Western

What's Up Western Grad Students

Your Monthly Student Newsletter | November, 2025

International Week is November 17-21!

Save the date for International Week - the annual celebration of diversity, international learning opportunities, global collaborations and more.

Watch for stories, plan to attend events and be part of this exciting week focused on the many pieces that make up our #GlobalWesternU!

Don't miss the kick-off Cultural Showcase event on November 17!

International Week Events

Events on Campus

Nov 10-14

Global Entrepreneurship Week

Celebrate innovation and creativity through startup showcases, hands-on challenges, and inspiring talks—including the Ronald D. Schmeichel Speaker Series with retail visionary Glenn Murphy (Petco). Pitch ideas, compete in the Ivey Entrepreneur Challenge, and join a Taylor Swift-themed workshop with Western Law Dean Mohamed Khimji.

Entrepreneurship Week

Nov 12

Graduate & Professional School Fair

If you're considering pursuing further education, check out the Graduate & Professional School Fair! Meet with reps from 90+ institutions and discover your options. Drop by Mustang Lounge from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Grad Fair

Nov 13

SOGS Study Hall

SOGS Study Hall is taking place on Thursday, November 13 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Grad Club. Coffee and tea will be provided at this writing jam session. Come get some work done and meet other grad students! Register to join.

SOGS Study Hall

Nov 13

De-Stress Fest

Enjoy some de-stresser activities, learn about available student supports, and hang out with the St. John Ambulance Therapy Dogs from 1 to 3 p.m. in the Thames Hall Atrium.

De-Stress Fest

Nov 14

Housing Fair

Meet Western Housing staff, landlords, and property managers—all in one place. Explore off-campus housing and explore housing options for next year at this free event in the Mustang Lounge from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Western Housing

Nov 18

Careers in Federal Government Day

Learn about opportunities to work in the public service at Careers in Federal Government Day online on November 18, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

CFGD

Nov 20-23

Opera at Western: Così fan tutte

Music students perform Mozart's timeless masterpiece, filled with mischief, disguise and delightful twists at the Don Wright Faculty of Music November 20-23.

Opera at Western

Nov 28

Learn to Lead

The next Learn to Lead Summit is coming up on November 28! Strengthen your leadership skills and earn a certificate by attending multiple online sessions.

Learn to Lead

See All Events

Campus Life

WESTERN NEWS: 'Electrified' house created by Western researchers slashes energy bills

(L to R) Western engineering PhD candidate Shahzad Rana, Western engineering and Ivey Business School professor Joshua Pearce, and Magnus Homes' president Jamie Crouch. (Dawson Anderson/Western Communications)

Western engineers have amalgamated the function and force of photovoltaics (PV) technology with a heat pump and a thermal battery to create a fully electrified and energy efficient new house. The end game is to eliminate the need for fossil fuels, achieving real net-zero energy consumption for homebuilders and homeowners around the world.

Read Full Western News Article

GET INVOLVED

Research & Academic Opportunities

- **Western Research Forum**: Submit your abstract for the 40th annual conference, *Research on the Edge of Change*, celebrating graduate scholarship driving innovation, justice, sustainability, and inclusion. Learn more & submit here!
- **Academic Joint Fund**: Are you a graduate student planning a conference for your department, faculty, or student association this year? Do you need financial support to make it a reality? Apply for up to $1,000 from the Academic Joint Fund (AJF)! Apply by January 1 for events taking place in February or March.

Career & Professional Development

- **International Student Career Workshops**: Get career advice designed for international students by participating in the International Student Career Workshop Series.
- **Life Design Seminar Series**: Learn strategies for designing a meaningful life and career through a 3-part seminar series this month.

Campus Recreation

- **Western Intramural 1-Day Tournaments**: Register now for Badminton & Pickleball! More sports open November 10 (Dodgeball, Volleyball, Basketball, Inner-Tube Water Polo). Tournaments run late November - sign up early for your chance to win a Purple Shirt!
- **Personal Training**: Reach your goals with a certified Personal Trainer who ensures every workout is safe, effective, and tailored to you. Learn more or sign up with Western Campus Recreation.
- **Bronze Cross Courses**: Take the next step in your lifeguarding journey! Learn water rescue, first aid, and leadership skills that prepare you for future certifications and for saving lives.

Share Your Feedback

- **Climate and Sustainability Strategy Town Halls**: Join a town hall in-person (Nov 18) or virtual (Nov 21) to share feedback on Western's new draft climate and sustainability strategy.
- **Western Libraries Survey**: Have your say and help shape the future of Western Libraries! Share your feedback on spaces, services, and resources by November 10 for a chance to win one of fifteen $100 prizes.

GRAD STUDENT LIFE

Academic Support

- **Writing Support Seminars**: Optimize your professional profile with Writing Support Centre's professional writing seminars, happening November 10-13.
- **Grad Workshops**: This month, Learning Development & Success are hosting grad-specific workshops on topics including using AI as a personal assistant, enculturation into grad school, and project management. See all workshops.

Learning Opportunities

- **Reading and Creative Practice with Ken Lum (Nov 13)**: In this lecture, internationally recognized artist, writer, and curator Ken Lum will share his personal approach to reading in relation to artmaking. Register online!
- **Values Workshop**: Increase your understanding of power and privilege in professional spaces and learn practical skills for setting boundaries through a 'Bringing Our Values to Work' training session on November 18.

Art & Mindfulness

- **Mindful Mondays at McIntosh Gallery**: Join this guided slow looking + mindfulness experience at McIntosh Gallery, from 12:15 to 1 p.m. on November 17, with facilitator Benjamin Tran in current exhibition 'Holding Patterns: the long view'.
- **Art Thrive: Wind (Fiber)**: Explore the element 'Wind' at this free drop-in event, November 12 from 1 to 4 pm, in the Thames Hall Atrium - make your own windchime to take home, and view art by Racquel Rowe (PhD candidate) and Daniella Petti (MFA '25).

Find Community with SOGS

- Join the SOGS Pride Commission for Rainbow Coffee Club (Nov 5), Queerly Beyond Cinema (Nov 26), and other weekly gatherings. Find community at other SOGS events, like Grad Music Nights at the Grad Club featuring student performers every Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. Come for the community, stay for the fun!

INSPIRING MINDS: Kaleigh Campbell

Kaleigh Campbell, PhD candidate in Law, explores how private international law impacts the repatriation of cultural objects in conflict zones. Her comparative multi-jurisdictional research aims to reshape legal frameworks so that rightful ownership and cultural heritage can be preserved and returned.

Read About Kaleigh's Research

WESTERN WELLNESS

Join us for our **Fall Vaccination Clinic**, open to all Western students!

Dates: Nov. 10–11, 2025
Times: 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Location: Thames Hall Atrium

No appointment needed — just drop in! Flu and COVID vaccines can be taken at the same time, or any time before or after each other.

Please be sure to wear appropriate attire and bring your Health Card or UHIP Card (for international students).

Vaccination Clinic Details

SOGS x Rexall Vaccine Clinic: SOGS is also hosting a vaccination clinic on November 12 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in MC, Room 168. Get a COVID or Flu vaccine with Rexall Pharmacies. Register here!

Can't make either vaccination clinic? Call 519-661-3030 to book an appointment to get your flu or COVID-19 vaccine.

FAQ: Are family members of Western students eligible for the fall vaccination clinic? No. Family members of Western students are not eligible for the fall vaccination clinic. For more information on where to receive vaccines, please visit the Middlesex London Health Unit website.

MUSTANGS MINUTE

If you're sticking around campus for Reading Week, Western students get into all regular-season home games (on campus) for FREE with their valid Western ONECard, and we've got some home games happening this week and next! Come on out Mustangs and be a part of the action!

Upcoming Home Games:

- **Nov 8:** Men's Hockey vs Laurier Golden Hawks @ 7 p.m., Thompson Arena
- **Nov 9:**
  - Women's Basketball vs Algoma Thunderbirds @ 6 p.m., Alumni Hall
  - Women's Hockey vs Waterloo Warriors @ 7 p.m., Thompson Arena
  - Men's Basketball vs Algoma Thunderbirds @ 8 p.m., Alumni Hall
- **Nov 12:**
  - Women's Basketball vs Guelph Gryphons @ 6 p.m., Alumni Hall
  - Women's Hockey vs Carleton Ravens @ 7 p.m., Thompson Arena
  - Men's Basketball vs Guelph Gryphons @ 8 p.m., Alumni Hall
- **Nov 14:**
  - Women's Volleyball vs McMaster Marauders @ 6 p.m., Alumni Hall
  - Men's Hockey vs TMU Bold @ 7 p.m., Thompson Arena
  - Men's Volleyball vs McMaster Marauders @ 8 p.m., Alumni Hall
- **Nov 15:**
  - Women's Volleyball vs McMaster Marauders @ 2 p.m., Alumni Hall
  - Men's Volleyball vs McMaster Marauders @ 4 p.m., Alumni Hall
  - Men's Hockey vs Waterloo Warriors @ 7 p.m., Thompson Arena

Sports Schedule

Think you're **Western's Fastest Student**? Register for a 60-meter sprint on the indoor track and see how you stack up against other students. The fastest male and female each win a $200 Prepaid Visa card. The race takes place on **November 21, 3:30 to 5 p.m., at Thompson Arena (WSRC)**. Hosted by the Western Mustangs Track & Field Team.

Register to Sprint

OWN YOUR FUTURE

Upcoming Workshop: Designing Your Career - Connecting Your Passions and PhD to Multiple Career Opportunities

What are you going to do with that degree? Isn't this the question all graduate students dread? *If you're unclear about your career path or your future direction*, this workshop can help you develop the skills necessary to map a meaningful life and career. Learn how to connect your passions, your PhD, and your lived and learned through enlightened trial and error, developing a challenge mindset, and looking the key facets of life including, education, career, and life's ambitions and purpose.

Date: November 12, 2025
Time: 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.
Location: IGAB 1N05

Register Now

GRADCAST: Thrive, Don't Just Survive

In this mini-series from GradCast, learning experts at Western give you all the tips and tricks you need to thrive, not just survive, in grad school.

- Sustaining Motivation in Graduate School
- Time Management for Graduate Students
- The Hidden Curriculum: Navigating the Ins and Outs of Grad School
- Writing and Learning Support for Grad Students

Listen on: Spotify, Apple Podcasts, or GradCast.ca!

Listen to GradCast

Important Dates

- **Nov 6:** Temporary Bridge Closure: University Drive bridge will be closed to motor vehicles on Nov. 6 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. for an annual inspection. A rain date is set for Friday, Nov. 7. It will remain open to pedestrians and cyclists. LTC buses will be rerouted. Drivers are asked to enter campus from Western or Windermere roads.
- **Nov 10:** Final date for doctoral candidates to complete the preliminary thesis submission to finish the degree within the fall term and be eligible for the February in-Absentia Convocation.
- **Nov 25:**
  - Recommended deadline to submit to the School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies a request for a leave of absence, extension of the winter term (leave of absence, part-time status, transfer from master's to doctoral degree, intent to be eligible for TDO status etc.).
  - Recommended deadline to Apply to Graduate for the February in-Absentia Convocation.
- **Nov 30:** Final date for master's candidates to complete the preliminary thesis submission to finish the degree within the fall term and be eligible for the February in-Absentia Convocation.

See More Dates

Have feedback? Email us at WhatsUpWestern@uwo.ca

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