

# 1. OVERVIEW

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The academic experience at Georgian College is focused on student-centred learning, support for student success, academic integrity, and excellence. The academic regulations are based on accountability for academic standards and integrity of course credits and program credentials. The student's success at Georgian will be enhanced and guided by these regulations, enabling a smooth path through the academic process and their ability to navigate through exceptions and unusual situations.

These regulations apply to all students, including applicants, and all academic and related experiences offered by Georgian College. Students are required to familiarize themselves with these regulations and reference them on those occasions when they have questions about their progress or when circumstances may arise. Lack of knowledge of these regulations, particularly when it pertains to academic misconduct, does not constitute a valid defence against action by the college.

A number of non-academic regulations govern student life and conduct at Georgian College. All Academic Regulations are available on Georgian's website. Information about the situations in which these regulations apply and the regulations themselves may be obtained through program co-ordinators, student success advisors, academic officers, the [Georgian College Students' Association \(GCSA\)](https://www.georgiancollege.ca/student-life/students-administrative-council/) (<https://www.georgiancollege.ca/student-life/students-administrative-council/>), student success counsellors, staff in the Office of the Registrar or other staff members. In addition to Georgian's regulations, all students are subject to both criminal and civil law, as enacted by local, provincial, and federal governments. The college co-operates fully in situations that fall under these jurisdictions, but also reserves the right to apply its own regulations, policies, and procedures independent of the processes or outcome of processes required by these jurisdictions.

## 1.1 Glossary of terms

Below are terms, words and abbreviations that are used throughout the regulations. Definitions are provided to give a clear understanding of their meaning and to ensure a consistent interpretation by students, faculty, and employees.

- Academic planning timelines – the official timelines and deadlines that organize the academic year.
- Academic promotion – determining if a student has met the required academic performance to advance to the succeeding term.
- Academic regulations – the rules, processes and policies that guide college and student activities as they pertain to the academic year.
- Academic standing – the academic status of the student, a mathematical calculation based on their performance in courses for the term just completed. This includes Good Standing, Probation, Academic Warning, Suspension and Academic Dismissal.
- Academic year – the academic year runs from the beginning of September to the end of August. The official dates are outlined in the Academic Planning Timelines.
- Banner – the student information system used by the college for admission decisions, registration, records management, academic standing, fees, and graduation.
- Blackboard – the system the college uses for online teaching, learning, community building, and knowledge sharing.
- Clinical placement – unpaid placements in health programs, which help students develop skills in the workplace relevant to their program of study. Placements can vary from one-day to a full semester.
- Credential – earning a Georgian credential from the Office of the Registrar confirms that the graduate has achieved a specific educational standard and has certain knowledge and skills. Georgian follows the Ontario Qualifications Framework under the auspices of the Ministry of Colleges and Universities.
- Co-op – co-operative education – integrates academic studies with work experience. Work terms are typically four months long, or one semester. Internship – an extended period of paid work experience where students are employed in settings that provide work experience directly related to their academic programs and career objectives.
- WIL (work-integrated learning) – an engaged partnership between an academic institution, a host organization/employer, and a student.
- Faculty – the academic leader of an approved college course and includes professors, instructors, technicians, and technologists.
- Field placement – unpaid work in community safety, human services, and in specific tech or other programs.
- Practicum – an unpaid supervised practical experience in the workplace relevant to academic studies.
- IRCC (Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada) – a government agency that maintains immigration policy for skilled immigrants, economic immigration, and family-class programs. For students, this includes guidance on Temporary Stays (Visitors Visas, Work Permits, Study Permits), and pathways to permanent residency. Regulations can be found on the [IRCC](https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship.html) (<https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship.html>) website.
- Official – this refers to something that has approval or authority. It refers to documents, transcripts, dates, procedures, and communications that have come directly from the sources like the college, partner institutions, an employer or the ministry.
- Prerequisites – some courses in a program must be completed before subsequent courses can be taken.
- Program change – process of moving the student from one program to another or change of semesters/progression within the same program.

- Progression – how a program is sequenced at a course and semester level. Progression is stated on the program outline.
- Semester – refers to the specific grouping of courses that a student is recommended to take in a particular term. For example, semester one of the program contains six specific courses, semester two contains six different specific courses. Typically, a two-year program has four semesters, and a three-year program has six semesters. The typical semester is 15 weeks including one study week.
- Sequencing – changing program progression. Putting semesters in a different order. This results in a progression change.
- Term – this refers to the four-month periods in fall (September–December), winter (January–April) or summer (May–August).
- Withdrawal – student has chosen to either withdraw from some courses, or their entire program. Official deadlines for withdrawal are in the Important dates (<https://www.georgiancollege.ca/admissions/important-dates/>). Depending on the time of the withdrawal, it can include a financial adjustment.