

What's Up Western Grad Students

Your Monthly Student Newsletter | July, 2026



Celebrate Pride at Western

At Western, we are committed to fostering a campus community where everyone feels respected, valued, and included. As Pride celebrations continue beyond June, July brings opportunities to connect through London Pride and Western Pride events. Explore ways to celebrate love, identity, and community this month. Read more below for upcoming events and visit the Western Pride website for supports and resources.

[Western Pride](#)

Events on Campus

July 8

Western Farmers Market

Stop by the top of UC Hill every Wednesday from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. to support local and shop fresh produce, flowers, soft serve creations and more. NEW this year is a Bookstore pop-up with weekly flash sales on your purple favourites! Follow [@westernufood](#) to stay updated.

[Farmers Market](#)

July 8

Out at the Beach

Celebrate Western's 2SLGBTQIA+ community and allies at Out at the Beach Pride Celebration, an outdoor event featuring music by DJ Nic Nemesis, community connection, and opportunities to celebrate joy, belonging, and resilience.

[Out at the Beach](#)

July 9

SOGS Study Hall

Join SOGS Study Hall on July 9 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at The Grad Club for a relaxed writing session with coffee and tea provided. Get work done and connect with fellow graduate students. Register below to attend!

[SOGS Study Hall](#)

July 10

SOGS Picnic in the Park

Join SOGS on Friday, July 10 from 4 to 8 p.m. at Gibbons Park (Pavilion, Site 2) for a picnic featuring veggie and beef hot dogs, jumbo freebies, and lawn games including soccer, cornhole, and giant Jenga. BYO additional food and blankets.

July 13-17

SOGS Pride Week

SOGS Pride Week offers events including Rainbow Coffee Club, a Queer Patio Mixer, keynote talk, film screening, trivia night, and creative drop-ins, bringing graduate students together for connection, learning, and celebration of 2SLGBTQIA+ communities.

[SOGS Pride Week](#)

July 14

Lunch & Learn: Transforming Tension

Explore healthy ways to recognize, understand, and process anger, annoyance, and frustration in this Wellness & Equity Education Lunch and Learn, featuring practical strategies to support emotional well-being in both personal and academic contexts on July 14 from 12 to 1 p.m.

[Register for Session](#)

July 22

SOGS Makers Market

Shop and support graduate student creativity at the SOGS Makers Market on July 22 from 2 to 6 p.m. at The Grad Club, featuring 20 grad student vendors offering handmade items including jewelry, crafts, art prints, and more in an indoor market.

[Makers Market](#)

July 28

Building 2SLGBTQIA+ Allyship Into Workplace Culture

Learn how to put allyship into action at this one-hour talk from The 519, exploring practical strategies for inclusive language, avoiding performative allyship, and building meaningful 2SLGBTQIA+ solidarity through everyday workplace actions.

[Building Allyship](#)

[See All Events](#)

Campus Life

WESTERN NEWS: From the Black Sea to Western: PhD candidate's life, research shaped by soccer



Ozzy Keles (Photo source: Submitted)

Sport history researcher Ozzy Keles turned a lifelong passion for soccer into an academic career exploring the impact on belonging, power and social change, both in Turkey and around the world.

[Read Western News Story](#)

GET INVOLVED

Volunteer Opportunities

- Apply to be a Global Café Volunteer:** Want to meet new people and make a difference on campus? Join the Global Café volunteer team to gain experience, develop new skills, and be part of Western's global community. Applications for the Fall and Winter Terms are being accepted until July 15.
- Student Photoshoot:** Volunteer to be featured in a Student Experience photoshoot on Thursday, July 16, and receive a \$10 Hospitality Services gift card for participating. [Sign up here!](#)

Campus Recreation

- Need a study break this summer? Drop in to [Campus Recreation](#) at the Western Student Recreation Centre (WSRC) for a workout, aquatics, group fitness classes, drop-in sports, and more. Explore summer programs and hours online.

GRAD STUDENT LIFE

Academic & Career Supports

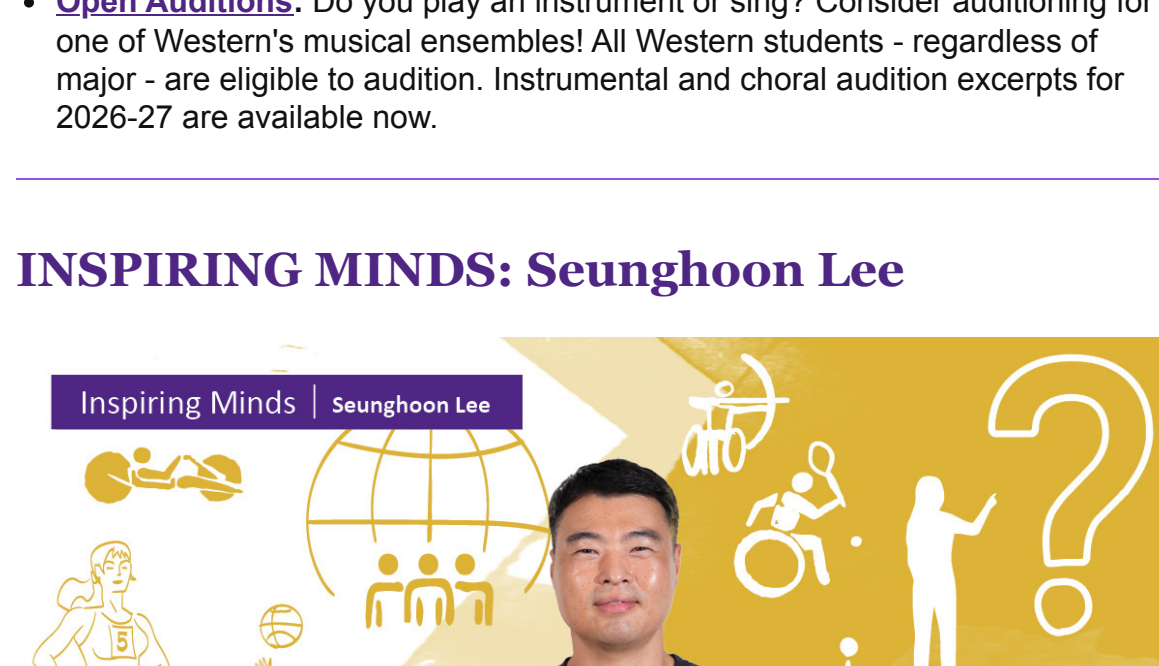
- Now extended! [Grad Productivity Sessions](#) offer a structured, distraction-free online environment where you can co-work and make consistent and meaningful progress on your work. Drop in Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. until July 27.
- Grad Life Coaching:** Looking for support in making the most of your graduate experience? [Book an appointment](#) to connect with guidance, resources, and strategies tailored to your goals.
- Writing Support Centre:** advisors are available all summer to help you optimize any written work, including your thesis, dissertation, and funding proposals.
- Update Your LinkedIn Photo:** On campus this summer? Drop by Careers & Experience in UCC 210 for a free professional headshot! The process only takes about 3 minutes. [Learn more.](#)

- If you're looking to round out your course load for the coming year, check out which [Project Based Learning](#) opportunities will be launching in 2026-27.

Music Ensembles

- Open Auditions:** Do you play an instrument or sing? Consider auditioning for one of Western's musical ensembles! All Western students - regardless of major - are eligible to audition. Instrumental and choral audition excerpts for 2026-27 are available now.

INSPIRING MINDS: Seunghoon Lee



Seunghoon Lee, PhD Candidate in the Faculty of Health Sciences, shares his research on how the Paralympic Games can foster disability awareness and social inclusion, and how educational initiatives can help create lasting positive change in communities.

[View Seunghoon's Research](#)

WESTERN WELLNESS

Need support this summer? Student Health & Wellness Services are open Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (excluding holiday closures). Book an appointment with a physician or mental health counsellor, or access virtual counselling services wherever you're studying. Learn more about available services and supports below.

[Get Support](#)

OWN YOUR FUTURE

Upcoming Workshop: Leader Character for Professional Development: Temperance and Justice

Ivey's [Leader Character Framework](#), originally developed by Ivey faculty, Mary Crossan, Gerard Seijts, and Jeffrey Gandz, serves as an exploration and activation of 11 character dimensions that work together to promote strong judgment and flourishing. This session is part of a workshop series exploring the connections between leader character and professional development. This session focuses specifically on the character dimensions of temperance and justice.

Following this workshop, participants will be able to:

- Describe the character dimensions of temperance and justice while reflecting on how these are activated in personal and professional contexts
- Reflect on connections between temperance, justice, professional development, and transferable skills
- Utilize tools and resources for strengthening the character dimensions of temperance and justice

Date: July 16

Time: 1 to 3 p.m.

Location: IGAB 1N05 (International and Graduate Affairs Building)

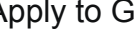
[Register Now](#)

Important Dates

- July 20:** Final date for doctoral candidates to complete the preliminary thesis submission to finish the degree within the summer term and be eligible for the October Convocation.
- July 28:**
 - Recommended deadline to submit to the School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies any request for a Change of Registration for the fall 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 Autumn Convocation.

[See More Dates](#)

Have feedback? Email us at WhatsUpWestern@uwo.ca



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[Unsubscribe info here.](#)