

My first year at Western was definitely a big shift from high school, as the number of people in my residence alone doubled the amount that was present in high school. The first week was a little bit stressful adjusting to everything, but once you do, it's unbelievable how quickly you begin to develop a tight knit bond with your floor, and ease your way into the university life style. My word of advice is to make good friends with your roommate as you will be living with a complete stranger and you both want to transition as smoothly as possible. During first year, not only will you meet some amazing people, but you will have some incredible experiences as well.

The academics are also quite a big jump from what you were previously used to. You have to motivate yourself to do the work, in classes of 800 people no one monitors whether or not you're in class. The opportunity for success lies solely on your shoulders. Material will be flying at you at a rapid pace but as long as you keep on top of your homework and attend your classes you will be able to make it through the year with good marks. As easy as it is to let the social aspect of school take over, remember that you are here to learn and going to your classes and labs takes priority. As long as you keep that in mind, your first year will be exceptional and fulfilling.

I want to thank Predictive Success for the honor of being chosen as the inaugural recipient of the John Watson Scholarship and wish the best of luck to all the applicants this year.

Zack Mossman

UWO Bio-Medical Science '13