

For immediate release — Wednesday, August 31, 2022

Early Start Experience class hits record numbers in preparation for fall semester

Media opportunity to speak with students, instructors on impact of program

The University of Lethbridge's Early Start Experience (ESE) program has proven to set first-year students on the path to success as they transition to post-secondary studies. This year, a record 58 students have taken part in the program and have spent the past two weeks completing their course work on campus in preparation for the start of the 2022 Fall Semester. As well, for the first time, second-year students who haven't had the opportunity to be on campus yet because of COVID-19, are able to take part in ESE.

Hear from students about the ESE experience (which concludes Friday), how it sets them up for their first experiences on campus and what they expect from the coming year.

WHAT: Early Start Experience students engaged in group activity

WHEN: Thursday, Sept. 1, 2022, at 11 a.m.

WHERE: Classroom L1060 (10th floor, University Library)

WHO: ESE students, School of Liberal Education Dean Dr. Shelly Wismath and instructor Brendan Cummins

Offered through the School of Liberal Education, students enrolled in ESE earn a full three-credit course (Social Science List), meet other students, learn skills needed for studies at a university level and find out how to access support systems. Along with getting an academic introduction to the University and its various disciplines, students tour campus, take workshops on study skills, use the library for research, write essays and participate in fun group activities (such as Wednesday's Amazing Race wayfinding exercise).

A liberal education challenges boundaries and borders and helps establish connections between ideas and disciplines. University offers a variety of new communities — physical spaces, social relationships and academic communities. The LBED 1500 course

introduces students to these communities and helps them find their place. Using maps and the process of map-making as guiding metaphors, students learn valuable social, cultural and academic skills to help them succeed at ULethbridge.

Visit <u>ESE</u> for more information.

-- 30 --

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