

THE EARLY START PROGRAM:

The Early Start Program is designed to promote student success and to ease the transition from high school to university.

Students will:

- Get a full course credit for a special enhanced version of LBED 1500, *The First Year Experience: Mapping our Communities*.
- Build social networks with a diverse group of incoming students.
- Develop the skills & resources needed to be successful in university.
- Be able to move in early to residence or new housing.

Activities will include:

- Library skills workshop on resources and research databases
- Writing Skills workshops, How to Write for University courses
- Sessions on Success & Study Skills
- Learning about the structure of the university
- Learning how to access all the resources available to help students succeed.
- Tours of all parts of the campus
- Guest lectures from some of our best U of L profs on their research and teaching interests.
- Small group meetings with a selection of professors, to discuss courses, research and jobs opportunities
- An Amazing Race on campus, and volunteer opportunities in the community

“This program was exactly what I needed at this point in my life, and the immense knowledge and experience that was packed into these days will follow me throughout my university career – and further, I’m sure.” (2019 Early Start student)

“I feel much more comfortable making my way around campus, talking to the professors, and reaching out when I need help. I learned a lot about studying and writing papers.” (2019 Early Start Student”

TO REGISTER:

You will register in Summer Session III for the course LBED 1500, as an Open Studies Student. Please fill in the Summer Open Studies form available at <https://www.uleth.ca/sites/ross/files/imported/forms/OpenStudiesRegForm.pdf> and return it by email to the Office of the Registrar at regoffice@uleth.ca. There is an initial \$100.00 fee (\$20.00 open studies fee/\$80.00 Summer tuition) which you can pay by either Visa or Mastercard. Please write EARLY START PROGRAM on the top of the form and enter LBED 1500 under course subject and number, and you can write your credit card info on the form.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Dr. Shelly Wismath, wismaths@uleth.ca 403-329-2529

LIB ED 1500 *The First Year Experience: Mapping our Communities*

When students start university, they start a journey to a new stage in life, as they enter a variety of new communities - new physical spaces, new social relationships, and new academic communities and challenges. This course is designed to introduce new students to these communities and to help them find their place in them. Using maps and the process of map-making as guiding metaphors, students will learn valuable social, cultural, and academic skills that will be useful no matter what their major.

The course will be centered in a classroom, but you will spend lots of time outside the classroom on tours and activities. Lecturers from diverse disciplines will introduce you to their research, helping you become part of the academic community and develop connections to professors. You will learn about the services and support available to help you succeed in university and beyond. You will also be introduced to some of the ways that a liberal education challenges boundaries and borders and helps establish connections between ideas and disciplines.

DATES: Classes August 24 to September 4, 2020
9 a.m to 4 p.m daily (finishing at noon on Sept. 4)
(Residence move-in Aug. 21)

COSTS:

- Regular U of L tuition fees for one course (part of student's total 40 courses)
- Early Move-in to Residence **ONLY** for those staying in selected Residence Housing for 2020-21 year: Early Move-In Cost for 2 additional weeks will be \$275 for University Hall Residence, \$375 for Kainai House Apartments. See below for more info!
- Meal Plan: required for those living in Residence; optional full or partial meal plan available for those not living in Residence. Cost: TBA

MORE EARLY START DETAILS:

1. Acceptance to the Early Start Program is conditional on being accepted to the U of L as a student in Fall 2020. The ESP is open to students in all majors/programs.

2. HOUSING:
 - Please let us know if you are applying for U of L Residence. To be in Residence for Early Start, you need to choose either University Hall, or the 1-, 2- or 4-bedroom option. If you are accepted, move-in day will be on Friday August 21. Costs for the additional Residence time will be \$275 for University Hall and \$375 for the Apartment options, for the period of August 21 to regular move-in day. You won't have to move, but will continue in the same housing room/apartment. When you apply for Housing, please indicate in the Comments box that you are applying for the Early Start Program. We will be sharing our information regularly with Housing, and it will help us if each area knows if you are applying for the other!

3. MEAL PLAN:
 - If you are living in Residence, you will have to have a full meal plan. Exact cost will be available soon, but it will be approximately \$500 to \$600 dollars for the period covered, from August 24 to Sept. 6 when the regular meal plan starts. If you are not living in campus Residence, you can still sign up for the full meal plan if you want. You will also be able to select partial options, such as lunches Monday-Friday only; or handle meals completely on your own with no meal plan. We will be sending out full details in early summer, so you can select your choice then, and tell us about any dietary restrictions, etc.

4. Parking:
 - You will be able to purchase a 2-week parking permit for the period of Aug. 24 to Sept. 3 if you need it, at a reduced 2-week rate. Again, we'll send out sign-up information in early summer.

5. What will it be like?
 - The program will run from 9 am to 4:30 pm each day, Monday to Friday, starting on the morning of Monday Aug. 24. (Note we will end early, probably 1 pm, on the last Friday, Sept. 4)
 - But we are not expecting you to sit through lectures from 9 am to 4 pm every day for two weeks! There will be 2 to 3 hours of lecture per day most days, but that will be broken up and interspersed with lots of activities, tours, discussion time, etc.
 - We may also have some (optional) evening or weekend social activities too. For those living in Residence, your Residence Assistants (senior students who live on your floor in Res and act as mentors and helpers) will also sometimes arrange fun activities for you in evenings or on weekends.