



**Waterloo Catholic  
District School Board**  
Quality, Inclusive, Faith Based Education

# UCEP

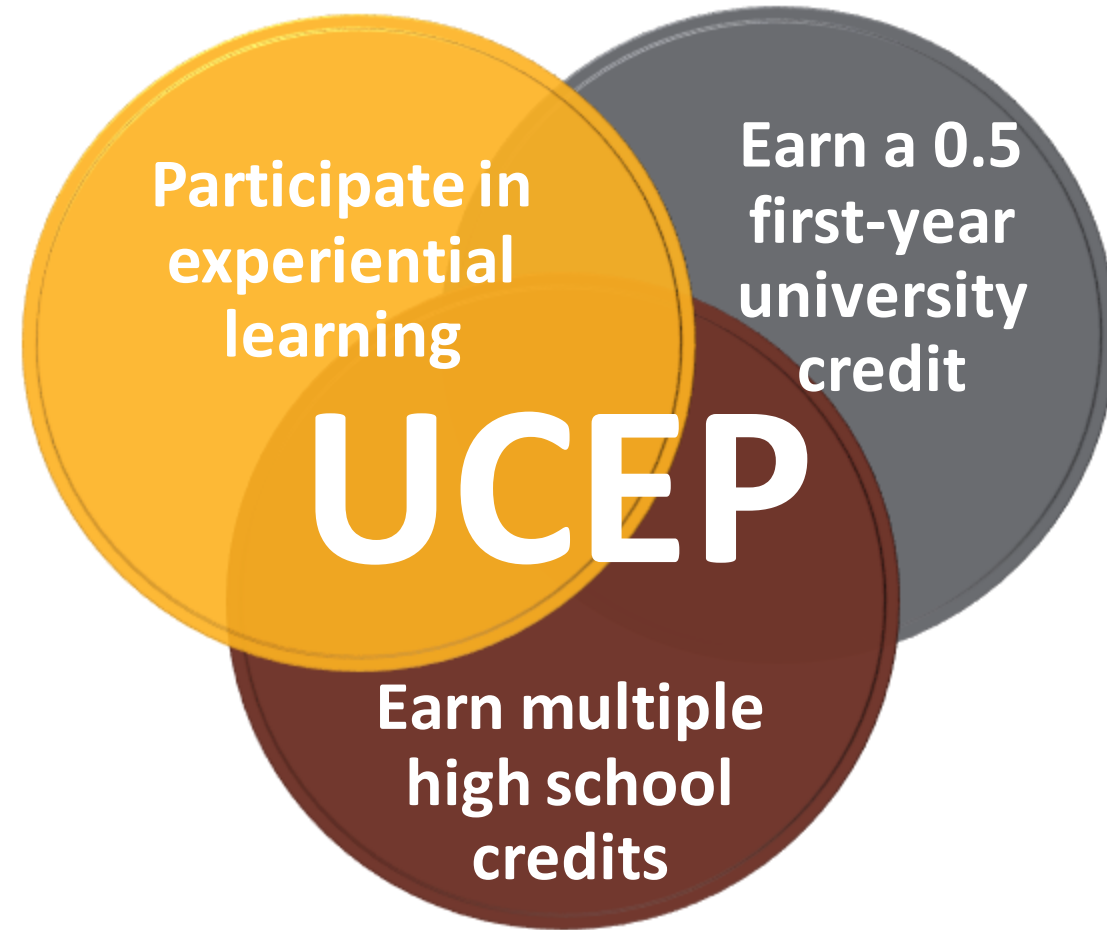
**University Cooperative  
Education Program**

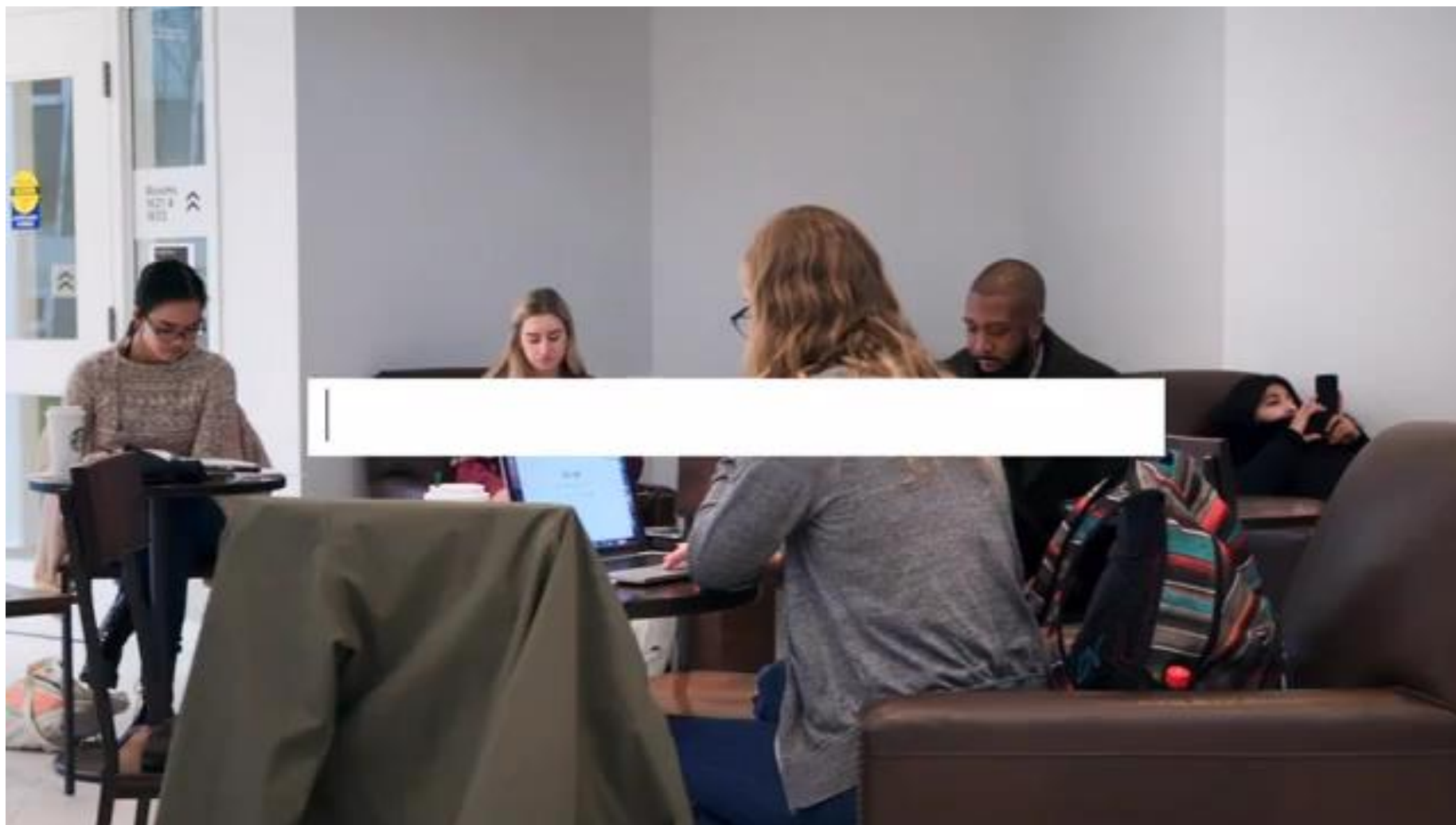
# After this presentation we hope you can:

- Define UCEP and **identify the three components** that are a part of the program
- Recognize the **academic traits** and learning skills required for including UCEP as part of your Pathway Plan
- Initiate a **Pathway Plan Update** in consultation with your guidance counselor to select the courses that best allow you to achieve your own goals

# What is UCEP?

- UCEP is a **specialized co-op program** for Grade 12, or 5<sup>th</sup> year students with an **80% + average** whose well-established post-secondary Pathway Plan **includes university**



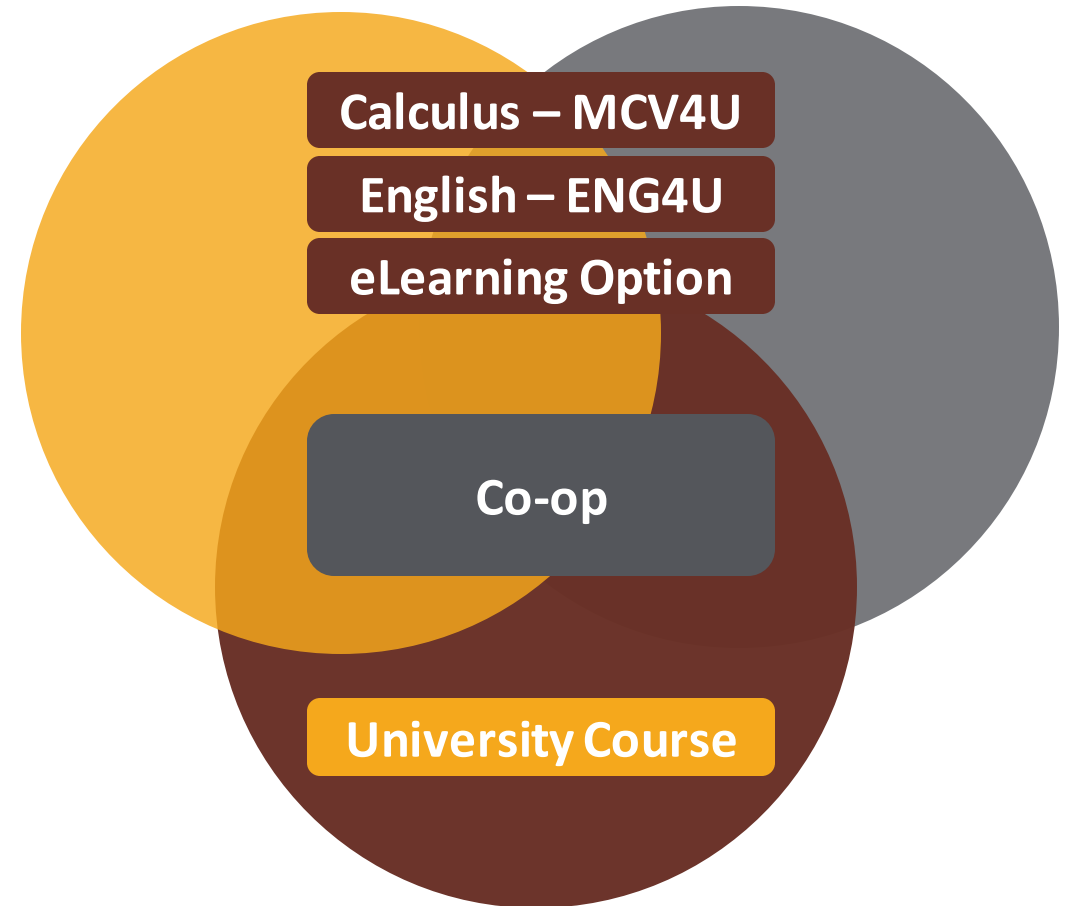


# UCEP Facts:

- Students spend **all day during their 1<sup>st</sup> semester on the university campus**
- Students are **responsible for their own transportation** to and from the university daily
- The schedule of a UCEP student is **anything but traditional** and therefore time management and self-discipline are essential for entry and on-going success

# While in UCEP, students will ...

- Take either **one or two Grade 12 (academic) courses**. Courses offered in person are MCV4U and ENG4U.
- Participate in a **co-op placement** and earn two co-op credits.
  - Co-op credits **cannot be used for university application** and therefore are not considered part of your top six “U” or “M” level courses.
- Take a **first-year university course**.



# University Course Offerings:



**Psychology –  
PSYCH 101**



**Microeconomics –  
ECON 101**

- Registered as a part-time university student
- Responsible for paying tuition costs for the course
- Regular first-year university course (*learn about learning*)
  - Not a transition course designed for high school students
  - All instruction and evaluation will be completed by university staff, not high school staff



# Coop Sectors – your choice!

Computer Science

Arts/Humanities

Engineering

Business

Science

Psychology





# UCEP ChemENG

- My favourite part was working with liquid nitrogen
- I had the opportunity to work through entire experiments from start to finish and present my findings
- Opportunity to work with plenty of different equipment







### My Main Tasks:

- Cleaning the algae to feed the Zooplankton
- Feeding the Zooplankton
- Cleaning the Zooplankton cultures
- Analysing research articles

# Freshwater Ecology Lab at Laurier

### My Favorite Part of my Job:

My favorite part of my job is cleaning the Zooplankton cultures and feeding the them with the algae I cleaned. It brings me joy to know I am taking care of sentient beings adequately.



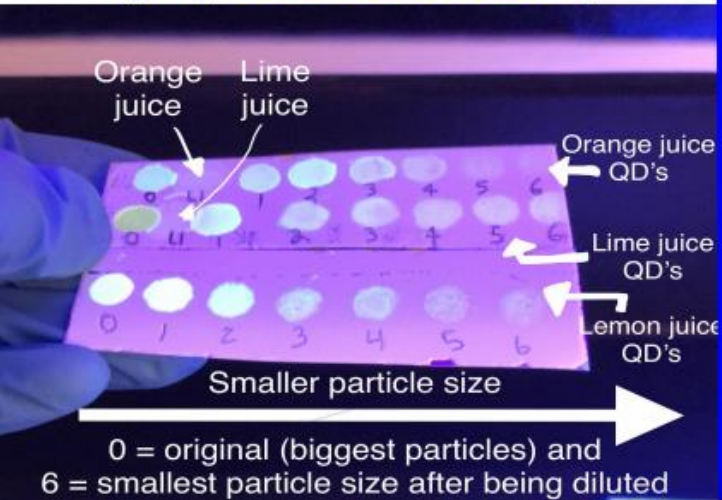
**LAURIER**   
*Inspiring Lives.*

### One Big Thing I Learnt:

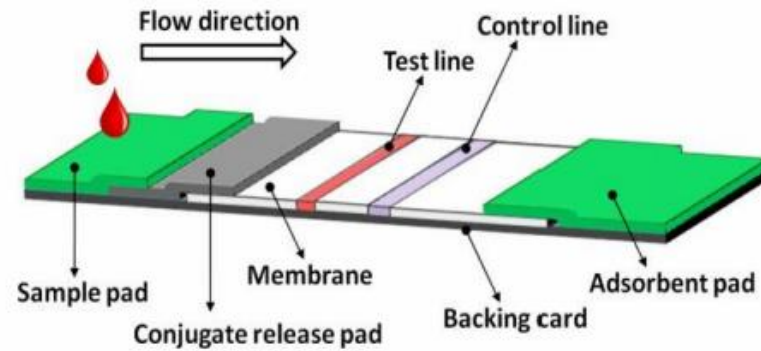
I learnt the importance of being open to new experiences and willing to learn from them. It allowed me to understand scientific research and how to experiment efficiently.



## Quantum Dots (tiny semiconductors)



## Testing for Lung Cancer



Planning my own experiments, like this one with HPV & cancer

## Blood sugar sensors

### Recommendation:

Yes, I learned a thousand times more here than I ever would have in a classroom.

### Biggest learning:

Do it because it is fun, nothing more, nothing less.

**Tasks:**  
Solution prep  
Outreach Labs  
Testing out labs  
Lectures  
Cleaning

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday		
8:30	MCV4UI	MCV4UI	MCV4UI	MCV4UI	MCV4UI		
9:00							
9:30							
10:00	ENG4U	Coop Placement	ENG4U	Coop Placement	ENG4U		
11:00							
11:30	Coop Class						
12:00							
12:30							
1:00	Psych/Econ				Psych/Econ	Coop Placement	
1:30							
2:00							
2:30							
3:00							
3:30							
4:00							

# How UCEP Benefits Students

Some of the most **common areas of growth** (as acknowledged by the students):

- Grit / Perseverance
- Increased confidence
- Improved time management







UCEP is the **perfect transition** program to help you complete the requirements for graduation and simultaneously provide you with a **university experience**.



# How to Plan Your Courses for UCEP

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To apply to university, you need to have graduated from high school with 30 credits.

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Six of these must be “U” or “M” level grade 12 courses.

During their 4<sup>th</sup> year of high school, many students elect to take 3 courses during their first semester and 3 courses during their second semester – thereby creating space in each semester for other options.

4 <sup>th</sup> Year Semester 1
Grade 12 U or M Level course
Grade 12 U or M Level course
Grade 12 U or M Level course

4 <sup>th</sup> Year Semester 2
Grade 12 U or M Level course
Grade 12 U or M Level course
Grade 12 U or M Level course



**The difficulty with this path for UCEP is that you must then take four 12 U or M courses second semester.**

**Taking four Grade 12 U or M courses during semester two is possible but could present a heavy workload for many students.**

4 <sup>th</sup> Year Semester 1
Grade 12 U or M Level course
Grade 12 U or M Level course
Co-op
University Course

4 <sup>th</sup> Year Semester 2
Grade 12 U or M Level course
Grade 12 U or M Level course
Grade 12 U or M Level course
Grade 12 U or M Level course

# Preferred Pathway Plan for students interested in UCEP

3 <sup>rd</sup> Year Semester 2	4 <sup>th</sup> Year Semester 1	4 <sup>th</sup> Year Semester 2
Grade 11 U or M Level course	Grade 12 U or M Level course	Grade 12 U or M Level course
Grade 11 U or M Level course	Grade 12 U or M Level course	Grade 12 U or M Level course
Grade 11 U or M Level course	Co-op	Grade 12 U or M Level course
Grade 12 U or M Level course	University Course	Option Spare or Course

Advanced Functions (MHF4U) for STEM students OR  
Social Science/Business course for Art-based students

## Some students choose to take UCEP in a 5<sup>th</sup> year

4 <sup>th</sup> Year Semester 1	4 <sup>th</sup> Year Semester 2	5 <sup>th</sup> Year Semester 1
		Grade 12 U or M Level course
		Co-op
		University Course

5<sup>th</sup> year UCEP participants will often only take one grade 12 U or M course

# How to Apply to UCEP (4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> year)

- UCEP applicants must have an **average in the mid 80's**
- Select **“UCEP”** in myBlueprint
- When applying to UCEP students must also submit:
  - Cooperative Education Application Form
  - Two Teacher references

Speak with your  
Guidance Counsellor to  
create the right Pathway  
Plan for you!

or visit:

<https://el.wcdsb.ca/programs/ucep/>

[ucep@wcdsb.ca](mailto:ucep@wcdsb.ca)

Email us with your  
questions!



# QUESTIONS?



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