



Brock
University

*Department of Recreation
and Leisure Studies*

Guide to Applying to 4th Year

*for
Bachelor of Tourism Studies
&
Bachelor of Recreation and Leisure Studies*

10 Benefits of Completing a 4 Year Degree

There are many important reasons for students to complete a 4 year degree:

1. The 4th year experience helps prepare students for possible further work at the graduate level (in recreation, tourism or related areas of study). In most cases students who wish to go to graduate school to obtain a Masters degree will need a 4 year honours degree to meet minimum admission requirements. Brock is the only university in Canada with a 3 year degree in Recreation.
2. Students can position themselves better in the job market as a result of having a 4 year degree.
3. Some employers use level of education completed as part of their pay scale to determine starting salaries.
4. The 4th year program both challenges students and develops their skills in important areas including planning, project management, creative problem solving and leadership.
5. 4th year provides students with an opportunity to take select major courses reserved only for 4th year students as well as additional elective courses that they were not able to take earlier.
6. 4th year provides an opportunity to specialize further in an area of interest.
7. 4th year provides an opportunity to build a stronger sense of community with a smaller group of students.
8. A strong 4th year program enhances the reputation of our overall program here at Brock, which in turn benefits our graduates in their marketability in the work force.
9. In order to complete the Outdoor, Therapeutic or Inclusive concentrations for a Bachelor of Recreation and Leisure Studies degree, students must complete year 4. The 3 year degree option applies *only* to the General program.
10. 4th year students are eligible to apply for employment as a Teaching Assistant and can participate in additional workshops to earn a *TA Certificate in Teaching and Learning in Higher Education*. These are valuable experiences and skills to include on a resume or an *Experience Plus* transcript.

How Does a Student Get Into 4th Year?

Before students are permitted to take any 4th year major courses, Recreation and Leisure Studies and Tourism Studies students must:

1. Meet the minimum requirements and pre-requisites
2. Apply to 4th year studies regardless of whether they are interested in the honours or non-honours program
3. Be formally admitted to 4th year studies by the Department of Recreation and Leisure Studies via a letter signed by the Department Chair.

What Are The Minimum Requirements & Prerequisites?

The following are the minimum entrance requirements for the 4th year:

- 60% average in non-major credits
- 70% average in major credits for the honours program
- 60-69% average in major credits for the non-honours program.
- RECL 3Q07 or 3Q17 is required for the BTS honours and non-honours programs, and the honours BRLS programs. It is not required for non-honours BRLS program.
- Students must have completed 13.5 credits including all major core and major elective courses (e.g. 3.0–4.0 credits at the 2(alpha)00 level above in RECL or TOUR depending on your program).

All major credits are included in the required average (lower marks cannot be eliminated when extra credits have been taken). Second-class honours standing of 70% can be achieved by upgrading courses.

How Does One Apply?

Students must submit 2 different application forms by **March 31, 2004** if they intend to attend 4th year in September 2004.

1. Students must submit a departmental "*Intent to Apply*" form to Erin Shape, 4th Year Coordinator c/o SAB 357. This form is available in SAB 357 or on our Department websites.
2. Students must also apply to the University by submitting the "*Application for Year 4 Studies*" available on the Office of the Registrar website at www.brocku.ca/registrar/forms/index.html

Students are asked to notify the Department if their plans change.

How Will I Know I Have Been Accepted To 4th Year?

Students who apply for 4th year and meet the minimum requirements are automatically accepted into the program. However, qualified students will also receive a letter of confirmation at their permanent home address (unless otherwise requested) signed by the Department Chair in May 2004.

The letter will include a list of the courses that students must register for and a qualifier that students must satisfactorily complete all outstanding required courses in progress (e.g. Spring courses) and maintain their current academic level.

What is Involved in Doing 4th Year Studies?

The workload in 4th year is similar to other years, although there is a greater focus on understanding the research and evaluation process. The program requires students to complete five credits. Three of those credits are at the 3(alpha)90 level above and 2.0 credits are electives.

Please note that there have been changes to the 4th year program over the past few years. Regardless of what it says in the Brock Undergraduate Calendar or the program planner for your program requirement year, students attending 4th year in 2004/05 will take the courses as outlined in the following descriptions:

Bachelor of Tourism Studies

The Bachelor of Tourism Studies (BTS) is a 4 year degree program *only* and does not offer students a 3 year option. The BTS Honours program involves completion of an individual research project carried out under the direction of a faculty advisor. The non-honours program involves completion of a group directed research project.

TOUR 3P95 *Field Work* **or** TOUR 3P99 *Professional Development*
TOUR 4P18 *Themes In Tourism Development*
TOUR 4P28 *Contemporary Issues in Tourism Services*
TOUR 4P38 *Destination Management*
TOUR 4F17 (honours only) *Independent Research Project*
TOUR 4P03 (non-honours) *Directed Project*
TOUR .5 Elective 3(alpha)90 above (non-honours)
2.0 General Elective Credits

Bachelor of Recreation and Leisure Studies

As of September 2004 a 4th year honours and non-honours program is available for all BRLS concentrations (General, IR, TR and Outdoor). Only the General programs still offers students a 3 year pass degree option.

All BRLS 4th year honours students will take...

TOUR 3P95 *Field Work* **or** TOUR 3P99 *Professional Development*
RECL 4P01 *Contemporary Issues in Leisure Studies*
RECL 4F07 *Research Project* **or** RECL 4F97 *Honours Thesis*
2.0 General Elective Credits

....plus the following based on their concentration:

General: RECL 4P10 *Contemporary Issues in Recreation Services*
RECL .5 Elective 3(alpha)90 above
IR / TR: RECL 4P02 *Senior Seminar in IR & TR*
RECL .5 Elective 3(alpha)90 above
Outdoor: RECL 4P16 *Advanced Wilderness Program Planning*
RECL 4P06 *Issues in Outdoor Recreation*

NOTE: RECL 4F97 *Honours Thesis* is optional but is recommended for any student considering graduate school. Students must make arrangements with a Faculty member who is willing to supervise the project before registering for RECL 4F97. In some cases, Faculty members have their own research agendas which may fit individual student's interests. Students must approach a Faculty member about their interest in completing a thesis by **March 31, 2004**.

All BRLS 4th year non-honours students will take:

TOUR 3P95 *Field Work*
TOUR 3P99 *Professional Development*
RECL 4P01 *Contemporary Issues in Leisure Studies*
RECL 3P97 *Program Evaluation and Needs Assessment*
2.0 General Elective Credits

....plus the following based on their concentration:

General: RECL 4P10 *Contemporary Issues in Recreation Services*
RECL 4P04 *Leisure and Lifestyle Benefits*
IR / TR: RECL 4P02 *Senior Seminar in IR & TR*
RECL 4P04 *Leisure and Lifestyle Benefits*
Outdoor: RECL 4P16 *Advanced Wilderness Program Planning*
RECL 4P06 *Issues in Outdoor Recreation*

Teaching Assistant Experience

Working as a teaching assistant with introductory classes is an opportunity some 4th year students won't want to miss. TAing is an exceptional opportunity to gain valuable teaching experience, earn money, and further develop one's own understanding of recreation, leisure and tourism concepts. Teaching assistant responsibilities are not part of the 4th year load; they should be seen as employment. The process is competitive, and preference will be given based on student grades (both in terms of overall grade point average and specific grades received in related courses), relevant work or volunteer experience, and knowledge of skills specific to a particular course. Students who are accepted as teaching assistants must attend training workshops as a requirement of employment.

The teaching assistant experience contributes to the learning environment during 4th year by providing students with an opportunity to develop leadership and evaluation skills. **The TA application deadline is July 1, 2004.**

Interested students should send the following to the 4th Year Coordinator:

- a completed "Teaching Assistant Application Form" (available from the Department office in SAB 357 or on our Department website)
- a one-page covering letter explaining their suitability for the job
- an up-to-date résumé

Because the number of seminars is dependent on course enrolment, seminar appointments will not be finalized until the first day of classes. Since positions are limited and funds are often not finalized, students are advised to consider securing other sources of income.

Summary of Important Dates

Date	Item
March 1, 2004	Deadline for <i>Application for Graduation</i> for 3 rd year students not returning for Year 4
March 31, 2004	Deadline to submit <i>Intent to Apply</i> form and <i>Application for Year 4 Studies</i> form for students planning to return for Year 4
March 31, 2004	Deadline for approaching a Faculty supervisor for <i>RECL 4F97 Honours Thesis</i>
May, 2004	Receipt of <i>letter of confirmation</i> from Department Chair
July 1, 2004	Deadline for <i>TA application form</i>

For Further Information Please Contact:

Dr. Erin Sharpe, 4th Year Coordinator, Ext. 3989, Office SAB 338
Diane Bowie, Academic Advisor, Ext. 4098, Office SAB 353

Please visit our websites at www.brocku.ca/recandleisure and www.brocku.ca/tourism

Department of Recreation and Leisure Studies

Year 4 Intent to Apply 2004/05

Bachelor of Recreation and Leisure Studies (BRLS)
Bachelor of Tourism Studies (BTS)

Application Process

Students must submit 2 different application forms by **March 31, 2004** if they are interested in attending the 4th year program that commences September 2004.

- Students must apply to the Department of Recreation and Leisure Studies by submitting this "Intent to Apply" form to Erin Sharpe, 4th Year Coordinator c/o SAB 357.
- Students must also apply to the University by submitting the "Application for Year 4 Studies" available on the Office of the Registrar website at www.brocku.ca/registrar/forms/index.html

Students are asked to notify the Department immediately if their plans change and they would like to withdraw their 4th year application .

Students who apply for 4th year studies and meet the minimum requirements are automatically accepted into the program. Qualified students will receive a letter of confirmation from the Department Chair in May 2004 at their permanent home address (unless otherwise requested). The letter will (a) confirm whether the student has been accepted into the honours or non-honours 4th year program (b) include a list of the courses that students must register for and (c) state a qualifier that students must satisfactorily complete all outstanding required courses in progress (e.g. Spring courses) and maintain their current academic level.

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ Postal Code: _____

Student I.D. #: _____ E-mail address: _____

Telephone: (____) _____ (____) _____
Permanent Home Brock

I would like to be considered for the following 4th year program: Honours Non-Honours

My Degree Program & Concentration Is:

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> BRLS General | <input type="checkbox"/> BRLS Outdoor | <input type="checkbox"/> BTS Planning & Development |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BRLS Therapeutic | <input type="checkbox"/> BRLS Inclusive | <input type="checkbox"/> BTS Administration |

I intend to apply for a Teaching Assistant position: Yes No