

The University of Western Ontario

# Western



**scholar's electives program**

# About the Program

Are you looking for a unique and rewarding interdisciplinary approach to undergraduate learning? Are you a self-directed student with significant achievements both academically and outside the classroom? If so, then the Scholar's Electives program is for you.

Make this experience your own by bringing together a variety of disciplines from various Faculties across the University. Work closely with a professor who will become your mentor and guide you through your academic pursuits, including a research project that you will present to your peers and the community.

Connect with the other 50-75 Scholar's Electives students by attending your classes together, living on the Scholar's floor in residence and attending group events throughout the year.

To be part of the Scholar's Electives program, you must have an admission average of 90 per cent or higher, complete a supplemental application specific to Scholar's Electives and apply to one of the following programs on Western's main campus: Arts and Humanities, Science, Social Science, Health Science, Media Information and Technoculture (MIT), Kinesiology or Biological and Medical Sciences. The selection committee assessing your application will be evaluating your extracurricular activities and community contributions as well as your grades.

To apply, please access the Ontario Universities' Applications Centre (OUAC) website at:

[www.ouac.on.ca](http://www.ouac.on.ca)

Choose your program at Western and select "yes" to the "Scholar's Electives" radio button at the bottom of the page. You must also complete a supplemental Scholar's Electives application form. This can be accessed at [www.registrar.uwo.ca/cfns/SE\\_Application.cfm](http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/cfns/SE_Application.cfm). The deadline to apply to the Scholar's Electives Program is March 1. Late applications will not be considered.

## Be a part of the Scholar's Electives program and have the opportunity to:

- ★ Complete an additional Scholar's Electives module (3.0 courses) concurrently with your Honors degree
- ★ Be mentored by a Western faculty member in a research project in Year 1.
- ★ Take part in interdisciplinary studies in Year 2 and 3 under the tutelage of various Western faculty members. Or participate in supervised individual research.
- ★ In Year 4, be mentored by a faculty member to prepare a public presentation of your academic work.
- ★ Have more personal attention through specialized programming opportunities

- ★ Live in Elgin Hall Residence on the Scholar's Electives floor with other like-minded students (availability is based on the residence lottery system).
- ★ Create your own unique theme area like: Bioethics, Multiculturalism, Globalization and International Relations
- ★ Be eligible for a Scholar's Electives Scholarship after completing your first year of study

## Application Requirements

1. Applicants must have a final admission average of 90 per cent (admission average, not overall high school average).
2. Applicants must apply and receive acceptance into one of the following participating Faculties/Programs:
  - Arts and Humanities
  - Health Sciences
  - Kinesiology
  - Media Information and Technoculture Science
  - Biological and Medical Sciences
  - Social Sciences (excluding Management and Organizational Studies)



## Natalie Deschamps

Social Science, Scholar's Electives

Name *Natalie Deschamps*  
Hometown *Windsor, ON*  
Future Ambition *social entrepreneurship*  
Proudest Accomplishment *running a triathlon*  
My hero *my ambitious friends*  
Favourite Western memory *being a soph*  
Motivation *a good challenge*  
Theme Song *Life is Wonderful - Jason Mraz*



"The Scholar's Electives floor is the best. It's great to be with friends who have the same approach to education, the same high standards and insights. I wouldn't trade it for anything!"

***Karima Betts, Year 1, Faculty of Social Science***

"The first year research project was a really engaging and exploratory process. My mentor was extremely kind in providing enough freedom to be challenged and enough guidance not to be lost!"

***Paul Jun, Year 2, Faculty of Social Science***

"Professor Vernon's Scholar's Electives Contemporary Issues course is one that allows students to further their knowledge of the many responsibility-related issues present within society. It also allows students to demonstrate their communication skills and expand upon the ideas that are presented in class."

***Vanessa Ellies, Year 2, Faculty of Arts and Humanities***

# How do I apply to the Scholar's Electives Program?

APPLYING AND ADMISSIONS



## Step #1:

Select the "Scholar's Electives" radio button as you complete your OUAC application.

## Step #2:

Complete a supplemental Scholar's Electives program application. Applications are due by March 1.

[www.registrar.uwo.ca/cfns/SE\\_Application.cfm](http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/cfns/SE_Application.cfm)

Your application will be reviewed by the Selection Committee comprised of Associate Deans from participating Faculties. The committee will review your grades in addition to your outstanding achievements beyond the classroom (e.g.; extracurricular activities, school club participation, community involvement, etc.).

## SCHOLAR'S ELECTIVES MODULE

### Scholar's Electives Courses (3.0 courses)

Year 1: SE 020y    Introductory Research Project  
Year 2: SE 302E    Intellectual Origins and Concepts I:  
                                 Contemporary Perspective

OR

Year 2: SE 303E    Supervised Individual Research I  
Year 3: SE 301E    Intellectual Origins and Concepts II:  
                                 Historical Perspective

OR

Year 3: SE 304E    Supervised Individual Research II  
Year 4: SE 400y    Supervised Research Communication

The Research courses in Years 1 and 4 are half courses, but will span the full academic year (September – April). This entails self-directed independent study in addition to meeting regularly with your mentor for one hour every two weeks.

The Intellectual Origins and Concepts courses in Years 2 and 3 are full-year courses, and will be taught by some of Western's best faculty members from varying disciplines.

The Supervised Research Courses (SE 303E and 304E) in Years 2 and 3 require special permission from the student's faculty of registration. Access to these courses will be dependent on appropriate research resources.

## Progression Requirements

To maintain your registration in the Scholar's Electives program, you must enrol in 5.0 or more credits during the Fall/Winter session and must achieve a sessional average of at least 80 per cent with no grade less than 65 per cent. On any additional courses taken during the summer session, students must maintain a sessional average of at least 70 per cent, with no mark less than 65 per cent.

Graduation requirements: Completion of an Honors Bachelor degree, including the Scholar's Electives module, with a minimum cumulative average of 80 per

cent with no grade less than 65 per cent. Scholar's Electives students complete a minimum of 21 courses (many students will complete more).

The diploma awarded to students will record both the status of Scholar's Electives and the Specializations and/or Majors studied, as recommended by the Dean.



## Contact Information

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