

WCI 2025-2026 Guest Speakers

- This school year, we are committed to sharing information about events and activities with guest speakers or performances. We will do our best to post this information here at least 14 calendar days in advance of the activity or event or as soon as the details are confirmed.

Date and Time	Course Code or Group	Title and Topic/Focus	Connection to Curriculum and/or purpose	Name(s) of Presenters, Performers, Guest Speakers and the organization they represent	Details of any handout materials or literature that will be provided
Date: Oct 16th or later Time: 2:30pm-4:00pm	Robotics Club	Engineering, Future career prospects, and potential lesson on autonomous systems	Directly related to our programming and lesson plans in Robotics club, and will help students explore possibilities of a career path in STEM.	Gilbert Lai - Quanser	
Date: Oct 14th Time: 1:00-2:25pm	HSP 3UI HHS 4UI	Conversation Analysis	The topic of his lecture will be on "Conversation Analysis" and it will be super interesting. This is the third year that Dr. Jeff has come to our courses and he is very engaging in how he speaks and the topics of his research. His lecture will look at how conversations themselves between people are loaded with symbolism, norms and certain expectations of behaviour.	Dr. Jeff Aguinaldo - WLU Associate Professor of Sociology	
Date: Oct 27th Time: 1:00-2:25 October 28th Time: 11:50-1:05	HIF 10I HSP 3UI HHS 4UI	Power of Perspective	The topic of his lecture will be on The Power of Perspective: How Your Thoughts Shape Your Reality. In this workshop, students will explore how their thoughts about themselves and their experiences can either support or undermine their well-being. Through hands-on activities, they will engage with concepts such as self-esteem, self-compassion, and optimism. Students will reflect on how shifting their perspective can foster more positive emotions, behaviours, and outcomes - while also developing a realistic understanding of the limits of positive thinking as a quick fix.	Dr. Denise Marigold, Associate Professor, Social Development Studies Renison University College, affiliated with University of Waterloo	

Date and Time	Course Code or Group	Title and Topic/Focus	Connection to Curriculum and/or purpose	Name(s) of Presenters, Performers, Guest Speakers and the organization they represent	Details of any handout materials or literature that will be provided
Date: Oct 23rd Period D	HSP3UI	Studies in Greek Archaeology	Dr. Gallimore will do a lecture for the students where he will talk about his research in Greece as an archaeologist. He will teach students about the foundations of the field and challenges. Furthermore, he will also bring in ancient objects and show students his current research in Greece. This is the sixth year he has presented for us.	Dr. Scott Gallimore (WLU) Professor of Archaeology	
Date: Oct. 22 (All English classes)	ENG4UI/W	Application Writing 101	In this workshop, students will learn strategies to understand what kind of responses application questions are looking for and how students can leverage their unique experiences when they answer them. We'll also work through a guided example as a group so students can put what they've learned into action!	Nuria Juliette Melchor Rodriguez (WLU) Outreach and Enrichment Specialist	
Oct 15th / Nov 24th 9:35-10:45	GLC2O-02	Optimizing Pathways	How do we path high school so that when we graduate, we do so with as many paths open to us as possible? This workshop discusses course considerations throughout high school, encouraging students to leave as many doors open as possible for postsecondary education (access to apprenticeships, college, and university), and then shows alternative paths if we change our minds.	Nuria Juliette Melchor Rodriguez (UW) Outreach and Enrichment Specialist	
Oct 14th 8:15-9:30 / 11:50-1	CGC1WF-01/2	Plant Identification	Become a plant detective! Learn how to identify plants by their leaves, bark, size, and habitat, and discover why plant ID matters in real-world careers. In small teams, take on a "mystery plant" challenge and show the class how you solved it using your detective skills and tools like ID manuals and measuring tape.	Kirsty Lewis (she/her) and Anshul Shah (he/him) Outreach Associates Faculty of Environment	
Nov. 12th 8:20-9:20am Room 221	PAF2OX/3OX-01 PPL2OX/3OX-01 (Gowing & Shrader)		Understanding Mental Health Awareness and Suicide Prevention: When faced with uncertain and difficult situations, it's not uncommon to feel like we're struggling with our overall mental and emotional well-being. This presentation will focus on mental health and mental health promotion while providing education and awareness for suicide prevention, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• General suicide prevention awareness• How to identify invitations for help (warning signs) from someone who is struggling	Elisa Brewer-Singh from the Waterloo Region Suicide Prevention Council is going to be speaking to our Gr. 10 and 11 Girls Phys. Ed Classes as part of our unit on Mental Health & Stress.	

Date and Time	Course Code or Group	Title and Topic/Focus	Connection to Curriculum and/or purpose	Name(s) of Presenters, Performers, Guest Speakers and the organization they represent	Details of any handout materials or literature that will be provided
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding the role of stress and mental health when it comes to our overall mental wellbeing • Strength-based approaches that focus on well-being, resiliency, and protective factors • Resources in the community 		
November 21st and 26th	CGC1W1ZF all classes	Energize	Energize: Sustainable City Challenge: In a board game simulation, students develop a sustainable energy strategy for the Waterloo Region using real-world data. Teams are challenged to reduce their carbon emissions by 80% before the year 2050!	UW Science outreach	
Nov 5, 2025	SHSM Environment	Forest Canada Student-Employer Engagement Day (SEED)	to learn about the variety of jobs in the forest sector and the pathways in.	Gary Pritchard, Kevin Predon, Madelaine Danby	Virtual Event, to learn about the variety of jobs in the forest sector and the pathways in forestry.
Dec 5th	CGC1F-01/02	Density Dilemmas	Crack the code of urban living! Explore the challenges of high-density neighbourhoods versus suburban sprawl, using puzzles and case studies to make tough planning choices.	Kristy Lewis and Anshul Shah UW Faculty of Environment	
Dec. 10, 2025 Date	PAF2OX/3OX-01 PPL2OX/3OX-01 (Gowing & Shrader)	Sexual Health	<p>Topics Covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Services provided by Public Health (includes how to book appointments) - Reliable websites to go to for information about Sexual Health (ex. sexandu.ca) - Review of birth control methods and how they are used. - Condom demonstration. - Sexually Transmitted Infection Information and prevention. 	Sheri Armstrong, Public Health Nurse	
Dec 12, 2025	HNC 3CI - senior fashion	Fashion and environment	Benefits of upcycling, thrifting, and mending will be discussed as we focus on detrimental effects of fast fashion and the textile industry on the environment	Kristy Lewis and Anshul Shah	Guest speakers will have video, a discussion, and UW shwag
Dec 12, 2025	Sr. Boys Basketball	Ranton Tournament	Mental Health Awareness	Mano Watsa - Point Guard College	NA - will speak @ 10 am to all athletes & 1:00 pm to student body (teacher sign up)
Dec. 17, 2025	All Gr. 9 Students - Block B	Building Resilience, Valuing Community and Making an Impact	This presentation is part of "Project Impact" for all Gr. 9 students. Project Impact is a Guidance Department initiative aimed at equipping our Gr. 9 students with organizational and stress management tools to help them succeed in school and in life.	Joshua Bharah (TMU student and Founder of The R.I.F.T. Initiative - Real Ideas For Tomorrow) Prayan Jegathees (UW student and Founder of Playmor - A community organization aimed at creating safe spaces for youth to have deeper	NA - will speak to our Gr. 9s for a full period in the Auditorium

Date and Time	Course Code or Group	Title and Topic/Focus	Connection to Curriculum and/or purpose	Name(s) of Presenters, Performers, Guest Speakers and the organization they represent	Details of any handout materials or literature that will be provided