

the plant

GUIDE TO EVERYTHING DAWSON



welcome to dawson

There isn't one Dawson student around you that has not experienced the overwhelming confusion of the first few weeks in this wonderful CEGEP. Believe us, before you know it, you will know where all the wings are, you will learn to expect broken-down escalators -- basically, you will have acquainted yourself with this kind of second home. In this little zine, we have tried to condense some of the key pieces of information a new student needs to know about Dawson. You can refer to this for tips, information on clubs, resources, services, athletics, and academic certifications.

These short years of CEGEP go fast, so make sure you start on the right foot to make the absolute best of them. Curiosity is the best thing to get the most out of your surroundings -- be curious about everything. Your classes, the services offered to you, all the little links you can click on Dawson's website, each hallway you can find... everything is ready for you to discover. Have fun with it!

Cheers to the new semester,
Your friends at The Plant

what is **the plant** ?

Since 1969, The Plant has been Dawson's student-run newspaper. As a service to Dawson community, we are always looking for new contributors! Whether you want to be a journalist, are passionate about a particular subject, or simply love writing, you are welcome to contribute to The Plant. We publish on our site regularly and publish in print every month. Don't hesitate to check out our social media for ways to get involved; you can follow us @theplantnews on Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter! If you're old-fashioned, pick up a copy or visit us at our office space in section 2C of Dawson! Also, if you post a picture of this zine and tag us, we will really really really like you.

For any inquiries, please contact:
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tips AND tricks

- **Don't worry about the first few weeks of class;** they can seem overwhelming and overly-packed, but these large groups of people dissipate and the school seems less busy for the rest of the semester (Do they leave? Are they studying? Do they have a secret hideout? We will never know.)
- **ALWAYS check for teacher ratings online before making your schedule.** Reviews usually describe the teaching styles, and you can choose what works for you.
- **If your class number has a P,** it's located in the Forum.
- **Get a nice planner that works for you,** one you KNOW you won't leave at home
- **Step your academic game up from the very first day.** Adjusting can be rough, but a bad R Score in your first semester can follow you around!
- **Build a relationship with your teachers!** Then it isn't awkward when you ask for reference letters, and they might be more inclined to help you out.
- **If there's a line for the bathroom,** just run up the stairs and you'll be sure to find a less busy one on a higher floor.
- **Join clubs and involve yourself.** You'll meet plenty of people and get many different opportunities. Friends, personal growth, and a great CV? What more could you want?
- **If there are too many people at the cafeteria,** the Forum (right outside Dawson) and Oliver's (2C wing) are perfect spots to relax.
- **Lighting is way better on the second floor of the library.** Don't strain your eyes!
- **If you're interested in acquiring a certificate,** make sure to plan ahead, so you're not missing credits at the last minute.

cafés

There are plenty of Starbucks and Tim Hortons around for you to study or get your caffeine fix (your life support during those 8AM classes), but here are some of our favourite spots at a walking distance (or a metro ride away) from Dawson:

- **Shaughnessy** (5 min walk)
- **Aunja** (15 min walk)
- **Hvmans** (15 min walk or Guy-Concordia metro)
- **Kafein Café-Bar** (18 min walk or Guy-Concordia metro)
- **Barley** (20 min walk or Lionel-Groulx metro)
- **Café Myriade** (18 min walk or Guy-Concordia metro)
- **Nos Thés** (15 min walk)
- **Pigeon Espresso Bar** (15 min walk)
- **Qabane À Thé** (17 min walk)

services, clubs AND resources



• **Dawson Student Union (DSU):** is in charge of all clubs and services. They represent the students and advocate for the promotion and preservation of their rights. They also host fun activities throughout the school year and have started many initiatives such as Ban the Bottle (initiative to ban plastic water bottles), Dawson Dinin' (free vegan lunches made by students and for students) and Consent and Challenging Rape Culture. For more information, visit the office by the second floor escalators.

• **Legacy:** is a club focused on education and exposing Dawson students to African and Caribbean culture, history and entertainment. This provides a positive and safe outlet for people of colour with the goal of encouraging cultural diversity and kinship.

• **Campus Life and Leadership (CLL):** provides educational, social, recreational and leadership opportunities for the students to help encourage students to participate in the exciting campus life.

• **Dawson Model United Nations (DCMUN):** is a simulation of the United Nations through which you get to debate worldly issues, deliver speeches, write resolutions, and work in coalitions with other driven students. With DCMUN, you can attend all sorts of conferences, including one held in Madrid this year!

• **The Hive:** is a service, a safe space and the place to go for information on sexual health, gender and rights. They provide pads, tampons, condoms and pregnancy tests. The Hive has launched different initiatives within the school to educate the students on their own sexuality and stand against sexual discrimination.

• **Academic Skills Centre:** helps students improve their learning, reading and writing skills. They offer students professionals and peer tutors, either one-on-one or in small groups. All their services are free and confidential. For more information visit their office (6D.2) in the upstairs library.

• **Student Job Bank:** offers full-time, part-time and volunteer opportunities. The Student Job Bank is located on the Dawson website. Students can also visit the Student Employment office to have the Student Employment Officer look over CVs during the drop-in hours in room 4E.2.

• **Green Earth:** is a club that encourages environmentally sustainable lifestyles. Through activities and campaigns on campus, this club seeks to raise awareness on students' environmental footprint and provide solutions making our lives "greener."

• **CLÉO:** is a resource centre for improvement in the French language. Located in room 4E.10, you can get help with your assignments in French, spoken and written, as well as have access to a ton of French language documentation, workshops, and more.

• **Peace Garden:** is a calm botanical oasis right on campus, the Peace Garden was created as a memorial after the attack of 2006. It is described as "symbolic of life and renewal, peace, remembrance [...]." Definitely a special spot to relax in between classes.

• **Warren G Flowers Art Gallery:** is located on the 2nd floor (G wing). Here, you will constantly find free exhibitions that change frequently through the year. Definitely worth checking out!

• **ETCETERA:** is Dawson College's LGBTQ/GSA club that welcomes all LGBTQ+ students and allies. They provide a safe space to discuss sexual identity and to meet understanding people. The club members organize events to raise awareness for the queer community in fun, accessible ways, one of them being art shows.

Some other clubs you might be interested in:

- Dawson Christian Fellowship
- Muslim Students Association
- Dawson E-Sports
- Metal Club
- Chill Club
- Korea Tea
- Comics Anime
- Spotlight
- Dawson Dance Troupe
- This-Ability
- Improv
- Sci-Fi & Fantasy
- Dawson Debate Union
- Arts & Music Club
- Hillel
- Romanian Club
- Dawson Disc
- Da Rez
- The Advocacy Centre (service)

special fields of study + certifications

- **New School:** New School offers students from all programs the opportunity to take English and humanities classes that are more intimate and geared towards discussion and student-led facilitation. It is a good way to explore alternative ways of learning and to build bonds, given the smaller group sizes and classrooms. The classes are held in the evening and last from 3 to 4 hours once a week.
- **Reflections:** Reflections (4E.15) combines two classes, such as French and humanities, into a more challenging one that counts for both credits. Due to its seminar style of teaching and its interdisciplinary approach, it offers a different and more informal experience to students in all programs. The classes are held during the day and usually occur twice a week, with varying lengths. You can also hang out in the classroom between classes.
- **Women's/Gender Studies**
- **Peaces Studies**
- **Hellenic Studies**
- **Jewish and Israeli Studies**

athletics

The Dawson Blues are one of the most decorated schools in RSEQ. We're all about banners here! Whatever team you're part of, on either level, you'll be part of a winning culture. We have great coaches in their respective sports and a school pride that will keep you motivated for sure. At the end of the day, we expect championships. 15 teams, 9 sports, 1 goal.

If you think you're up for it, all teams will host tryouts throughout August and September. No matter the sport, a lot of new and current students always show up to get a shot. Yet, only a few make it. You have to come READY. You have to be prepared for any and every drills and games. With all that said, the most important thing is WORK HARD and the rest will take care of itself. Will you be part of the Blues family? Here are the tryout dates:



- **Men's Basketball D1 & D2** - August 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 2018 @ Dawson College Tony Proudfoot Gym - 6PM-8PM
- **Women's Basketball D1 & D2** - August 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 2018 @ Dawson College Tony Proudfoot Gym - 6PM-8PM
- **Men's Soccer D1** - August 23, 24, 2018 @ Dawson College Tony Proudfoot Gym - 6PM-7PM
- **Women's Soccer D1** - August 23, 24, 2018 @ Dawson College Tony Proudfoot Gym - 6PM-7PM
- **Women's Hockey D1** - August 14, 15, 16, 17, 2018 @ Dawson College & Westmount Arena- 9AM-12PM at DC in -1H.4 & 1:30PM-2:50PM at WA (Aug. 14), 8AM-12PM at DC & WA (Aug. 15), 10AM-12PM at DC in 1H.2 and 1PM-5PM at DC in 3H.4 (Aug. 16), 1:30PM-2:50PM at WA
- **Women's Volleyball D2** - August 27, 29, 31, 2018 @ Dawson College Tony Proudfoot Gym - 6PM-7:40PM
- **Co-Ed Volleyball** - September 5, 10, 12, 2018 @ Dawson College Tony Proudfoot Gym - 7:45PM-9PM
- **Men's Rugby** - August 22, 24, 27, 29, 2018 @ Douglas Field - 6PM-8PM
- **Women's Rugby** - August 22, 24, 27, 29, 2018 @ Douglas Field - 6PM-8PM
- **Women's Cheerleading D2** - September 4, 6, 11, 2018 @ Dawson College 3rd Floor Cafeteria - 6PM-8PM
- **Mixed Badminton D2** - September 4 & 6, 2018 @ Dawson College Tony Proudfoot Gym - 7:45PM to 9:30PM
- **Men's Lacrosse** - August 27, 29, 31, 2018 @ Ed Maegher Field - 6PM-7:30PM
- **Co-Ed Rowing** - August 29, 30, 31, 2018 @ Olympic Basin - 6PM & Information meeting on August 28, 2018 @ Dawson College in 4E.1
*DC: Dawson College
*WA: Westmount Arena



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