



Algoma  
UNIVERSITY

TRANSFER & MATURE STUDENT  
**ORIENTATION GUIDE**

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# A MESSAGE FROM STUDENT SERVICES

The Student Services Team wants to thank you for making the right choice on selecting Algoma University. Now that you have selected and registered for your courses, we want you to become familiar with the many services available to you on campus. Student Services is comprised of a team of individuals who work together to help you succeed as a well-rounded student. We encourage you to access the supports that we offer so that you can achieve overall success during your time at Algoma U.

This guide is designed to introduce you to our team members and provide you with information on each of the student services they provide. It will also explain some of our initiatives for your student success and well-being that you can take full advantage of on our campus.

At Algoma University, we recognize that all students, regardless of their age and background, are taking a new step when they begin university. Our doors are always open, and we're here to help!

Sincerely,

**The Student Services Team**  
Algoma University

## COLLEGE OUTREACH SERVICES



**MEGHAN MAJIC** COLLEGE OUTREACH AND SUPPORT OFFICER  
meghan.majic@algonau.ca  
705.949.2301 ext. 4264

Meghan Majic, an alumna of Algoma U, acts as an Admissions Advisor for the university and assists college and mature students with transferring to the university environment. Meghan is a college transfer student, so she can provide guidance and advice on the transitioning process and is available to assist you with program information, applications, transfer credits, and support service information.

# STUDENT SERVICES



**KAREN HUDSON** STUDENT SERVICES ADVISOR

karen.hudson@algonau.ca

705.949.2301 ext. 4815

Located in SH206, Karen has been a member of the Student Services staff for nine years. She is the contact for all health services including counselling referrals and community support access. Karen also provides advising and postgraduate advising for programs including Law School, Medical School and Faculties of Education. With both a Bachelor's degree in Education and a Master's degree, Karen shares her personal experience to assist in post-graduate planning. In addition she coordinates many student life events including the annual orientation week and many other campus life activities. Along with the above, her role also includes:

- Academic Advising
- Program Coordinator for Walk Safe Program
- Support staff for Algoma University Students Union (AUSU)

# INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERVICES



**MARK ALLARD** INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERVICES ADVISOR

mark.allard@algonau.ca

705.949.2301 ext. 4238

As the International Student Advisor, Mark provides international students with academic assistance and advising. He organises pre-departure information for international students venturing to Algoma University, and helps organize international student events and orientation, including the popular and student-favourite International Dinners. Mark is also one of the contacts for the University's Study Abroad Program. He helps organize bi-weekly information sessions on the University's exchange opportunities and liaises between other universities abroad. As the contact for the Algoma Multicultural Students' Association (AMSA), Mark also coordinates events with AMSA. You can find Mark in SH202. His role also includes:

- Information about International Exchange Programs
- Academic advising

# ANISHINAABE STUDENT SERVICES



**BONNIE GAIKEZHEYONGAI** ANISHINAABE STUDENT ADVISOR  
bonnie.gaikzheyongai@algomau.ca  
705.949.2301 ext. 4815

Bonnie Gaikzheyongai, the Anishinaabe Student Advisor, provides academic advising services to both Anishinaabe and non-Anishinaabe students. She is responsible for helping students with course selections and ensuring program requirements are met while deliberating long-term academic goals. Bonnie liaises with Education Counselors and University departments as needed. The Anishinaabe Student Advisor has a working familiarity with University departments, academic regulations, practices, and protocols that are effective and valuable in providing academic advising to first-year students. Additionally, Bonnie assists students with maintaining physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual well-being while at Algoma U. She is acquainted with numerous community resources and will connect students with the help they need.

**ANISHINAABE EVENTS COORDINATOR**  
705.949.2301 ext. 4816

The Algoma University's Anishinaabe Events Coordinator's office is located in SH 205. This position is key in coordinating events and activities for and with Anishinaabe students on campus. The events and programs are designed to address the social and cultural needs of Anishinaabe students at Algoma U. As the staff advisor to Shingwauk Anishinaabe Student's Association (SASA), they support and coordinate events with them as well as Shingwauk Kinoomaage Gamig. Having a working knowledge of the resources in the area is valuable to the university, and to the students who benefit from attending and participating in community events. The annual Elder's Gathering will be held in October and the annual Gathering at the Rapids Powwow is scheduled to take place the first weekend in March. Please stop by the SASA Lounge on Wednesdays for Soup's On and visit with one of our community Elders.

# FIRST GENERATION SERVICES



**MELISSA OUIMETTE** FIRST GENERATION COORDINATOR  
melissa.ouimette@algonau.ca  
705.949.2301 ext. 4235



Having graduated from Algoma University as a First Generation student, Melissa understands the difficulties that First Generation students can face. Melissa is the First Generation Coordinator at the University. According to the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities, students whose parent(s) or guardian(s) did not complete post-secondary education or attend an apprentice program in Canada, are considered a First Generation student. Located in SH208, Melissa offers support services to First Generation students, including academic advising, mentorship, and outreach programs. She organises both the Fall and Winter Leadership Retreats, where students participate in a weekend workshop off campus, learning about how to maximize their strengths and get involved in leadership activities to help them grow and develop into successful students. She is also an instrumental leader in the “FG Meet and Greet”, which provide students with financial, social, and educational information. Her role also involves:

- Support services for First Generation students
- Academic advising
- First Generation bursary

## BOUNCE BACK PROGRAM

Bounce Back is a free academic support program for any student who has earned an average of less than 60%. Students who opt-in to the program (September or January) are matched with a staff member or mentor of the program. The Bounce Back Team will work individually with each participant to better understand the challenges encountered in the previous semester, develop new goals, and identify strategies to achieve those goals. The Bounce Back Team will also help students access the network of campus resources that can help to build new skills and improve success. Prizes will go to the top two students who improve their GPA the most.



**QUESTIONS? CONTACT:**  
Raquel Lehto  
705.949.2301 ext. 4225  
bounceback@algonau.ca

# CO-OP & CAREER SERVICES



## **CINDI ELGIE** CO-OP & CAREER SERVICES ADVISOR

cindi.elgie@algomau.ca

705.949.2301 ext. 4214

Having been employed at the University for 26 years, Cindi has become well-accustomed to University life, and understands students' needs. As the Co-op and Career Services Advisor, Cindi is responsible for the Co-operative Education Program at Algoma University. She teaches COOP 0101, the mandatory course for students interested in pursuing co-op, which is offered every semester. Cindi also posts available co-op positions, collects resumes, and then sends them to potential employers. During each semester, Cindi completes site visits to ensure that students' and employers' needs are being met. Throughout the year, she is actively looking for positions for students, whether on a part-time or full-time basis. Any positions found are then posted to my.algomau.ca, on the annual Career Fair website, or on the bulletin boards located across from her office, SH203. Cindi also runs the Work Study Program and International Work Study Program, which allows approximately 55 domestic and international students to be employed on campus to gain valuable work experience. For students who are not sure which direction to take, Cindi also offers career counselling services, and helps students to perfect their resume and cover letters. Her role also includes:

- Academic advising
- Workshops: resume/cover letter tips, interview skills, and job search strategies
- Employment resources
- Career advising

## **Co-operative Education: Learn & Earn!**

Algoma U's Co-operative Education Certificate is designed to integrate undergraduate academic studies with paid co-op work experience. Co-op work terms allow you to explore careers, while academic terms in your degree program build a solid foundation of theoretical and conceptual knowledge in your area of study.

## **Get the Co-op EDGE**

- Earn a salary (average wage is \$15 per hour)
- Develop your workplace skills
- Gain experience while making invaluable connections in the workforce
- Explore career options

**MORE INFO? VISIT:** <http://www.algomau.ca/coop>

# THE LEARNING CENTRE



**BARB MUIO** COORDINATOR OF LEARNING CENTRE /  
DISABILITY SERVICES

barb.muio@algonau.ca  
705.949.2301 ext. 4221

Barb is the Coordinator of the Learning Centre/Disability Services at Algoma University. Located in the Learning Centre (SH200A), Barb provides academic support to students with disabilities for Algoma, Timmins and Brampton campuses. Services including intake/assessment/psycho-educational assessments for undiagnosed learning disabilities or updated assessment required, testing accommodations, counselling referrals, notetakers, scanning books to CDs, Bursary for Students with Disabilities and access to specialized computer programs. Barb along with Raquel are instrumental in the University's tutoring program. This program allows students to receive six free hours of tutoring per class per semester – that's 30 hours a semester!



**RAQUEL LEHTO** LEARNING STRATEGIST /  
ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY

raquel.lehto@algonau.ca  
705.949.2301 ext. 4225

Raquel is Algoma University's Learning Strategist / Assistive Technologist, located in the Learning Centre, in SH200B. She develops learning strategies for students in regards to organizational skills, note taking, textbook reading skills, study skills, and test taking. Raquel also organizes the University's Student Success Workshops, which are held year round, and are geared to helping students achieve academic excellence. Other roles include:

- Learning strategies and assistive technology
- Academic support
- Book scanning
- Bounce Back Program
- Tutoring Program

**MORE INFO? VISIT:**

[www.algonau.ca/student-life/student-services/the-learning-centre/](http://www.algonau.ca/student-life/student-services/the-learning-centre/)

# WRITING LAB

The Writing Lab is a free service available to all Algoma University registered students in any discipline of study, including those studying at our satellite programming locations in Brampton and Timmins. The Writing Lab is staffed by a qualified writing instructor who helps students with individual writing consultations by appointment. The goal of the Writing Lab is to help students improve the writing skills they need to be successful at the university level. The Writing Lab works closely with the Learning Centre to provide a range of academic support services.

**LOCATION:** WW306

**BOOK AN APPOINTMENT:** [booking.algomau.ca/writing-lab](http://booking.algomau.ca/writing-lab)

**FOR MORE INFO? VISIT:**

[www.algomau.ca/student-life/student-services/the-learning-centre/the-writing-lab/](http://www.algomau.ca/student-life/student-services/the-learning-centre/the-writing-lab/)

**QUESTIONS? CONTACT:** [writing@algomau.ca](mailto:writing@algomau.ca)

# MATH LAB

The Math Lab is staffed by a qualified math instructor and is a free service to all Algoma University students registered in any discipline of study. The Math Lab is available to provide students with help in regards to formulas, calculations, and theories.

The Math Lab's location, times and available dates are posted each semester via posters and through the online broadcast message system, Algoma U Know.

**QUESTIONS? CONTACT:** [mathlab@algomau.ca](mailto:mathlab@algomau.ca)

# TUTORING

At Algoma University, any student can take advantage of our free tutoring program. Each student can receive up to 30 hours of free tutoring a semester. Students are paired with someone who has already completed and excelled in the course, and will help guide them to academic success. Tutors can assist you in understanding and mastering the material of a particular course. Tutoring is a team effort. Be sure to bring your textbooks, class notes, class assignments, and a list of questions you have about the course. It is also important to see your tutor before and after you have completed or attempted to complete an assignment, so you and your tutor can go over the challenges you faced, which will help you overcome your learning difficulties on your own in the future.

Algoma University subsidizes, in full, the first six hours per course per semester of tutoring. Each hour thereafter is subject to a fee of \$15.00 per hour.

**FOR MORE INFO? VISIT:** [www.algomau.ca/learning/tutoring](http://www.algomau.ca/learning/tutoring)

# STUDENT SUCCESS WORKSHOPS

Throughout the academic year, Algoma University offers a variety of workshops geared to helping students reach their academic potential and achieve academic success. These workshops focus on effective learning strategies with an emphasis on active learning. The Student Success Workshops series are held in both the fall and winter semesters from Monday to Friday. Students are encouraged to attend all the workshops, but especially those held at the beginning of each semester, to properly prepare them for the upcoming semester and workload. Since not every student can attend the Student Success Workshops, all workshops are recorded and placed online, giving students the opportunity to still benefit from the series.

In partnership with the First Generation Project program, students who regularly attend the Student Success Workshops, have the opportunity to win great prizes, including an iPad mini!

## WALK SAFE PROGRAM

If you are walking to your car or residence unit between 8:00 pm and 10:30 pm from Monday to Thursday, you can take advantage of Algoma University's Walk Safe Program. To make use of this program, visit the Security kiosk located beside Door Z and a Walk Safe attendant will be happy to walk you out to your car, or any campus building. You can also call 705.949.2301 ext. 4444, and tell Security that you require a Walk Safe attendant.

If you live off campus and would like a Walk Safe attendant to escort you to a destination on campus, you can call and arrange for an attendant to meet you at the edge of the campus. Just give the location where you wish to meet the Walk Safe Attendant and the estimated time of your arrival at that location!

## AUSU STUDENT HEALTH PLAN

The AUSU Health & Dental Plan offers affordable coverage to all full time Algoma U students and their families. Benefits include extended health, prescription drugs, dental, travel, and accident coverage. The Student VIP website is a one-stop shop for all of your interactions with the AUSU Health & Dental Plan. Students can access information on coverage, process claims, opt into or out of the plan, add a spouse or dependents, and get answers to frequently asked questions.

### What's Covered?

- 50- 100 % Prescription Drugs
- 50 – 80 % Dental coverage
- Vision Care
- Practitioners (MSW, Chiropractic, Podiatrist, Physiotherapist, Chiropracist, Speech Therapist, Naturopath, Psychologist, Sports Therapist)
- Registered Massage Therapist \*With referral
- Orthopedic Shoes & appliances
- Travel Insurance
- Accident Coverage
- I.M Well App

### Your health plan # is:

ALG\_\_\_\_(Your Student Number)\_\_\_\_- 00

### QUESTIONS? CONTACT:

generalmanager@ausu.algomau.ca  
705-949-2301 ext 4719  
P: 1-844-364-7368

### MORE INFO? VISIT:

<http://studentvip.ca/ausu>

# PHYSICIAN SERVICES

## DR. SARAH WHITE CAMPUS PHYSICIAN

Algoma University is pleased to announce that Dr. Sarah White has agreed to provide physician services to our students and their dependants! This is great news for the many students who have experienced difficulties getting access to a local doctor.

**TO BOOK AN APPOINTMENT:** Email [doctor@algonau.ca](mailto:doctor@algonau.ca) or call directly at 705.759.2554 ext. 2720

## EARLY ALERT PROGRAM

- Early Alert is a service that will enable those who interact most with the students to have the ability to recognize signs of mental health and the potential risk and concerns. This includes faculty members, residence advisors and staff.
- The cornerstone of this innovative, cross-campus program is early intervention and prevention through referrals for targeted support services. By addressing issues early, there is a higher likelihood that smaller problems can be prevented from escalating into much larger ones.
- This is an online referral system wherein residence advisors and academic instructors who are trained in Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) will be able to connect students to the appropriate support services to help them achieve their greater potential and live enriched lives.

### How Early Alert Works

#### NOTICE

Faculty notice a student is facing difficulties that may inhibit overall health/success and subsequently identify such concerns using the online portals at [my.algonau.ca](http://my.algonau.ca).

#### ASSESS

The Student Services Advisor will review the concerns and identify the most appropriate support services for the student.

#### RESPOND

The Student Services Advisor will contact the student to set up an in-person meeting time to discuss the concerns and the relevant support services to help the student get back on track.



ALGOMA UNIVERSITY



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