**READING WEEK!**

Believe it or not, Reading Week is upon us. Whether you’re planning on partying it up at a resort for a week, or you’re planning to spend the week studying in a library, I hope you all have a terrific week. At the risk of sounding like a parent, whatever you decide to do, wherever you decide to go, be careful and have fun!

The university, of course, remains open throughout Reading Week. I will be available to all of you as usual. I will continue to have regular drop in hours Monday to Thursday from 1:30pm to 3:30pm. All other times are by appointment. I can guess that it’s going to be pretty quiet, so really, you could probably just drop by whenever you want. Of course, you all know that I can always be reached by email at bas@uoguelph.ca. Happy Reading Week everyone!

“**That awkward moment when my parents see the 'taking-a-break' part and not the actual studying.”** ~Unknown

**More course selection...**

Is it me, or does it feel like it’s ALWAYS course selection time? Course selection for the Summer and Fall 2013 semesters begins on Monday, March 4th. That means, on March 4th, the different windows begin to open and throughout the month of March, everyone will choose their courses for the summer and the fall.

A few quick reminders about course selection:

- Your course selection window is determined by your class level, which is determined by the number of credits you are registered in.
- When you’re course selection window opens, it remains open until the end of course selection (11:59pm on March 25th).
- If you don’t have the right prerequisites or the course is full, you must contact the instructor or the department.
- Check webadvisor frequently as some departments open more spaces in their classes throughout the course selection period.
- For more COURSE SELECTION information, check out the course selection edition of our BAS newsletter [here](#).

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BAS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Event: University of Guelph Campus Day!
Date: Sunday, March 24th, 2013
Time: 1:45pm to 4:00pm
Place: Rozanski 102
Duties: Meet prospective students and their families/friends, answering questions about the BAS program and your experience at the University of Guelph
4-5 Volunteers needed.

Event: University of Guelph Online Chats!
Date: Tuesday, April 2nd, 2013
Time: 6:45pm to 9:00pm
Place: Online (anywhere with internet access)
Duties: Participate in an online discussion with prospective students, answering questions about the BAS program and your experience at the University of Guelph.
3 Volunteers needed.

If you are available and interested in being a volunteer for either or both of these events, please email me at bas@uoguelph.ca

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Co-Curricular Transcript

Are you involved in co-curricular activities on campus?

The Co-Curricular Transcript (CCT) is an official record of your involvement in student co-curricular activities outside of the classroom.

Visit us online to see if you are eligible and apply for your CCT!

For More Information Visit:
http://studentlife.uoguelph.ca/cct/
Or Email Us At:
student@uoguelph.ca

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THE STREAM

The Otesha Project
Gain Skills in Leadership, Public Engagement & Youth Education

Learn from community leaders on issues ranging from urban agriculture, watershed sustainability, indigenous justice & creative tools for social change

Develop buns of steel and bicycle maintenance, repair & touring skills

The Otesha Project’s 2013 Sustainability & Social Justice Cycling Tours
range in length from 9 days to 2 months in the spring, summer or fall.

Applications open at www.otesha.ca
The Bachelor of Arts & Science STUDENTS’ ASSOCIATION!

Did you know that BAS students have the highest ratio of student representation across campus because we have reps on every college government? No other group has that! If you would like to be involved in YOUR student government helping to represent BAS across campus, then please let us know! We would also like to hear from you if you have any suggestions or ideas for events or things that BASSA could or should be doing! Just email us at bassa@uoguelph.ca!!!

We want to hear from YOU!

Introducing the 2012/13 BASSA EXEC

President
Aleisha Korga

VP Academics
Veronika Kratz

VP Activities
Jessica Adams

VP Finances/Admin
Carolin Tarjan

CSAHS Rep
Nick Moroz

CASU Rep
Gordon Harper

CBS-SC
Esha Sharma

CPES-SC
Kristen O’Donnell

BAS Senator
Deanna Brockmann

Fourth Year Rep
Jake MacTavish

Victoria Woodhouse

Second Year Rep
Naomi Mendes

First Year Rep
Arianna Cohen

Want to be involved?
bassa@uoguelph.ca

Cluster Rep
Julienne Sisco
Rachel Estok

Which calendar should I use?

There is some confusion around which undergraduate calendar you should use and when. That is totally fair because well...it’s pretty darn confusing. Let’s go over all details, shall we?

You should follow the academic calendar of the year you entered the BAS program. This is because program requirements can change from year to year. By staying with YOUR calendar, you know that your requirements won’t change.

If you transferred into the program, you should be following the calendar from the year you transferred in.

If you transfer into another program, you should follow the calendar from the year you transfer into that program.

You are allowed to change to any calendar going forward from the year you start.

The only time that you should use the most recent undergraduate calendar is when you are looking for up to date course descriptions and prerequisites. Unlike your program requirements, you will generally need to follow the most recent prerequisites and course updates.

To find your academic calendar, go to the UofG homepage and click “Current Students” in the orange (because that’s what you are)...and click “Academic Calendar”...then go under ARCHIVED CALENDARS and click on Undergraduate Calendars. From here...you can choose the calendar you want to use.

As usual, if you have any questions, just ask me.
BAS student a Gryphon Champ!

Did you know that Gryphon swimmers captured 10 event medals in all — six gold, a silver and three bronze — and both the women’s and men’s teams placed fourth? U of G swimmers also set three provincial records during the championships, which were held in Toronto. How great is that?! The best part is, our very own 1st year BAS student, Tess Wey, was on the relay team that captured the bronze medal in the 400m freestyle relay! Congratulations Tess, we’re all super proud of you! S-U-P-E-R Super! Super! That’s what you are!

Horriscopes...

Aquarius – What a semester we’re having! Seriously. It’s one thing after another. So much drama going on around you. Good thing you got one smart head on your shoulders. Do your best to stay out of the drama. It’s not worth it. If you get involved, it’s just going to make things worse, and not just for you. Although I would keep an eye on “you know who.” Face it, they’re slowing you down and making things more complicated than necessary. Maybe it’s time to “trim the bangs of your social network” if you know what I mean. Careful though...once you make the cut...you gotta wait for it to grow back if you don’t like the result. Also, get a haircut.

Pisces – So I noticed that someone spilt a cup hot chocolate in the newly carpeted foyer of the UC yesterday. It was great to watch people walking through. Some ignored it. Some walked around it. Some didn’t even notice it. So my question to you is...how are you going to handle the spilled coffee in your life? Don’t pretend that you don’t know what I’m talking about. There is spilt beverages in your life and we both know it. So what’re you going to do about it? Let me help you out...CLEAN THAT UP FOOL! Oh...and hey...speak up more in class. You’re smarter than that. In other news, you should really do something about those shoes.

Aries – So the other night, I watched “Lion King” again. Every now and then I get on a Disney kick. That’s ok right? Right? It’s definitely been awhile since I’ve watched it. Disney kick. That’s ok right? It’s one thing after another. So what’re you going to do about it? Let me help you out...CLEAN THAT UP FOOL! Oh...and hey...speak up more in class. You’re smarter than that. In other news, you should really do something about those shoes.

Taurus – I’ve been watching “The Big G” lately. The series starring Laura Linney. I like it. And you know what? It’s definitely taught me that sometimes ya just gotta do what’s right for you. It doesn’t matter what other people expect or want. Sometimes it really is all about you. I’m talking to you Taurus. Now is one of those times. This very week. Don’t worry about “them.” Why you gotta care about what so-and-so thinks about you? They’ll either catch up or get out of your way. Stop waiting. Start doing. Think about how much time you waste waiting. What are you waiting for? One thing you might want to consider...no one looks good in paisley. Seriously.

Gemini – I was in Toronto the other weekend just hanging out and visiting friends. You know when you invite people out for dinner, but you know that some people just won’t show up, so you just let people know where you’re going to be and see who shows up? Well who knew that EVERYONE would show up this time?! Moral of the story...make bigger reservations. This is where you come in, my little Gemini. It’s come to my attention that you’re not the best at planning. Well, at least not lately. You need to get it together. This semester is starting to fly by. Get a plan together. Get a backup plan in place while you’re at it. You can do this. You have it. Go. Now.

Leo – I’ve been on a movie kick lately. That is, actually going out to see movies. I went to the Bookshelf downtown Guelph to see “Hyde Park on the Hudson...” “The Intouchables” and “Quartet.” Good times had by all. The best part was that for two of those movies I actually went by myself. and you know what? I really enjoyed myself. You need some more alone time every little while. You easily get caught up in other people...what are other people doing, what are other people saying. You need to just be with you for awhile. Get reaquainted with yourself. Treat yourself to a movie. Buy yourself snacks that you love. Remind yourself how you like to be treated.

Virgo – I’ve been going to the gym. I tend to go in the morning. Just the thought of going to an entire day of work and THEN going to the gym makes me want to just sleep. I have to go in the morning so that it’s done and out of the way. One advantage is that it’s pretty nice and quiet and it’s usually the same people every morning. It’s nice. A little bit of routine is good. So what about you? What sort of routines are you in? How’s that working for you? Do you need to change things up a bit? Do you want to? Routines can be good...at least the right ones anyway. Routine yes...innovation, not so much. Also, on a side note...what’s going on with that outfit?

Libra – This past weekend I took a friend of mine around downtown Guelph because she didn’t really know any of the stores or restaurants in the area. The funny thing is, she’d already lived in Guelph for 4 years before moving away. and moving back to Guelph. She’s been back for about a year and she still doesn’t know downtown Guelph at all. I guess that means that she’s been pretty comfortable in her own bubble whenever she’s been in Guelph, and it’s worked well for her. What about you? Are you comfortable in your little bubble? What about extending your bubble a little bit and seeing what’s around you? Sometimes you just need a new perspective. Go for it.

Scorpio – I came out of my office the other day and nearly walked into someone who was totally lost in their own world, listening to their ipod and actually playing air guitar as they walked. They were having a good day. Perhaps it’s time for you to stop caring what other people think of you and pull out your own air guitar. Guitar Hero time baby...guitar hero. More specifically, often family and close friends have the best of intentions, but sometimes you need to make your own decisions...decisions that may not make everyone happy. Do what’s right for you. The one thing that may not be right for you is paisley. No one looks good in paisley. Someone needs to say it.

Sagittarius – I rented and watched Pitch Perfect awhile back. Since then, I’ve bought the DVD and the soundtrack. I can’t stop. I’m in the middle of learning the cup song right now. I’ve got the cup part down, I’m just getting the singing part together. It’s going to be epic. You know what else is epic? The fact that you’re not dealing with your own “Becca & Jesse” situation. I’m just saying...this isn’t the movies. You can’t just sing it out and hope it’s all going to work out the way it should be. Get it together and take some action. Aca-what? You heard me. Take action. You’ve got the music in you. Also, it wouldn’t kill you to eat more vegetables. Seriously.

Cancer – Have you developed a habit on your own? Seriously. Why is that? Half the stuff that runs through your head, you would NEVER say to another person. Certainly not your friends or family. So what’re you going to do about it? Get it together my little Cancer. You are better than this. You’ve been putting in some good work since January. Keep it up. It’s starting to pay off, and it’s only going to get better from here on in. Trust me. You are capable of more than you know. Stop trying to be something you’re not. That will only cause you to desire soooooooo much more. Do it up. Do it up now. And another thing...remember...less is more. You know what I’m talking about.
FRIDAY, MARCH 8th
=> 40th CLASS DAY <=

Just a friendly reminder that Friday, March 8th is the 40th class day of the Winter 2013 semester. That means, Friday, March 8th is the last day that you can drop a course from your Winter 2013 schedule. After Friday, March 8th, whatever courses you are still registered in are yours to keep, no matter how well or how poorly you do in them.

You can only repeat courses that you have failed. You cannot repeat a course if you have passed it. If you repeat a failed course, BOTH marks remain on your transcript. The passed grade does not cancel out the failed grade. Please keep all of this in mind as you decide.

Just so you know...

More important info that you WILL find useful!...

• My drop in hours (Mon-Thurs 1:30pm to 3:30pm) are totally dead these days. Come see me or email me at bas@uoguelph.ca anytime!

• With course selection coming up, now is a GREAT time to declare your minors to make sure you're not restricted from a class you want/need!

• Gryphons have the head & wings of an eagle & the body of a lion. Sometimes Gryphons are depicted as having a snake for a tail.

• When you declare your minors, it's not set in stone. It's just paperwork & paper can be recycled. It's fine to change your mind!

• Most of the time, only female Gryphons have wings & males have spikes on their backs instead of wings.

• Looking for a place to live off-campus? Connect with the great folks at Off Campus Housing!

• Going into 4th year? Come see me to do a preliminary grad check to make sure you're on track. It's quick & easy. Honest!

• Gryphons are usually heroic symbols. They are well known for their speed, ability to fly and having eyes like an eagle, as well as the strength and courage of a lion.

• Looking for a job? Check out all the resources and job postings at Recruit Guelph!

• Gryphons are said to be native to India, although nobody knows for sure exactly where it came from.

• Please get at least one other ASCI student to read this newsletter. I don't make these things for my health (but it is fun!).

• Sometimes Gryphons is spelt Griffins.

Not sure where to find information online?
CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!!

www.uoguelph.ca/bas

Another option is to click “Current Students” on the UofG homepage...check out all the links!
Many students see Reading Week as a time when they can get some much needed R&R, away from the stresses of deadlines and early morning lectures. But countless numbers of students aren’t utilising this time off at all and are instead choosing to sit in front of the telly – as if their dream job is just going to fall into their lap after graduation. Well, newsflash, it isn’t. According to the Graduate Market Report 2013, fewer graduates were employed by the top 100 UK companies in 2012, than in previous years.

So now more than ever, as a student, you need to be putting in the work to make sure that you’re the one standing out over the competition. Make the most out of your reading week with these practical tips.

**Get organised:** Aside from doing the work that you have been assigned to complete during reading week, use this time to do any preparations for exams and reading up on lectures and the subjects you’re not confident with. Create a list of things you want to achieve on each day and allocate time to complete each activity. Even a couple of hours a day spent looking over your lecture notes will help. Reading week is also the perfect time to do, well, reading, so make an effort to read some of your course’s supplementary book list.

**Apply for work experience:** According to the Graduate Market Report 2013, graduates are highly unlikely to land a job at one of the top 100 firms without previous work experience at the company itself or in a related field. With that in mind, it’s worth applying for summer work experience placements during your reading week, to get a head start on the competition, as places fill up fast. Every relevant position will help boost your resume. Visit Careers Services and have a look at companies that previous students on your course have worked for before. Usually careers service will know about companies and will be able to help tailor your application to match the key skills the company are looking for.

**Build your resume:** It is also worth taking stock of your current resume and looking for ways you can improve it. For instance, if you’ve only had non-career related part-time jobs before, highlight ways in which your jobs have developed your ‘soft’ skills (i.e. the organisation and communication skills needed for waitressing jobs are transferable to many different industries). Also take advice from your University Careers Service and see if they can guide you in creating the perfect resume, designed specifically to target employers of your chosen industry. Think outside the box too, because competition is fierce, especially in creative industries.

**Join a society:** If your transferable skills are severely lacking, you could also use your reading week as an opportunity to look into joining one of your university’s societies. Employers like to see that you’ve chosen to take on extra responsibilities in your spare time and that you’re passionate about something. Aside from that, your student days are one of the only times in your life when you can surround yourself with peers who have the same interests as you. The friendships you build here could be invaluable to you in your future career, so you should make the effort to seek out people who have the same passions as you.

**How else do you think you could benefit from spending your reading week?**

Bio:
Louise Blake is a writer from Bath, where she lives with her husband and one year old son. She likes to write about educational issues for Classroom Carrots. More info at http://globalgoodgroup.com/blog/2013/02/06/how-to-get-the-most-out-of-reading-week/