

Jennifer Chambers

From: Jennifer Chambers
Sent: Friday, February 16, 2024 3:01 PM
Cc: Kathryn Ann Boon; Nicole Campbell
Subject: New for 2024: Capstone Course Selection Process, HSP in IMS

This email is being sent to students in Year 3 BMSc

The IMS Program is piloting a capstone selection process for the upcoming 2024 Summer registration period.

The Module Requirements:

Students in year 4 of the [Honours Specialization in IMS](#) take the following 4000-level courses as part of their fourth year requirements.

1.0 course from: Medical Sciences 4990E or Medical Sciences 4995E (the capstone course options).

0.5 course: Medical Sciences 4930F/G.

0.5 course: Medical Sciences 4200A/B.

1.0 additional courses at the 4000-level from the following basic medical science subject areas: Anatomy and Cell Biology, Biochemistry, Biostatistics, Epidemiology, Medical Bioinformatics, Medical Biophysics, Medical Sciences, Microbiology and Immunology, One Health, Pathology, Pharmacology, Physiology, Physiology and Pharmacology.

A maximum of 192 students are admitted to year 4 of the Honours Specialization in IMS each year, with the spaces **equally distributed** among [Medical Sciences 4990E](#) and [Medical Sciences 4995E](#), i.e., half the students take 4990E and half take 4995E

The Issue:

We've found over the past couple of years that demand is significantly higher for particular sections of the capstone course options above. In an attempt to make course registration a little less like securing concert tickets or being thrown into the Hunger Games, we are piloting a new selection process this year. **Students will be registered in their capstone ahead of the first day of course registration**, so they will know ahead of registration day how to plan their remaining courses. This new system will increase fairness in placement and reduce frustration during course registration in July.

Timeline:

May 31st: Students who are adjudicated into the Honours Specialization in IMS will be surveyed for their preference of Med Sci 4990E or Med Sci 4995E. Students will have an opportunity to indicate which course they would like, drilling down to **preferred lab/tutorial sections**.

If demand exceeds availability for any of the sections, a **Point System** will be used to select students based on the following three criteria:

- ITR selection: students first or second ITR choice, with a point assigned for those who indicated HSP IMS as an ITR choice
- Weighted Average: A student's weighted average will be converted to a point value
- Random lottery assignment: Students will have a point value generated based on random assignment

June 14th: Students will be notified of their capstone course selection (including lecture +tutorial/lab component) and will be manually registered leading up to course registration.

Early July: Fourth Year registration opens on Student Center.

Why this may matter to you:

Your ITR selection may impact your ability to register in your preferred section. If IMS is an option you're considering, even if it's not your first choice, note that whether you select it as an ITR choice will impact your chances of getting into a particular capstone option.

Keep in mind, however, that the Department of Physiology and Pharmacology will not consider students for any Honours Specialization module offered by their department unless a student requests it – see [Submitting an ITR for Year 4 BMSc](#) and the information about the minimum weighted average that secured a spot in these modules for the last few years in the chart of [Minimum Averages for admission to Honours Specialization modules](#).

Questions?

- ✓ Visit the [IMS website](#) for more information about the Program and Course Requirements
- ✓ Attend the **Honours Specialization in IMS Information Session**
Hosted by Dr. Nicole Campbell, Director of the IMS Program and Jen Chambers, BMSUE Coordinator (Interdisciplinary Studies)
Wednesday, February 28th, 5:00-6:00pm
[Click this link to join the Session](#)
Meeting ID: 980 8295 8141
- ✓ Attend one of **Kathy Boon's general sessions for submitting and ITR for Year 4 BMSc** – see [ITR Q&A sessions with the BMSUE Coordinators](#) for details
- ✓ Attend a **Question and Answer Session for Year 4 HSP IMS** hosted by **Jen Chambers**
Monday, March 18th, 3:00-4:00pm
MSB, 148
- ✓ Attend the **Science Students' Council (SSC) ITR Fair**
Wednesday, March 20th, 11:am-2:00pm
Physics and Astronomy Building, Atrium located on the lower level

See the [Intent to Register page](#) on the BMSc website for more information about Intent to Register and for a full set of events hosted by Departments and the BMSUE Office.

Enjoy your (well-deserved!) Reading Week,
Jen

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Reach the BMSUE Coordinators by using the BMSUE Question Portal:
<https://help.sci.uwo.ca/servicedesk/customer/portal/15>