

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 and areas you may want to study in the future - find out the prerequisites for those future courses.
- Familiarize yourself with your [myInfo](#) account, self-help and degree audit tools.
- If you need academic accommodations, meet with our [Student Accessibility Services team](#).
- Start thinking about whether you want to minor in something. Consider your options below!
- Consult with your Philosophy Department advisor concerning course selection and degree options.
- Read through the [Academic Regulations](#).

- Visit the [Student Success Centre Academic Support Zone](#).
- Consider post-degree programs that may require specific courses or academic requirements - start to create a plan.
- Make sure to check your degrees audit at the beginning and end of the year (found on [myInfo](#)). You need to check your audit anytime you add/drop courses.
- Think about your options, do you want to do a thesis? Speak to faculty in your department and see if they would be willing to be your supervisor!
- Consider working on applied research, such as a thesis project or special topics!
- Begin looking at potential career pathways or graduate programs.
- Consult with your Philosophy Department advisor concerning course selection, degree and postgraduate options.

- Meet with your Chair 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 application requirements, processes and deadlines for future programs of interest.
- Consult with your Philosophy Department faculty advisor concerning postgraduate options: graduate studies in philosophy, as well as the application process and qualifying exams for law school, MBA, or other professional programs.

ACADEMIC SKILLS CHECKLIST

- Writing well is a supremely valuable skill, but difficult to achieve. Becoming a good writer requires constant practice and attention to detail. Carefully consider the valuable feedback provided by professors to hone your writing skills.
- Articulate major theoretical perspectives in Philosophy.
- Interpret academic resources.
- Visit the Academic Support Zone.
- Meet regularly with the Advisor in the Department of Philosophy to ensure degree requirements are being met.
- Develop professional contacts with faculty instructors.
- Enhance the value of your degree through specialization options.
- Review your program requirements in the [Academic Calendar](#).



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.
- Join [clubs](#) to connect with peers.
- Ask to volunteer for the department. Find out if faculty know of any opportunities where you can develop skills.
- Engage with the research/projects that your professors are undertaking. • Ask questions and engage in discussions.

- Develop networks and connect with your academic professors. Visit them during their office hours even if you don't have specific queries.
- Consider a [work-study](#) job, which is a great opportunity to gain experience, as well as assist in the cost of your education.
- 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!
- Connect to the local community through volunteer opportunities. Volunteering also helps you build your network and develop employability skills.

- 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 professors.
- Attend fairs and events, such as the Graduation Fair for all graduating students.
- If you are completing a thesis, consider presenting your research at an academic conference.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING CHECKLIST

- Join a service club such as [Rotary International](#). These organizations have youth programs and 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.
- Think outside the box for your post-graduation path; e.g. Police auxiliary, Army/Navy reserve, Search & Rescue.
- Consider an academic exchange through Lakehead's [Study Abroad](#) program.
- Consider arranging an [informational interview](#) to explore possible career pathways and make connections.



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PREPARE

for Postgraduation or Career

- Visit the [Career Zone](#) to explore your career options and find out about the services offered.
- Check out the job bank at mysuccess.lakeheadu.ca to learn about summer jobs and on campus opportunities in your program.
- Meet with a [Student Central Professional](#) to discuss financial management and funding resources.
- Consider applying for OSAP/ Provincial Loan funding.
- Discuss bursary and award opportunities with Student Central.
- Volunteer work may also be taken into consideration by admission committees in certain postgraduate programs such as Law and Medicine.

- 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 field.
- Consider taking the Strong Interest Inventory Assessment to learn about career options.
- Develop relationships with faculty; future references can be important.
- Consider getting involved in some volunteer work in your community. Hospitals, homeless shelters, animal shelters, and the like, are great places to share some of your time and energy. You will gain valuable experience and skills that employers will recognize.

- 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 repayment requirements.
- If relevant to your professional career goals, prepare to write admission tests for medical school (MCAT), law school (LSAT), the graduate record exam (GRE), or MBA admission test (GMAT).

CAREER DEVELOPMENT CHECKLIST

- Research employment opportunities tied to the skills you have developed.
- Apply for job opportunities in your field!
- Create a LinkedIn account.
- Network with employers on and off campus.
- Apply for job opportunities in your field.
- Consider taking an [Informational Interview](#).
- Network during Volunteer and Career Fairs.
- Explore [Resources and Tools](#) on the Career Zone Website to learn more about professional development (i.e Strong Interest Inventory).
- Check the Career Zone [calendar](#), and attend ongoing employer information sessions and career fairs.

▶ What skills do employers want?

- The ability to work independently or in collaboration, and to deliver results on time.
- Initiative; the ability to think for oneself and to take action that will effectively solve problems.
- Ethics; employers want people who are honest, who have personal integrity, and who are capable of thinking in terms of ethical responsibilities.

▶ What skills will I gain with this major?

- Reading and analyzing complex source materials.
- Understanding how to construct logical arguments.
- The ability to argue clearly and forcefully.
- The ability to recognize informal fallacy and to avoid falling victim to rhetorical sleight of hand.
- The ability to write clearly and construct cogently reasoned arguments.
- Most importantly, you will learn that wisdom is not the same thing as knowledge, and that wisdom consists in humility.

▶ What double degrees can I do with this major?

- History
- English
- Indigenous Learning
- Political Science
- Languages

▶ What graduate degrees could I pursue?

- Philosophy
- Business (MBA)
- Law School
- Philosophy grads score very highly on standard tests like the Law School Admission Test (LSAT).
- Consider doing a one-year MBA program upon completion of your undergraduate degree.

▶ What types of minors can I do?

- Applied Ethics
- English
- Indigenous Learning
- Languages
- Political Science

AND MORE! Talk to your advisor to see what other options you have for minors.

▶ What could I add to my degree?:

- International Languages
- Writing
- Indigenous Learning
- Environmental Sustainability
- French Language Certification (Basic –Advanced)

▶ What careers can I pursue?*

- Medicine
- Law
- Business
- Bioethics
- Technical writing/research
- Consulting

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

▶ What field of work are alumni working in?

- Teaching: secondary, post-secondary, and overseas
- Law
- Medicine
- Business

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

- 97.2% of graduates are employed!

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

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