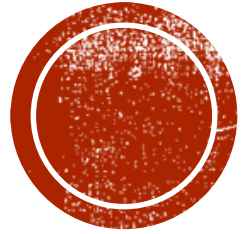


# THE CANADIAN CLASSROOM

Advice from faculty and international students for your  
studies at NSCC





# ADVICE FROM FACULTY



# INTRODUCE YOURSELF & MAKE FRIENDS

- Say hello. Introduce yourself before or after class to your instructor. Let her or him know where you are from – this will also give you the opportunity to get any questions you have answered.
- Find a friend. Connect with another classmate or two – this will help you stay informed of what is happening if you ever need to miss a class.
- Try to make Canadian friends. You will have a richer cultural experience and make new connections.



# GROUP WORK

- Group work is an important part of learning at NSCC. This is an opportunity for you to learn from your classmates, share knowledge and research together.
- You will be marked on your participation and contribution.
- Always try to work with different people – this will enrich your education in a meaningful way.



# REFLECTION

- By reflection, we mean giving careful thought to your learning or to an experience.
- In some courses, you will be asked to submit written reflections as a part of your learning and course work.
- Reflection is used to help you think about and articulate your learning.



# ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN CLASS DISCUSSIONS AND GROUP WORK

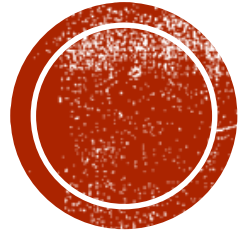
- Speak up. Everyone's learning will be deeper if you volunteer your thoughts and experiences with the rest of the class.
- Tell the class what it is like in your culture or country and share how things are similar or different. It's a great way for us to learn about you and have interesting discussions.



# ASK QUESTIONS

- When in doubt, ask! Anytime you have a question, ask it, because chances are someone else has the same question.
- Let us know when you have any concerns or if you are struggling with any of the course work. The sooner we know there is a problem, the quicker we can work together to solve it.





# ADVICE FROM STUDENTS





# A LOT OF PEOPLE FEEL THE WAY YOU DO

- If you're feeling excited, anxious, nervous, overwhelmed...don't worry! A lot of people are feeling exactly the same way when starting something new.
- Be positive! It will all get easier soon...



# SAY HI

- Nova Scotians are known for their friendliness, but sometimes they can be shy. You don't have to wait for others to introduce themselves to you.
- Make friends from Canada and other countries.



# ASK QUESTIONS

- Your faculty and Student Services are there to help. Let me know when you have questions or need help.
- Find a Canadian friend who can be your 'culture coach'. Ask them the questions about Canadian culture and things that are new to you that you don't understand.
- Don't be afraid to ask if you don't understand something.



# GET INVOLVED

- Every campus has a Student Association. Connect with them during orientation week and participate in the activities.
- NSCC International plans activities and events throughout the year. Stay connected through Facebook: [www.facebook.com/nscintlstudents](http://www.facebook.com/nscintlstudents)
- Volunteering is a great way to connect with people outside of NSCC.
- Join a local sports team or club



# WHAT TO WEAR

- Students at NSCC dress pretty casually. Jeans and comfortable clothes are fine.
- Avoid clothes that are ripped or expose too much skin
- If you have to wear a uniform or business dress, make sure you are dressed to the standard that your instructors set for you.



# BEHAVIOUR

- Students and faculty have a more casual relationship at NSCC. It's okay to ask your instructors questions – it's actually encouraged.
- You're expected to attend all of your classes and labs.
- If you have to miss a class, you're expected to let the instructor know. Send them an email or tell them in person.
- Remember to check your NSCC email account on a regular basis. This is how people at NSCC will communicate with you!



# ACADEMICS

- There are a lot of assignments and tests so stay organized and stay on top of your workload.
- Studying is about understanding, not memorizing.
- Talk to your classmates if you don't understand something. Sometimes just talking about a confusing topic can help you understand it better.
- Find out if there are electronic textbooks available for your courses. They are less expensive.

