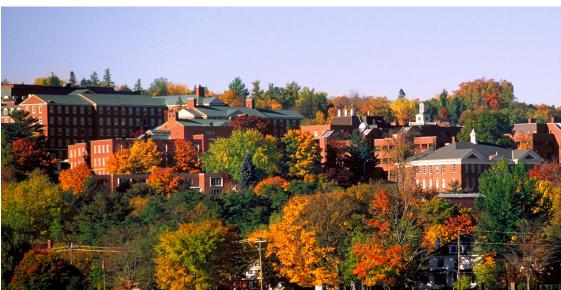
#### **FALL 2021**

# THE SCIENCE CONNECTION



#### **OVERVIEW**

- Welcome
- Science Orientation and Peer Mentors
- Residence
- Academic Calendar & Importance of the Syllabus
- Textbooks
- Peer Assisted Learning
- Math Learning Center
- HIL & Science Libraries
- Science Podcast
- COVID Updates
- Residence
- Parking Passes & UCards
- FAOs
- Tips and Tricks
- Connect with Us

#### Welcome to the Faculty of Science

Our Fall 2021 semester has nearly begun, and with that comes a wholehearted welcome from your Science Peer Mentors! The Science Faculty has been working hard to adjust to the return to campus and re-evaluate pre-existing structures to improve your learning experience. UNB's Science Faculty is dedicated to educational excellence as well as building our Science community. We encourage you to the networking initiatives that will be taking place this semester, as they are opportunities to make connections that can last your entire degree and beyond. As a part of the class of incoming UNB Science students, you have the full support of your professors, peer mentors, and other faculty members during your transition to university. You'll find that while there is a lot to learn, there is also a lot of fun to be had along the way. We hope you are just as excited to start this new chapter as we are to meet you all!

### SCIENCE ORIENTATION

#### **REGISTER FOR EVENTS:**

https://unbf-science-1-year-fall-orientation.eventbrite.ca

Get ready to meet some amazing new friends and professors! Academic orientation is a time to spread your wings and make new connections, as well as an opportunity to learn helpful information specific to the Faculty of Science. Join our Facebook group for first years: UNBF Science 1st Year 2021-2022 to stay up to date on the latest info.

#### **Your Peer Mentors**



Science wants to officially welcome you to your home away from home. We are thrilled to be offering a number of events in person to get you acquainted with your faculty and all it has to offer. Worried about finding classes? No problem! Please register to attend our tour specifically for first-year students, meet your professors, have a session with your Peer Mentors to discuss first-year expectations, pace, any concerns you may have - bring your questions. Let's finish off the day with in-person science survivor or virtual trivia to win some great prizes!

## ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2021-2022

Follow the link below to access UNB's 2021-2022 Undergraduate Academic Calendar to find important dates regarding payment deadlines, start dates, holidays, reading weeks, exam weeks, and much more! A great tip is to write down the dates from the Academic Calendar that are important to you in your personal planner/calendar to keep track of these dates for future reference!



HTTPS://WWW.UNB.CA/SECRETARIAT/STU DENTS/UNDERGRADUATE-DATES2122.HTML



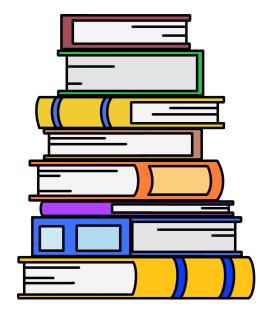
# IMPORTANCE OF THE SYLLABUS

For every course that you attend at UNB, you will receive a **syllabus** from your instructor(s). A syllabus contains all of the important information that you will need for that course such as a **course summary**, **textbooks**, **instructor contact information**, **evaluation schemes**, **grading scales**, and **course policies**. Please take the time to **read and understand** your syllabus for each course! If you have any questions or concerns, it is best to discuss those with your instructor(s) at the beginning of the semester.

### Let's talk about...

# TEXTBOOKS

Unlike in high school, your textbooks are not provided for free at university! Textbooks tend to be quite expensive, so a lot of people have questions such as: Where is the best place to get textbooks? Should I buy them new or used? Do I even need a textbook for this course? The common answer to all questions above is: it really depends! Sometimes, a course will require the most up-to-date version of the textbook since the newest edition may contain new material that is important for the professor to reference.

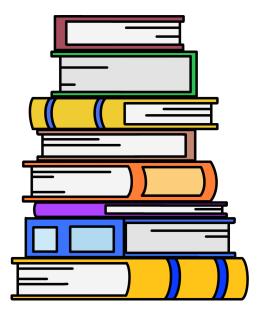


Some courses require learning software that **only** comes with the purchase of a new textbook, which requires you to buy the newest edition of the textbook. Mastering Physics, Mastering Biology, OWL are common examples of these learning softwares. The most common location to purchase new textbooks is the **UNB campus bookstore** located at **29 Dineen Drive**, which will be reopening on August 23rd. Often, professors will tell you that older versions of the textbook will suffice for the course, which may allow you to save money if you purchase a previously-owned textbook.



### Let's talk about...

# TEXTBOOKS



Speaking of previously-owned textbooks, the UNB Student Union hosts a book Buy-and-Sell early in the semester where you can find great deals on textbooks. You can also buy old textbooks from upper-year students through a private, well-known Facebook group where UNB students offer good deals for textbooks (UNBSU Used Textbooks). Most UNB students know about this group, and they will be able to invite you OR you can request to join. Either way, you will be able to gain access to the group posts for course materials.

Some professors may tell you at the start of the semester that the textbook will help a lot with the course, while others may say that textbooks may be there for further interest/reference and it would be fine without one. The best piece of information we can give you regarding textbooks is to wait for the first week of classes before you buy them! The professors will let you know during syllabus week what textbook to buy, if former editions suffice, or if you even need a textbook at all!

Are you unable to attend classes on campus this year? We've got you covered!

Please check out the UNB Bookstore at http://bkstr.com/
newbrunswickstore/home. With your student ID and courses, you can
find out which textbooks or other course materials are needed. For
Canadian students, online purchases will be shipped and delivered to
you by Purolator. For our international students, please contact the
bookstore for support/other options to purchase required materials
through carriers like Amazon.

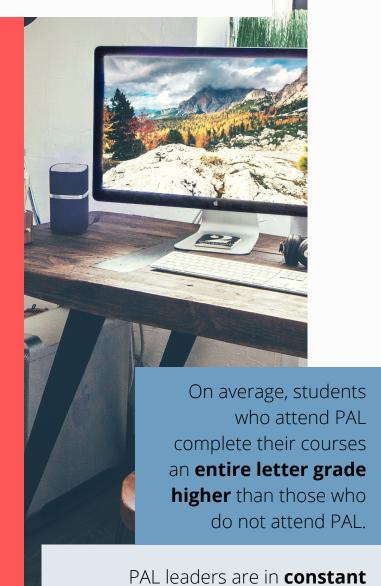
# PEER-ASSISTED LEARNING Biology, Chemistry, Earth Sciences, and Physics

Are you taking a first year science course and want some extra practice with the material or need a hand with studying for the midterms or final exams?

Our Peer-Assisted Learning Programme (PAL) is the perfect opportunity to stay on top of your studying in a casual environment alongside your peers. This programme is a free resource offered by the Faculty of Science.

PAL is administered by upper year students who have already taken the course themselves. They will attend lectures with you to get the best possible understanding of the material being taught. This year, PAL will be delivered using a combination of inperson and virtual sessions through Microsoft Teams. These sessions are offered throughout each week and are designed to assist you with course material as well as provide you with a platform to ask questions and develop study groups with classmates.

Your PAL leaders are ready to deliver these sessions and they can't wait to get started! Make sure to keep an eye out during the first few weeks of class — the PAL schedule will be released and also can be found in your D2L.



contact with the professors of

best preparation possible.

your classes to ensure you have the



# MATH LEARNING CENTRE

Are you worried about starting a university math course this fall?

Are you someone who will need to brush up on your math skills before tackling Calculus equations?

The Math Learning Centre (MLC) is the perfect opportunity to receive free math tutoring, skill sessions, formula sheets, and past math and stat exams. This resource is commonly used by any students registered in a UNB first or second year math or statistic course. Students who are in upper year can also reach out and ask for help from this service as well. This year, the MLC will be on D2L so students can keep up with any changes this fall.

For the fall semester of 2021, the MLC will be hosted both in-person and virtually via MS Teams. The MLC will host sessions on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the Science Library from 6:00-9:00 pm - a sign-up sheet will be put out every morning of those days!

Looking to brush up on your math skills? The MLC is offering a Pre-Calculus Math Workshop for students who are planning on taking firstyear calculus! The workshop will run from August 25th - August 28th through MS Teams from 4PM - 9PM daily. Go to http://www.math.unb.ca/~mathhelp/pre-calculus-workshop.html for more information and to register!



### **UNB LIBRARIES**

Our Libraries will be open for the 2021 school year with some protocols still in place. Please check the UNB Libraries current information at https://lib.unb.ca/what-to-expect. Non-medical face masks are still required when entering the libraries, when moving through the building, and when seated in many areas.

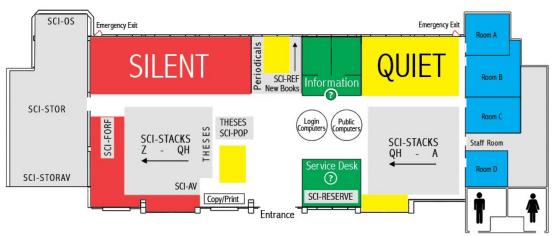
Wherever you are, remember that help is always just a click away via our <u>Ask Us</u> service!

A new addition to the libraries is a program that is available through D2L called the Research Tool Kit. It is a great resource for all new and returning students to learn the basics of library and academic research through fun and interactive modules.

https://lib.unb.ca/news/unb-libraries-researchtoolkit



The library is split into two sections, one where you can talk quietly with your friends while you work together, and the other where you can work in complete silence. Group study rooms are also available and are excellent for working on presentations and various group projects. The Math Learning Centre and the Writing Centre will offer their services at the library, so you can get feedback on any papers you may write as well as improve your math skills. The Science and Forestry Library provides many other useful resources, such as an abundance of academic literature, colour printing, computer access and more. The library has yet to release its fall hours, but you can visit https://lib.unb.ca/about/hours for current up-to-date hours.











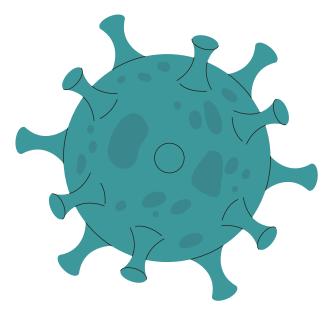
After a year of learning primarily through alternative delivery, your Peer Mentors are working hard to ensure the sense of connection and curiosity are stronger than ever in the Science Faculty. Therefore, we are launching the first ever *Science Faculty Peer Mentor Podcast*! Tune in to hear from fellow students, your favourite professors, inspiring alumni, and special guests! You'll be able to download the podcast and listen on the go to hear about all the great things UNB and science have to offer! Stay on the lookout for more details soon.

#### COVID UPDATES

UNB has recently announced that we will be implementing a mandatory vaccine and testing policy. Students, faculty, and staff will be required to be fully vaccinated with two doses of an approved vaccine. Those who are unvaccinated will be required to participate in regular COVID-19 testing.

More detailed information on the implementation of this policy, including dates for first and second doses and testing requirements, will be provided next week after further consultation with New Brunswick Public Health.





In the meantime, we strongly encourage all students, faculty and staff to be vaccinated as soon as possible and to maintain copies of their vaccination status. New Brunswick Public Health has various clinics available for anyone needing their first or second dose.

Please watch our social media and your UNB email for more details as they become available.

# RESIDENCE

Deciding what to bring and not to bring to university can be a tough decision, especially with moving away from home! Below is a list of the basic necessities that are essential for university and will definitely come in handy throughout the school year.

**Fan:** the fall can be quite hot in Fredericton, and the residences tend to heat up fairly quickly, so a fan is definitely essential to keep you and your room cool, especially during the first few months of school!

**Calendar/Planner:** the school year is an extremely busy time, so one of the best ways to stay organized and keep track of assignments/midterms is to write it down on a planner or calendar (could also be an online/digital). As a science student, this will ensure you that you do not miss important deadlines, as schoolwork can pile up quite quickly with a busy course load!

**School supplies:** binders, notebooks, looseleaf, sticky notes, highlighters, scientific calculators and pens are all very handy to have with you. Also, make sure to pack pencils and erasers, as you will need them if your tests are written on scantrons.

**Backpack:** essential for storing school supplies and keeping track of everything you need during the school day. Make sure that it is comfortable as you will most likely be carrying it around everywhere (since your classes will most likely be in different buildings!)

**Laptop and chargers:** a laptop is always handy for school assignments, studying, and taking notes in class. Do not forget your chargers as well!

**Reusable water bottle:** UNB has filtered water fountains all around campus, so bringing a reusable water bottle will not only help the environment but also save you some money as well! **First Aid Kit**: bandaids, rubbing alcohol, ibuprofen, cough drops, etc. are all important to bring

with you to university!

**Earplugs/headphones**: headphones are great for studying in the library or during quiet hours in residence! Earplugs are also handy when it comes time for sleeping!

Mini fridge/microwave: great for storing snacks in case you get hungry during hours when the meal hall is not open!

**Sheets**, pillows, comforters and mattress toppers: make sure to make your bed as comfortable as possible since it will affect how you sleep (which may also affect your performance in school) and doubles as a couch!

**Bed lifts:** great for creating extra storage under your bed. Trust me, these will come in handy! **Decorations:** a few personal items to decorate your room can help make you feel more at home.

Just make sure not to go overboard as the rooms in the residence are small!

# RESIDENCE

**Shower caddy/Flips flips/Bathrobe:** useful for carrying and storing everything you need for the shower! Since you will be sharing showers with the rest of your house mates, a pair of flip-flops and a bathrobe can always come in handy!

**Towels/face cloths and toiletries**: residence does not supply them, so it is important to bring your own! The list will be different for everyone, but a few important things are a toothbrush/toothpaste/floss, deodorant, a hair brush, contacts and solutions, etc.

**Laundry basket, detergent and drying rack:** you can add money on your Ucard to use the washer and dryer so you do not need to bring change. A drying rack always comes in handy for hanging clothes to dry in your room as well!

**Rain/winter gear:** the weather can be extremely unpredictable so make sure you come prepared as you will most likely be doing a lot of walking on campus!

Clothes hangers, 3M Adhesive and Closet organizers: since your dorm room will be tiny, any additional items for organization can go a long way!

**Important cards and documents:** make sure to bring a debit/credit card, medicare card, social insurance card, a valid ID/driver's license, and other important cards/forms you will need to pay tuition or fill out any other financial forms. Additionally, any travel documents or proof of vaccination should be brought as well!

**Power bar:** useful for your dorm, especially if you have several things you need to plug into your room such as a fan, microwave, mini-fridge, TV, etc.

**Lanyard:** a great way to keep track of the multiple keys you will receive for residence! If you lose your keys, there is an expensive fee to replace them, so keeping them all in one place is important!

**Formal clothing:** you will need formal clothes for any house dinners, formals, or conferences you may attend during the school year!

Desk lamp: comes in handy for studying in your room, especially at night!

**Cleaning supplies:** dorms are tiny and can become dirty pretty quickly! Some essential cleaning supplies include surface cleaner, a duster, and Swiffer!

Mask and sanitizer: Even with New Brunswick moving to green phase, unexpected circumstances may arise, and the rest of Atlantic Canada may not follow the same rules as New Brunswick. It's always good to be prepared to abide by changing regulations and prioritize our own safety as well as that of our peers and colleagues!

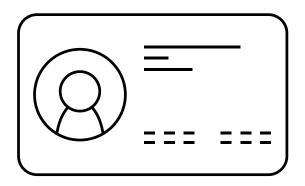
#### PARKING PASSES

This year, UNB is requiring all parking passes to be ordered online. Your pass will then be mailed to you! For more information on parking passes, visit https://www.unb.ca/fredericton/security/parking/parking-pass.html

For most students, the 8-month parking pass option is recommended.



#### UCARDS



At UNB, your UCard is more than just your ID - it is your cash card, door key, and more! Check out https://www.unb.ca/ucard/ for information on UCards.



NEW! Your UCard is now available on iPhone, Apple Watch and Android phones! All information on our new mobile app can also be found on the link above.



## FAQ's

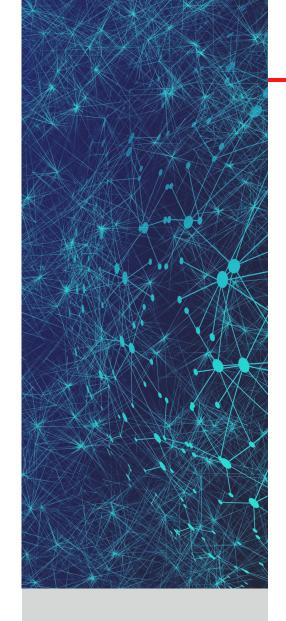
HERE ARE ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS THAT YOU MAY HAVE AS YOU START YOUR UNIVERSITY EXPERIENCE.

#### Q: Where do I find my course information?

A: After logging in to your UNB Sharepoint, a tab for D2L will appear. Once you click on this tab you will be brought to the D2L page where you can find your courses and information pertaining to each.

#### Q: What email should I use when contacting professors?

A: Always use your UNB Student email when contacting someone associated with the University. A lot of the time if you use your Hotmail or Gmail, it will go to their spam, so they won't be able to view your email.



#### Q: How do I get involved?

A: Talk with your Peer Mentors and Academic Advisors to learn about opportunities to get involved. If you are eager to get involved, you can find a list of clubs on the UNB Student Union website

(https://www.unbsu.ca/clubs-and-societies) and email the club yourself to find out more information. While some groups may not be running as usual due to COVID-19, many clubs and societies are still holding virtual events and meetings.

#### Q: What resources are available to me?

A: Besides the Math Learning Centre and PAL, there are a lot of other free resources like the Student Accessibility Centre, the Writing and Study Skills Centre, Counselling Services, and the CC Jones Health Clinic that all can be accessed from off campus, and make your life much easier when you need help.



# TIPS AND TRICKS

**Time Management**: Managing your time wisely is crucial for success in University and will save you the headache later on! Having a planner and organizing your time in your day for school work, extracurriculars, and down-time will go a long way.

Advising: Meet with your academic advisor before registering for/dropping courses to ensure you have the correct courses for your program and that all of the requirements for graduation will be met! Contact Angela Regier, our Science Student Services Coordinator, at aregier@unb.ca. who is always willing to help point you in the right direction!

**Catch Up Right Away:** if you miss a class, do not worry, this is not the end of the world... As long as you take the time to catch up on what you missed! It is important to take responsibility and learn the material you miss before you fall behind.

Reach Out to Professors: Your professors are a great resource and want to help and see you succeed! Do not be afraid to initiate a meeting with your professor if you feel like you are falling behind, or need extra help understanding the material!

**Relax:** The school year gets busy quickly and it is easy to get caught up in the stress of midterms, assignments, reports, and exams. Although studying is important, it is equally important to take time to yourself and to unwind to avoid burn-out! Your mental and physical health are very important for success in the long run!

### CONNECT

### **FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA TO** STAY IN THE LOOP **IMPORTANT EVENTS AND UPDATES**



Page: Faculty of Science at UNB

Group: UNBF Science 1st Year 2021-

2022



UNB\_Science



pmentors@unb.ca



