

ACTS

SEMINARIES



New Student Orientation Handbook

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LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

ACTS SEMINARIES IS LOCATED ON THE TRINITY WESTERN UNIVERSITY CAMPUS, ON THE TRADITIONAL AND UNCEDED TERRITORY OF THE KWANTLEN, KATZIE AND STÓ:LÔ FIRST NATIONS.





ACTS Seminaries

The Associated Canadian Theological Schools (ACTS) of Trinity Western University is an educational meeting place, where faculty and students come together in the conviction that more can be learned through cooperation than in isolation.

We are a partnership of four denominational seminaries - each of whom bring a unique history and approach to their love for Jesus and their desire to live out the gospel in the church and the world. As a student at ACTS, you have access to a broader range of resources than any one seminary could offer independently.

This creates a balanced learning environment that welcomes and engages multiple perspectives, helping you become more fully aware and engaged in your own community. As a result, you are better able to serve wherever God has called you.

A Partnership of Four Seminaries

ACTS is a partnership of four distinct Canadian Seminaries working together to form and equip people to serve God in the church and the world.

- Canadian Baptist Seminary
- MB Seminary
- Northwest Seminary - College
- Trinity Western Seminary

ACTS also partners with the Canada Institute of Linguistics (CanIL), a ministry of Wycliffe Bible Translators, and Vancouver Institute for Evangelical Worldview (VIEW).

Mission

Our mission is to develop godly servant leaders who have a love and burden for people based on a strong commitment to Jesus Christ, the Word of God, and the ministry of the church, who will energetically strengthen, revitalize and actively multiply communities of effectively ministering believers in Canada and around the world.

Vision

- Affirm, live under and promote the authority of the Bible as God's Word, producing graduates who are competent to read, interpret, apply and communicate Scripture.
- Develop leaders who understand and uphold the convictions and distinctions of their faith traditions, applying them effectively in whatever work God has called them.
- Equip graduates to address competently the Canadian cultural mosaic, reaching it with the gospel.
- Train pastors, global workers, teachers, evangelists, and other vocational and non-vocational Christian leaders to have a transforming vision for ministry in their communities and around the world.
- Foster excellent thinking, writing and speaking skills that enable students to make a significant contribution to Christian scholarship.

Values

ACTS Seminaries is wholeheartedly committed to historic orthodox Christianity as expressed by the statements of faith of Trinity Western University and the denominations represented by our member seminaries.

The Word of God:

We hold a common commitment to the Bible as authoritative over our teaching and life. Our educational programs emphasize applying the scriptures to our daily personal and interpersonal behavior as well as our ministry calling.

Transformation:

God calls us to holiness. This involves bringing our personal and corporate life into alignment with the mind of Christ, challenging us to love God and serve others. ACTS expects graduate students to consistently grow in their devotion to Christ.

Collaboration:

ACTS is a multi-denominational partnership committed to working collaboratively with one another. This makes ACTS a welcoming place to study for students from any denomination. We are committed to theological education for effective, relevant ministry in any context where God calls Christians to serve.

Community:

ACTS students represent a variety of traditions and points of view within the broad context of the Evangelical Protestant faith. In fact, about half the student body comes from denominations other than the four that support our seminaries directly. Living and learning in community with those who are different from ourselves but who love Jesus is an amazing experience.

ACTS Staff Members



Liisa Polkki
Director of Enrolment



Gloria Storey
Admissions Data Services



Grace Sung
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Chaplain



Suea Ahn
Student Ministries Intern



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Mandarin Program
Associate Director |
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Dr. Clement Tong
Faculty



Bill Badke
ACTS Librarian



Dr. Dirk Buchner
Faculty

Northwest Seminary Staff & Faculty



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President



Ruth McGillivray
Vice President



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Brent Foster
Chief Financial Officer



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Dean of Korean Programs



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Naomi Jepsen
Dean of Students



Dr. Archie Spencer
ACTS MTS/MTh Chair



Krista Ewert
Director of Advancement



Dr. Ryan Ball
Registrar & Director of
Admissions



Phoebe Hwang
Academic Coordinator



Laura Veenstra
President's Administrative
Assistant | Office Coordinator



Nikki Lanigan
Student Services
Coordinator



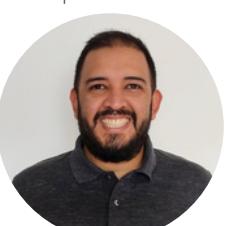
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Assistant Director,
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Bookkeeper



Dr. Brian Rapske
Professor Emeritus



Dr. Larry Perkins
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Dr. Howard Andersen
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MB Seminary Staff & Faculty



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Interim Academic Dean |
Director of Student
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MDiv Chair



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Dr. Doug Heidebrecht
Director of Global Training | Faculty



Emily Rempel
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Executive Assistant

VIEW Staff & Faculty



한국 기독교의 미래
밴쿠버기독교세계관대학원
VANCOUVER INSTITUTE FOR EVANGELICAL WORLDVIEW



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President



Dr. Jongwon Choi
Faculty



Dr. Young Joo Han
Faculty



Dr. Seung Hoon Yu
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CANiL Leadership



Dr. Danny Foster
President



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VP of Academic Affairs



Shannon Mischuk
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Jamie Lang
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MALT Program Chair



Dr. Brendon Yoder
MA-Linguistics Program Chair



Dr. Joost Pikkert
MATS Program Chair



Dr. Paul Arsenault
BA Linguistics Program Chair (Tyndale)

Getting Started

Registration & Tuition Payment

Go to twu.ca/help — select "Student Portal", login, select the correct semester, click "Search".

Tuition Payment

Go to twu.ca/help — select "Courses, Fees & Enrolment", click "View Financial Statement" or "Make a Payment" to see the tuition you owe or learn how to pay your tuition.

Student Email Account

Students must set up their student email account (@mytwu.ca) by going to twu.ca/help and clicking "myTWU Email." All student communications will go to this account.

In Outlook's settings, you can forward emails to your personal email account to not miss anything.

Parking

Pay parking is in effect at all times. The easiest way to pay for parking through the PayByPhone app. You can buy hourly, daily, or weekly passes at parking meters located in each lot. For permits for an entire academic year, please visit the [TWU parking services webpage](#).

Student ID Card

Your Student ID Card is what you will need to borrow physical books from TWU's library and access resources, like the Fitness Centre.

If you have not already uploaded your profile photo with the information Kevin O'Cain provided upon your admission, send him an [email](#) to receive a link and further instructions.

Medical Insurance

ALL STUDY PERMIT STUDENTS must visit the Wellness Centre located on the second floor of the Douglas Centre to purchase medical insurance, if you have not already done so.

All new international students who register for their first course are automatically charged \$160 for guard.me insurance, which covers their first three months. Click [here](#) for more information about this insurance and its difference to MSP.



Student Resources

Bullying & Harassment Prevention

At ACTS Seminaries, bullying and harassment prevention is a priority, in order to foster an environment that is safe for every student, staff and faculty member.

If you witness or encounter anything of concern, please contact either the ACTS Senior Harassment Prevention Officer, [Liisa Pölkki](#), or a representative of your host seminary. For more information, please refer to the prevention guide pamphlet at actsseminaries.com/harassment-guide

Student Services Hub

For all the most important information, go to the Student Services Hub at twu.ca/help. There you will find all the links you need.

Fitness Centre

The TWU Fitness Centre is a free resource to students and is open during the day and evening. You will simply need to show your student ID card. Cardio and weight training equipment is available as well as intramural sports and a bouldering wall. For more information, twu.ca/life-twu/fitness-recreation

Wellness Centre

TWU's Wellness Centre is located in Douglas Hall and is a wonderful place where you have free access to physical, mental and spiritual health resources. Doctors, nurses and counsellors are all available and eager to support you. For more information, visit twu.ca/life-twu/health-wellness-centre

The Well

Drop by The Well on the second floor of Douglas Hall and enjoy one of two TruMedic massage chairs; Bright Light Therapy to combat winter blues; and a quiet, comfortable space to relax.

Free support groups for depression, anxiety and body image are also available. They usually run for five to six weeks and start at the beginning or middle of each semester. For more information, visit twu.ca/life-twu/health-wellness/community-wellness-services/well

Student Resources

Norma Marion Alloway Library

For all your research and paper-writing needs, visit the library in person or online at twu.ca/library.

Writing Centre

The Writing Centre is part of the Learning Commons in the Library and is an extremely beneficial resource. Tutors at the Writing Centre can help you with any stage of the writing process, including research, editing, and Turabian citation formatting.

You have access to up to three hours per week from a writing tutor. These sessions must be pre-booked and can be virtual or in-person. For more information, visit twu.ca/learning-commons/writing-centre

Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL)

The CAL is part of the Learning Commons and provides services and assistance for students with a disability or those who encounter some other barrier to participation at TWU. For more information, visit twu.ca/learning-commons/centre-accessible-learning

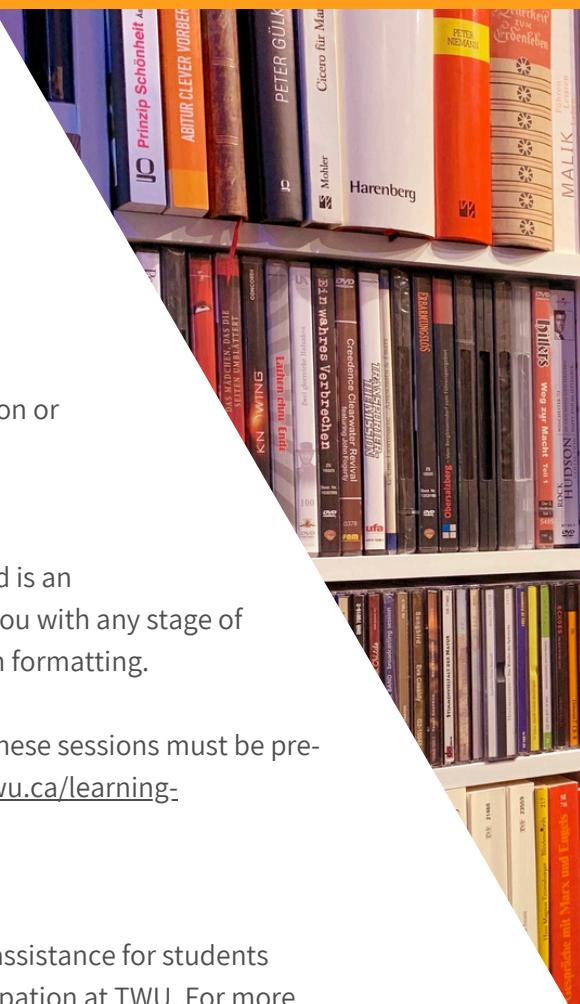
Graduate Collegium

Experience a “home away from home,” complete with a kitchen and fully-stocked honour bar, at the Graduate Collegium in the Fosmark Centre. Quiet study rooms are available for booking and collegium assistants available to answer any of your questions. For more information, visit twu.ca/collegium

TWU Graduate Student Association

The TWUGSA serves the graduate student body by providing representation and resources. GSA members interact with TWU administrative committees, helping speak for student choices, and can provide funding for scholastic events, like conferences.

Additionally, the GSA wishes to enhance and support the individual graduate student experience with on-campus opportunities like pancake breakfast socials and free coffee to fuel studying! For more information about the TWUGSA, visit www.twugsa.com



Student Resources

Dining on Campus

You have several dining options on campus: Starbucks at the Robert G. Kuhn Centre; The Lower Cafeteria in Douglas Hall; a snack bar in Devries Centre; as well as the Bookstore Cafe and Main Cafeteria - located in the Reimer Student Centre.

Microsoft Office

As a TWU student, you get access to a free Microsoft Office account. To login, go to www.microsoft.com/en-gb/education/products/office

Included in this account is Microsoft Teams which will allow you to do virtual calls. To access Teams,

1. Go to the Teams login page
2. Click “Sign in”
3. Sign in with your “@mytwu.ca” username and password
4. Click “Calendar” to start a new meeting

Spiritual Resources

Weekly Chapel

During the fall and spring semesters, we gather every Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. in room JH1 for a time of sung worship, devotional sharing, and occasionally celebrating special holidays together in worship.

Spiritual Formation Group

Our Spiritual Formation Groups meet weekly, with each semester focusing on a unique theme that nurtures our spiritual growth. Various small-group options are available for you to join.

Chaplain's Table

Meet with a chaplain for one-on-one fellowship, conversation, and pastoral care.

Coffee or lunch is on us!

Prayer Ministry *αἰτέω*

αἰτέω (aiteō) is the Greek word from Matthew 7:7—“Ask and it will be given to you”

A Prayer Box is located in the lobby for you.

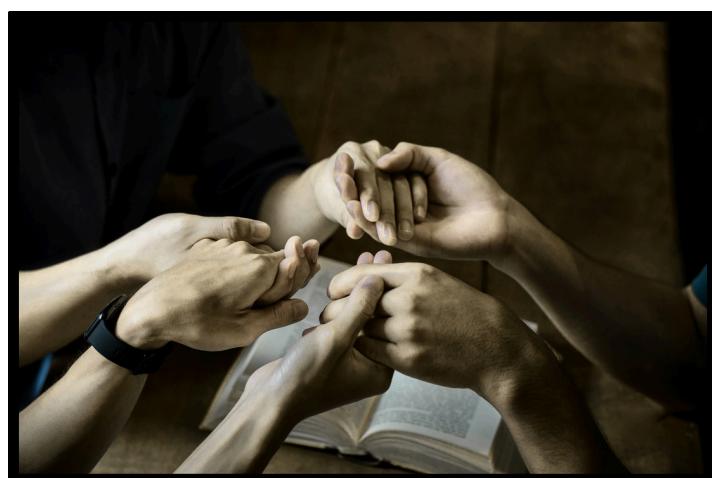
If you have prayer requests — personal needs, concerns you wish to share, or anything you want our community to lift up — please fill out a prayer request form and place it in the box.

Submit as many requests as you need. We are praying for you.

Serving Together

There are many opportunities to use and grow your gifts as we build spiritual community together—serving on the Chapel Worship Team, reading Scripture during chapel, sharing devotions in a small group, or providing translation in your preferred language.

You are warmly invited to take this journey with us.



Frequently Asked **QUESTIONS**



Q: How is ACTS Seminaries related to Trinity Western University?

ACTS Seminaries is a partnership of four seminaries that form a graduate school of theological studies at TWU. ACTS students are TWU students, and ACTS alumni are TWU alumni. This means that as an ACTS student, you get access to all TWU services. *Please note, the ACTS consortium will dissolve on April 30, 2026. Connect with the ACTS Main Office for details on how graduate theological studies will continue on campus.

Q: What does it mean that I am a part of a certain seminary within the ACTS Seminaries partnership?

Being part of a seminary helps create networking opportunities in the associated denomination, and the faculty from each seminary pray for their students. There are also distinct financial aid options available for students of each seminary. In addition, Trinity Western University and the name of your seminary will be printed on your diploma.

*Please note, the ACTS consortium will dissolve on April 30, 2026. Connect with the ACTS Main Office for details on how graduate theological studies will continue on campus.

Q: How much time do I need to devote to my studies?

For weekly on-campus/live-stream courses (12 weeks), expect to spend 8-10 hours per week, including time in class. For online courses (8 weeks), expect to spend 12-15 hours per week, including pre-recorded lectures. Essentially, each credit will require about forty hours of work.

Q: Where do I find information regarding my academic or financial needs?

For all the most important information, go to the Student Services Hub at twu.ca/help.

There you will find links to course registration and to your financial statement. Any questions can be directed to the appropriate department by clicking "Service Hub".

Frequently Asked **QUESTIONS** (continued)

Q: How does financial aid work?

There are three options for financial aid:

1. TWU need-based awards
2. TWU endowment awards for specific programs or students meeting certain criteria.
3. Seminary-specific awards. Seminaries have more flexibility to offer financial aid to part-time students. Contact your seminary for more information.

NOTE: There are no TWU financial aid options available for the summer term.

Applications for the upcoming academic year (September to April), open in mid-January. Apply by April 30 to maximize your financial aid potential. Find more information [here](#).

Q: How do I know what classes I need to take?

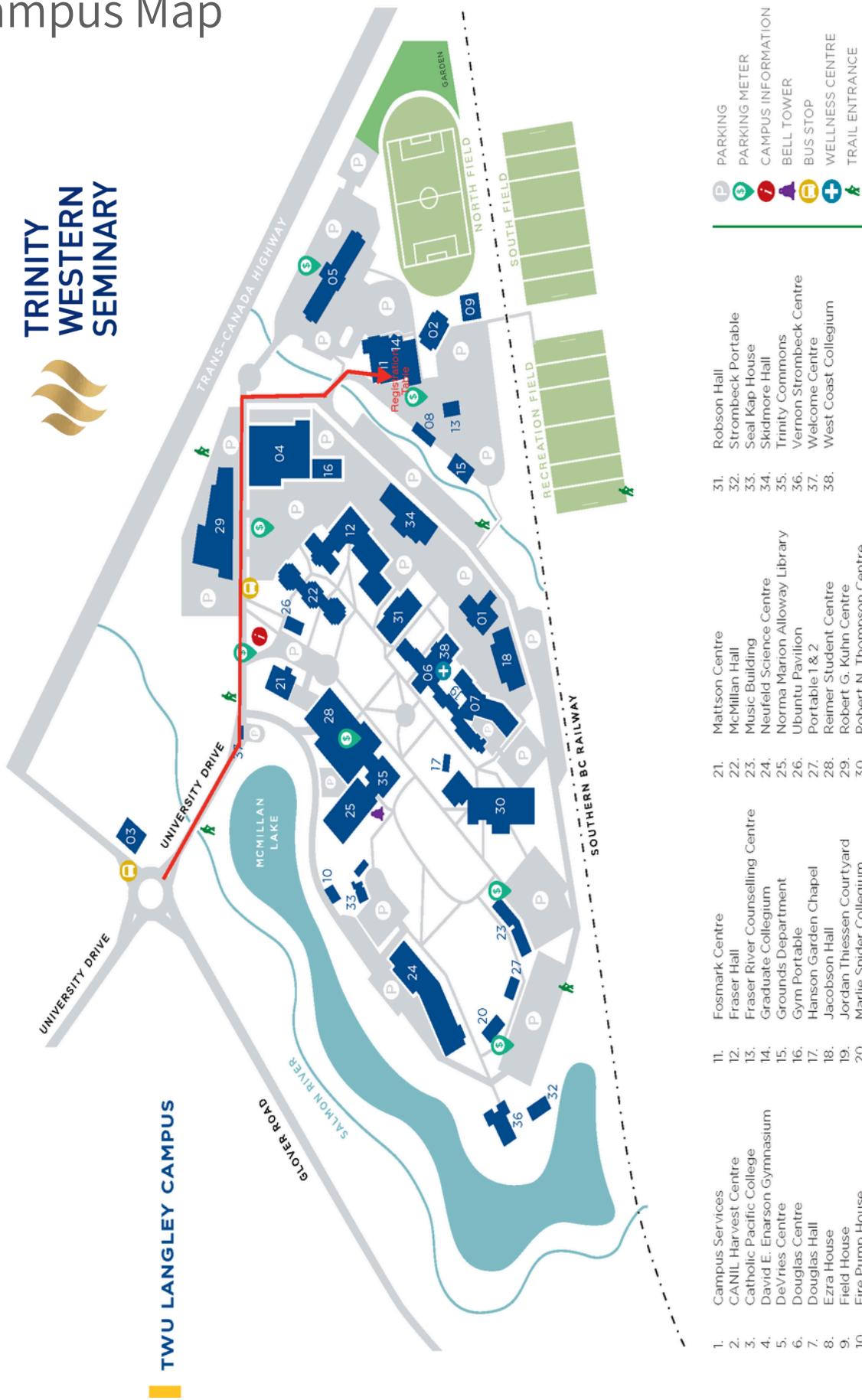
“My Course Needs” tool will be one of your greatest assets during your journey at ACTS. It is a template with a list of all the courses in your program and it tells you exactly which courses you have completed and which ones you still need to complete. This tool will be available by the end of your first semester. Find it by going to twu.ca/help and clicking “Student Portal”, then clicking “My Account”.

If you are still unsure which classes you should take, do not hesitate to contact our Student Success Coordinator: joel.meszaros@twu.ca

Q: Can I plan out my courses a year in advance?

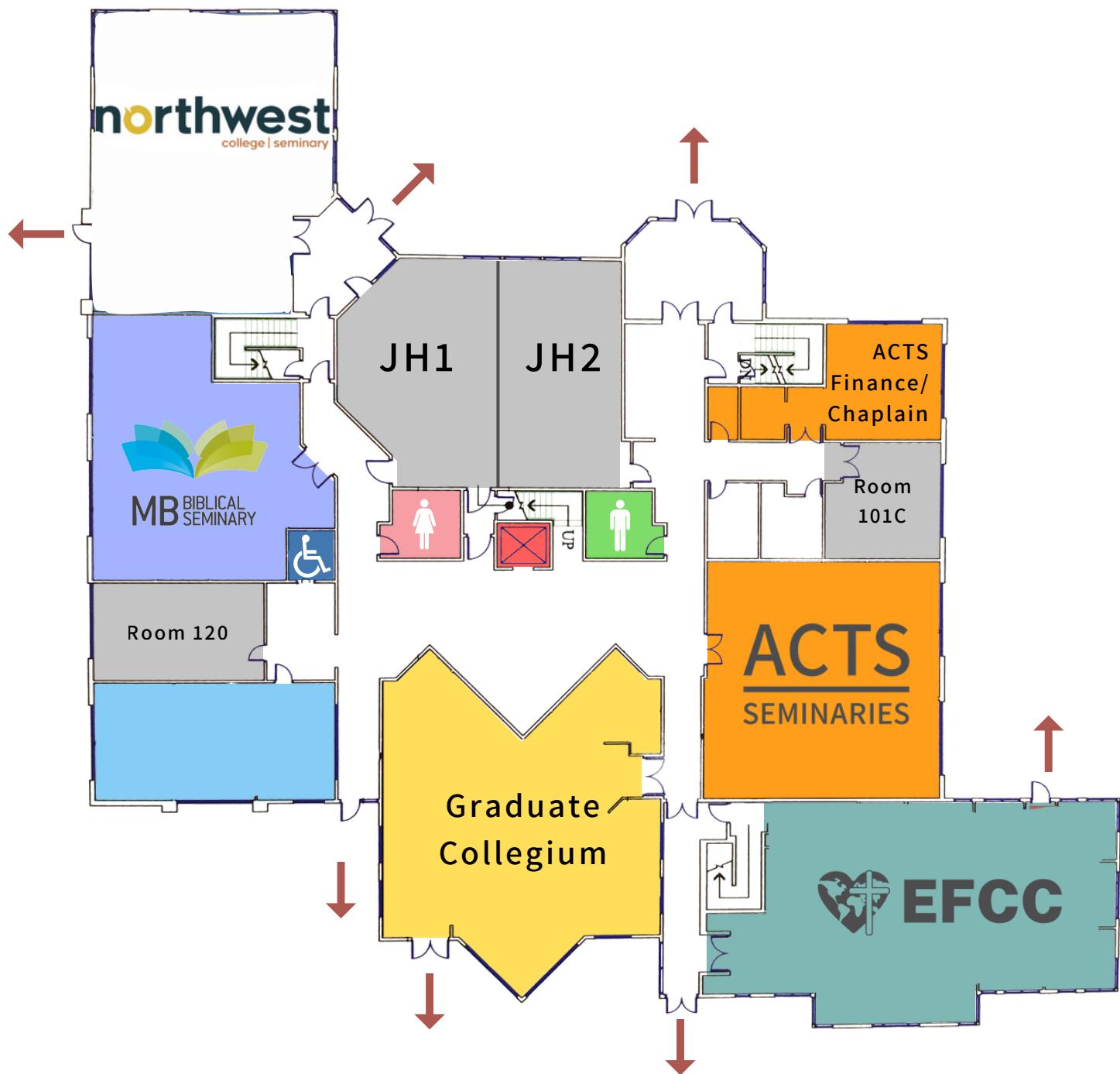
Yes! By March each year, ACTS publishes the course schedule for the upcoming summer, fall and following spring. Because some courses are not offered each year, it is important to meet with our Student Success Coordinator to plan when to take certain courses.

Campus Map



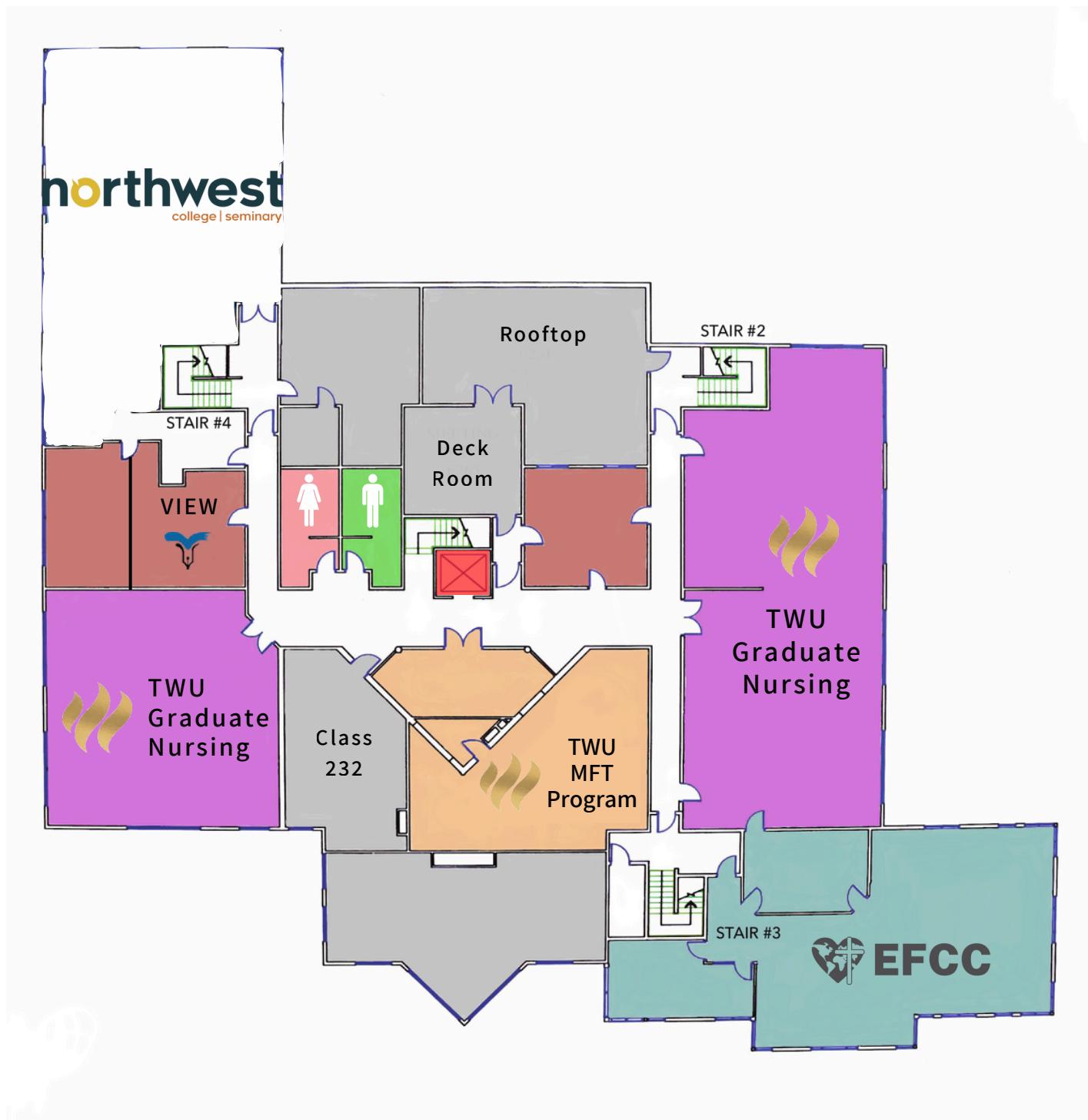
Fosmark Centre Map

Floor 1



Fosmark Centre Map

Floor 2



Contact Information

ACTS Seminaries

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Please scan the following into your preferred language:

한국어



国语

