STUDENT HANDBOOK 2023-2024

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

MScAC – STUDENT HANDBOOK 2023/24

Congratulations on your acceptance to the Master of Science in Applied Computing (MScAC) program!

The MScAC Student Handbook describes degree requirements, financial support, and other matters of interest to MScAC students. The handbook is revised annually. Students will be notified by e-mail of significant changes and upcoming deadlines. Please visit the MScAC website regularly at mscac.utoronto.ca

DEPARTMENT BUILDINGS

The Department of Computer Science is located in four buildings on the downtown (St. George) campus of the University of Toronto:

- Ontario Power Building (9th Floor, 700 University Avenue)
- Bahen Centre for Information Technology (40 St. George Street)
- D.L. Pratt Building (6 King's College Road)
- Sandford Fleming Building (10 King's College Road)

The MScAC student offices are located on the ninth floor of the Ontario Power Building.
See: https://goo.gl/maps/Frzf4ECsaFiE2iUD8

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

ROLE	NAME	LOCATION	E-MAIL
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IMPORTANT DATES 2023/24

Fall 2023	
Data Science Bootcamp (Data Science Concentration students only)	July 10 – July 28
Registration begins	July 17
Enrolment in CS Fall and Winter courses begins	July 25
Enrolment in STA courses begins (Data Science concentration students)	July 26
MScAC Bootcamp 1 (Linear algebra & probability)	July 31
Enrolment in STA courses beings (Other concentration students)	August 22
Enrolment in CSB/MMG courses begins	TBC
Enrolment in ECE courses begins	August 2
Enrolment in Math courses begins	TBC
Enrolment in MIE courses begins	August 2
Enrolment in Physics courses begins	TBC
Orientation 2023 & Communication for Computer Scientists starts. MScAC Bootcamp 2 will be delivered during this week.	Week beginning August 28
Clearing admission conditions	August 31
Recommended tuition fee payment deadline for fees applicable to the Fall semester.	September 1
Fall graduate courses in CS begin*	September 7
Registration ends. Payment deadline for any unpaid Fall semester tuition and fees.	September 15
Final date to *add* Fall courses	September 20
Final date to *drop* Fall courses without academic penalty	November 6
MScAC Student Personal Time Off	November 6 - 10
ARIA	November 16
Registration deadline for any unpaid Winter semester tuition and fees	November 30
Fall term ends	December 20
University closed for winter break	December 21, 2023 – January 3, 2024
Winter 2024	
University re-opens	January 3
MScAC Student Personal Time Off	January 3 – January 5
Winter graduate courses in CS begin*	January 8
Fall 2023 course grades available	January 17
Final date to *add* Winter courses	January 22

MScAC Internship Expo	January 22 – January 26
MScAC Student Personal Time Off	February 19 – February 23
Final date to *drop* Winter courses without academic penalty	February 20
Winter term classes end	April 4, 2023
Final exams for cross-listed courses will be scheduled during this month	April

*For courses outside of CS, check with the home department.

Full details of sessional dates throughout the academic year can be found on the School of Graduate Studies (SGS) website: sgs.calendar.utoronto.ca/sessional-dates

FEES AND FINANCES

The MScAC is a stand-alone program that is not funded through the Department of Computer Science operating budget. Students in the program do not generally have an option to defer their fees*. You are expected to pay the minimum amount to register by September 1, 2023, to avoid cancellation of your "invited" registration status.

Domestic students may be eligible for government loans such as OSAP, the Ontario Student Assistance Program. See: ontario.ca/page/osap-ontario-student-assistance-program

You are eligible to apply for Teaching Assistantship positions. These will be posted in late June/early July, and all students in the graduate programs are invited to apply at that time. Please note you will need to apply for a TA position to be made an offer. Without an application, positions will not be offered. You will be notified about the course(s) for which you were selected as a Teaching Assistant before or during the first full week of September.

Students in financial difficulty may wish to consult a Financial Advisor at the School of Graduate Studies, 63 St. George Street. An advisor can help with budgeting and may have knowledge of various bursaries, grants, loans or other financial aid to help a student experiencing financial hardship.
See: sgs.utoronto.ca/awards-funding/financial-aid-advising

**Students in receipt of OSAP, CSL, US student loans, or any major awards such as the Vector Scholarship in AI, that cover the Minimum Required Payment may be able to defer their fees.*

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Overview

The MScAC program is a 16-month applied research program designed to educate the next generation of world-class innovators. Students enrol in advanced graduate courses in areas related to their admission stream. They also complete an eight-month applied research internship, usually paid, based at an industry partner.

Typical program schedule for MScAC students

Year 1 Semester 1: September – December	**Year 1 Semester 2: January – April**	**Year 1 Semester 3: May – August**	**Year 2 Semester 4: September – December**
CSC2701H	CSC2701H	CSC2702H	CSC2702H
Two approved graduate courses	Two approved graduate courses	Applied research internship	Applied research Internship
Resume preparation begins	MScAC Internship Expo & interviews		Applied Research in Action (ARIA) Showcase + final report submission

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students will spend the first eight months (two semesters) of the program completing their technical graduate courses as well as CSC2701H (Communication for Computer Scientists). CSC2702H (Technical Entrepreneurship) will be completed during the second eight months, normally in conjunction with the full-time applied research internship.

All students must complete a minimum of four technical graduate courses, in accordance with their concentration requirements. These must be equivalent to at least 2.0 Full Course Equivalents (FCEs) and all students must show satisfactory academic progress (defined as a minimum passing grade of B- (70%) in each course). **If a student has not made satisfactory academic progress by the end of the second semester, they must immediately contact the Associate Director, MScAC Administration to determine the options and next steps.**

Only students who make satisfactory academic progress in the first two semesters may proceed to the internship component of the program.

COURSE SELECTION

Applied Mathematics Concentration

Students are required to complete:

- 2 graduate courses (1.0 FCE) from the Department of Computer Science in two different research areas
- 2 graduate courses (1.0 FCE) from the Department of Mathematics

Course from other departments may be eligible to fulfill the mathematics requirements. Course selection must be approved by the applied mathematics concentration lead.

Artificial Intelligence Concentration

Students are required to complete:

- Two graduate courses (1.0 FCE) from the core list of Artificial Intelligence courses in two different research areas
- One graduate course (0.5 FCE) selected from additional AI courses outside the core list
- One graduate course (0.5 FCE) chosen from outside of AI.

Note that students may request a waiver of one AI core course requirement by demonstrating mastery of equivalent material. All waivers are subject to approval of the Academic Director, Professional Programs. The waiver does not reduce the number of courses students are required to take. Instead, it allows students to take additional AI course outside the core list. In all cases, students must complete 1.5 FCE in AI courses.

Core Artificial Intelligence Courses

Course Code	Course Title
AER1513H	State Estimation for Aerospace Vehicles
AER1517H	Control for Robotics
CSC2501H	Computational Linguistics
CSC2502H	Knowledge Representation and Reasoning
CSC2503H	Foundations of Computer Vision
CSC2511H	Natural Language Computing
CSC2515H*	Introduction to Machine Learning (exclusion: ECE1513H)
CSC2516H**	Neural Networks and Deep Learning (exclusion: MIE1517H)
CSC2533H	Foundations of Knowledge Representation
CSC2630H	Introduction to Mobile Robotics
ECE1512H	Digital Image Processing and Applications
ECE1513H*	Introduction to Machine Learning (exclusion: CSC2515H)
MIE1517H**	Introduction to Deep Learning (exclusion: CSC2516H)

Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare Concentration

Students are required to complete:

- 1 graduate course (0.5 FCE) in Data Science from an approved list
- 1 graduate course (0.5 FCE) from the approved list of Artificial Intelligence courses
- 1 graduate course (0.5 FCE) from the approved list of courses in visualisation/systems/software engineering
- 1 graduate course (0.5 FCE) from the approved list of LMP/MHI coursework from an approved list

Due to the variance of course schedule availability, approved courses will be provided during the study plan solicitation process.Course selection must be approved by the Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare Concentration Lead.

Computer Science Concentration

Students are required to complete:

- 2 graduate courses (1.0 FCE) from the Department of Computer Science
- 2 additional graduate courses (1.0 FCE). Courses from other departments may be eligible for to fulfill up to 1.0 FCE of course requirements. Students should enrol in " a “T- shaped” set of courses to achieve breadth. Select three courses from three different research areas to ensure breadth, and two courses in the same research area to ensure depth.

Data Science Concentration

Students are required to complete:

- 2 graduate courses (1.0 FCE) from the Department of Computer Science in two different research areas
- 1 graduate course (0.5 FCE) from the four approved Statistical Science courses:
  - STA2101H Methods of Applied Statistics I
  - STA2102H Computational Techniques in Statistics
  - STA2311H
  - STA2312H
- An additional graduate course from the Department of Statistical Science department at STA2000 level or higher totaling 0.5 FCE. Note that some courses at STA4500 level and higher are six-week modular courses weighted at 0.25 FCE each.

Courses from other departments may be eligible to fulfil the statistics requirement.

Data Science for Biology

Students are required to complete:

- 1 graduate course (0.5 FCE) from the Department of Cell & Systems Biology
- 1 graduate course (0.5 FCE) with a focus on computational biology or bioinformatics chosen from the approved course lists from the following departments: Cell & Systems Biology, Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, or Molecular Genetics
- 2 graduate courses (1.0 FCE) from the Department of Computer Science in two different research areas. A maximum of one can be an AI course.

Quantum Computing Concentration

Students are required to complete:

- 2 graduate courses (1.0 FCE) from the Department of Computer Science in two different research areas
- 2 graduate courses (1.0 FCE) from the Department of Physics

Courses from other departments may be eligible to fulfil the physics requirement.

All course selections are subject to approval by the Academic Director, Professional Programs who may consult the relevant concentration lead as appropriate. Course substitutions may be possible with approval of the Academic Director.

Additional information and considerations

To choose courses, start by reading the course descriptions, and correlating these with the courses offered in the 2023-24 course schedule.

Breadth is important because you may find that your interests evolve as you become inspired by new topics or become fascinated by emerging areas of application to industry. We strongly encourage you to work with the MScAC program team and your respective concentration lead to seek out a varied set of courses and benefit from the world-class expertise in the MScAC partner departments.

There are two possibilities for distributing your course work over the two semesters. The most usual is to enrol in two regular graduate courses for credit in each of the first two academic terms. Alternatively, you may wish to enrol in three courses in the Fall semester and one in the Winter semester. This is because there is significant work involved in arranging your internship during the Winter semester. One strategy used by some students is to enrol in several courses in the Fall semester to ascertain their interests and gauge workload, “dropping down” to either two or three courses before the drop date. In making this decision, it is important to remember that the greatest workload is normally at the end of the semester.

You will need approval from the Academic Director, Professional Programs for your course choices,

including any courses you choose outside of Computer Science. You may also require permission from the respective department through their Graduate Administrator. This can be done by using the Add/Drop course form available from the School of Graduate Studies (SGS) website and submitting it to the MScAC Program Assistant.

You may wish to audit (sit-in on) additional graduate courses. This is an excellent way to learn additional material in areas of interest to you without the overhead of significant coursework. Please ask the course instructor ahead of time if they will allow auditing, and/or request instructions from the respective department's Graduate Administrator on how to access the course, if permission is granted.

You should also participate in departmental and MScAC academic activities, such as seminars offered by various research groups and industry partners. Seminars allow you to appreciate the latest research in a field and are a chance to meet professors, industry partners, and other graduate students.

Changing Your Concentration

The concentration you have been admitted to is the one the admissions committee felt your academic background and additional experience were best suited to. Requests to switch concentration will be handled on a case-by-case basis and are subject to approval by the MScAC Academic Director and respective concentration lead.

To request a change of concentration, you should submit your request + supporting rationale in writing to the Associate Director, MScAC Administration.

COURSE SCHEDULES

See the current selection of graduate courses:

Aerospace Engineering
Cell & Systems Biology
Computer Science
Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
Electrical & Computer Engineering
LMP
Mathematics
MHI courses
Molecular Genetics
Statistical Sciences
Physics

THE INTERNSHIP PROCESS

The last eight months of the MScAC program are spent undertaking an applied research internship. This internship is a formal requirement of the program that can only be started after satisfactory academic progress in the coursework is confirmed.

Work Permit

All international students must ensure that they hold a valid work permit allowing for full-time employment with an industry partner during the internship period (normally May 1 – December 31). Most students will apply for a co-op work permit. This should be applied for at the same time as the study permit, so that the required documentation is in place from the start of the program. If the work permit is not issued on arrival at the port-of-entry (normally Toronto), contact the Associate Director, MScAC Administration for an updated letter so a work permit application can be submitted in Canada as quickly as possible.

Details on how to apply for work permits are available from the Immigration and Citizenship Canada website: canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/study-canada/work/intern.html

What is an applied research internship?

An applied research internship usually involves research aggregation, namely the exploration and synthesis of research results into an evaluation, study, or demonstrable, industrially relevant prototype.

In the service of a company, it is expected that you will leverage your graduate academic training and past experience to explore new initiatives, improvements in process or product, or new designs that could be of potential impact. Your internship may require you to work on explorations that an industry partner company might not otherwise perform. This requires a higher standard of creative or intellectual exploration than would normally be encountered in a co-operative (co-op) work term. For example, a role consisting only of programming tasks would likely not qualify as a research internship. That said, the scope of the MScAC internship may **also** involve coding or systems development that leads to a contribution to the company's product or service offering.

Finding an internship

While the MScAC program has significant infrastructure to assist you with finding your internship, it is your responsibility to secure your internship.

Conducting your own internship search

Students are encouraged to begin their own search for a suitable industry partner as soon as they have been admitted to the MScAC program. The partner should be interested in hiring an applied research intern and working with the MScAC Partnerships group to define a suitable applied research project. There may be internship opportunities posted on an industry partner's website, or projects that have been discussed with an R&D lead in a setting such as an informational meeting or career fair. Students should contact the MScAC Partnerships group so they are aware of any intended search and can provide guidance in the search process. Progress updates must be provided to the Partnerships group.

Prior to a student accepting or declining an offer, a member of the Partnerships group must meet with the intended industry partner to determine whether a project meets the program requirements. They will discuss MScAC program details with the industry partner so that there is a clear understanding of the requirements for a satisfactory applied research internship. This is critical since some companies may not fully appreciate the uniqueness of an applied research internship (compared to a co-op). In our experience, many typical co-op positions do not qualify as MScAC research internships and thus do not meet the MScAC program degree requirements.

It is critical that once a student has identified a possible internship opportunity, they:

- Provide a member of the Partnerships group with a brief description of the proposed internship project and
- Connect a member of the Partnerships group with the point of contact at the organization so that the program requirements can be discussed. You must not accept and internship offer that has not been approved by the MScAC Partnerships group

The project template and guidelines for employers will be available via the Quercus Student Hub (course code: CSC2703H).

Finding an internship through the MScAC Program

The typical internship-finding timeline for projects identified by our the MScAC Partnerships group is as follows.

Typical Internship-Finding Timeline

June 2023 – September 2023

- Students meet 1:1 with a member of the Partnerships group to discuss internship interests.

September 2023 – January 2024

- Students prepare a one-page resume. Between late October and January 2024, we iterate with all students on their of the resumes to ensure the content is clear and accurate. Students also receive training in how to conduct the internship search through "The Job Hunt" module in CSC2701H (Communication for Computer Scientists). The MScAC Partnerships group will begin soliciting projects from companies interested in hosting MScAC students for applied-research internships.

Week beginning January 15, 2024

- Students will start reviewing the curated internship positions the program has identified. Concurrently, industry partners with accepted internship projects will be given access to MScAC student resumes of We encourage all students to send expressions of interest to industry partners with projects of interest to them.

Week beginning January 22, 2024

- Industry partners visit campus for the multi-day MScAC Internship Expo. Students are strongly encouraged to participate in all aspects of this event, including attending talks and meeting industry partners. During and following this event, industry partners may contact you (and you should contact them) for information and to schedule interviews. This process normally takes 2-4 weeks but may go on longer as you become more aware of the diverse range of opportunities.

Early February until all students have found an internship

- Offer system opens. For an offer to be considered official by the program, an industry partner must upload the offer into the MScAC Offer Management System. Students may only accept an offer via the Offer Management System. Verbal offers made during the internship finding process are not considered official and we strongly advise against declining interview opportunities or other offers on the basis of these. Instead, only consider an offer official once it has been made and accepted through the MScAC system.

All internships must be approved by the Academic Director, Professional Programs and have a start date during the first week of May. Further details of the internship process will be given over the course of the program.

Choosing your internship

Students may receive multiple internship offers. In considering which offer to accept we strongly recommend looking beyond the compensation level to a number of more important factors:

- Quality of the research on offer
- Work environment you will be exposed to
- Team you will be working with
- Supervision you will receive
- Possibilities for personal growth and professional development.

Remember that the internship is the research component of the degree and addressing an interesting challenge will help with future career plans.

Some of the most rewarding internships that past students undertook were with non-profit companies or start-ups. These organizations may not have the ability to match salaries of larger firms but may compensate for this in other ways.

Compensation

The MScAC Partnerships group advise all industry partners that the average funding level was approximately $65K (CDN) over eight months for the previous year's cohort. They also inform them of various mechanisms they can use to help offset some of their costs. However, the average salary is **not** a mandatory requirement and the internship compensation is decided between the student. We will not negotiate compensation with the company on behalf of any students.

Internship supervision

After accepting an internship offer from a company, students are expected to find their academic supervisor with whom they will meet to address the intellectual challenges of the research over the course of the internship. We require MScAC students to meet with their supervisors a minimum of six times over the course of the internship and provide suggested checkpoints accordingly. Each student will also have an industry supervisor appointed by the company, to whom they will report. It is beneficial—but not required—for the academic and industry supervisors to meet, so they can establish an effective plan to guide the internship work.

Selecting an academic supervisor

When selecting an academic supervisor, we recommend that students think broadly about who would be suitable for the internship project. Students should look beyond faculty they have met during the courses, bearing in mind that faculty can be selected from the MScAC collaborating departments and faculties (Cell & Systems Biology, Computer Science, Engineering, Mathematics, Medicine, Statistics, Physics). There may also be suitable facultyelsewhere in the University.

Other criteria you should consider includes:

- Availability: Will they be available to meet for regular supervisory meetings and sign documents when they are due?
- Collegiality and Interpersonal Relationship: Does the communication and work style match? What will be the working relationship be like?
- Expected Internship Goals: What is the goal for the internship? Does this supervisor have the same or similar goals?
- Mentorship: What is the expectation for mentoring? Is there an alignment with long-term development and personal support expectation

- Experience: Have they supervised many students before? How successful were this supervisor's former students?

Applied Research in Action (ARIA) Showcase

During the internship, students are required to participate in the ARIA showcase. ARIA is an opportunity to present the research that has been performed during the internship and to highlight the accomplishments within the program. This event has become incredibly popular, with attendees drawn from academic and industry supervisors, prospective students, industry professionals, department members, and MScAC alumni.. Many past students have reported this event as critical to developing a deep network of contacts.

Midway through the internship (late August/September 2024), we will request students provide materials for the ARIA presentation and will detail the process for participation. Students are required to have all ARIA materials approved by their internship organization and academic supervisor, prior to sharing them with the MScAC team for use at the event. Elaborate on results and what additional research will be completed (some information may not be available by the ARIA showcase. If there are any hinderance with participation at ARIA, please contact the Associate Director, MScAC Administration immediately to discuss.

Internship Report

Students are required to submit an "Internship Report" that details the research undertaken during the internship. This report will be read and signed off by the academic and industry supervisors, and then by the MScAC Academic Director. All students are required to submit their report and have it signed off by the conclusion of the eight-month internship period.

The internship report is an integral component of the MScAC program requirements and must be deemed satisfactory for you to successfully graduate from the program.

The internship report will not be distributed beyond the MScAC program administration. However, students should be sensitive to their internship host's confidential information and keep the report sufficiently general to avoid divulging confidential industry partner information. Students should should also have their industry supervisors review reports ahead of submission to the academic supervisor or to the MScAC program, to ensure that the level of detail being provided is appropriate. If there are any concerns over what is being disclosed, a member of the Partnerships group should be contacted directly.

The report should include:

- Background information:
  - The name of the company and a short description of the organization.
  - An overview and context of the overall problem the company is looking to address.
  - Student role in addressing the problem and expected outcomes.

- Research goals and outcomes:
  - Description of the research goals for the project.
  - Summarization of the goals that were achieved.
  - Literature review of the current state-of-the-art and relevant previous work.

- Methodologies you deployed:
  - Details of the research that was either incorporated from other sources or performed by the student.
  - Purpose for each step and the consideration and choices that went into the implementation or algorithmic choices.

- Results and discussions:
  - Findings that addressed the goals and expected outcomes addressed in the beginning.

Figures, graphs, tables highlight these key findings.

- Conclusions and future research plans:
    - Answer the research goal and question; summarize the “take home” points.
    - How the company will benefit from the work completed. For example, if a new algorithm was developed, how else might it be used? If an advanced technique was implemented and tested an advanced technique, what was learned that could influence future uses of that technique? Other research questions that arise out of what was done and/or further planned areas of development for this project.
    - Any publications, patents, or other intellectual property that may come out of this work.

Students may also wish to include other issues as appropriate. A frequent question concerns the length of the report. We are more concerned that all relevant issues have been adequately addressed,than we are with measuring length. As a general guide, however, two pages is too short, and more than ten pages may be too long.

Final Internship Report Submission Deadlines

The following deadlines should be met to ensure smooth processing of the final internship reports. Failure to meet these (or any deadlines for final report revisions) may result in degree recommendations being delayed, which can incur additional fees and delays to post-graduate work permit documentation being issued.

Submission	Due Date
Finalized internship report sent to the academic and industry supervisors.	December 1, 2024
Final report + all completion forms sent to the MScAC Program Office.	December 13, 2024

Additional activities during the internship

It is expected that during the eight-month internship period students will expend the majority of their time on the internship project and CSC2702H (Technical Entrepreneurship).Students should make every effort to ensure the internship is successful. At times, students are presented with opportunities and requirements to participate in other activities such as completing or auditing additional courses, teaching assistantships, or attending conferences. Any additional activities must have approval from the industry supervisor and the Academic Director, Professional Programs even if these are taking place outside of the expected working hours.

To gain approval, we require the following documentation:

From the internship company

- A formal letter on company letterhead outlining:
    - The activity being participated in. If the proposed activity is a course or TAship, the course code and title should be included.
    - Days and times of the activity
    - A rationale for why this activity is essential to the internship
    - Confirmation of approval from the host of the internship

From you

- A formal request outlining the reasons for participating in the specific activity.

These should be sent by e-mail to the Associate Director, MScAC Administration cc'ed to the industry supervisor, who will let student know if the request is approved.
Note: students who are requesting to enrol in courses during the internship should be aware that priority in courses will be given to those students who need courses to meet their program requirements. Approval to enrol in high demand courses may not be granted.

Completing the Internship & Graduating from the MScAC Program

In early November 2024, we will distribute the documentation required to formally complete the degree. This will include the formal sign-off forms that require signatures from the industry and academic supervisors for the internship report, an "MScAC Completion" form and "Convocation Completion" form with the latter two submitted to the MScAC Program Office. Once these documents are submitted and accepted, MScAC will submit a "Recommendation for a Master's Degree" to the School of Graduate Studies and each student will be added to the convocation register. A graduation package will be sent from the Office of Convocation with information regarding convocation dates, tickets, etc. Please note that, while the program formally concludes by December 31, 2024, the degree will not be confirmed complete until January 2025. We will notify students when their individual degree recommendation has been submitted.

STUDENT POLICIES

University of Toronto Policies

The University of Toronto has various policies in place governing graduate activity. Particularly relevant to students in the MScAC program are those policies relating to Academic Integrity, Ethics and Conduct. Full details of all the policies applicable to you during your time as a student with the Department of Computer Science: sgs.utoronto.ca/policies-guidelines

Personal Time Off Policy

All graduate students in programs over 12 months in duration are encouraged to take up to 15 business days per academic year in personal time off, in addition to statutory holidays and days designated as university closures or holidays. Due to the structure of the MScAC program, the timing of the personal time off is determined by the MScAC Program team, considering both coursework and internship schedules. In line with this policy, designated time off periods during the first eight months of the program have been identified.

DEPARTMENT & UNIVERSITY RESOURCES

COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING OFFICE

MScAC has a dedicated office responsible for communications and marketing to ensure the program's key audiences are aware of the strengths and achievements of our students, alumni, faculty and staff. We organize several events throughout the year, including the Applied Research in Action Showcase (ARIA) and networking activities involving alumni including former MScAC graduates. The communications and marketing office takes overall responsibility for these events

Students are also invited to participate in activities hosted by the Department of Computer Science, such as seminars and social activities. Details of upcoming events will be posted on the Department's event calendar at https://web.cs.toronto.edu/events

If students have an exciting story or achievement to share, they should reach out to our communications office by contacting communications@mscac.utoronto.ca. We regularly seek to profile MScAC students as part of our graduate program and research activities and students work could appear in a local news publication, appear on social media, or be featured as part of U of T News!

MScAC students are also encouragedto join the Department of Computer Science's exclusive network for alumni and students—CompSci Connect (https://uoftcompsciconnect.ca/). Simply log in with current LinkedIn or Facebook credentials (or create a new user profile) and see computer science news, jobs, events, social media feeds and more all in one place.

The MScAC alumni network is also there to help support students through mentorship and various discussion forum. They may also organise specific activities to link you with the MScAC alumni community. All students become part of this network upon graduation and we encourage you to be an active member.

COMPUTER FACILITIES

As a graduate student in the Department of Computer Science you have access to a variety of computer resources in the department. * The "apps" servers are for e-mail and text editing (etc.), and the "comps" servers are for heavy computation. Read more at support.cs.toronto.edu

Your "CSLab account" is the key to a number of departmental services. You will receive e-mail about activating this prior to starting the program. Please activate as soon as possible. The account also gives you an e-mail address and once you have a CS e-mail address, people will start e-mailing you at this address. Please either read your CS inbox directly or forward incoming mail to an account that you do read.

Your first point of contact for assistance with computing facilities is the MScAC "POC" (point of contact) at pocpm@cs.toronto.edu. The POC has written an introductory list of computing topics at https://www.cs.toronto.edu/~pocpm/, including one about reading your CS e-mail.

*We strongly recommend that you bring a laptop with you. An external monitor, keyboard and mouse will be made available to you in the MScAC offices.

STUDENT FORMS AND LETTERS

During your time in the department, you may require student forms or letters for actions such as adding/dropping courses, taking leaves of absence, or for immigration purposes. See: uoft.me/SGS-formsletters. Alternatively, visit the MScAC Program Office for help on where to find these documents.

U OF T LIBRARY SERVICES

The University of Toronto Libraries system is the largest academic library in Canada and is ranked third among peer institutions in North America, including Harvard, Yale and Columbia. Our library services are accessible both in-person and online.
See: uoft.me/uoftlibraries

GRADUATE CENTRE FOR ACADEMIC COMMUNICATION (GCAC)

The Graduate Centre for Academic Communication provides graduate students with advanced training in academic writing and speaking. All programs are free, and various types of support are provided, designed to target the needs of both native and non-native speakers.
See: sgs.utoronto.ca/resources-supports/gcac

CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE (CIE)

CIE offers the assistance of international transition advisors who support students adjusting to life in Canada. At CIE you can seek advice about Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) documentation and processes, including study and work permits. CIE also administers the University Health Insurance Plan (UHIP) for international students. See:

SAFETY

It is the goal of the University of Toronto to do everything possible to create an environment where students and staff can feel safe to live and work. See: safety.utoronto.ca

HEALTH & WELLNESS

The University of Toronto offers a wide range of services to all its students to support them in achieving their personal and academic best. See: healthandwellness.utoronto.ca and uoft.me/SGS-wellness

QUICK LINKS

Need more information? The following links may be of use.

CS Department Website	cs.toronto.edu
CS Graduate Course Schedule	uoft.me/csgradtimetable
SGS Calendar	sgs.calendar.utoronto.ca
SGS Forms	uoft.me/SGS-formsletters
Registration & Enrolment	uoft.me/SGS-enrol
Graduate Fees	uoft.me/SGS-gradfees
Student Accounts	fees.utoronto.ca
Financial Aid	sgs.utoronto.ca/awards-funding/financial-aid-advising
Centre for International Experience	
U of T Libraries	uoft.me/uoftlibraries
Housing	housing.utoronto.ca
Graduate Wellness Services	uoft.me/SGS-wellness
U of T Recreation	recreation.utoronto.ca
Career & Co-Curricular Learning Network (CLNx)	clnx.utoronto.ca
U of T Policies & Guidelines	sgs.utoronto.ca/policies-guidelines