

FIRST YEAR

MIDDLE YEARS

FINAL YEAR

ACADEMIC SUCCESS



DEVELOP

a Course Plan and
Build Academic Skills

- Review your program requirements with a [Student Central Professional](#).
- Check out the [Academic Support Zone](#) for writing and tutoring support.
- Review your program requirements on the [Academic Calendar](#).
- Familiarize yourself with your [myInfo](#) account, self help and degree audit tools.
- Read through the [Academic Regulations](#).
- Need academic accommodations? Meet with our [Student Accessibility Services team](#).
- Consider elective courses that interest you and areas you may want to study - you'll need to find out necessary prerequisites for future courses.
- Complete portfolio submissions (prior to admission).
- Meet your Program Coordinator.

- Visit the [Academic Support Zone](#).
- 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 - start to create a plan.
- Make sure to check your degree audit at the beginning and end of the year (found on [myInfo](#)). You must check this anytime you add/drop a course.

2nd year:

- Ensure that you are following your [course requirements](#) for your program.

3rd year:

- Submit internship applications.
- Plan for your final project, consider Research Assistantship.
- Begin thinking about the final Media Arts Showcase.

- Meet with your Coordinator and 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.
- RSVP for convocation ceremonies.
- Understand the application requirements, processes and deadlines for future programs of interest.
- Complete your internship by fourth year before graduation.
- Plan and submit participation for the Media Arts Showcase.
- Ensure you have met all your program requirements before you apply for graduation.

ACADEMIC SKILLS CHECKLIST

- Ability to create media productions.
- Awareness of industry standards.
- Knowledge of media strategies.
- Ability to work independently and cooperatively.
- Punctuality.
- Ability to meet deadlines and organize timelines.
- Professional integrity and ethics.
- Academic integrity.



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 Coordinator of your program - get to know them, and let them get to know you.
- Join the MDST Student Alumni Facebook group. Like the MDST Facebook page.
- [Join Student Clubs](#) and become familiar with social media activities.
- Consider joining Lakeheads ResLife Social Media Team (orilliaresidence@lakeheadu.ca).
- Connect with faculty and peers. Ask questions, engage in discussions, and take initiative.

- Develop networks and connect with your academic professors.
- Consider a work-study job, which is a great opportunity to gain experience, as well as assist in the cost of your education.
- Consider internship options for third year applications.
- Consider [Study Abroad](#) (look into the York St. John university exchange).
- Join a Student Club and get involved in social media activities/event organizations.
- Consider joining Lakeheads ResLife Social Media Team (orilliaresidence@lakeheadu.ca).
- Considering entrepreneurship? Gain support from [Ingenuity](#).
- Speak to your professors to see if you can assist with their research or participate in a conference.
- See what professors are doing, sometimes they look for student workers during the year. Don't hesitate to reach out!

- Consider working on applied research, such as a thesis project.
- Connect to the local community through attending courses that involve case studies.
- Join different networking platforms such as [Lakehead Connect](#).
- Communicate interest in career-related opportunities with your professor.
- Attend fairs and events, such as the Graduation Fair for all graduating students.
- Prepare for Media Showcase (organizing/participating/curating).
- Join a Student Club and get involved in social media activities/event organization. Consider a leadership position in a club.
- Consider joining Lakeheads ResLife Social Media Team (orilliaresidence@lakeheadu.ca).

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING CHECKLIST

- Gain experience with creating art, video production/editing, and sound production/editing.
- Research Assistantships.
- Look into Study Abroad.
- Participate in the Media Arts Showcase.
- Look into joining student club activities and organizations.
- Join a service club such as Rotary International. These organizations have youth programs and they provide valuable networking and volunteer opportunities.
- Consider joining Toastmasters. It is an organization that allows you to develop public speaking skills: one of the most valuable assets an employee can have.
- Look into Lakehead's Research and Innovation Week and determine interest in participating in competitions or applying for awards offered.
- Consider an internship. Gaining this experience will set you apart from other applicants in the field.



FIRST YEAR

- Visit the [Career Zone](#) to explore your career options and find out about the services offered.
- Discuss bursary and award opportunities with Student Central.
- Check out the job bank at mysuccess.lakeheadu.ca to learn about summer jobs and on campus opportunities in your program.
- Consider applying for OSAP/Provincial Loan funding.
- Meet with a [Student Central Professional](#) to discuss financial management, and funding resources.
- Ensure your portfolio is up to date; add anything you create throughout the year.

MIDDLE YEARS

- 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 the industry.
- Consider taking the [Strong Interest Inventory Assessment](#) to learn about career options.
- Develop relationships with faculty. Future references can be important.
- Ensure your portfolio is up to date; add anything you create throughout the year.
- Explore [Study Abroad](#) opportunities.
- Explore internship opportunities.
- Check out the job and volunteer bank on [mySuccess](#).
- Take Media Production courses when offered to expand abilities.

FINAL YEAR

- Build career readiness skills by attending resume, job search and interview skills workshops in the [Career Zone](#).
- Attend the Career and Job Fair/Career and Summer Job Fairs to network with employers.
- 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.
- Ensure your portfolio is up to date; add anything you create throughout the year.
- Participate in the Media Arts Showcase.
- Apply to graduate (check dates).

ACADEMIC SUCCESS

CAREER DEVELOPMENT CHECKLIST

- Create a LinkedIn account.
- Network with employers on campus.
- Apply for job opportunities in your field.
- Network during Volunteer and Career Fairs.
- Consider arranging an [Informational Interview](#).
- Research employment opportunities tied to skills developed in Media Studies.
- Check out [Resources and Tools](#) on the Career Zone Website, to learn more about professional development (i.e Strong Interest Inventory).
- Explore [/mediacareers.ca](https://mediacareers.ca) and medijobsearchcanada.com
- Gain valuable soft skills and boost your resume through [completing online certificate modules](#).



PREPARE

for Postgraduation or Career

What skills do employers want?

- Ability to create media productions
- Ability to work independently and cooperatively
- Awareness of industry standards
- Deadlines/timelines
- Adobe Suite software
- Knowledge of media strategies
- Knowledge of open-source software
- Photography
- Professional integrity and ethics
- Punctuality
- Sound editing and production
- Video editing and production

What skills will I gain with this major?

- Basic photography
- Critical reading of media
- Interpersonal communication
- Knowledge of industry techniques & big picture (industry workings)
- Photo editing
- Social media management
- Sound editing
- Video editing

What graduate degrees could I pursue?

- Humber Ontario Graduate Certificates
- Interdisciplinary Masters in Media, Art, and Design (OCAD)
- MA Communication Studies (Wilfrid Laurier)
- MA Cultural Analysis and Social Theory (Wilfrid Laurier)
- MA Education
- MA English
- MA English and Film Studies (Wilfrid Laurier)
- MA Social Justice
- MA Social Justice and Community Engagement (Wilfrid Laurier)
- MA Social and Political Thought (York)
- Master of Digital Media (UBC)
- MJ Journalism (Ryerson)
- PhD Cultural Mediations (Carleton)

What types of minors can I do?

These are the minors most paired with Media, Film and Communications:

- Criminology
- English
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Women's Studies
- Writing

What could I add to my degree?

- Certificate in Global Entrepreneurship
- Certificate in Writing

What careers can I pursue?*

- Advertising Account Coordinator
- Art Director
- Cinematographer
- Communications Consultant
- Curator
- Digital Communications Expert
- Filmmaker
- Graphic Designer
- Journalist
- Media Buyer
- Mixed Media Communications Strategist
- Multimedia Journalist
- Public Relations Officer
- Social Media Officer

*Your career path is not limited to this list. There could be other options to explore!

What field of work are alumni working in?

- Communications Strategists
- Film
- Marketing
- NGOs
- Photography
- Social Media Promotions
- Web Design

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

- 97.2% of students are employed within 2 years of graduation.

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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