



ACADEMIC COUNCIL MEETING
Graduate Studies Committee (GSC)

AGENDA

Date: September 23, 2025

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

[Zoom Videoconference Link](#) (registration required)

GSC Meeting Schedule and Materials 2025-2026

No.		Topic	Lead	Suggested Start Time
PUBLIC SESSION				
1.		Call to Order and Land Acknowledgement	Chair	
2.		Agenda (M)		
3.		Chair's Remarks	Chair	
	3.1	GSC Terms of Reference Review * (I)	Chair	5 mins
4.		2025-2026 GSC Workplan Review* (I)	Kirstie Ayotte	
5.		Consent Agenda: (M)	Chair	
	5.1	Minutes of the Meeting of June 24, 2025 * (M)		
	5.2	2025-2026 Graduate Academic Schedule Revision * (I)		
	5.3	Course change: NUCL 5250G (I)		
	5.4	Associate Graduate Faculty Appointments - Computer Science, Paul Kennedy, Faculty of Business and Information Technology - Computer Science, Muhammad Usman, Faculty of Science - Criminology, Lindsay Malloy, Faculty of Social Science and Humanities		

		• Criminology, Sara Thompson, Faculty of Social Science and Humanities • Criminology, Rebecca Lazarenko, Faculty of Social Science and Humanities • Criminology, Vivian Stamatopoulos, Faculty of Social Science and Humanities • Criminology, Amir Mostaghim, Faculty of Social Science and Humanities • Cybersecurity, Tanner Mirrlees, Faculty of Social Science and Humanities • Education, Kenneth Gyamerah, Frazer Faculty of Education • Education, Susan Forbes, Frazer Faculty of Education • Education, Mark Peterson, Frazer Faculty of Education • Forensic Psychology, Brian Cutler, Faculty of Social Science and Humanities • Forensic Psychology, Sonja Brubacher, Faculty of Social Science and Humanities • Forensic Psychology, Ainslie Heasman, Faculty of Social Science and Humanities • Forensic Psychology, Rebecca Lazarenko, Faculty of Social Science and Humanities • Forensic Psychology, Krystle Martin, Faculty of Social Science and Humanities • Health Sciences, Wendy Barber, Frazer Faculty of Education • Health Sciences, Juveria Zaheer, Faculty of Health Sciences • Health Sciences, Greg Hardy, Faculty of Health Sciences • Health Sciences, Laura Banks, Faculty of Health Sciences • Health Sciences, Peter Lewis, Faculty of Business and Information Technology • Health Sciences, Myuri Sivanthan, Faculty of Health Sciences • Health Sciences, Laura Istamboulian, Faculty of Health Sciences • Health Sciences, Amanda Sheppard, Faculty of Health Sciences • Modelling and Computational Science, Luciano Buono, Faculty of Science • Social Practice and Innovation, Rebecca Lazarenko, Faculty of Social Science and Humanities • Software Engineering, Walid Morsi Ibrahim, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science Graduate Faculty Appointments • Education, Amanda Cooper, Frazer Faculty of Education • Mechatronics Engineering, Mitchell Rushton, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science		
--	--	--	--	--

6.		Other Business	Chair	
7.		Adjournment (M)	Chair	
NON-PUBLIC SESSION				
8.		Call to Order	Chair	
9.		Cyclical Program Review (Approval)		
	9.1	Final Assessment Report and Program Learning Outcomes – Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy in Applied Bioscience* (M)	K. McCartney	
	9.2	Final Assessment Report and Program Learning Outcomes – Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy in Materials Science* (M)	K. McCartney	
10.		Termination (M)		

Kirstie Ayotte, Assistant University Secretary

Graduate Studies Committee (GSC)

Work Plan 2025-2026

Meeting	Agenda Item (Lead)	Academic Council (If Applicable)	Board (if Applicable)
September 23, 2025	- Curriculum Items – if Applicable (CIQE) 2025-2026 GSC Work Plan (NC/KA) - Annual GSC Terms of Reference Review (NC/KA) - Policy deliberation (if applicable)	October 28, 2025	December 4, 2025
October 28, 2025	- Curriculum Items – if Applicable (CIQE) - Policy deliberation (if applicable)	November 25, 2025	December 4, 2025
November 25, 2025	- Curriculum Items – if Applicable (CIQE) - Policy deliberation (if applicable)	January 27, 2026	March 5, 2026
December 23, 2025	- Curriculum Items – if Applicable (CIQE) - Policy deliberation (if applicable)	January 27, 2026	March 5, 2025
January 27, 2026	- Curriculum Items – if Applicable (CIQE) - Policy deliberation (if applicable) Major Program Modification (MPM) Deadline (CIQE) - Target last meeting to accept MPM's (Academic Council deadline April); changes published to calendar in May Academic Policy Changes - Target last meeting to accept Academic Policy changes (Academic Council deadline April); changes published to calendar in May	February 24, 2026	March 5, 2026

February 14, 2026	- Curriculum Items – if Applicable (CIQE) 2026-2027 Graduate Academic Schedule - Policy deliberation (if applicable) Minor Program Adjustments (MPA) Deadline (CIQE) - Target last meeting to accept MPA's (Academic Council for information deadline - March); changes published to calendar in May Minor Curriculum Changes (MCC) Deadline (CIQE) - Target last meeting to accept MCC's for information- Does not go to Academic Council; published to calendar in May	March 24, 2025	May 7, 2026
March 14, 2026	- Curriculum Items – if Applicable (CIQE) - Policy deliberation (if applicable)	April 28, 2026	May 7, 2026
April 28, 2026	- Curriculum Items – if Applicable (CIQE) - Policy deliberation (if applicable)	May 26, 2026	June 25, 2026
May 26, 2026	- Curriculum Items – if Applicable (CIQE) - Policy deliberation (if applicable)	June 25, 2026	Sept 2026 TBD
June 23, 2026	- Curriculum Items – if Applicable (CIQE) - Policy deliberation (if applicable)	Sept 2025 TBD	Sept 2026 TBD

ACADEMIC COUNCIL
GRADUATE STUDIES COMMITTEE (GSC)

**Minutes of the Public Session of the June 24, 2025, Meeting
via Videoconference
9:07 a.m. - 9:22 a.m.**

Graduate Studies Committee Agendas, Materials and Minutes 2024-2025

Present: C. Cesaroni (Chair), N. Crow, J. Arcand, A. Azim, C. Davidson, L. Harkins, S. Jackson, A. Kiani, O. Marques, H. MacPherson, P. Mirza-Babaei, D. Papke, F. Quereschi, A. Slane, A. Tokuhiko, N. Wattie, K. Wilson, A. Wingate

Regrets: J. Abbas Dick, R. Bailey, K. Clarke, D. Bonetta, A. Cooper, F. Gaspari, L. Jacobs, L. Livingston, S. Marsh, C. McGregor, J. Stokes, R. Van Oostveen, L. VanVeen,

Staff: K. Ayotte (Secretary), M. Heslip, K. McCartney, J. Pereira, B. Tranter, S. Windsor

1. Call to Order and Land Acknowledgement

The Chair called the Public session of the Graduate Studies Committee (GSC) meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. and N. Wattie read aloud the Land Acknowledgement.

2. Agenda (M)

Upon a motion duly made by J. Arcand and seconded by A. Slane, the Agenda was approved as presented, including approving and receiving the Consent Agenda and its contents.

3. Chair's Remarks

The Chair advised that SGPS will be transitioning to a single email address (gradstudies@ontariotechu.ca) over the summer, with full implementation by the end of August, so as to improve response times and provide consistency. She noted ongoing summer engagement activities, including Grad Pro Skills, Basecamp, and orientation sessions.

H. MacPherson advised that the SGPS orientation will take place on September 3 and asked members to share their faculty orientation dates so staff can attend. She noted graduate students will also be included in the main social orientation events over the long weekend this year.

4. Major Program Modification (Recommendation)

4.1 Master of Science in Nursing* (M)

N. Wattie noted that the dissolution of the joint program with Trent University necessitated changes to the MScN program. These changes formally end the partnership and incorporate courses previously delivered by Trent into Ontario Tech's academic calendar. The update was described as routine, finalizing the separation of the two programs.

Upon a motion duly made by J. Arcand and seconded by L. Harkins, GSC hereby recommends to Academic Council the approval of the Major Program Modification to the Master of Science in Nursing (MScN) program to reflect the mutual decision to dissolve the joint partnership with Trent University.

5. Consent Agenda* (M)

The Chair confirmed that the contents of the Consent Agenda were approved and received under Agenda Item #2.

5.1 Public Minutes of the May 27, 2025, Meeting* (M)

5.2 Memos:

- i) Faculty of Business and IT Mode of Delivery Flexibility for Graduate Courses* (I)
- ii) Frazer Faculty of Education Mode of Delivery Flexibility for Graduate Courses* (I)
- iii) Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science Mode of Delivery Flexibility for Graduate Courses* (I)
- iv) Faculty of Health Sciences Mode of Delivery Flexibility for Graduate Courses* (I)

5.3 Minor Curricular Adjustments:

Course Changes:

[HLSC 7092G](#), [HLSC 5118G](#), [HLSC 5123G](#)

5.4 2025-2026 Graduate Academic Schedule – Amendment* (I)

5.5 Associate Graduate Faculty

- Computer Science, Mattias O'Nils, Faculty of Science
- Computer Science, Jarek Szlichta, Faculty of Science
- Computer Science, Felix Gaschi, Faculty of Science
- Computer Science, Natalija Vlajic, Faculty of Business and Information Technology
- Computer Science, Nick Wattie, Faculty of Health Sciences
- Criminology, Alyson King, Faculty of Social Science and Humanities
- Education, Kaitlyn Watson, Frazer Faculty of Education
- Education, Sarah Stokes, Frazer Faculty of Education
- Education, Catherine Drea, Frazer Faculty of Education
- Education, Robert Power, Frazer Faculty of Education

- Education, Sharon Lauricella, Faculty of Social Science and Humanities
- Electrical and Computer Engineering & Software Engineering, Shahryar Rahnamayan, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science
- Health Sciences, Nooshin Rotondi, Faculty of Health Sciences

Graduate Faculty

- Electrical and Computer Engineering & Software Engineering, Hani Sami, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science
- Electrical and Computer Engineering & Software Engineering, Nasim Beigi-Mohammadi, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science

Emeritus Graduate Faculty

- Computer Science, Ramiro Liscano, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science

5.6 Library Report* (I)

6. Volunteer for September Land Acknowledgement

The Chair noted that a request for a volunteer will be sent out in August.

7. Termination (M)

There being no other business, and upon a motion to terminate by F. Quereshi, the June 24, 2025 GSC meeting terminated at 9:22 a.m.

Kirstie Ayotte, Assistant University Secretary

GRADUATE STUDIES COMMITTEE REPORT

ACTION REQUESTED:

Recommendation	☐
Information	☒
Discussion/Direction	☐
Decision	☐

DATE: September 23, 2025

PRESENTED BY: Adam Wingate, Associate Registrar and Director, Records and Scheduling

SUBJECT: Revisions to the Graduate Academic Schedule

OVERVIEW:

- The information herein falls under the Administrative Guidelines for Determining the Academic Schedule.
- The Office of the Registrar is presenting the following revisions to the Graduate Academic Schedule, published in the Academic Calendar, for information.

BACKGROUND/CONTEXT & RATIONALE:

- The revisions to the Graduate Academic Schedule reflect that Fall Convocation will take place on one day instead of the previously reported two dates.

RESOURCES REQUIRED:

- No resources required.

PRESENTATION DATES:

- Undergraduate Studies Committee for information: September 16, 2025.
- Graduate Studies Committee for information: September 23, 2025
- Academic Council for information: September 23, 2025

NEXT STEPS:

The calendar revisions will be published immediately.

Academic schedule

- [Fall semester](#)
 - [Winter semester](#)
 - [Spring/Summer semester](#)
-

Fall semester

August 10, 2025	Last day to submit an online application for graduation for students completing degree requirements at the end of the summer semester.
September 1, 2025	Labour Day, no lectures.
September 2, 2025	Lectures begin, fall semester.
	Last day to submit for reinstatement, fall semester.
	Last day to submit return from leave of absence form, fall semester.
	Deadline for payment of fees or submission of the Graduate Student Promissory Note, fall semester.
	Last day to submit a program change request, fall semester.
	Last day to change full-time/part-time status, fall semester.
	Last day to submit a leave of absence form, fall semester.
September 15, 2025	End of regular registration period; last day to add courses, fall semester.
	Last day to drop courses in fee-per-credit graduate programs and receive a 100 per cent refund of tuition and ancillary fees, fall semester.
	Last day to withdraw from a flat-fee graduate program and receive a 100 per cent refund of tuition and ancillary fees, fall semester.
September 29, 2025	Last day to withdraw from fall semester courses without academic consequences (i.e., without receiving a grade). Courses dropped after this date will be recorded on the academic transcript with a grade of W to indicate withdrawal.
	Last day to drop courses in fee-per-credit graduate programs and receive a 50 per cent refund of tuition fees, fall semester.

Last day to withdraw from a flat-fee graduate program and receive a 50 per cent refund of tuition fees, fall semester.

October 13,
2025 Thanksgiving Day, no lectures.

October 14
to 19, 2025 Fall study week, no lectures.

October 16,
2025 Fall Convocation.

November
3, 2025 Last day to withdraw from fall semester courses. Active fall semester courses will be graded by instructors.

December 1,
2025 Lectures end, fall semester.

December 2,
2025 Study break, no lectures.

December 3
to 13, 2025 Fall semester final examination period. Students are advised not to make commitments during this period (i.e., vacation, travel plans).

December
15, 2025 Last day to submit final thesis package to program office to ensure graduation by end of fall semester.

Last day for faculty to submit Certificate of Approval for project/paper to the School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies to ensure graduation by end of fall semester.

December
18, 2025 Fall Semester Grades released.

December
24, 2025 to
January 2,
2026 University closed.

December
31, 2025 Last day to submit online application for graduation for students completing degree requirements at the end of the fall semester.

Winter semester

January 5,
2026 University reopens.

January 12,
2026 Lectures begin, winter semester.

Last day to submit a return from leave of absence form, winter semester.

	Last day to request reinstatement, winter semester.
	Deadline for payment of fees or submission of Graduate Student Promissory Note, winter semester.
	Last day to submit a program change request, winter semester.
	Last day to change full-time/part-time status, winter semester.
	Last day to submit a leave of absence form, winter semester.
January 23, 2026	End of regular registration period; last day to add courses, winter semester.
	Last day to drop courses in fee-per-credit graduate programs and receive a 100 per cent refund of tuition and ancillary fees, winter semester.
	Last day to withdraw from a flat-fee graduate program and receive a 100 per cent refund of tuition and ancillary fees, winter semester.
February 6, 2026	Last day to withdraw from winter semester courses without academic consequences (i.e., without receiving a grade). Courses dropped after this date will be recorded on the academic transcript with a grade of W to indicate withdrawal.
	Last day to drop courses in fee-per-credit graduate programs and receive a 50 per cent refund of tuition fees, winter semester.
	Last day to withdraw from a flat-fee graduate program and receive a 50 per cent refund of tuition fees, winter semester.
February 16, 2026	Family Day, no lectures.
February 17 to 22, 2026	Winter study week, no lectures.
February 28, 2026	Last day to submit online application for graduation for the spring session of convocation for students completing degree requirements at the end of the winter semester.
March 20, 2026	Last day to withdraw from winter semester courses. Active winter semester courses will be graded by instructors.
April 3, 2026	Good Friday, no scheduled academic activities.
April 5, 2026	Easter Sunday, no scheduled academic activities.
April 13, 2026	Lectures end, winter semester. Lectures will follow the Friday schedule on this day only.

April 14, 2026	Study break, no lectures.
April 15 to 25, 2026	Winter semester final examination period. Students are advised not to make commitments during this period (i.e., vacation, travel plans).
April 22, 2026	Last day to submit final thesis package to program office to ensure graduation by end of winter semester.
	Last day for faculty to submit Certificate of Approval for project/paper to the School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies to ensure graduation by end of winter semester.
April 30, 2026	Winter Semester grades released.

Spring/Summer semester

May 11, 2026	Lectures begin, six-week spring session and 12-week summer semester.
	Last day to submit a return from leave of absence form, summer semester.
	Last day to request reinstatement, summer semester.
	Deadline for payment of fees or submission of Graduate Student Promissory Note, six-week spring session and 12-week summer semester.
	Last day to submit a program change request, summer semester.
	Last day to change full-time/part-time status, summer semester.
	Last day to submit a leave of absence form, summer semester.
May 15, 2026	Last day to add six-week spring session courses.
	Last day to drop six-week spring session courses in fee-per-credit programs and receive a 100 per cent refund of tuition and ancillary fees.
May 18, 2026	Victoria Day, no lectures.
May 25, 2026	Last day to add courses, 12-week summer semester.
	Last day to drop 12-week summer semester courses in fee-per-credit graduate programs and receive a 100 per cent refund of tuition and ancillary fees.

Last day to withdraw from a flat-fee graduate program and receive a 100 per cent refund of tuition and ancillary fees, summer semester.

Last day to withdraw from six-week spring session courses without academic consequences (i.e., without receiving a grade). Courses dropped after this date will be recorded on the academic transcript with a grade of W to indicate withdrawal.

Last day to withdraw from six-week spring session courses in fee-per-credit graduate programs and receive a 50 per cent refund of tuition fees.

June 3 to
5, 2026

Spring Convocation.

June 8,
2026

Last day to withdraw from 12-week summer semester courses without academic consequences (i.e., without receiving a grade). Courses dropped after this date will be recorded on the academic transcript with a grade of W to indicate withdrawal.

Last day to drop 12-week summer semester courses in fee-per-credit graduate programs and receive a 50 per cent refund of tuition fees.

Last day to withdraw from a flat-fee graduate program and receive a 50 per cent refund of tuition fees, summer semester.

June 10,
2026

Last day to withdraw from six-week spring session courses. Active six-week spring session courses will be graded by instructors.

June 22,
2026

Lectures end, six-week spring session.

Last day to submit an online application for graduation for students completing degree requirements at the end of the spring session.

June 23,
2026

Spring six-week session study break, no lectures.

June 23 to
27, 2026

Study break, 12-week summer semester, no lectures.

June 24 to
27, 2026

Spring session final examination period. Students are advised not to make commitments during this period (i.e., vacation, travel plans).

June 29,
2026

Lectures begin, six-week summer session.

Deadline for payment of fees or submission of Graduate Student Promissory Note (fee-per-credit programs only), six-week summer session.

Lectures resume, 12-week summer semester.

July 1, 2026	Canada Day, no scheduled academic activities.
July 2, 2026	Spring session grades released.
July 6, 2026	Last day to add courses, six-week summer session.
	Last day to drop six-week summer session courses in fee-per-credit graduate programs and receive a 100 per cent re-fund of tuition and ancillary fees.
July 13, 2026	Last day to withdraw from six-week summer session courses without academic consequences (i.e., without receiving a grade). Courses dropped after this date will be recorded on the academic transcript with a grade of W to indicate withdrawal.
	Last day to drop six-week summer session courses in fee-per-credit graduate programs and receive a 50 per cent re-fund of tuition fees.
July 20, 2026	Last day to withdraw from 12-week summer semester courses. Active 12-week summer semester courses will be graded by instructors.
July 29, 2026	Last day to withdraw from six-week summer session courses. Active six-week summer session courses will be graded by instructors.
August 3, 2026	Civic Holiday, no lectures.
August 10, 2026	Last day to submit online application for graduation for students completing degree requirements at the end of the summer session.
August 11, 2026	Lectures will follow the Wednesday schedule on this day only. Lectures end, 12-week summer semester and six-week summer session.
August 12, 2026	Study break, no lectures.
August 13 to 16, 2026	Six-week summer session and 12-week summer semester final examination period. Students are advised not to make commitments during this period (i.e., vacation, travel plans).
August 18, 2026	Last day for faculty to submit Certificate of Approval for project/paper to the School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies to ensure graduation by end of summer semester.
August 18, 2026	Last day to submit final thesis package to program office to ensure graduation by end of summer semester.
August 21, 2026	Summer session and Spring/Summer semester grades released.

Notes:

- The Summer session and Spring/Summer semester grade release date is not necessarily inclusive of grades associated with final thesis package submissions ahead of the August 18, 2026 deadline.
 - Courses offered outside the normal teaching timeframe will have add/drop deadlines pro-rated accordingly. In such cases, faculties will advise students of appropriate deadline dates during the first meeting of the class.
 - It is expected that students in a fee-per-credit program will register before the beginning of classes. If you register in a fee-per-credit course after the tuition payment deadline, your tuition fees are due immediately and you may be assessed a late payment fee. Visit gradstudies.ontariotechu.ca/tuitionandfees for a list of fee-per-credit programs.
 - Deadlines related to the following can be found on the Graduate Studies website: [application deadlines for admission to graduate programs](#); [deadlines for the submission of projects and major papers](#); [deadlines for the submission of theses/dissertations and defences](#); [tuition refund deadlines for thesis completion during a term](#); and deadlines for [scholarships, awards and bursaries](#).
 - Spring/summer session courses in Education may run on a schedule that varies from the above. Consult the [Frazer Faculty of Education's website](#) for specific start and end dates.
 - Fall convocation will be held in October 2025. Spring convocation will be held in June 2026. For more details, please refer to ontariotechu.ca/convocation.
-