

First-year course planning 2026-27



Bachelor of Science, Medical Sciences (BSc)

The guide below can be used to assist you with your first-year course selection. Use the table below, the academic timetable, and the blank schedule worksheet to build your schedule. It is recommended that you schedule your required courses first, and then choose your electives based on your interests and future goals. For complete program requirements, see the Dalhousie Academic Calendar at www.dal.ca/calendar or contact your Medical Sciences Advisor Kate Strapps at medscadv@dal.ca.

Fall 2026	Winter 2027
<p>Biology (BIOL) 1010: Principles of Biology I <i>Lecture and Lab</i></p> <p>Chemistry (CHEM) 1011: Concepts in Chemistry I <i>Lecture and Lab</i></p> <p>Mathematics (MATH) 1215: Life Sciences Calculus <i>Lecture and Tutorial</i></p> <p>Psychology (PSYO) 1011: Intro to Psychology and Neuroscience I <i>Lecture and Lab</i></p> <p>Writing Course or Elective* <i>Lecture and Tutorial if ENGL</i></p>	<p>Biology (BIOL) 1011: Principles of Biology II <i>Lecture and Lab</i></p> <p>Chemistry (CHEM) 1012: Concepts in Chemistry II <i>Lecture and Lab</i></p> <p>Statistics (STAT) 1060: Intro Statistics for Science and Health Sci. <i>Lecture and Tutorial</i></p> <p>Psychology (PSYO) 1012: Intro to Psychology and Neuroscience II <i>Lecture and Lab</i></p> <p>Writing Course or Elective* <i>Lecture and Tutorial if ENGL</i></p>
<p>*It is strongly recommended that you include an approved Writing Requirement course in your first-year electives space; enhanced writing skills will help you succeed in your other courses.</p> <p>Some courses have reserved seating for Medical Sciences students. However, Medical Sciences students are also able to register in the 'open' sections of these courses. Consult the academic timetable for enrollment information.</p>	

Writing Course Options

Find advising support at dal.ca/advising

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The following courses fulfill the writing requirement on their own:

- **Arts and Social Sciences:** ASSC1111.03
- **English/ Creative Writing:** ENGL/CRWR1030.06
- **Science:** SCIE1111.03 (for BSc only)
- **Sustainability:** SUST1000.06

Alternatively, students can fulfill the writing requirement by completing 6 credit hours from the following list of courses:

- **English:** EGLA 1000.03*, ENGL1015.03, ENGL1040.03**
- **Journalism:** JOUR1002.03 and JOUR1003.03
- **Oceanography:** OCEA1001.03 and OCEA1002.03

* Offered online-asynchronous through the Agricultural Campus

**Note: UBC Medicine does not accept ENGL1040 as part of their required 6-credit hours in English.

CURRICULUM

The first year includes 24 credit hours in core Science courses and 6 credit hours in Elective courses. Students with approved IB or AP credits from high school may not need to take one or more of the first-year core courses. However, it is strongly recommended that you still take 5 courses per term, even if you accept transfer credits. This fifth class can be another core course from subsequent years or an elective. For complete program requirements and course descriptions, see the Academic Calendar at dal.ca/calendar or talk to an advisor.

REGISTRATION TIP

To satisfy the academic requirements of many professional schools across the country (e.g., Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Nursing etc.), it is **strongly recommended** that Medical Sciences students fulfill the writing requirement by choosing 6 credit hours (either one course that ends in .06 or two courses that end in .03) from the **English** department.

EXPERT TIP

In the first year of the Medical Sciences program, students will share lectures and lab sessions with other, non-Medical Sciences students. Therefore, it is important that you register as soon as possible for your seats in these courses (both terms) and select a lab/tutorial section where appropriate.

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