your academic progress, and current/future courses.
- Consider post-degree programs that may require specific courses or academic requirements - create a plan.
- Ensure your degree audit is accurate, including exceptions if any. Use [Academic Calendar](#) as the reference when doing so. Make sure you check your degree audit anytime you add/drop courses.
- Running into academic challenges? Meet with [Student Central](#) early.
- Refer to your specific program regulations (e.g. specific requirements and restrictions on Elective choices).
- If doing an Honours Thesis, begin making connections with faculty, researching, and planning ahead.

- Meet with your Chair or Student Central to ensure you have completed and are in-progress to complete all necessary degree requirements needed for graduation consideration.
- Submit your Intent to Graduate (on [myInfo](#)).
- RSVP for convocation ceremonies.
- Understand application requirements, processes and deadlines for future programs of interest.
- If doing a Thesis or Special Topics, ensure that you are on track to complete on time, and see the program guidelines with regard to Honours theses. Once complete, submit a copy to the Library and your department for archives.

ACADEMIC SKILLS CHECKLIST

- Meet regularly with the Chair of your department to ensure degree requirements are being met.
- Declare your Intent to Graduate.
- Visit the [Academic Support Zone](#); attend workshops and take advantage of free tutoring and writing services.
- Develop professional contacts with [faculty](#).
- Complete all the [necessary steps](#) to graduate.



CONNECT

and Gain Experience with the Local and Global Community

- Register in courses that contain in-class experiential learning opportunities such as case studies and labs.
- Meet the Chair of your Department - get to know them, and let them get to know you.
- [Join a free club](#) to expand your interests and connect with peers. An example is the Lakehead University Environmental Sustainability Club.
- Ask to volunteer for the department or if faculty knows of any opportunities where you can develop skills.
- Inquire about summer job opportunities.
- Consider taking the Co-op Option to gain on the job training! Get in contact with coop@lakeheadu.ca.
- If you're an international student, check out Lakehead International [resources and programs](#).
- If you identify as Indigenous check out [Indigenous Initiatives](#) and the [Indigenous Student Services Centre](#).

- Develop professional networks and connect with your professors. Begin by dropping in during their office hours.
- Consider participating in an academic exchange through Lakehead's [Study Abroad](#) program.
- See what professors are doing; sometimes they look for student workers during the year or over the summer.
- Practice effective oral communication through class discussions and presentations.
- Consider a [work-study](#) job; a ~~great~~ opportunity to gain experience, as well as assist in the cost of your education.
- Lakehead's faculty are engaged in a wide array of research areas. Explore their research, find out what interests you, and build connections by asking questions, engaging in discussions, and inquiring further about their areas of research.

- Consider working on applied research, such as a thesis or a project.
- Join different networking platforms such as [ECO Canada](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [Ten Thousand Coffees](#).
- Communicate interest in career-related opportunities with your professors.
- Attend fairs and events, such as the Graduation Fair for all graduating students.
- If you are completing an Honours thesis, in consultation with your thesis supervisor, consider presenting your research at an academic conference.
- If you have conducted your own research, seek to present it at a conference or through [Research and Innovation Week](#). Ask faculty about opportunities to share your work.
- Consider joining Toastmasters; an organization which will help you develop essential public speaking skills.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING CHECKLIST

- Take advantage of local volunteer activities.
 - Participate in departmental extra-curricular activities focused on experiential learning.
 - Participate in departmental volunteering activities such as the Discovery day, Open houses etc.
 - Participate in programs/activities delivered by [ECO Canada](#).
 - Develop professional contacts with faculty instructors.
- Consider enhancing the value of your degree through specialization!
- Join [Lakehead Connect](#) Networking and Mentorship Program to speak to Alumni and Peers!



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PREPARE

for Postgraduation or Career

- Visit the [Career Zone](#) to find out about the career services offered.
- Meet with a Student Central Professional to discuss bursary and award opportunities.
- Meet with your department Chair to discuss the potential opportunities.
- Prepare for exploring Co-op opportunities/summer work opportunities.
- Check out the job bank on [MySuccess](#) to learn about summer job and on-campus opportunities in your program.

- Start connecting with employers through on campus recruitment events, such as career fairs and employer visits.
- Join [Lakehead Connect](#) to make connections with alumni in industry.
- Develop relationships with faculty, mentors, and employers.
- Consider a work-study job, which is a great opportunity to gain experience, as well as assist in the cost of your education. Find opportunities on [MySuccess](#).
- Look for opportunities to develop skills and certifications. E.g. OBBN training and certification.
- Meet with your department Chair and professors to discuss opportunities.

- Build career readiness skills by attending resume, job search and interview skills workshops in the [Career Zone](#).
- Attend the Lakehead Career Fairs to network with employers.
- Check the [Career Zone calendar](#) to find out when career-building events are being held.
- Consider and discuss graduate school options with your faculty.
- Finish strong with your final year – in many cases, grad programs only look at your last year or two of grades.
- Understand the terms and conditions of your provincial funding to understand the repayment requirements.
- Consider contacting employers that you established connection through Co-Op terms or summer work and explore possible job opportunities forthcoming.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT CHECKLIST

- Apply for job opportunities in your field. Check out the job bank on [mySuccess](#) or by attending [employer information sessions](#).
- Participate in [OASIS](#) (Orillia Academic Success In Science) center activities
- Create a [LinkedIn](#) Account.
- Participate in programs/activities delivered by [ECO Canada](#).
- Attend [Student Success Centre Career Zone](#) job readiness workshops!
- Network during [Volunteer and Career Fairs](#).
- Consider arranging an [Informational Interview](#), which is a great way to connect with mentors and employers, and learn about potential career paths.
- Keep track of your skills and experiences for your future cover letters.

▶ What skills do employers want?

- Audit and analyze environmental performance data and report information to internal staff, clients and regulatory bodies as required.
- Gather, interpret and organize information on environmental policy, permits, etc.
- Prepare recommendations to upper management for implementation of new environmental systems, etc.
- Scientific background on environmental sampling, analyses, data processing and report preparation skills

▶ What skills will I gain with this major?

- How to promote sustainable ecosystems.
- How to apply principles of sustainable development.
- How to use science to develop green technologies.
- How to create innovative solutions to the challenges facing human-environment systems.
- Soft skills, including organization and time-management skills, analyzing and problem-solving skills, and creativity and attention to detail.

▶ What double degrees can I do with this major?

- Education
- Combined Degree-Diploma (HBASc Environmental Sustainability with specialization in Ecosystem Management/ Environmental Technician)

▶ What graduate degrees could I pursue?

- Bio Environmental Monitoring and Assessment
- Environmental Science
- Geography
- Biology
- ECO Canada certifications. (Environmental Professional (EP), Environmental Professional In-Training (EPt) etc.)
- ESRI Canada Young Professionals Network (YPN) a community of GIS users

▶ What types of minors can I do?

- Any minors offered in the Faculty of Science and Environmental Studies
- Specialization in Environmental Biotechnology
- Potential to do minors from other faculties with a few extra courses added (consult with the program Chair for more details)

▶ What could I add to my degree?

- OBBN certification
- ECO Canada certification (SK-ADD)
- ESRI Canada Young Professionals Network (YPN) a community of GIS users

▶ What careers can I pursue?*

- Environmental Scientist
 - Conservation Technician
 - Ecologist
 - Land Steward
 - Wildlife Biologist
 - Community Engagement Officer
 - Environmental Policy Analyst/Consultant
 - NGO Representative
 - Climate Research Analyst
 - Ecology Consultant
- *Your career path is not limited to this list. There could be other options to explore!

▶ What field of work are alumni working in?

- Environmental consulting
- Working with Conservation authorities
- Working with Provincial natural resources
- Working with the Federal Ministry of the Environment
- Working with Federal fisheries and oceans
- Environmental education / outreach

▶ What percentage of graduates are employed within 2 years after graduation?

- Agricultural and Biological Science: 100%
- Other Arts and Science: 97.2%

STUDENT SUCCESS CENTRE

THUNDER BAY (SC0008)

(807) 343-8018
ssc@lakeheadu.ca
Monday - Friday | 8:30am - 4:30pm

ORILLIA (OR1021)

(705) 330-4010 x 2118
orillia.ssc@lakeheadu.ca
Monday - Friday | 8:30am - 4:30pm

CAREER ZONE

THUNDER BAY (UC00)

(807) 343-8010 x 8264
careerzone.ssc@lakeheadu.ca
Monday - Friday | 10:00am - 4:30pm

SOCIAL MEDIA

THUNDER BAY

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ORILLIA

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