

## International Education Experiences

### *Student Challenges and Faculty Strategies to Support Students*

Student experiences and resulting challenges	What may be helpful for students	Services/ programs Addressing this Issue
<b>India</b>		
Students will have experienced a primarily exam-based assessment system. Exams are often cumulative, with course grades based mostly, or all, on a single exam. Focusing efforts towards the end of a course may have been a successful strategy. The semester-based system, with its faster pace, is unfamiliar.	Familiarize students with the style of continuous assessment that will be used in their courses. Have students review Course Presentations and Moodle pages at the beginning of the semester. Encourage students to create a semester schedule to manage their time week-by-week.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Academic Skills Workshops on Moodle, Course Presentations, and Time Management</li> <li>• BEST Program</li> </ul>
Many students attended English medium schools throughout their education. These students may not identify as ESL students, and are familiar with academic work in English. However, writing may be organized differently from expected Canadian conventions.	<p>Approaching language issues through a “Global Englishes” lens may be helpful, recognizing the validity of varied English forms. At the same time, provide any cultural information needed to help the student acquire additional communication strategies for the Canadian context.</p> <p>Students will likely be familiar with English grammar exercises, and may be open to working through such exercises to improve any ongoing areas of weakness.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learning Centre Writing Workshops</li> <li>• Learning Strategist Appointments</li> <li>• Writing Tutors</li> </ul>
In secondary school, most students will have written only short assignments that do not require the use of outside sources. Writing instruction may also have focused on IELTS test preparation (ie. “the five paragraph essay” supported by personal examples rather than research). Typical forms of business writing (e.g. business letters, memos) are generally unfamiliar.	In addition to providing assignment instructions and rubrics, expose students to examples of good writing in the forms they will be expected to produce.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Course/Assignment Specific Writing Workshops (Contact a Learning Strategist)</li> </ul>

Research, using library resources, and citing sources are unfamiliar.	Provide a library orientation for students early in the semester. Emphasize the need for citation clearly, including the consequences for failing to cite correctly; however, try to avoid assuming that a student has intentionally cheated, particularly early in the semester.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Library Orientations</li> <li>• BEST Program</li> </ul>
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## References

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