

# Subject-Specific Academic Resource Guide

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Student Academic Success Services (SASS) provides support in learning and writing across disciplines, to all students. This document is intended to complement our broad-ranging support with academic resources more closely tied to specific subjects. It is also available online at [sass.queensu.ca](http://sass.queensu.ca).

If you have a resource you think we should include, please [tell us about it!](#)

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# Student Academic Success Services: Learning Strategies and the Writing Centre



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## General Academic Support

### Student Academic Success Services

- [Student Academic Success Services \(SASS\)](#) comprises Learning Strategies and the Writing Centre. This free and confidential service, located in Stauffer Library, offers workshops, one-on-one consultations, and [practical online tips](#). SASS helps all students—struggling and high-achieving, 1<sup>st</sup>-year to PhD—improve their writing, learning, organization, and studying skills.
- SASS also provides English as an Additional Language (EAL) students one-on-one support in academic language (reading, writing, speaking, and listening). To request an initial appointment, [complete the online form](#).

### GAELS Athletics Tutoring Program

- Tutoring opportunities are available for all student-athletes enrolled at Queen's University through Athletics & Recreation by contacting the Coordinator, Athlete Services. This service is FREE for all varsity-athletes who are included on the team [eligibility certificate](#).
- Tutors are available for most first-year courses. Upper-year course tutoring availability will depend on the course. Contact [gaels.tutor@queensu.ca](mailto:gaels.tutor@queensu.ca) or the Athletics [website](#) for more information or to request a tutor.

### QSuccess Mentors

- This program offers first year students the opportunity to be matched with a knowledgeable upper year mentor who will provide one-on-one support throughout the academic year. First year students can [register for Q Success](#) online.
- Upper year students who would like to request a mentor can apply for the Student Experience Office's [peer mentorship program](#).

### Subject Liaison Librarians

- The research librarians offer [specialized support for students, based on subject areas of expertise](#). If you need help researching a topic for a paper or navigating the numerous databases and keyword types, their guidance will ensure that you find the most relevant and helpful sources—and save you hours of frustration!

### Queen's University International Centre (QUIC)

- The QUIC provides support for International Students in many ways. In addition to International Student Advising and lots of social activities, they provide a number of academic support services. They run an Academic English Writing Skills clinic and a weekly English Conversation Group, and host SASS workshops in academic skills. The Intercultural Awareness Certificate is also a great experience for all students looking to develop their intercultural skills. Check the [QUIC Events Calendar](#) for dates and times.

## Faculty of Arts and Science

- Arts and Science Undergraduate Society (ASUS) peer tutoring is a student-organized service that partners student tutors with those looking for a tutor in a variety of Arts and Science courses. Tutoring fees are \$15/hour and bursaries are available for students in financial need. Questions regarding tutoring can be directed to [academics@asus.queensu.ca](mailto:academics@asus.queensu.ca). Sign up [here](#).
- Bounce Back is [an academic support program for first-year undergraduate students](#) in the Faculty of Arts and Science who acquire a GPA below 1.6 after the fall term. Eligible students will receive an email in January inviting them to participate.
  - Students who opt into the program will be matched with a trained upper-year peer mentor called a Bounce Back Coach. Coaches will work individually with each participant to help them identify the source(s) of their academic challenges, set new goals, and identify strategies to achieve those goals over the course of the winter term.
  - The program runs for up to 12 weeks (January to April). More information can be found on the Student Experience Office [website](#).
- [Peer Academic Support Services](#) (PASS) is a volunteer service that eases the transition into university and promotes academic success. Peer Advisors address issues such as scheduling, plan requirements, SOLUS, and course selection in confidential, non-judgmental advising sessions. PASS is located on the First Floor of Dunning Hall and is available Monday to Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. No appointment necessary.
  - If you have questions about degree programs, requirements for dual degrees, letters of permission to take courses at other universities, appeals, etc., you may prefer to [make an appointment with an academic advisor](#).

## Departmental Support

### Biochemistry

- Biochemistry Peer Assistance Program: A program where undergraduate students can get advice from upper year students who are currently in, and understand the demands of, the program [here](#).
- Peer tutoring services are subject to availability and can be requested through the department. Email [lifesci@queensu.ca](mailto:lifesci@queensu.ca) or [biochem@queensu.ca](mailto:biochem@queensu.ca), tell them for which course(s) you require a tutor, and they will send you a list of potential tutors. You and the tutor will discuss your needs and their payment. Note that the tutoring is only available for the Department of Biomedical and Molecular Science courses when there are graduate students available.
- Occasionally [the LifeSci/BCHM student council](#) runs drop-in sessions, but these are not a formalized process.

### Biology

- [Book an appointment](#) with [a SASS Peer Writing Assistant](#) for help with lab reports. (In the online booking system, choose a PWA who specializes in Science.)
- Queen's University Library research by subject ([Biological Sciences](#))
- Queen's University subject librarian ([Biology](#))

### Chemistry

- Chemistry [tutors](#) (peer support)
- Resources [for undergraduate students](#)
- Queen's University subject librarian ([Chemistry](#))
- Queen's University research by subject ([Chemistry](#))

### Classics

- [Essay guidelines for Classics students](#)
- Queen's University Library research by subject ([Classics](#))
- Queen's University subject librarian (select "[Classics](#)" under Subject)

### Drama and Music

- Queen's University Library research by subject ([Drama](#) | [Music](#))
- Queen's University Library subject librarian ([Drama and Music](#))

### Economics

- ECON 110/111/112 has a free help centre staffed by MA/PhD TAs, 4 days per week in DUN227. The schedule is posted on the Economics website and in the onQ pages for the courses. The room seats about 20 comfortably and often there are two TAs working. They are all trained to provide

supplemental instruction and to review any potentially confusing aspects of the principles course.

- SASS resource: [Quantitative Problem Solving](#)
- Queen's University Library research by subject ([Economics](#))
- Queen's University subject librarian ([Economics](#))

### English Language and Literature

- Learning Strategies workshop: "[How to study for ENG 100](#)" (check [schedule](#) for availability)
- Writing Centre workshop: "[How to Write Your First University English Essay](#)"
- [Purdue Online Writing Lab](#) (Purdue OWL)
- Queen's University Library research by subject ([English Language and Literature](#))
- Queen's University subject librarian (select "[English Language and Literature](#)" under Subject)

### Environmental Science/Studies

- Queen's University Library research by subject ([Environmental Studies](#))
- Queen's University subject librarian (select "[Environmental Studies](#)" under Subject)

### Film and Media Studies

- The Film & Media Studies [department website](#) includes course offerings/descriptions, events & workshops calendars, and tons of other resources
- For information on undergraduate approvals or for academic advising, email [undergraduatefilm@queensu.ca](mailto:undergraduatefilm@queensu.ca) or call 613-533-2178.
- How to apply to [receive course credit for an internship](#) (FILM 395)
- Queen's University Library research by subject ([Film and Media](#))
- Queen's University subject librarian (select "[Film and Media](#)" under Subject)

### French

- Club francophone à Queen's (Queen's French Connection); a weekly discussion group and topic-specific discussion [groups](#).
- Online and computer-based [tools to help improve your writing](#) in French (note that Antidote is currently available in Stauffer 121, not Kingston Hall)
- Departmental website includes [links to francophonie à Kingston](#)
- [Volunteer](#) with Queen's French Camp!
- Queen's University subject librarian (select "[French Studies](#)" under Subject) or [Nathalie Soini](#)

### Gender Studies

- List of departmental [academic resources for students](#)
- Trans [Resource List](#) for faculty and students
- Queen's University Library research by subject ([Gender Studies](#))
- Queen's University subject librarian (select "[Gender Studies](#)" under Subject)

### Geography

- Queen's University Library research by subject ([Geography and Planning](#))
- Queen's University subject librarian ([Geography and Planning](#))

### Geology

- Geology Help Centre (first floor of Bruce Wing in Miller Hall); student-run peer support, based on availability of peer volunteers
- Academic Advisor (Dr. Daniel Layton-Matthews, [dlayton@queensu.ca](mailto:dlayton@queensu.ca))
- Queen's University subject librarian (select "[Geological Sciences](#)" under Subject)

### Global Development Studies

- Queen's University Library research by subject ([Global Development Studies](#))
- Queen's University subject librarian (select "[Global Development Studies](#)" under Subject)

### History

- Resources for [writing History essays](#)
- Writing Centre resource: "[Writing History Essays](#)"
- Queen's University Library research by subject ([History](#))
- Queen's University subject librarian (select "[History](#)" under Subject)

### Jewish Studies

- Queen's University Library research by subject ([Jewish Studies](#))
- Queen's University subject librarian (select "[Jewish Studies](#)" under Subject)

### Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures

#### Arabic

- Undergraduate resources and [links](#)
- Practice your Arabic at the [Arabic Discussion Group](#)
- Arabic [Film Night](#)
- Queen's University Library research by subject ([Middle East and Islamic Studies](#))
- Queen's University subject librarian (select "[Middle East and Islamic Studies](#)" under Subject)

#### Chinese

- Undergraduate Resources and [Links](#)
- Practice your Chinese at the [Chinese Conversational Group](#)
- Queen's University Library research by subject ([Asian Studies](#))
- Queen's University subject librarian (select "[Asian Studies](#)" under Subject)



### **German**

- Undergraduate resources and links ([Learning German, LinguaeLive, News and Newspapers](#))
- Practice your German at [German Club](#)
- German [Film Night](#)
- Queen's University subject librarian (select "[Languages, Literatures and Cultures](#)" under Subject)
- Note: There is no tutoring service offered by the department. Students are encouraged to see their professor.

### **Hebrew**

- Undergraduate resources and [links](#)
- Practice your Hebrew at the Hebrew Café ([Hebrew Conversation Club](#))
- Israeli [Film Night](#)
- Queen's University Library research by subject ([Jewish Studies](#))
- Queen's University subject librarian (select "[Jewish Studies](#)" under Subject)

### **Italian**

- Undergraduate resources and [links](#)
- Italian [Film Night](#)
- Queen's University subject librarian (select "[Languages, Literature and Culture](#)" under Subject)
- Note: There is no tutoring service offered by the department. Students are encouraged to see their professor.

### **Japanese**

- Undergraduate Resources and [Links](#)
- Queen's University Library research by subject ([Asian Studies](#))
- Queen's University subject librarian (select "[Asian Studies](#)" under Subject)
- Note: There is no tutoring service offered by the department. Students are encouraged to see their professor.

### **Indigenous Studies**

- Undergraduate resources and links: [Anishinaabemowin, Inuktitut, and Mohawk](#)
- Queen's University subject librarian (select "[Indigenous Studies](#)" under Subject)
- Note: There is no tutoring service offered by the department. Students are encouraged to see their professor.

### **Linguistics**

- Undergraduate Resources and [Links](#)
- Queen's University Library research by subject ([Language and Linguistics](#))
- Queen's University subject librarian (select "[Languages, Literature and Culture](#)" under Subject)

### **Portuguese**

- Undergraduate resources and [links](#)
- Portuguese [Film Night](#)
- Queen's University subject librarian (select "[Languages, Literatures and Cultures](#)" under Subject)
- Note: There is no tutoring service offered by the department. Students are encouraged to see their professor.

### **Spanish**

- Undergraduate resources and [links](#)
- Spanish [Film Night](#)
- Queen's University Library research by subject ([Latin American Studies](#))
- Queen's University subject librarian (select "[Spanish & Latin American Studies](#)" under Subject)
- Note: There is no tutoring service offered by the department. Students are encouraged to see their professor.

### **Math and Statistics**

- [Math Help and Study Centre](#) (peer support)
- Math [tutors](#) (peer support)
- Practice your math at [Math Club](#)
- Student Academic Success Services resource: "[Quantitative Problem Solving](#)"
- Queen's University subject librarian (select "[Mathematics and Statistics](#)" under Subject)

### **Philosophy**

- Philosophy [resources](#) (dictionaries, encyclopedias, summaries, indexes, reviews, philosophical texts)
- Queen's University Library research by subject ([Philosophy](#))
- Queen's University subject librarian (select "[Philosophy](#)" under Subject)

### **Physics**

- Physics [tutoring](#) (peer support)
- Learning Strategies resource: "[Quantitative Problem Solving](#)"
- Queen's University subject librarian (select "[Physics](#)" under Subject)

### **Political Studies**

- POLS 110: "[Finding what you need using the library](#)"
- POLS [110A](#) research guide
- Queen's University Library resources ([Political Studies](#))
- Queen's University subject librarian (select "[Political Studies](#)" under Subject)

### Psychology

- [Psychology Participant Pool](#) & info for [PSYC 100](#) students (sign up for a study and earn extra credit!)
- The Psychology Peer Mentoring Program matches first-year students with upper-year Psychology or Biopsychology student mentors. To apply, [fill out their online application](#). You can also contact the program coordinators at [psyc.mentorship@gmail.com](mailto:psyc.mentorship@gmail.com).
- Queen's University Library research by subject ([Psychology](#))
- Queen's University subject librarian (select "[Psychology](#)" under Subject)

### Sociology

- [ASA Style Guide](#) (OWL Purdue)
- Writing Resources ([SASS](#)) (e.g., [Developing a thesis statement \(SOCY 122\)](#), [Three Models of Thesis Statements](#), [Essay Guidelines \(SOCY 122\)](#))
- The [SOCY Department style guide](#) (PDF, updated September 2018) is available online.
- Queen's University Library: [Introduction to Academic Library Research \(SOCY 122\)](#)
- Queen's University Library research by subject ([Sociology](#))
- Queen's University subject librarian (select "[Sociology](#)" under Subject)

## Faculty of Engineering & Applied Science

- The Engineering Society (EngSoc) provides a one-on-one tutoring service through [EngLinks](#). Tutor matching occurs at the beginning of each semester; for more information, email [englinks@engsoc.queensu.ca](mailto:englinks@engsoc.queensu.ca).
  - EngLinks also offers course-specific [workshops](#), [online resources](#), and [free access to textbooks](#) in the the ILC Computer Lounge through the iCons. Note that these resources are for both first-year and upper-year students.
- The [Douglas Help Desk](#) provides additional academic assistance to engineering students, free of charge. Tutors will be stationed in the Plaza on the 2nd floor of Beamish-Munro Hall (the ILC) near the iCons and be available at least once a week throughout the semester to answer questions and provide guidance. Click [here](#) for the schedule.
- [Private peer tutors](#) are available for [Physics](#), [Chemistry](#), and [Calculus](#).
- Bounce Back is [an academic support program for first-year undergraduate students](#) in the Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science. Eligible students will receive an email in mid-October of each year inviting them to participate. Students who opt into the program will be matched with a trained upper-year peer mentor called a Bounce Back Facilitator. Facilitators will work individually with each participant to help them identify the source(s) of their academic challenges and to set new goals and identify strategies to achieve those goals over the course of the winter term. The program runs from October to April of each year. More information can be found on the Student Experience Office [website](#).
  - October eligibility: Students who fail their Calculus midterm.
  - January eligibility: Students with a GPA of 1.6 or below after the fall term; students who are enrolled in [J-Section](#).
- [Section 900](#) (J-Section) [courses](#) and [rewrite exams](#)
- Queen's University Library research by subject ([Chemical Engineering](#) | [Civil Engineering](#) | [Electrical and Computer Engineering](#) | [Mechanical and Materials Engineering](#) | [Mining Engineering](#))
- Queen's University subject librarians ([Chemical Engineering](#) | [Civil Engineering](#) | [Electrical and Computer Engineering](#) | [Mechanical and Materials Engineering](#) | [Mining Engineering](#))

## Smith School of Business (Commerce)

- The Commerce Society (ComSoc) provides a peer-based service called [BrainTrust](#). This service provides academic support, providing one-to-one tutoring and exam review sessions. For more information email [braintrust.tutor@gmail.com](mailto:braintrust.tutor@gmail.com).
- Bounce Back is an academic support program for first-year undergraduate students in the Smith School of Business (Commerce). Eligible students will be invited to participate via email. Students who opt into the program will be matched with a trained upper-year peer mentor called a Bounce Back Facilitator. Facilitators will work individually with each participant to help them identify the source(s) of their academic challenges and to set new goals and identify strategies to achieve those goals over the course of the winter term. The program runs from

October to April of each year. More information can be found on the Student Experience Office [website](#).

- October eligibility: Students who have failed one or more midterm; students who are identified as academically at risk by their professor.
- January eligibility: Students with an official GPA of 2.0 or below after the fall term and/or students who have failed one or more courses.

## School of Computing

- The [Computing Students' Association \(COMPSA\)](#) offers a peer tutoring service to students. Times and hourly payment are negotiated between the student and tutor. Tutoring is available for a variety of computer courses (including first year). Request [financial assistance](#).
- Bounce Back is an academic support program for first-year undergraduate students in the School of Computing. Eligible students will be invited to participate via email. Students who opt into the program will be matched with a trained upper-year peer mentor called a Bounce Back Facilitator. Facilitators will work individually with each participant to help them identify the source(s) of their academic challenges and to set new goals and identify strategies to achieve those goals over the course of the winter term. The program runs from October to April of each year. More information can be found on the Student Experience Office [website](#).
  - October eligibility: Students who have failed one or more midterm; students who are identified as academically at risk by their professor.
  - January eligibility: Students with an official GPA of 2.0 or below after the fall term and/or students who have failed one or more courses.
- Queen's University Library research by subject ([Computing and Information Science](#))
- Queen's University Library subject librarian ([Computing](#))

## School of Nursing

- For information on tutoring services and TA support for Nursing courses, contact [Barb Bolton](#), Undergraduate Academic Advisor.
- Bounce Back is an academic support program for first-year undergraduate students in the School of Nursing. Eligible students will be invited to participate via email. Students who opt into the program will be matched with a trained upper-year peer mentor called a Bounce Back Facilitator. Facilitators will work individually with each participant to help them identify the source(s) of their academic challenges and to set new goals and identify strategies to achieve those goals over the course of the winter term. The program runs from October to April of each year. More information can be found on the Student Experience Office [website](#).
  - October eligibility: Students who have failed one or more midterm; students who are identified as academically at risk by their professor.
  - January eligibility: Students with an official GPA of 2.0 or below after the fall term and/or students who have failed one or more courses.

## School of Kinesiology and Health Studies

- The Physical Health Education & Kinesiology Student Association ([PHEKSA](#)) offers a mentorship program for students (?). CHECK
- Bounce Back is an academic support program for first-year undergraduate students in the School of Kinesiology and Health Studies. Eligible students will be invited to participate via email. Students who opt into the program will be matched with a trained upper-year peer mentor called a Bounce Back Facilitator. Facilitators will work individually with each participant to help them identify the source(s) of their academic challenges and to set new goals and identify strategies to achieve those goals over the course of the winter term. The program runs from October to April of each year. More information can be found on the Student Experience Office [website](#).
  - October eligibility: Students who have failed one or more midterm; students who are identified as academically at risk by their professor.
  - January eligibility: Students with an official GPA of 2.0 or below after the fall term and/or students who have failed one or more courses.
- Queen's University Library **research by subject** ([Kinesiology & Health Studies](#))
- Queen's University **subject librarian** (select "[Kinesiology](#)" under Subject)