



# THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG

## N E W S   R E L E A S E

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For Immediate Release

### Young Minds and Big Ideas: The University of Winnipeg's Enrichment Mini-Course Program Celebrates 20 Years of Sharing

WINNIPEG—**From April 19 to 23** Manitoba high school students will be at The University of Winnipeg campus, testing the laws of physics and examining Led Zeppelin from a psychological perspective. It's all part of the University's Enrichment Mini-Course Program (EMC), designed to introduce exceptional high school students to the possibilities and advantages of higher education.

This year, the University is celebrating the 20th anniversary of this unique program. In the two decades of its history, the EMC program has given more than 10,000 students from across the province a taste of the university experience that awaits them.

Ian Burley teaches Physics at The University of Winnipeg. He knows first-hand the value of early contact with university—not only is he an instructor for the EMC program, he participated in the program himself as a high school student in 1987. “Getting to know the professors really had a positive impact on me,” says Burley. He went on to take a degree in Physics at The University of Winnipeg following his experience at EMC, and is now an instructor in the Physics department, working under his former EMC teacher—Dean of Science Gabor Kunstatter. “The University of Winnipeg feels like home to me,” says Burley. “And it's great to share that with the new students who come from high school each year.”

“This program offers a valuable service to students who should be encouraged to pursue university studies a year or so later,” says Hinton Bradbury, the originator of the Enrichment Mini-Course Program. “It provides them with a week of exposure to professional scholarship on topics of their selection, and in the company of other students who share their interests.” He adds that early introduction to university can help students see post-secondary education as both attainable and attractive.

The majority of the more than 400 participants who attend each year are Winnipeg residents (Winnipeg One, River-East Transcona, and Louis Riel School Divisions send the highest number of students). The remainder travel from 58 rural Manitoba communities—including Norway House, Gillam, Churchill, The Pas, Cranberry Portage, Beausejour, Russell, and Arborg—to take part in this prestigious program.

In a unique relationship with the province's school divisions, each area reserves spaces for their students in The University of Winnipeg program. To qualify for the program, students must be recommended by their division. The cost for the program (paid by the student) is \$110.

The University's EMC program offers a wide variety of courses, all of which are tailored to a high school audience and designed to provide students with one week of class experience on a topic of the students' selection. To enhance the element of personal access, class sizes are limited to approximately 25 students.

Some of the most popular choices include Crime and Justice in Canada (taught by Doug Skoog), Violent Crime and Criminals (taught by Jane Murray), The Visible Brain (taught by Michael McIntyre), Fractals and Chaos (taught by Randy Kobes), and Astronomy (taught by Donald Campbell and Ian Burley). All mini-courses are designed to pique curiosity about the university experience and inspire that proverbial thirst for knowledge that brings promising scholars to The University of Winnipeg each year.

With more than 8,300 full- and part-time students, The University of Winnipeg is a compact, caring community committed to access and excellence in the arts and sciences. Offering over 400 courses in 40 subject areas from filmmaking to forensics, The University of Winnipeg is distinguished for the meaningful connections made between students and award-winning professors.

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