

# Trent Enrichment Program Course Guide



Session 1 – April 28, 2025

Session 2 – April 29, 2025

Trent University is pleased to extend to you the opportunity to participate in our 31<sup>st</sup> annual Enrichment Course Program for elementary school students in grades 7 and 8. The program consists of a wide offering of courses designed to promote study at the post-secondary level and to provide an opportunity for students to experience a university setting.

**Session #1** – April 28, 2025 - PVNCCDSB

**Session #2** – April 29, 2025 - KPRDSB and selected private schools

**\*\* Please contact 705-748-1011 ext. 7757 or ext. 1260 if you have any questions about which session your school has been assigned to\*\***

### ***IMPORTANT Dates & Reminders:***

Student registration & course selection will open:

**Session #1** – February 3, 2025 at 8:00am – PVNCCDSB

**Session #2** – February 4, 2025 at 8:00am – KPRDSB and selected private schools

Parents and educators will need to use the internet to access the registration program via <https://trentenrichmentprogram.ca> website.

- *Please do not Google this website or use any other search engine; it is not searchable and may take you to incorrect pages.*
- FULL INSTRUCTIONS were included in the Student Invitation Letter.
- The student's name, school, contact information and other personal data will be entered. Courses will also be requested during this process.
- Our online registration system awards seats based on a First Come/First Serve basis dependent on the date and time stamp your course selections are submitted.
- It will attempt to place a student in each of their top 2 choices before looking to 6 alternative choices. On this premise, we cannot guarantee which order that a student will receive their courses.

Student registration & course selection will close on February 21, 2025 at 5pm for all schools.

The School must receive full payment by March 4, 2025 in order for Teachers to approve your student for the Course Allocation process.

Beginning March 18, 2025 at 10am students will be able to log in to their account and review their Course Schedule.

### **Program Information**

**Note: Students should bring their own pencils, pens and note paper.**

## Daily Arrival:

Registration will take place in the lobby of the Wenjack Theatre at Otonabee College. Registration will begin at 8:00am and conclude at 8:30am. If bussing is not provided by the school, students can be dropped off each day at the Wenjack Theatre Entrance, Parking Lot R. Students must be picked up from the same location each day by 3:30pm. (A map is located at the back of this booklet). All students must sign-in and sign-out with their school chaperones at the start and end of day.

Chaperones who are not bussed will be provided with a Parking Code once they have signed in.

## Welcome & Orientation:

Takes place at 8:30am in the Wenjack Theatre. During orientation, students will meet and sit with other students in their AM course. At the conclusion of the orientation session, all students and chaperones will be escorted to their appropriate classrooms by conference staff.

## Day Schedule:

Daily Registration Opens	8:00am
Welcome at Wenjack	8:30am to 8:45am
Travel to Classroom	8:45am to 9:00am
AM Course (2.5 hours)	9:00am to 11:30am
Lunch meet with School Chaperone	11:30am to 12:15pm
Wenjack: into new course groups	12:15pm to 12:30pm
Travel to Classroom	12:30pm 12:45pm
PM course (2.5 hours)	12:45pm to 3:15pm
Sign-out with School Chaperone	3:30pm

## Lunch Facilities:

Lunch is not provided. Students are encouraged to bring a litter-less lunch from home, although the cafeteria will be open for those who choose to purchase their lunch. **Trent University is a cashless campus, credit/debit cards will be needed to purchase your lunches. Cash will not be accepted.** All students must check-in with their school chaperone in their designated area and are not permitted to leave campus. Chaperones from each respective school will be in attendance at this time to ensure appropriate conduct from students. Attendance will be taken following the lunch period in each course.

## Support Staff:

Conference Staff will be available throughout the program to assist with any problems/concerns that you might have. Please feel free to call upon the staff should the need arise. Each **School Board is to provide chaperone(s)** for supervision of the students **at a ratio of 1:12 for each entire day of the program.**

**For urgent matters during the Program please contact the  
Trent University Conference & Hospitality Administrative Office at (705) 748-1260**

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**Note: The University reserves the right to cancel a course where enrollment is less than 10 students.**

## **Arts (Visual, Performing & Applied) & Wellness**

### **11 Inner Strength: Yoga for Mental Clarity**

Participants will learn the different aspects of yoga and qi-yoga to help manage stress and improve concentration. We will learn specific breathing techniques, yoga poses, qi-yoga movements, mantras (phrases), mudras (hand gestures), and meditation techniques to help participants relieve stress and improve mental clarity. Participants should wear cool, comfortable clothing that they can move around in (e.g. yoga pants & t-shirts). Yoga mats will be supplied by the instructor.

Instructor: *Lisa Kavanagh*

*Lisa has been teaching yoga for the last 13 years with certifications in Yoga (including Kids Yoga and Teen Yoga), Yoga Therapy, Qi-Yoga, and Fitness. Lisa has a home-based studio in Peterborough where she offers virtual classes and workshops.*

### **12 Passion for Fashion**

An Introductory guide to how women's fashion has served as a text to the moral and economic situations of the historical periods in which they were worn. A look at the major influencers of the fashion industry, including Lady Lucille Duff Gordon, Coco Chanel, and their celebrities. Stories on fashion disasters, deadly fashion and the role of the society pages will be discussed. Students will be able to explain how fashion has played a role in the shaping of politics and morals for women in the early part of 20th century North America and England. There are hands on components to design where students will make their own fashions to discuss. Design challenges and games will also be included.

Instructor: *Magdalena Samulski*

*Magdalena is a PhD candidate at Trent University in the cultural studies program and has been a Teaching Assistant for the last several years in the English and Cultural Studies Department. She enjoys her time volunteering with primary school children and has been an enrichment instructor for several years.*

### **13 Playing With Shakespeare**

When asked what books they found hardest to read in school, students often point to the works of William Shakespeare. All that iambic pentameter, all those weird old words that nobody uses anymore, all those characters from history and mythology that you need dozens of footnotes to understand--who wouldn't be a little lost? But here's the thing: Shakespeare didn't write books; he wrote plays. So, are we getting it all wrong when we sit down to read those plays like books? How is a play different from a book? What can a play offer an audience that a book cannot offer a reader? How can action, voice, space, and time help bring the words we see on the page to life? Students in this enrichment course will get a brief introduction to the study of Shakespeare and, way more importantly, a chance to *play* with his plays. Over the course of the day, we will learn how late-16th and early-17th century actors worked to bring Shakespeare's language to life, we will imagine possibilities for staging, we will perform short scenes, and we will discuss how these 400+ year-old plays might still have interesting things to say to us in 2025. No acting or theatre experience necessary, just a willingness to have some fun.

Instructor: *Andrew Loeb*

*Andrew Loeb has been a member of the Trent English Department since 2017. His teaching focus is on the literature of the early modern period in England (1500-1700), including the dramatic works of Shakespeare and his contemporaries. His research interests include musical theories and practices in this period, representations of witches and other supernatural figures on the stage, and early modern conceptions of gender, sexuality, class, race, and other categories of identity. He is also the co-founder of The Electric City Players, a local community theatre arts collective that stages productions of Shakespeare plays and other classical theatre. He has co-directed, alongside Jacqueline Barrow at Fleming College, productions of Macbeth (2024) and Twelfth Night (2025).*

### **14 Winning Arguments the Right Way: Critical Thinking**

Arguments are everywhere. On TV, on billboards, in ads, with your parents, even in your head! But some arguments are good, and others are just the worst. How do we tell the difference? In this class, we focus on evaluating arguments, telling the difference between good ones and bad ones, and making our own. We have to be careful to avoid biases, things that our minds do to make us more likely to accept bad arguments, and fallacies, certain types of bad arguments that we often find convincing. We do a little bit of logic and a lot of thinking about terrible, terrible reasoning. Here are the main topics we'll look at: Biases: the ways our minds mess with us, Logic and Fallacies: the worst arguments around! Terrible ads: how would you make them better?

Instructor: *Melanie Rosen*

*Dr. Melanie Rosen started as an assistant professor at Trent's philosophy department in mid-2020. As a philosophy lecturer and tutor since 2006, her main aims are to make courses interactive and to explain complex material, where possible, using an edutainment style. Melanie received her PhD in 2013 in Sydney, her masters and undergraduate degrees (philosophy and fine arts) in New Zealand, and before coming to Trent she was a postdoctoral research fellow in Denmark. She believes that the critical thinking and analysis skills developed in philosophy classes are essential tools that all students should learn, and the focus on these skills in philosophy is particularly beneficial.*

## **Business & Marketing**

### **21 Building Your Million Dollar Business**

This course will dive into entrepreneurship, discussing various entrepreneurs and seeing if you could run your own business. From idea creation to pitching your idea for possible capital investment, students will work in groups to launch their company and create a 5-year marketing plan for their new product/service.

Instructor: *David Blakely*

*David is a graduate of Peterborough Collegiate and McMaster University. He has served as Managing Director for Canada for multiple Fortune 500 public companies: (NYSE: EFX and AIZ). Following those roles, I raised \$10mm in venture capital & launched an IT business which became "Canada's Fastest Growing Company"(PROFIT Magazine). Prior to sale by their investors, they employed several hundred people across Eastern Ontario. Currently, David is a Sessional Instructor of Entrepreneurship, New Venture Planning and Marketing in the School of Business. Today, entrepreneurship and the possibility and prospect of owning and operating your own business is an attractive career prospect for many young students. As the Father of 5, and the instructor of hundreds, David has come to know a little about this interest and is able to share a lot about the challenges and excitement that this option can present.*

### **22 Change The World: Lead like Madiba, and Malala!**

This brief session helps participants understand leadership as an influence process. Participants discuss the importance of relationships around a shared purpose and practice relationship-building through a shared task. After selecting a leader and developing a strategy to accomplish the task, participants collaborate to build a marshmallow structure in a specified time frame.

Instructor: *Rob Elkington*

*Dr. Rob Elkington, Ph.D., grew up in Zimbabwe, & South Africa and currently resides in Canada, serving as Assistant Professor at Trent University School of Business and Master of Management program, Durham. Rob's current research focuses on AI and Organizational Leadership, Ubuntu Leadership, The Use of META in Military Leadership Development (CAF Funded), Ubuntu and the Diversity Icebreaker (Trent IRDG Funded), E-Leadership for Effective Online Learning in Canadian Business Schools, Leading Change and Transformation for Data Modernization in Policing (RCMP Funded). Rob has published five leadership books (Emerald Publications), five book chapters, and twelve peer-reviewed journal articles in rated journals. Rob is a member of the International Leadership Association and an ICF Certified FLOW Business Coach.*

### **23 How to be Your Own Boss**

Ask yourself this question: "What do I want to do when I grow up?" If you answered "I want to start my own business" or "I want to be my own boss" this course is for you! Entrepreneurship is just a big word used to when people start and run their own businesses, and that's what this course is all about. Learn how to come up with an idea, build it into a business, and pitch it to an investor who can help make your dreams a reality!

Instructor: *Dean Howley*

*Dean Howley is an award-winning educator and entrepreneur that mixes theory and real-world experience in his interactive and engaging approach to teaching and learning. He is a professor at Loyalist College in Belleville, Ontario and teaches entrepreneurship courses at Trent University in Peterborough, Ontario. Dean's business, King & Tupper, produces handcrafted Montessori-inspired wooden toys and furniture for children. He holds a B.B.A. from Trent University and an M.Sc. in Management from Smith School of Business, Queen's University. Dean also brings a wealth of diverse professional experience to his instruction from former positions in commercial real estate valuation, commercial financial services, tourism and recreation, and higher education.*

## **Cultural Studies & Strategic Games**

### **31 Chess for Success**

Chess is one of the oldest and most popular games in the world, but chess is more than just a game. In this course students will learn the rules of chess and the most effective strategies for winning chess games. Through fun and interactive lessons, students will see how the logical thinking required by chess can enhance their planning and organizational skills; sharpen their memories; boost their creativity; and improve their concentration. They will also learn about the many discoveries that have been made about human reason, memory, imagination, and creativity by studying the minds of the world's best chess players. By the end of this course students will be better at the game of chess, but they will also appreciate that chess is far more than just a game--it is also a science, an art, and a window into the human mind.

Instructor: *Michael Hickson*

*Michael Hickson is an Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Philosophy at Trent University. When he is not teaching and researching the big ideas in Philosophy, he plays, studies, and teaches chess.*

### **32 Game Theory: Outsmart, Outplay, Outthink**

Get ready to think like a strategist! In this interactive class, you'll explore the exciting world of game theory—learning what makes a game, how to make smart decisions in tricky situations (like the prisoner's dilemma), how to plan your moves in one-off and repeated games, and we will also look at how to think backwards. We'll connect these ideas to sports, card games, board games, school and other fun activities. It's all about learning how to outsmart, outplay, and outthink!

Instructor: *Russell Turner*

*Russell has 20 years of experience teaching economics at the college and university level, with a particular passion for environmental economics, behavioral economics, and game theory. Prior to becoming a professor, he worked with the Inter-American Development Bank in Central America, managing economic projects focused on tourism, archaeology, education, and infrastructure. Outside the classroom, Russell is an enthusiastic soccer fan and the coach of the Peterborough City U11 boys' team. He enjoys blending his love of strategy in both economics and games / sports, while making learning engaging and practical for his students.*

### **33 Mind Activities for Growth: Enhance Brain Development with Chinese Strategic Games**

Get ready for an exciting challenge that will test your strategic thinking and sharpen your mind! In this dynamic course, you'll dive into the thrilling worlds of Majang (a tile game) and Chinese Chess (Xiangqi), which are fun and intellectually stimulating. Whether you're a beginner or looking to level up your skills, you'll learn the ins and outs of each game, from the basic rules to advanced strategies that will keep you on your toes. As you master the moves, you'll boost your brainpower, improve your focus, and unlock new ways of thinking. Packed with hands-on practice, and friendly competition, this course will leave you not only having fun, but also feeling more mentally sharp to take on other tasks in the field of studies.

Instructor: *Shaoling Wang*

*With a Ph.D. in Chinese Linguistics and Pedagogy, a Master's in Linguistics, and a BA in English, Dr. Shaoling Wang is a distinguished instructor and scholar for Chinese language and culture. With extensive teaching experience at top institutions, including Harvard University, Wellesley College, Middlebury College, the University of Hawaii, the University of Toronto (Scarborough Campus), and Trent University, Dr. Wang brings a wealth of knowledge and global perspective to the classroom. Known for her engaging teaching style, she inspires students to explore the intersection of language, culture, and communication, empowering them to think critically and excel in their studies. Her dedication to fostering intellectual curiosity and promoting cultural understanding makes her a standout educator in the field.*

### **34 Reading and Making Comic Strips**

In this course, we will learn how the comic strip developed and how scholars have come to study this multimodal literary art form. By reading and analyzing comic strips from *Calvin and Hobbes*, *Garfield*, and *The Far Side*, we will learn about the attributes of the comic strip and how text and illustration work together to create a humorous narrative. In the last portion of the course, students will apply what they have learned about story, space, time, action, balloons, captions, emanata, layouts, panels, gutters, lettering, and illustration in a creative, hands-on way: they will create their own comic strip!

Instructor: *Molly McKibbin*

## **Environmental Science**

### **41 Coding Under the Canopy**

Explore the forest ecosystems of the Kawarthas. Students will practice coding, Anishinaabemowin, and Indigenous science! Students will use code and Anishinaabemowin to build a map for a small ozobot robot to follow. As the ozobot robot travels through the map, students will encounter different beings and learn about the relationships these beings have with cedar.

*Instructor: Rachel Gilham, TRACKS Youth Program - Indigenous Environmental Science and Studies Program  
TRACKS (TRent Aboriginal Cultural Knowledge and Science) facilitates dynamic, land-based youth programming that braids multiple scientific approaches by centring Indigenous ways of knowing and being..*

### **42 The Ethics of Climate Change**

The climate crisis is plausibly the most significant moral problem that human beings presently face. Almost everyone agrees that governments have an obligation to try to reduce their country's contribution to this crisis; however, the extent to which individuals have an obligation to reduce their own personal greenhouse gas emissions is more controversial. In this class, students will be introduced to the basics of ethical arguments while exploring the question: when individuals emit greenhouse gases unnecessarily, are they doing something morally wrong? Students will also get a chance to calculate their own carbon footprint and reflect on the best ways to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions.

*Instructor: Boyd Millar*

*Boyd is a Philosophy Department faculty member at Trent University.*

## **STEM Programs (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics)**

### **51 CSI Trent: What You Don't See on T.V.**

This forensic science-based course will cover the science behind various fields in forensic science including fingerprinting, genetics, impressions, and bloodstain pattern analysis. We will take a 'behind the scenes' look at how accurate your favourite crime scene T.V. shows really are by showing you how evidence is actually analysed in forensic cases. This introductory course will cover forensic science principles in a manner that is understandable by students with a very limited forensic or science background. Each topic and technique will be paired with a fun interactive activity tied to a forensic case. It will be up to students to analyse the evidence and use results to solve the case.

*Instructor: Audrey Wilson*

*Audrey is a graduate of Trent University's Forensic Science program and McMaster University's Biology Master's program, currently working as research assistant at the Natural Resources DNA Profiling and Forensic Centre based at Trent University. This position involves analyzing the genetics of a variety of Canadian wildlife species, and assisting the main forensic scientist with casework. Audrey is also a lab demonstrator for some courses in the Department of Forensic Science.*

### **52 Design Thinking and the Engineering Design Process**

This course engages Grade 7 and 8 students in Design Thinking and Engineering Design Process through a STEAM-based Egg Rescue Challenge. Students will apply mathematical and scientific concepts from their curriculum to design, budget, and test an egg-protection device, learning problem-solving skills and teamwork. This experience aligns with key Ontario Math and Science standards for Grades 7 and 8, promoting hands-on learning, critical thinking, and resource management within a real-world engineering scenario.

*Instructor: Saja Al-Rawi*

*Saja is an experienced educator with over 30 years of teaching expertise in mathematics and physics at the high school, undergraduate, and graduate levels; holding a Master's Degree in Science, majoring in Physics, and a Master's in Professional Education, majoring in Mathematics Education. Currently pursuing an EdD in Educational Leadership, Saja is committed to fostering a positive and inclusive learning environment that inspires all students to reach their full potential. Saja believes in creating engaging, up-to-date, and interactive learning experiences that empower students to explore mathematical concepts and apply them to real-world situations..*



### 53 Exploring the Magic of Chemistry

Explore the magical world of chemistry with experiments inspired by the stories of Harry Potter. Students will get the chance to see and, in some cases, recreate some of the most iconic potions from the movies but with a real world, chemistry twist. Sorting hat potions, Giant's Toothpaste, Troll Bogies, and Felix Felicis are just some of the amazing experiments students will get to experience when they take Magical Chemistry and they'll come out of the course as better witches or wizards (and more knowledgeable in chemistry!). Some key concepts covered in the course include acid-base chemistry, condensation polymerization, decomposition reactions, double replacement reactions, solubility, precipitation, and more.

Instructor: *Cassandra DeFrancesco*

*Cassandra is a Chemical Technician in the Chemistry Department at Trent University and a graduate of the Environmental and Life Sciences master's program specializing in Aquatic Chemistry (2020). She received her B.Sc. in chemistry and forensic science from Trent University in 2017. She has extensive experience working in outreach, having taught chemistry and forensics at the Trent Forensic Science Camp since 2015. Cassandra has been working with Trent Enrichment since 2015 having previously taught the CSI Trent: What You Don't See on TV course.*

### 54 How Fast Does Usain Bolt Run? A Simple Introduction to Calculus

The focus of this course is to take the very first step into understanding what calculus is. My approach is simple. I present an example everyone is familiar with: an athlete (Usain Bolt) running a 100-m dash as fast as they can. I use this example to introduce a few concepts that, while still familiar, are of increasing difficulty: rate of change, gradient, rise-over-run, difference quotient. I show that in essence calculus is a measure of 'how fast something changes.' Then, together with the students, we work on practical examples where we calculate, hands-on, the rate of change of different quantities and discover organically what a derivative is. Students learn the first fundamental concepts of calculus in a fun way that is intuitive and natural.

Instructor: *Carlo Bradac*

*Dr. Carlo Bradac describes himself as a tinkerer: "I love problems that challenge my critical thinking skills and force me to find practical and effective solutions to them." Carlo is an Assistant Professor at Trent University. He studied physics and engineering at the Polytechnic of Milan (Italy) where he achieved his Bachelor (2004) and Master's degree (2006) in Engineering for Physics and Mathematics. He received his PhD in Physics at Macquarie University (Sydney, AU) in 2012. He worked as an Engineer at National Instruments (2006-2007) and at Maire Tecnimont (2007-2008), and as a Research Fellow at Sydney University (2012-2013), Macquarie University (2013-2017) and the University of Technology Sydney (2017-2020). Currently at Trent University, his research focuses on quantum materials and their applications for optics, photonics and sensing.*

### 55 "I Thought Counting Was Easy!" – Permutations, Combinations and Catalan Numbers!

Let's take a journey together by running through the streets of Barcelona...just watch out for dangerous busy roads! Climbing mountain ranges might be an easier path leading to our destination, although it could help if we turn the mountains on their sides first. Maybe we can get there faster by shaking hands with dignitaries at a round table...but please make sure you follow proper handshaking etiquette, or there could be trouble. What does it all mean, and how are these events related to each other? The secret is in the Catalan numbers. In this course we will discover powerful counting techniques, which are used in all sorts of applications, such as cryptography, computer architecture, sports statistics, optimizing the delivery of packages, data compression, social networks, tournament scheduling, lotteries, and more.

The course begins with some games to discover the basic counting principles. We will explore solutions to problems using physical manipulatives to help us find the right answers. Students will have the opportunity to come up with their own hypotheses and then test them with concrete examples. Along the way we will introduce the basic ideas of probability and use these ideas to "cheat" our way to a winning strategy and come out on top. Finally, the secrets of the Catalan numbers will be revealed, but only to those who are brave enough to face the challenges before them!

Instructor: *John Talboom*

*Dr. John Talboom has a PhD in mathematics (specializing in algebra) from Carleton University and a B.Ed from UOIT and is currently an Assistant Professor in the Department of Mathematics at Trent University. For the past 7 years he has been a member of the Trent Turtle Mathematics Contest; a mathematics "competition" aimed at students in grades 1-8. The Turtle Contest is meant to promote the enjoyment of math problem solving, and is not a typical competitive contest; instead, our goal is participation at all levels of learning. Dr. Talboom also helps run the*

*Kangaroo Mathematics Competition at Trent. The Kangaroo contest is a competitive national mathematics contest for students in grades 1-12.*

## **56 Putting Games Back Into Game Theory**

Behavioural ecology is the study of animal behaviour in the context of ecology and evolution. The goal of this course is to not only introduce students to interesting behaviours, but to teach students to think critically about them. Through group activities and lectures the students will become familiar behavioural economics and game theory, that is how animals make decisions about their behaviours. Students should bring with them their phones, enthusiasm, and willingness to have fun!

Instructor: *Sarah Jamieson*

*Dr. Sarah Jamieson has a PhD in biology (behavioral ecology) and a certificate in University Teaching and Learning. She has been teaching at Trent since 2015, becoming an Assistant Professor in 2021 and is passionate about making learning fun.*

## **57 Sports Science - The Science of Exercise and Human Movement**

To successfully lift a dumbbell, run at top speed, throw a ball, or even stand up from a chair requires complex interactions between our body's nervous system, our skeletal system, and the muscles that power these movements. Through exercise and physical training, we can stimulate these systems to grow and adapt, resulting in improved movement and enhanced human performance. This course, run by faculty and students from the Kinesiology Program, will cover the physiology of human movement and how we adapt to exercise. Through laboratory-based exercise activities, we will consider not only how certain challenges can influence athletic performance, such as stretching, but also how we measure performance in laboratory settings. This course will involve active participation in laboratory-based exercise but will be inclusive and accommodating to all abilities.

Instructor: *Davis Forman*

*Dr. Davis Forman, PhD, is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Kinesiology at Trent University where he teaches fitness assessment and exercise prescription, human anatomy, biomechanics, and occupational ergonomics. His research interests focus on how the human body adapts to resistance training and how these adaptations influence injury susceptibility in the workplace. His work is regularly published in field-leading journals such as the Journal of Biomechanics, Ergonomics, and the Journal of Neurophysiology.*

Trent University, Symons Campus, Otonabee College Classrooms  
2131 East Bank Dr., Peterborough, ON

1. Head southeast on Nassau Mills Rd for 2km
2. Turn right onto E Bank Dr
3. Turn right into Parking Lot R
4. When looking at the building the Wenjack Theatre Entrance is to the Left Hand side ★ (by the round about)
5. Once you Enter the Building the classrooms are straight ahead.

