

Canada - IP Bulletin 2011-12

Introduction

The IP Bulletin is the International Programs "catalog" and provides academic information about the program in Canada.

General Information

The Province of Quebec is the location for the CSU International Program in Canada. It is offered in cooperation with the Council of Rectors and Presidents of the Universities of the Province of Quebec (CREPUQ) and is paralleled by an exchange program through which Quebec students attend CSU campuses. Participants in the Quebec program will attend an anglophone or a francophone university, depending on their previous preparation in French.

Participating Universities

Concordia University—anglophone, established in 1974 by the merger of two older institutions, Loyola College of Montreal (1899) and Sir George Williams University (1929). Both campuses are located in the city of Montreal, Loyola in the west end and Sir George Williams in the center of the city. The university offers 180 programs of study at the undergraduate level and over 70 at the master's and doctoral levels. The university has over 30,800 students. Website <<http://www.concordia.ca>>

Université Laval—francophone, North America's oldest French language university, founded as the *Séminaire de Québec* in 1663 and granted university status in 1852. The current university, which became independent of the seminary in 1971, occupies a large modern complex of buildings, sports facilities, and residences which are linked by a network of tunnels. It is located in Sainte Foy, west of Quebec City, and enrolls 36,000 students in over 350 in undergraduate and graduate programs. Teaching French as a second language remains one of Laval's specialties which attracts over 100 international students each year. Website <<http://www.ulaval.ca>>

Academic Calendar

The academic calendars of the cooperating institutions vary although many universities begin in early September. The fall semester ends just prior to Christmas and is followed by a short vacation. The winter semester begins right after the New Year and ends in early May.

Academic Advising

Many Canadian universities are similar to the British university model in that undergraduate students enroll in a program of study that is relatively fixed and highly focused within the particular subject. Most degree programs take three years to complete. CSU students will enroll in courses within the approved field of study in which they are placed.

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY

At Concordia University, 200 level courses are generally considered first year or introductory courses (although not limited to first year students). Typically, these courses are considered lower division, although some may be upper division, depending on course content. 300 level courses are second and third year courses and have prerequisites, which are usually 200 level courses. These courses are usually considered upper division with some exceptions. 400 level courses are usually third year, honours or graduate level courses. Some of the courses require the Professor's approval in order to take them, but in general, if the student has the prerequisites, they can register for them. Courses at the 400 level are considered upper division although some may be graduate level courses, depending on course content.

LAVAL UNIVERSITY

At Laval University, most degrees are three years in length with some exceptions. Courses starting with a number 1 are first year undergraduate courses and are regarded as lower division. Courses starting with a number 2 or 3 are second and third year undergraduate courses, respectively, and are considered upper division courses. Depending on course content, some exceptions to these guidelines may apply.

Regarding French language courses, courses with the prefix FLE are under the School of Languages (École de langues) and are offered to beginners, and are lower division. Courses with the prefix FLS (Français langue seconde) are offered through the Faculty of Arts's (Faculté des lettres) Department of *langue, linguistique et traduction*. FLS courses are intermediate (lower division) and courses with the prefix FRN are more advanced (upper division).

COURSELOAD AND UNIT CONVERSION GUIDELINES

At Concordia and Laval, units are converted as follows:

Concordia and Laval Credit	CSU Semester Unit
1 credit	1 unit

For CSU students attending a quarter-based campus: To convert the value of CSU semester units into CSU quarter units, multiply the CSU semester units by 1.5.

Students are required to take a minimum of 15 units EACH semester. Non-French language students are required to take at least one French language course each semester. A minimum of three courses must be within the approved area of study in which they were accepted. The remaining units may be electives.

Below is an example of the academic schedule for a student who is not majoring or minoring in French language.

<u>Semesters 1 and 2: Fall and Spring Semester</u>	<u>Units</u>
French Language	3-6
Concentration classes	9
Electives	<u>3-0</u>
Minimum number of units required:	15

Any exceptions to the above schedule (e.g. taking more than one elective course in a given semester, taking more than 18 units) or any academic policy must be approved by the Office of International Programs. To request an exception, email the Office of International Programs at: IPacademics@calstate.edu.

Assessment and Grading

The grading system used at Concordia and Laval Universities are comparable to the grading scale used at the CSU as follows:

Canadian Grade	CSU Grade
A+, A	A
A-	A-
B+	B+
B	B
B-	B-
C+	C+
C	C
C-	C-
D+	D+
D	D
D-	D-
E, F	F

Academic Reporting

In addition to units and grades, the OIP reports each course attempted to the student's campus by reporting the title of the course taken and the CSU home campus department in which the course is closely related. This method of reporting means that students will need to furnish course descriptions, syllabi, and other course materials to their advisors in order to apply for credit towards specific major, minor, or general education requirements. Students should expect to complete campus-based forms (petitions or course substitution requests) with the assistance of their advisor(s). If courses are not needed for specific degree requirements, then it is usually not necessary to complete any other forms.

French Language Instruction

All students, regardless of institution that they are attending or the curriculum they are following, are required to take a French language course EACH semester.

Important note: Students must take these courses for a letter grade and therefore meet all requirements for the course, i.e. meet attendance requirements, complete all assignments and take all exams. Students who do not complete all assignments and/or take the exams will receive a mark of WU, which is equivalent to a grade of F for GPA calculations. Withdrawals have not been approved by the OIP will also result in a grade of WU (Withdrawal Unauthorized).

University Offerings

A wide variety of academic subjects is available, and prospective students should consult the web pages of the Canadian university when choosing courses.

Admission to courses is subject to availability, approval of the host university and the particular department's prerequisites. Note that just as is the case with any CSU catalog, not all of the courses listed are offered every semester so students should be flexible with their selection of courses.

Concordia University

To find course descriptions for undergraduate courses, go to < <http://registrar.concordia.ca/calendar/> > and view the Undergraduate Calendar.

Note: Course information for 2011/12 was not yet available at the time of this publication. Check the website periodically for updates. In the interim, refer to course information from the previous year.

Université Laval

To find course descriptions for undergraduate courses, go to < <http://www2.ulaval.ca/les-etudes.html> >. For undergraduate courses, select "1er cycle" under "Programmes" and then select a discipline.