

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

First Year Bachelor of Arts (BA) Course Planning Worksheet 2025 - 2026

This guide is designed for 1st year Bachelor of Arts (BA) students to help you choose courses and plan your schedule for a successful first year as a BA student! The BA program has many possibilities and options, and this guide doesn't include all program requirements. For complete program requirements, please see the Dalhousie Academic Calendar at www.dal.ca/calendar or ask your academic advisor.

Before we get started, here are some general tips:

- Most courses are 3 credit hours and shown as .03, but some are 6 credit hours and shown as .06.
- Full time is considered a minimum of 9 credit hours a term, and 15 credit hours a term is considered a full course load. You cannot exceed 15 credit hours per term.
- Typically, students take 1000-level introductory courses in their first year, which are often prerequisites for 2000-, 3000-, or 4000-level courses. Prerequisites are courses that you must complete before taking it. For instance, many language courses are described as Part 1 and Part 2; most of the time, you must complete Part 1 before Part 2 (Part 1 is a prerequisite for Part 2). Check the course descriptions in the [Academic Timetable](#) to ensure you're aware of any prerequisites (or other restrictions) for any classes you plan to take.

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1. Required First Year Course

ASSC1300/1400 Introduction to the Humanities/Social Sciences - 3 Credit Hours

ASSC 1300 or 1400: Introduction to the Humanities / Introduction to the Social Sciences
One of these courses must be completed in your first Fall term; you cannot take both ASSC1400 and ASSC1300.

If the course is full, please join the waitlist. If the waitlist is full, please email asstdeanfass@dal.ca.



2. Recommended First Year Courses

Writing Requirement – 3 or 6 Credit Hours

BA students must take an approved writing course(s). Below is the list of approved writing courses offered in the 2025/2026 academic year. Students are encouraged to complete the Writing requirement in their first year of studies. Writing requirement courses can also fulfill one of the Subject Groupings.

BA students may *either* fulfill this requirement by completing ENGL1111.03, which fulfills the entire BA writing requirement on its own, or by choosing 6 credit hours of courses from the following:

- **English/Creative Writing:** ENGL/CRWR1030.06
- **English:** ENGL1005.03, ENGL1015.03, ENGL1025.03, ENGL1040.03, ENGL1050.03,
- **French:** FREN1200.03
- **German:** GERM1026.03 & GERM1027.03
- **History:** HIST1022.03, HIST1023.03, & HIST1510.06
- **Journalism:** JOUR1002.03 & JOUR1003.03
- **Oceanography:** OCEA1001.03 & OCEA1002.03 (must be taken together for course credit)
- **Performance Studies:** PERF1000.03, PERF1001.03 & PERF1002.03
- **Philosophy:** PHIL1810.03 & PHIL1820.03
- **Political Science:** POLI1001.03 & POLI1002.03
- **Sustainability:** SUST1000.06

Subject Groupings - 18 Credit Hours

BA students must complete 6 credit hours for each subject group:

- Languages and Humanities,
- Social Science,
- Life and Physical Sciences.

Courses may fulfill both a Subject Grouping Requirement and Writing Requirement. However, courses cannot fulfill both the Language Requirement and the Subject Grouping Requirement.

Below is a list of subjects that fall into each Subject Grouping. You can take anything from each list, but a single course cannot double count and cannot fulfill more than one Subject Grouping Requirement.

Subject Grouping 1: Languages and Humanities (6 credit hours)

Arabic, Black and African Diaspora Studies, Canadian Studies, Chinese (Mandarin), Cinema and Media Studies, Classics, Comparative Religion, Contemporary Studies, Creative Writing, Early Modern Studies, English, European Studies, French, Gender and Women's Studies, German, Greek, History, History of Science and Technology, Indigenous Studies, Italian Studies, King's Foundation Year, Latin, Music, Performance Studies, Philosophy, Religious Studies, Russian, Spanish, Theatre.

Subject Grouping 2: Social Science (6 credit hours)

Black and African Diaspora Studies, Canadian Studies; Contemporary Studies, Early Modern Studies, European Studies, Economics, Gender and Women's Studies, History, History of Science and Technology, Human Geography, Indigenous Studies, International Development Studies, King's Foundation Year; Law, Justice and Society, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology and Social Anthropology.

Subject Grouping 3: Life Sciences and Physical Sciences (6 credit hours)

Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Earth Sciences, Economics, Engineering, Environmental Science, Human Physiology, Informatics, Marine Biology, Mathematics, Microbiology and Immunology, Neuroscience, Oceanography, Physics, Psychology, Science, Statistics, Sustainability.



Language or Math Requirement - 6 Credit Hours

BA students* must obtain six credit hours in a *single* language. It is recommended that the language requirement be completed in a single academic year and can be completed after the first year. Courses that satisfy the Language Requirement *cannot* also satisfy Subject Grouping 1. Below is the list of approved language courses offered in the 2025/2026 academic year.

Please choose from any bullet from the list below to fulfill your language requirement.

- | | |
|--|--|
| • Arabic: ARBC1021.03 & ARBC1022.03 | • French: any course(s) taught in French |
| • Chinese (Mandarin): CHIN1031.03 & CHIN1032.03 | • German: GERM1003.03 & GERM1004.03 or GERM1010.06 |
| • Latin: CLAS2401.03 & CLAS2402.03 | • Mi'kmaw: INDG2901.03 & INDG2902.03 |
| • Classical Hebrew: CLAS2920.03 & CLAS2921.03 | • Italian: ITAL1000.03 & ITAL1001.03 |
| • Ancient Greek: CLAS2505.03 & CLAS2506.03 | • Spanish: SPAN1021.03 & SPAN1022.03 or SPAN1035.06 |

Upper-level language courses may be substituted for students with advanced language skills; please talk to the Registrar's Office or a department advisor.

Math Requirement:

*BA students who choose to major in economics; philosophy; law, justice and society; political science; psychology; or sociology and social anthropology can choose to substitute the 6 credit hour Language Requirement with 6 credit hours in mathematics or statistics taught by the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, other than MATH 1001.03, MATH 1002.03, MATH 1003.03, MATH 1110.03, MATH 1120.03, or MATH 1115.03; or they may meet it by passing the test administered by the Department of Mathematics and Statistics

3. Electives

Your first year is an excellent time to start exploring subjects that interest you. Whether you know what subject you want to pursue or are considering your options, you can sample courses from different subject areas in your first year. There are many different subjects and types of programs that you can pursue as a BA student. The table below has recommended courses by subject area. If you are interested in pursuing a program in any listed subject areas, you may consider some of these courses in your first (or second) year.

Not all program areas listed below offer Majors; some programs only offer Combined Honours, or Double Majors. These programs have been marked with an asterisk *. The list below doesn't include programs offered as Minors only (not Majors, Honours, Double Majors, or Combined Honours) or programs offered through the Faculty of Science.

Recommended courses by subject area are on the next page



Black and African Diaspora Studies • BAFD1000.03 & BAFD2005.03	Cinema and Media Studies It is recommended for students to take PERF1000.03 & PERF1002.03	Classics • Writing requirement • Students are encouraged to take two language courses in Greek and/or Latin. E.g. CLAS2401.03 & CLAS2402.03, or CLAS2505.03, & CLAS2506.03
Contemporary Studies* • At least 12 credit hours of 1000-level courses at Dalhousie	Creative Writing* • 6 credit hour Writing requirement in ENGL, PERF, or CRWR. CRWR1030.06 is recommended	Early Modern Studies* • At least 12 credit hours of 1000-level courses
English • 6 credit hour Writing requirement in ENGL, PERF, or CRWR	Environment, Sustainability and Society* • SUST1000.06 or SUST1400.03 • SUST1001.06	European Studies • HIST1020.03 & HIST1021.03 or equivalent course(s) totaling 6 credit hours in a later year
French • FREN1047.03 & FREN1048.03 or • FREN1057.03 & FREN1058.03, or • 2000-level Placement Test result	Gender & Women's Studies • Writing requirement At least one of the following: • GWST1010.03, GWST1015.03, SOSA1002.03 or SOSA1003.03	German If there is no previous knowledge of German take: • GERM 1010.06, or • GERM1003.03 & GERM1004.03. All students with prior knowledge of German should see the German Undergraduate Advisor
History • HIST1020.03 & HIST1021.03 or • HIST1022.03 & HIST1023.03 or • HIST1501.03, or • HIST1510.06	History of Science & Technology* There are no prerequisites for 2000-level HSTC courses. Students interested in the subject can take: • HSTC1201.03 & HSTC1202.03	International Development Studies Students are highly encouraged to take: • INTD1102.03/CANA1102.03 & INTD1103.03/CANA1103.03
Law, Justice & Society It is recommended that students take 3-6 credit hours of intro courses in political science, sociology, social anthropology, philosophy, and history and complete the writing requirement. E.g.: • PHIL1500.03 & PHIL1501.03 or PHIL1810.03 & PHIL1820.03 • POLI1060.03 & POLI1065.03	Philosophy • PHIL1500.03 and/or PHIL1501.03 or • PHIL1810.03 and/or PHIL1820.03	Political Science • POLI1001.03 & POLI1002.03 or • POLI1060.03 & POLI1065.03



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or POLI1001.03 & POLI1002.03 • SOSA1002.03 & SOSA1003.03 • HIST1020.03 & HIST1021.03 or HIST1022.03 & HIST1023.03 or HIST1510.06		
Religious Studies • 6 credit hours of 1000-level RELS courses	Sociology & Social Anthropology • SOSA1002.03 and/or SOSA1003.03	Spanish & Latin American Studies • SPAN1021.03 & SPAN1022.03, or SPAN1035.06

4. How to Find Courses and Build your Schedule

1. Go to the Academic Timetable (www.dal.ca/timetable).
2. On the Academic Timetable, you can select the Term and Location; it is recommended to review course offerings one term (fall or winter) at a time.
3. Select the subject from the subject drop-down list; note that courses are listed by subject, not program.
4. Find the course required (e.g., ECON 1101), record the CRN number for one of the lecture (Lec) sections, and add the time to the blank schedule. You can click the button next to the course title to see the course description.
 - a. The CRN is a unique five-digit code (e.g., 13789), and each section for a course has a unique CRN that you need to use to register.
5. If applicable, select a tutorial (Tut) and/or lab (Lab) section, record the CRN for each component, and add the time to the blank schedule. You must register for one of each of the sections that appear for each course (Lec, Lab, and Tut). Each section is a different colour.
 - a. Not all courses have a lab or tutorial section, e.g., PHIL1810.
6. Check the first column for notes such as restrictions (R), preferred sections for certain programs, or other important information.
7. Repeat finding the CRNs for all courses required for the given term, and while recording CRNs in your schedule, be mindful of time conflicts.
8. Once you have found all the CRNs for your courses in the Fall term, repeat the same process for the Winter term.



5. How to Register for Courses

1. Access DalOnline (<https://dalonline.dal.ca/>), click Web for Students and then click Registration.
2. Select Register for Classes twice,
3. Select your term from the drop-down menu, starting with 2025/2026 Fall, and select Continue.
4. Select Enter CRNs from the option across the top of the screen; do not use the Class Search option.
 - a. Add as many CRN text boxes as needed.
 - b. Type one CRN into each text box
 - c. Once all CRNs are added, select Add to Summary.
5. If a course is full, check to see if there is a different section you can register for. If there is a waitlist available, join the waitlist and register in an alternative. If a course is full and there is no waitlist, then register in an alternative course and keep checking the timetable to see if space becomes available.
6. Your tentative schedule will be available in the panel at the bottom left, and a summary of your courses can be seen in the panel at the bottom right of the screen.
 - a. In the bottom left panel, confirm your schedule is accurate and that there are no course conflicts.
 - b. In the bottom right panel, next to each pending course, confirm your intended action, generally Web Registered
 - c. Once you have checked everything looks good, select Submit to finalize your course registration.
7. After registering for the Fall term, select a new term and complete the process again for the 2025/2026 Winter term.

Please refer to www.dal.ca/registration for more support on how to read the Academic Timetable and register for courses.

If errors occur after submitting CRNs please get in touch with the Registrar's Office (902 494 2450) or your advisor who can be found at www.dal.ca/advising for clarification and assistance to resolve the issue.



MY PLAN FOR FALL TERM

TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:35					
9:05					
9:35					
10:05					
10:35					
11:05					
11:35					
12:05					
12:35					
13:05					
13:35					
14:05					
14:35					
15:05					
15:35					
16:05					
16:35					
Evening Classes					

Course	Ex. Biology 2030					
Lecture CRN	10241					
Lab CRN	10245					
Tutorial CRN	10255					



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MY PLAN FOR WINTER TERM

TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:35					
9:05					
9:35					
10:05					
10:35					
11:05					
11:35					
12:05					
12:35					
13:05					
13:35					
14:05					
14:35					
15:05					
15:35					
16:05					
16:35					
Evening Classes					

Course	Ex. Biology 2030					
Lecture CRN	10241					
Lab CRN	10245					
Tutorial CRN	10255					



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