

Academic Supports in the Colleges

Academic Advisors

- Help you understand your degree requirements and develop educational plans to achieve your personal and academic goals.
- Assist with revising your education plan to adapt to changing circumstances, interests and goals.



Academic Skills Instructors

- Support you in strengthening learning skills for university: time management, reading and notetaking, study strategies, writing and math skills.
- Online How-to-Guides, individual appointments and events and programs.



Advisors can help you decide what courses to take, and **Skills Instructors** can support you with your coursework.



[TCSA, n.d.](#)

Transfer your skills to learn at Trent U

Academic Skills, 2024

You may experience a transition period...remember to rely on your strengths



Common concerns and challenges

- Knowing “the lingo”
- Time management
- Academic expectations
- Community life



TCSA, n.d.

Knowing the “lingo”



**Lecture
(LEC)**



**Seminar (SEM)
or Workshop
(WRK)**



**Laboratory
(LAB)**

Course Instructor

- Designs and presents course content
- Communicates course objectives and information
- Creates learning opportunities for course concepts, principles, and skills
- Evaluates student performance
- Sets deadlines for assessment

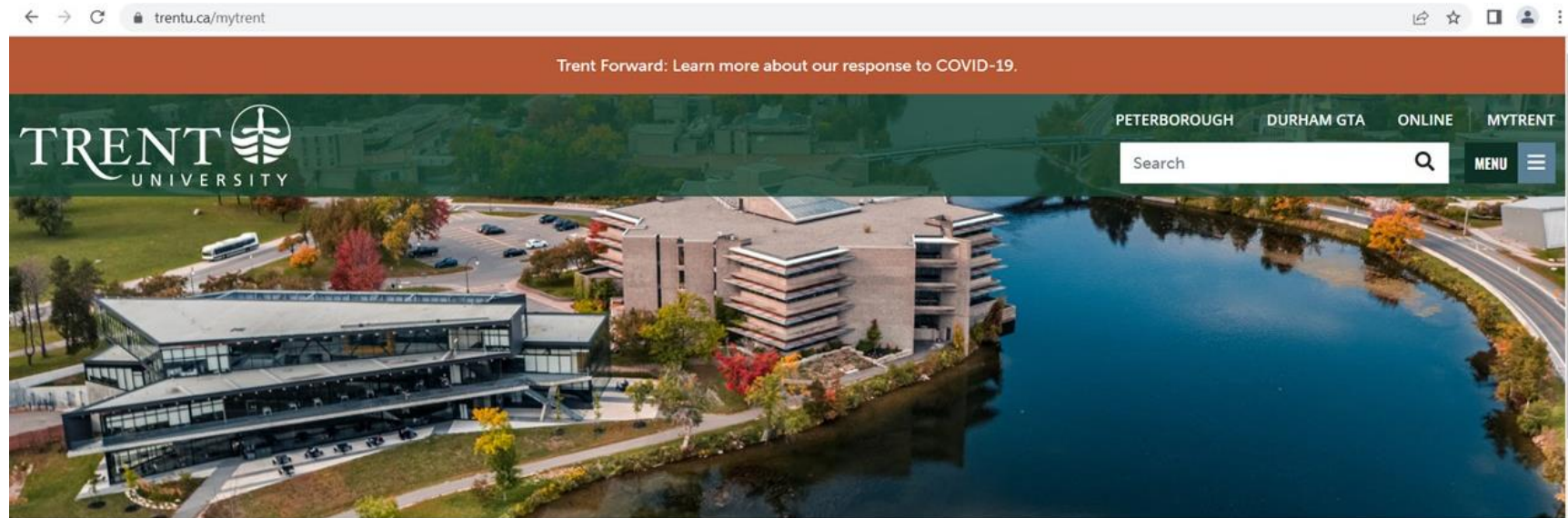
Teaching Assistant

- Supplements course content
- Facilitates online/in-person labs or seminars
- Helps mark assignments and tests

Blackboard

- What is Blackboard?
 - A Learning Management System that houses each of your courses
 - Think of it as your course website
- What can I access on Blackboard?
 - Course syllabi
 - Lecture and reading materials
 - Online quizzes and tests
 - Assignment instructions and submission box
 - Grades and feedback
 - Contact information for your professor

Blackboard



myTrent

Current Students, Faculty & Staff

- Access to academic records, email, learning system, news, events, information and more

New Students - Activate Your Account

- Pick-up your Username and password for your Network, E-Mail and MyTrent accounts

Applicants

- [LOG IN](#)
- [ACTIVATE YOUR ACCOUNT](#)
- [RETRIEVE YOUR STUDENT ID](#)
- [FORGOT YOUR USERNAME/PASSWORD?](#)



Syllabus/course outline

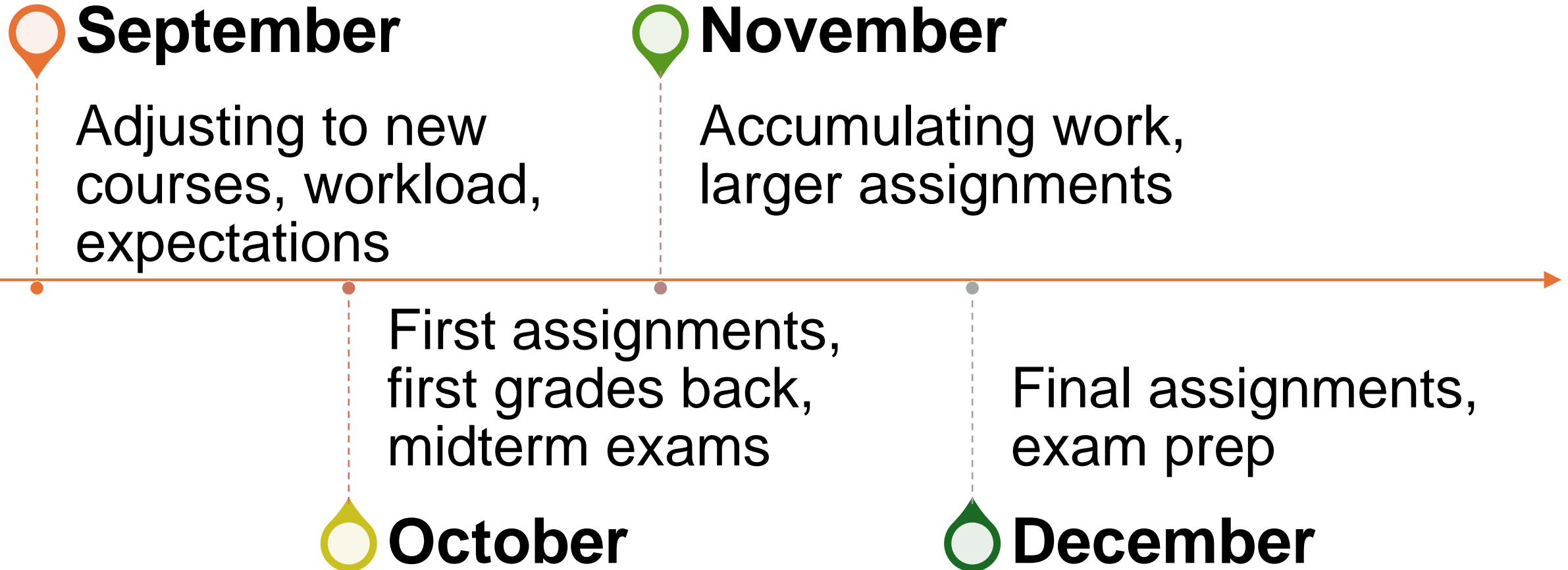
- Explains the goals and learning objectives of the course
- Shares the contact information for the instructor and office hours
- Lists important course policies (e.g., attendance, late work, etc.)
- Shows what must be covered in a class:
 - A list of assessments (all exams and assignments) with due dates
 - Generally, a weekly schedule of readings and lecture topics



TCSA, n.d.

Time management

What to expect over the semester



General academic time commitment

- 40-50 hours of schoolwork each week
- 30-50 pages of reading per course, per week
- For humanities and social sciences, 1-3 papers per course
- For sciences, more frequent assignments and labs.
- 2-5 exams per semester and weekly quizzes depending on the course
- 2 hours of planning and organization per week
- 30 minutes review





Tips and Tricks for Managing Your Time in University
Wednesday, September 4th @ 11am-1pm in Wenjack Theatre



TCSA, n.d.

Academic expectations

Writing expectations

- Fewer assignments with a higher value
- Explanatory & analytical (not just a description or a summary)
- Not your first draft
- Uses good sources/evidence
- Has a clear, logical structure



A Mock University Lecture

Tuesday, September 3rd @ 12-1pm in Wenjack Theatre

Intro to Your Undergrad

Tuesday, September 3rd @ 2-4pm

Sciences (Wenjack Theatre), Social Sciences (ENW 114),
Humanities (TSC 1.22)

Reading expectations

- Weekly readings
- Wide variety of sources (textbooks, journal articles, case studies, etc.)



The Ultimate Guide for Managing the University Reading Load

Tuesday, September 2nd @ 12:30-1:30 pm in ENW 115

Use of Artificial Intelligence

- Learn about Trent's [academic integrity policy](#)
- Check your syllabi for more information
- When in doubt – ask your instructor!



Should a robot write my paper? Tips for Avoiding Plagiarism and Cheating in University

Wednesday, September 4th @ 2-3pm in ENW 115



TCSA, n.d.

Community life

Community life

- Larger introductory classes
- Different schedules within a cohort

Connect with Academic Skills



Book an appointment with us

www.trentu.ca/sep



Bookmark our website

www.trentu.ca/academicskills



Email us

acdskills@trentu.ca



Follow us on social media



@trentuacademicskills



@TrentUAcademicSkills



Orientation Week events

Mature & Transfer Lunch

Monday, Sept 2, 2024 @ 12pm-1pm in Otonabee College

Pop-Up Coffee Shop - Tuesday, Sept 3, 2024 @ 8:30am - 9:30am in Lady Eaton College

Mature Student Social - Tuesday, Sept 3, 2024 @ 6pm-8pm in Traill College

5 things to do this month

- Find your Trent credentials and email ([IT support](#))
- Check out Blackboard and your syllabi
- Find your way around campus ([Building abbreviations](#), [Class Find](#), and [Parking](#))
- Put the fall term add/drop date in your calendar (and register for winter classes)
- Find ways to get involved on campus (e.g., [clubs/groups](#)) and in the community (e.g., CareerSpace – [volunteer expo](#)).