

June 26, 2020

To all students in Honours Integrated Science programs:

First, welcome to our incoming first year class. We are thrilled you chose to join us here at Mac and in our program. Second, a big congrats to our incoming level 2 students who are now moving into level 2 iSci and may be doing so alongside a concentration! And finally, congratulations to everyone for managing to get through the unprecedented experience at the end of the winter term, not least the graduands!

We have been hard at work planning for the Fall term, both before and since the formal announcement by the University that fall will be primarily taught online. We expect all students to still be able to progress through degree requirements with little to no disruption.

We are providing as much information as we can in our course outlines to help you select courses; these outlines will be available on the School's website before registration starts (July 6 for level 5 & 4 students), and we strongly recommend reading the outlines to ensure you understand how courses are expected to run. As always, for elective courses or required courses offered by other departments/schools you should review the course outline or connect with the host Department regarding requirements.

ISCI Course Outlines for Fall-Winter 2020-21 will be uploaded as soon as they are available: <https://www.science.mcmaster.ca/sis/undergraduate/course-outlines/100-level-courses.html>

Here are some specific details related to the ISCI courses for the Fall term:

ISCI 1A24: This course will be offered with a mix of online and virtual delivery. We expect to move to an in-person delivery for the winter term.

ISCI 2A18: This course will be offered with a mix of online and virtual delivery. We expect to move to an in-person delivery for the winter term. Some of your projects will be offered in a different order than previous years.

ISCI 3A12: This course will be offered with a mix of online and virtual delivery. We expect to move to an in-person delivery for the winter term. Some of your projects will be offered in a different order than previous years.

ISCI 4A12: The seminar component for fall term will be offered with a mix of online and virtual delivery. Currently, (June 26 2020) on-site laboratory research depends on previous training and is subject to University and specific department regulations to maintain physical distance. This may or may not change for the Fall (Phase 2 of return to research has not been announced yet). Once the course is underway, students can expect to be able to complete their thesis even if they are subsequently prevented from working on campus, as determined by the supervisor, through activities such as literature research. Thus, they can expect to graduate.