

# Student Life

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## I. Community Life and Standards

Tyndale has a unique student body, embracing an appreciation of individual diversity and a commitment to fostering a rich community life. Students range in age from recent high school graduates to mature students who may be either continuing their education or enhancing their lay ministry. Approximately 1400 students from across Canada and the world come to study at Tyndale University College & Seminary each year. These students represent a wide variety of demographic, ethnic, and denominational backgrounds. Many students are from the Greater Toronto Area or commute from southern and central Ontario. Approximately a third of the undergraduates have the experience of living in campus residence. Both commuters and residents alike find that interaction within such a diverse community augments their perspective and cultivates deep friendships that transcend their student life.

### Statement of Community Standards

This statement articulates standards for appropriate personal and communal conduct for all students of Tyndale.

Students of Tyndale University College & Seminary are part of a Christian community, individually and collectively dedicated to pursuing education marked by open, rigorous, and critical inquiry while maintaining patterns of belief and behaviour that foster a distinctively Christian learning environment. As voluntary members of this community, we covenant with God and one another to enter into a life of discipleship with the intention of fostering a grace-filled community that honours God in its actions, attitudes, and beliefs. As imitators of Christ, we strive for personal transformation of character that is marked by the fruit of the Spirit that is love, joy, peace, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (Galatians 5:22) and advocacy for peace and justice.

In keeping with the institution's mission and Statement of Faith, we agree to uphold and observe the following standards at all times, on and off campus, while studying at Tyndale.

Students of Tyndale University College & Seminary will participate regularly in the life of the local church in order to benefit from the guidance of the Holy Spirit and the communal wisdom of the people of God manifest in such communities.

In keeping with its distinctly evangelical Christian character, Tyndale recognizes certain practices, and the promotion of such, as biblically unacceptable. While recognizing that

periodic and unfortunate occasions of failure and sin occur in the course of the Christian life, we also recognize that unrepentant and persistent unacceptable behaviours have a debilitating impact on oneself and the community.

Students of Tyndale University College & Seminary thus will refrain from practices that are prohibited by Christian scriptures, including but not limited to the use of illegal drugs or abuse of prescription drugs, drunkenness, dishonest practices including plagiarism, theft or fraud, the promotion of religious beliefs incompatible with Christian faith, engagement with pornography, breach of trust or confidence, gambling, profane and obscene speech, violent or abusive behaviour, and harassment of any kind.

The Tyndale community accepts, in submission to our understanding of Christian scriptures, an understanding of marriage as an exclusive, lifelong partnership of love and faithfulness between a man and a woman, formalized in a legally sanctioned Christian marriage. Students of Tyndale University College & Seminary will follow the biblical teaching that such a marriage is the exclusive context for sexual intimacy.

These standards of conduct are considered pertinent to the preservation and promotion of the distinctly evangelical Christian character of Tyndale and the health of our Christian community. Students who voluntarily study in this community are expected to honour these standards and to refrain from any conduct that would be inconsistent with them.

## **Responsibility**

By virtue of application for admission, Tyndale students agree to accept and adhere to the expectations and responsibilities of the community in regard to daily living and interaction.

Students who cannot with integrity accept these standards should seek a living-learning situation that is more acceptable to them. Tyndale reserves the right to refuse admission to or dismiss students who, in its assessment, are not adhering to these standards by their actions or attitudes.

## **Spiritual Disciplines and Worship**

Tyndale is committed to fostering spiritual growth and guarding our unity as members of the body of Christ. One of the ways we seek to facilitate this goal is through our chapel program, which is designed to promote the holistic development of all community members through corporate worship, to build community, and to raise awareness of the issues of living as a Christian in our world. Chapel attendance is required for all full-time first-year university college students. (Please refer to the Student Handbook for specifics.) Tuesday's chapels are Community Chapels and everyone on campus is expected to attend. All offices and student services are closed to permit staff, faculty, and students the opportunity to worship together in the Van Norman Worship and Study Centre. [This limitation does not apply to the BEd students and the Education Library.] In addition, the UC hosts its own chapel on Wednesday mornings, and the Seminary has a short chapel mid-morning on Thursdays. Several times a semester there is also a student-led chapel on Sunday nights.

## **Anti-Discrimination and -Harassment Policy**

It is official policy that members of the Tyndale community be able to enjoy an environment free from all forms of discrimination and harassment. No employee or student may be discriminated against because of race, ancestry, colour, ethnic origin, gender, citizenship, denomination, creed, age, marital status, family status, disability, or pregnancy. The full policies and procedures to register a complaint are outlined in the Student Handbook, which is available in the Department of Student Life and online.

## **Spouses and Children on Campus**

Tyndale seeks to provide a positive learning environment; therefore, children should not normally be brought to class.

The Tyndale facility is geared for university and seminary students. Children should therefore be supervised appropriately. All children under the age of 16 require adult supervision at all times.

Spouses are encouraged to participate in chapels and conferences. The Student Council also plans a number of social activities throughout the year to include spouses and children in the community.

## **II. Student Services**

### **New Student Orientation**

Each academic semester begins with a time of orientation for new students organized by the Department of Student Life and student leaders. Orientation activities are provided for both university and seminary new students to acquaint them with the people, policies, and procedures of their respective institutions. The organized activities include opportunities to meet the President and the faculty, to interact with student leaders, to gather key information concerning courses, to experience life in Toronto, and to worship together. Orientation for all students continues in various ways through the first semester with a desire to see each student become an integral part of the Tyndale community and to experience a memorable year.

### **The Undergraduate Orientation Retreat**

The Orientation Retreat is for all incoming undergraduate students. During the retreat there will be plenty of opportunities to participate in a range of activities. Here's just a sample:

- learn more about Tyndale University College and your academic program
- meet new friends
- play together
- worship together

Every new undergraduate student taking three courses or more (at least nine credit hours) during fall semester is expected to attend the Retreat and will be charged an orientation fee.

## **The Seminary Community Fall Retreat**

Every September, the Student Council hosts a Fall Retreat to encourage both new and returning students to connect with each other and with faculty as they begin a new semester of study. This is a time of getting acquainted in a relaxed setting as students come together in community for fellowship, inspirational worship, and challenge. The cost is subsidized through the Student Activity Fee.

## **Student Activities (University College)**

Consistent with our emphasis on balance in the Christian's life, Tyndale encourages students to participate in various areas of activity that help to provide social, spiritual, intellectual, and physical growth. Sports, residence activities, and events sponsored by Student Council, as well as a number of clubs all contribute to building an active community.

One of the ways in which we equip students for ministry is to provide leadership experiences and opportunities within the Tyndale community. Our Student Leadership Team presently consists of Residence Leadership and the University College Student Council members.

## **Athletics**

A variety of intramural sports activities are available on campus for all students. The gymnasium, when not in use for intramurals or clubs, is available for informal student use and outside group rentals. A compact workout area is provided on the gym stage.

## **Employment (University College)**

In order to encourage all students to take full advantage of the academic opportunities at Tyndale, the following guidelines concerning employment during the academic year have been established:

- Full-time students should limit the number of hours of work to 20 hours per week.
- Employment in two departments at Tyndale simultaneously is not encouraged, but should this occur, both supervisors must be informed of the situation and maximum work hours coordinated accordingly.
- First year or transfer students are urged to refrain from employment or to keep it to a minimum number of hours until after the completion of the first semester.
- Classes, Field Education, and student leadership commitments take precedence over employment.

Tyndale offers a limited number of student employment opportunities on campus. These opportunities are open to students who are legally permitted to work in Canada. International students are required to have a valid Student Permit (student visa) and either possess or obtain a valid Social Insurance Number (SIN). Please refer to the job board outside the Human Resources offices or the student website under Student Employment for employment opportunities on campus.

## Health Policies

Tyndale is dependent upon the integrity of individual students to verify at the time of admission to the community that they are physically and emotionally fit to fulfill their responsibilities. Tyndale recognizes that physical and emotional conditions may change, and policies are in place to assist the equitable dealing with such changes. All international students must have proof of medical insurance coverage at the time of registration. Please refer to the Student Handbook for further policy information.

## Alumni Association

The Tyndale Alumni Association exists to develop lifelong relationships between Tyndale Alumni and Tyndale University College & Seminary. Tyndale Alumni are serving in Canada and around the world, and the Alumni Association provides support and connection through communications, events, continuing education, and benefits. To find out more about the Alumni Association, visit the website at [www.tyndale.ca/alumni](http://www.tyndale.ca/alumni).

## Bookstore

A bookstore located in the main building serves students, staff, faculty, alumni, and the Christian community at large. The bookstore supplies all required textbooks, carries a wide selection of resources for ministry and personal development, and offers a varied selection of merchandise such as CDs, cards, and Tyndale apparel. For further information, call the bookstore at 416.226.6620 ext. 2188, or visit the bookstore online at [www.tyndale.ca/bookstore](http://www.tyndale.ca/bookstore).

## Career Centre

The Tyndale Career Centre exists to assist all students (undergraduate and graduate) with career planning and job search techniques training. During the 2013-14 school year, the Centre is undergoing a review of its services and future programming. Students are encouraged to contact the Office of Student Life for more details. Career planning, assessments, résumé consulting, interview preparation, networking, and other resources are available.

## Counselling Services

Tyndale Counselling Services offers professional counselling for individuals, couples, and families, as well as a variety of seminars designed to help students grow and develop in their personal life, their relationships with others, and in their ministry. This team of dedicated and experienced counsellors exists to facilitate growth and healing in the lives of students, focusing on prevention and intervention from a Christian perspective. Counselling sessions are available free to full-time Tyndale students and for a nominal fee to part-time students during any semester in which the student is registered. A variety of personality and vocational inventories are available for a fee to all students. For more information, please contact the Counselling Services Coordinator at 416.226.6620 ext. 2123, or check out our website: [www.tyndale.ca/counselling](http://www.tyndale.ca/counselling).

## Food Services

The Dining Hall, located on the second floor of the Ballyconnor campus, is open seven days a week during the fall and winter semesters. The Lamp Post, our coffee shop at the Ballyconnor campus, is located near the main entrance and is open Monday to Friday throughout the year. For hours of operation, please refer to the Student Handbook. All Tyndale residents are on a meal plan that operates on a declining-balance per purchase through swiping their Tyndale ID card.

## Library Services

The J. William Horsey Library, located on the Ballyconnor campus, supports the curricula of Tyndale University College & Seminary. It holds over 165,000 monographs, periodical volumes, and AV resources and has particular strengths in Church history and New Testament Studies in English. Special collections include the Percival J. Baldwin Puritan Collection, the Denominational Reference Collection, and the Church Resource Centre. The Education Library, located at the Bayview campus, includes unique curricular resources primarily for teacher candidates in the Bachelor of Education program.

The library subscribes to more than 400 current periodical publications in paper format and electronic resources that provide access to an additional 15,000 periodical titles. Over 80,000 e-books are also available. Online Library Research Guides lead students to focused resources by subject. Remote access is available to students for most electronic resources. Reference services and information literacy sessions are offered to orient users to resources available at Tyndale and elsewhere.

The library's holdings are available in WorldCat, which is freely accessible through the Internet. Tyndale students are able to renew materials online where permitted. They may also access over 50 research databases remotely. Visit Tyndale's website at [www.tyndale.ca/library](http://www.tyndale.ca/library) for more information.

## Residence

The Tyndale residence, located at the Ballyconnor campus, is a caring community that fosters accountability and establishes lifelong relationships. Whether one is fresh out of high school or a mature student, this nurturing environment provides cross-cultural, faith-strengthening opportunities.

Tyndale recognizes the experience of residence living as a valuable part of students' education. Living in residence provides opportunities to learn more about oneself, build relationships, foster leadership abilities, and develop spiritually. For this reason, all single undergraduate students who are under 20 are highly encouraged to live on campus during their first year.

The Department of Student Life endeavours to foster a quality of student life that will stimulate residents to develop intellectually, physically, socially, emotionally and spiritually. This involves a commitment to maximizing opportunities for the individual to make responsible choices with the expectation that the individual also recognizes an obligation to contribute to the growth and welfare of others in the community.

### **Commuter/Guest Rooms**

To accommodate the needs of our Commuter Students, guest rooms have been set aside in the residence. Rooms are available for use by commuters or non-Tyndale-student guests. These rooms may be booked through the Ballyconnor campus Receptionist. A limited number of rooms are available and specific rooms will not be guaranteed. Please consult the Student Handbook for further information or speak to the Tyndale Receptionist.

### **Summer Residence**

From May to mid-August, the residence is available for those who need accommodation in Toronto due to summer school, job opportunities, and other personal reasons. Tyndale students and non-Tyndale-students applying for summer residency must have all outstanding Tyndale accounts cleared prior to summer residence acceptance. All policies in the Student Handbook and in the Residence Handbook remain in effect during the summer months. Please consult the Student Handbook for further information.

### **Parking**

Tyndale has “pay and display” parking lots. A number of on-site parking meters are available for daily payment. Parking permits are available by the month, semester, or year and may be purchased through the Reception Desk. Temporary parking permits are also available from the Reception Desk. All vehicles without a valid parking permit, parking pass, or parking stub will be fined.

### **Writing Centre**

Through a combination of tutorials, workshops, and resources, Tyndale’s Writing Centre offers a comprehensive program of writing support to Tyndale students. The Writing Centre offers students individual 30-minute tutoring sessions. Students may bring essays that have been graded, and they will receive detailed suggestions for improvement. This service, at no charge to students, is available by appointment. In addition to offering individual tutoring, the Writing Centre also offers workshops and resources to Tyndale students.

Professors may recommend that a student go to the Writing Centre for help, and students are strongly encouraged to follow their recommendations. The Undergraduate Academic Standards Committee may require an undergraduate student to go to the Writing Centre for assistance and support.