

Programs and Courses

Scheduling of Courses

The regular hours of the University are Monday to Friday, with classes commencing between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. inclusive. Evening courses may begin after 4:30 p.m. A 3-credit course will have a minimum of 36 contact hours.

Before any course in the Calendar may be scheduled outside these hours, approval must be obtained from the appropriate Dean.

Course Numbering System

1. A fall semester course bears the letter "a". A winter course bears the letter "b". A one-semester course that may be given in any semester bears the letters "ab". A two-semester course bears no letter, and is expected to be completed during the fall and winter semesters.
2. Undergraduate courses:
 - (a) Course numbers starting with "0" are usually those taken in the first year of a four year program, though they may be taken as additional credits in a three year program.
 - (b) Courses numbered from 100 to 199 are normally 1st year courses.
 - (c) Courses numbered from 200 to 299 are normally 2nd year courses.
 - (d) Courses numbered from 300 to 399 are normally 3rd year courses.
 - (e) Courses numbered from 400 to 499 are Honours courses or courses in the Bachelor of Education.
3. Graduate Courses: Courses numbered from 500 to 799.
4. All the courses listed in this Calendar are not necessarily offered every year. Please consult the Timetable for a list of offerings each semester.

Credits and Hours Code

With reference to the credit requirements, it may be noted that (normally) 1 credit is awarded for a one semester lab course, 2 credits for a two semester lab or music ensemble course, 3 credits for a one semester lecture course, 4 credits for a two semester practical music course, 6 credits for a two semester lecture course, and 6 or more for a thesis.

Information as to the credit value and hours of scheduled class activities for each course is contained in a three number code which follows the title. The first number in the code is the credit value of the course; the second number is the hours per week of lectures, tutorials and seminars; and the third number is the hours per week of laboratory work and other scheduled class activities. For example, the code 3-2-3 indicates three credits; two hours per week of lectures, tutorials or seminars; and three hours per week of laboratory work or other scheduled class activities. Additional information on the format of presentation of a course may be contained in the description of the course.

Please note that the credit requirement given for a program is the minimum and does not include lab credits. Students are advised to consult their letter of admission for the credit requirements specific to their program.

Definitions

Audit: With the permission of the instructor, a student may participate in class discussions and activities, but may not write the examinations or receive credit for a course. Audit courses must be part of the student's formal registration, and are subject to the normal fee structure of the University (ie. are charged in the same manner as credit courses).

Cognate: A course offered by a department other than that in which a major has been declared, but which is accepted by the major department as part of the degree requirements.

Corequisite: A course in which a student must be registered concurrently (at the same time), in order to receive credit in the desired course.

Cumulative average: Average calculated on all courses attempted at Bishop's in which a numerical grade has been received (including "0"s) with the exception of extra degree credit ESL courses. However, should a student repeat a course in which a mark has already been received, the mark awarded in the second registration will be used in the calculation of the cumulative average regardless of whether it is the higher or lower mark. [Repeated courses will not affect academic standing.]

Elective: A course taken in a degree program which is not applicable to the honours/major requirements, but which counts towards the total requirements for the degree; an optional course.

Exemption: A student may be exempted from an introductory course at the University when comparable nonuniversity course work has been completed elsewhere. No credit will be granted towards their Bishop's degree for the exemption. The exempted course must be replaced by a Bishop's course of equal credit.

Honours: An Honours program requires a high level of concentration in one area of study, normally about two thirds of the total courses taken for a degree. Students in Honours programs must demonstrate a high level of academic achievement and a thesis is often required.

Major: A Major in any subject consists of slightly less than half of the total courses taken for a degree (normally about 48 credits excluding labs).

Minor: A Minor in any subject consists of about one third of the total courses taken for a degree (normally 24 or 30 credits excluding labs).

Prerequisite:

- a. A course which must be successfully completed prior to registration for credit in the desired course (eg. MAT 210a is a prerequisite for MAT 211b).
- b. A course which is required by a particular department and which should be completed in the first 30 credits at Bishop's (eg. PSY101 a required prerequisite for the Psychology major). These are listed in the program requirements prior to the course descriptions of each department.

Transfer Credit: A student transferring to Bishop's from another University may be eligible for advance credit to be granted on admission for their work completed on presentation of official transcripts and course descriptions for evaluation. Credits awarded are subject to further review should the student change programs.