DISCOVER YOUR STORY AT RENISON
At Renison, our motto is “One Sky Over All.” We believe there is a place for everyone here, including you! We foster an environment that embraces diversity and celebrates inclusion, equity, and cultural differences. As a Renison-registered student, you will receive a world-class University of Waterloo education while benefiting from our community-driven atmosphere, multicultural environment, and individualized support.

Renison is also a university residence, located right in the heart of the Waterloo campus. Over 200 students from across all six Waterloo faculties choose to live at Renison for our unparalleled student experience programming. Plus – we offer over 150 paid (and over 500 volunteer) leadership opportunities which will allow you to gain new skills and experiences!

Let’s explore your story with Renison at Waterloo.
Since beginning her university career, Akeisha has been passionate about equity and policy development. As an Indigenous student from Flying Post First Nation, Akeisha’s dreams and goals rested heavily on effecting change for Indigenous people and communities, specifically youth. Her education in Social Development Studies and Social Work developed her critical thinking skills and challenged her perspective on the world as she moved into the field as a Social Worker.
EMPLOYABILITY IN SOCIAL SCIENCES

ANGEL
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT STUDIES ’19
BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK ’20

As an Application Decision Specialist at one of Canada’s fastest growing tech startups, ApplyBoard, Angel uses the critical thinking skills she gained at Renison to help students find their best education pathway. She credits her leadership skills, gained through her many roles at Renison, with helping her to foster community and create connections with colleagues and students. She also brings the human element to the tech platform, offering feedback on the student experience throughout automation projects.

“My leadership experiences at Renison nurtured my passion for working with postsecondary students, especially international students. With the work that I do now, I’m able to provide support directly to students, and help make their experience as smooth as possible!”

96.4% OF SDS GRADS are employed within six months (Ontario University Graduate)
Gain in-demand skills!

More than ever, employers are looking to arts and social sciences graduates to enhance their workforce and keep their competitive edge. The skills you’ll learn at Renison, including the ability to research, problem solve, think critically, and analyze data, are in high demand across many sectors – including high tech! The co-op option, now available to all students, provides even more opportunities to expand your network and get started on the path to a rewarding career.

JOB SKILLS IN DEMAND:

- Communication and collaboration
- Research and analysis
- Adaptability and emotional intelligence

NEARLY 75% of employers would recommend a liberal arts education to prepare for success in today’s global economy (Association of American Colleges & Universities)

TOP 10

Social and community service workers are among the top 10 occupations with the strongest projected employment growth from 2019-2028 (Canadian Occupational Projection System)
Abby always knew she wanted to help people and chose SDS for its flexible and diverse options. Inspired by her experience living and working with international students at Renison, Abby credits the small, supportive Renison community for helping guide her toward a future career supporting people with communicative disorders.

Education for social impact.

As a Social Development Studies (SDS) student, you’ll earn a Bachelor of Arts degree and build a solid foundation across the social sciences with hands-on experience. With courses that integrate psychology, sociology, and social work perspectives, our flexible program and personalized support will encourage you to follow your passion and develop skills toward a career path that can change the world.

No more than **60 STUDENTS IN EACH CLASS**

**NEW SDS Equity Scholarship:**

**UP TO $6,000** over the course of your degree

See pages 19-20 for more information

**SAMPLE COURSES**

- Educational Equity in Canada
- Popular Culture and Social Change
- Social Work with Families

**5 SPECIALIZATIONS**

- Social Work
- Education
- Individual Well-being and Development
- Social Policy and Social Action
- Diversity and Equity
Put your people skills to work by pursuing a degree in SDS and participating in the largest co-op program of its kind in the world. As an SDS co-op student, you’ll gain valuable practical experience, make important career contacts, help finance your education, and apply classroom theory to real-world job situations. For admissions details, see page 19.

SAMPLE CO-OP JOBS
> Communications analyst
> Child and youth worker
> Policy and research assistant
> Teaching assistant
> Technical account coordinator
> Outdoor education instructor

$8,400–$15,600
Potential earnings for Arts co-op students each term

“My co-op terms have allowed me to gain new skills and understand the benefit of a positive working environment. Working remotely and doing independent work has also helped me improve my self-discipline and time management skills. In my co-op roles, I worked with diverse groups of staff, students, and professors to build my professional network and gain transferable skills.”
As a student co-registered at Renison, you’ll get the best of both worlds: full access to a world-class university and the supportive, community-driven environment that Renison is known for. Small class sizes, individualized support from academic advisors, and guidance from the Renison Registrar’s Office will help you get the most out of your academic experience. You can also take advantage of Renison’s many experiential and leadership opportunities, plus access additional scholarships and bursaries.

Are you looking for a way to explore your interests and study a wide variety of courses? Honours Arts gives you the freedom to explore and find your passion before declaring your major from one of 29 options.

Whatever direction you end up taking, Honours Arts will give you the critical thinking skills to analyze issues, make persuasive arguments, write effectively, and speak with conviction – skills that will serve you well along any career path. You can also gain paid work experience by choosing co-op.
We do business differently. Combine working with people and practical business skills. Honours Arts and Business with a major in SDS allows you to go beyond a traditional business degree and graduate with expertise in both areas! Combine courses in marketing, economics, and financial management with SDS to learn how to translate your ideas into real-world social change.

Ravina chose Honours Arts and Business (ARBUS) because she knew that in a competitive job market, the additional skills would help her stand out to potential employers. With the goal of becoming a teacher, ARBUS with a major in SDS was the perfect fit. The unique combination of social sciences courses, along with practical business skills, has given Ravina the edge she needed to go on to complete a Master’s degree at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE) at the University of Toronto.
THINKING ABOUT A CAREER IN SOCIAL WORK?

**BACHELOR OF ARTS**
Complete your Social Development Studies (SDS) degree and graduate with a three-year general or four-year honours Bachelor of Arts degree.

**BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK**
Apply to the 10-month Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) degree, which includes practicum-based learning.

**MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK**
With a BSW degree, you are eligible to apply to our health-focused Master of Social Work (MSW) program to broaden your horizons and career possibilities.

**MARTHA**  
**BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK ’17**  
**MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK ’18**
Martha has always been passionate about social justice issues and working to remove the stigma around mental illness. She began her journey to social work by enrolling in Renison’s Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) program after completing online courses in SDS. In addition to classes at Renison, Martha took a Walls 2 Bridges course off site, learning alongside incarcerated individuals with lived mental health and addiction experiences. This course profoundly impacted how Martha viewed mental health, and she went on to complete her Master of Social Work (MSW) degree at the School of Social Work.
Join a helping profession.

Renison’s School of Social Work prepares social work practitioners through an accessible and inclusive curriculum, in a learning environment that fosters caring and ethical social work practice within a local and global context. The School offers a post-degree Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) and a Master of Social Work (MSW).

Your education will be further enhanced by the School of Social Work and Renison’s mission promoting inclusion, social justice, and community service. The BSW distinguishes itself through strong academics as well as a hands-on, skills-oriented approach to social work practice. The MSW builds upon that knowledge to prepare you for leadership in health-related practice areas.

COMPLETE YOUR BSW IN 10 MONTHS

You can complete your post-graduate BSW as a full-time student in 10 months, or within 3 years as a part-time student.

PRACTICUM EXPERIENCE

Both the BSW and MSW programs include practicum placements to support the integration of theory and practice in learning.

86% OF BSW ALUMNI felt that their education fully prepared them to work in the field

72% OF BSW ALUMNI were employed in social work within six months of completing their degree

53% OF BSW ALUMNI have continued on to complete a Master of Social Work

CAREER POSSIBILITIES:
- Child welfare
- Policy
- Community-based services

Programs are accredited by the Canadian Association for Social Work Education
COMMUNITY

OUR GRADS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

LAURA, SDS ’11
CO-ORDINATOR, STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES, CONESTOGA COLLEGE

My education prepared me to listen and collaborate with diverse stakeholders; to understand attitudes, behaviours, and social factors; to advocate for those who are marginalized and to critically research and analyze systems; to practice my passion for public education; to constantly adapt and creatively problem solve.

JOHN, SDS ’96
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, HOUSE OF FRIENDSHIP

My experience at Renison was foundational to working in the field of social work. I didn’t really know what social work was until I arrived. It opened up a whole new world of possibilities for me.

RACHAEL, SDS ’18, BSW ’19, MSW ’22
SOCIAL WORKER

I fell in love with my career at Renison, and now I’m living my passion. Studying at Renison opened my eyes to the variety of career paths I could choose.

LEAH, SDS ’18
PROGRAM ASSISTANT, MASTER OF PUBLIC SERVICE DEPARTMENT, WATERLOO

I knew Renison was a good fit right away. I wanted to work with policies and shape the way that programs are created. The specialization in Social Policy and Social Action set me up for success. I have since completed my Master’s degree in Public Service and I’m now a program assistant in the Master of Public Service program at Waterloo.
I am pursuing my master’s degree in Child Study and Education, which will qualify me to become a teacher in Ontario. Completing the Education specialization through SDS solidified my desire to use teaching to impact the lives of children with disabilities.

At Renison, I was encouraged to keep my mind open and think critically. I’m now working with marginalized populations and I need to think about how not only our own organization’s structure, but also larger social systems, impact the people I work to support. I’m grateful to have started those conversations in the classrooms at Renison.

Social Development Studies helped validate that working in education was a strong fit for me. I’ve realized that much of what I learned in SDS has served me well in my career and further education.

Being in the SDS program prepared me to put myself into emergent and interdisciplinary spaces, where borders are blurred and creativity and flexibility are essential - truly the most exciting and rewarding place to be!

Since graduating from Renison, I am on my way to my dream job as a therapist. Renison gave me a very strong interdisciplinary background and prepared me for learning at a Master’s level.

I situated my career in human rights and international development. I founded a charity, The Colour Blue, which advocates for mental health to be a fundamental human right. I am currently completing my doctorate degree in law looking at the intersection of psychiatry and feminist theory.
ENHANCE YOUR DEGREE

If you're interested in discovering the world and becoming a global citizen, Renison’s unique learning environment is worth exploring. Three minors and seven language programs are offered on Renison’s campus through Culture and Language Studies, in addition to the 40+ minors and 29 majors offered by Waterloo’s Faculty of Arts.

CUSTOMIZE YOUR DEGREE

With an endless number of combinations to choose from, you can explore your interests, feed your passions, and achieve your goals. Whether you’re interested in working in criminal justice, genetic counselling, or art therapy—or you’re considering teaching and want to add teachable subjects to your degree—Social Development Studies can be combined with majors and minors from across the Waterloo campus.

Some of our most popular double majors with SDS: Psychology; Sociology; Legal Studies; Environment, Resources, and Sustainability; Peace and Conflict Studies; Sexuality, Marriage, and Family Studies; and Therapeutic Recreation.
Communicating Across Borders

Charmaine studied Japanese while completing her SDS degree and, with the support of Renison’s International Office, realized her dream of studying abroad in Japan. Charmaine’s experience inspired her to pursue an SDS specialization focused on cultural diversity, setting her up for a career in higher education working with international students.

35+ Countries to Explore
with support from the Renison International Office (RIO)

600+ Students
participate every year in Renison’s Conversation Partner Program

$500 Guaranteed Scholarship
for any Renison student going on an international exchange experience

uwaterloo.ca/renison/student-travel-fund

Minors, Languages, and Experiences Housed at Renison

Minors:
› Applied Language Studies
› East Asian Studies
› Studies in Islamic and Arab Cultures

Languages:
› American Sign Language
› Arabic
› Chinese (Mandarin)
› English for Multilingual Speakers
› Japanese
› Korean
› Mohawk (Kanien’kéha)

Experiences:
› Conversation Partner Program
› International Social Volunteer Program
› Language and Culture Corner Program
› Leadership positions supporting international students
LOOKING TO LEAD? OPPORTUNITY AWAITS AT RENISON.

Make a difference and engage in student life by becoming a peer leader. There are multiple types of peer leaders at Renison, including those who support students in their academic study, those who support our residents, those who support our international students, and more! Among other things, peer leaders plan social and academic events, and are available for one-on-one support.
500+ VOLUNTEER AND 150+ PAID
leadership positions available to Renison students

- **SHELBY, AMBASSADOR**
  Help future students decide if Renison is right for them by sharing personal experiences of what it’s like to study/live at Renison!

- **CHARMAINE, CONVERSATION PARTNER**
  Make new friends and gain memorable intercultural experiences while helping an international student practice their English.

- **MATTHIAS, RESIDENCE LIFE DON**
  Help build an environment that supports learning and personal growth as a residence don.

- **WILLOW, MARKETING AND RECRUITMENT ASSISTANT**
  Gain valuable business experience and keep your finger on the pulse of Renison by working with the Marketing and Recruitment team.

- **ANTONIO, STUDENT COUNCIL MEMBER**
  Take an active role in campus life by joining the Renison student government.
RESIDENCE LIFE

Enjoy the success that comes from being part of a small, supportive residence community in the heart of Canada’s world-class innovation university. Renison residence is well known for being close-knit and welcoming, and includes residents from all six Waterloo faculties, as well as three Living Learning Communities (LLCs) that provide additional supports and tailored activities.

REISON’S LLCS

› Social Development Studies (SDS)
› Warrior Academic Leadership Community (WALC)
› Bridge to Academic Success in English (BASE)

uwaterloo.ca/renison/residence

Khloe gets support from friends and peers as a member of Renison’s SDS Living Learning Community, which offers additional activities and support related to her program!

Antonio, Claire, and their floor mates from Loft, one of Renison’s ten residence floors, catch up and make plans for the weekend ahead.
**ALL-INCLUSIVE MEAL PLAN**

**1:22 DON-TO-RESIDENT RATIO**

is the smallest on campus, which means lots of support from upper-year students

Rachel has breakfast and picks up her takeaway lunch – this way she doesn’t have to worry about finding time to come back to Renison for lunch during her busy day.

Cyrus makes a noodle dish in Renison’s My Pantry – a fully stocked kitchenette. Here, students can get creative and prepare their own meals (in addition to all the awesome meals available to residents in the cafeteria).

Renison residents participate in a pizza making class – part of a series of cooking classes offered every term by our head chef, Tim.

Arielle, a Social Development Studies student, learns more about career opportunities from Jennifer and Hsiao, an academic advisor and professor, at Career Night – one of the events offered to residents in the SDS Living Learning Community.

Claire looks for books needed to write her upcoming paper in Renison’s Lusi Wong Library – just down the hall from her residence room.

Kayla, Faye, Charmaine, and Amber relax in the Living Room – an open space at Renison where you can hang out, catch up, and get some free coffee, tea, and cookies!

Antonio enjoys a relaxing yoga session after a long day of classes – just one of the many wellness activities available to Renison residents.

Taha, Andres, Diana, and Busra take a break to play cards in the Great Hall – a dynamic space where students can enjoy their meals from the cafeteria, participate in awesome student life activities, and hang out with friends.

**TAKE A VIRTUAL TOUR OF RENISON’S RESIDENCE:**

youtu.be/iEzEP1pA6zl
CHOOSE FROM TWO SYSTEMS OF STUDY

CO-OP
As a Social Development Studies, Honours Arts, or Honours Arts and Business student, you can choose the co-op stream and graduate in five years.
> Alternate study terms with four-month or eight-month paid work terms.
> Explore a variety of careers and make valuable networking contacts.
> Help to finance your education – earn while you learn.

REGULAR
Enjoy continuity in campus activities and move on to a career or further education a full year sooner than in co-op by choosing the regular stream.

Plan your own summers for work, travel, volunteering, or extra courses

SCHOLARSHIP AND FINANCIAL AID
We invest in you!

ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIPS
If you are applying to post-secondary education for the first time, you will automatically be considered for an entrance scholarship. Your admission average determines which scholarship you receive.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCHOLARSHIP NAME</th>
<th>ADMISSION AVERAGE</th>
<th>TOTAL AMOUNT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Renison President's Scholarship</td>
<td>The top 2 students achieving 90% or greater</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renison President's Scholarship for Excellence</td>
<td>90% or greater</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
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<td>Renison Entrance Scholarship</td>
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<td>$1,500</td>
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<td>Renison Entrance Scholarship</td>
<td>82%–86.9%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renison Entrance Scholarship</td>
<td>80%–81.9%</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$1,000 per year is available to upper-year students with an average of 83% and above.

REGULAR, WITH AN EDGE
Pair the consistency of September to April study and summers off with EDGE,* Waterloo’s experiential education certificate program.
Developed in partnership with career advisors, EDGE allows you to enhance your academic, co-curricular, and work experiences with professional development. You’ll learn how to market the skills you’ve gained inside and outside the classroom to set you apart from the competition.

*Available for regular system of study only.

OVER 93%
of students coming to Renison from high school receive an entrance scholarship

weventuatescholarships-financial-aid
ADMISSIONS
2023 UNDERGRAD REQUIREMENTS

PROGRAM (OUAC CODE)  REQUIRED COURSES  ADMISSION AVERAGE
Social Development Studies (WRS) (Regular only)
Honours Arts (WRA) (Regular or co-op)
Honours Arts and Business (WAB) (Regular or co-op)

Mathematics of Data Management is a recommended course for admission to social sciences programs.

APPLYING TO CO-OP?
Choose the co-op option when you apply to Honours Arts (WRA) or Arts and Business (WAB).
Choose Social Development Studies as your major interest.

CO-REGISTER WITH RENISON
Apply to Social Development Studies (WRS) or Honours Arts (WRA). Renison is your campus.
Apply to Honours Arts and Business (WAB). Fill out the form at uwaterloo.ca/renison/co-register, and we’ll take care of the rest!

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

PROGRAM  ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS
Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) 10-month program
Letters of reference, résumé, and a personal statement demonstrating practical work or volunteer experience and professional suitability.
Undergraduate university degree (Bachelor of Arts or equivalent with a minimum of 6 units (12 courses) in the social sciences, including 10 prerequisite courses. Minimum 70% average required.

Master of Social Work (MSW) One-year program
BSW from an accredited Social Work program.
Minimum 75% average in final 2 years of study.
Successful completion of a research methodology course.

SDS COURSES
Want to know more about the types of courses you can take?
› Changing Concepts of Childhood
› Children’s Rights in Canada
› Religion and Social Development
› Prejudice and Discrimination
› Ecology, Society, and Justice: Social Development and the Environment
› Indigenous Peoples and Canadian Public Policy
› Radical Ideology and Social Policy
› Positive Psychology
› Adult Life Crises and Events
› Learning Disabilities
› Child Maltreatment: Identification and Prevention
› Family Violence
› Social Work in Healthcare
› Aging and Social Development
› Understanding Diversity in Canada
› Social Work with Families
› Canadian Social Welfare Policy

Want to combine SDS with Arts and Business?
SAMPLE COURSES
› Entrepreneurship Principles and Practices
› International Business
› Leadership, Teams, and Communication
› Government and Business
› Principles of Marketing
As part of the Social Development Studies (SDS) program you can choose to specialize in one or more of the following areas.

**SOCIAL WORK**
**DESIGNED FOR:** Students interested in social work. This specialization offers many of the prerequisite courses needed to apply to the BSW program at Renison.

**SAMPLE COURSES:** Social Work with Individuals; Social Work with Families; Community Organization.

**EDUCATION**
**DESIGNED FOR:** Students interested in professions that focus on teaching and learning, children and youth, program development evaluation, or policy analysis.

**SAMPLE COURSES:** Children’s Rights in Canada; Learning Disabilities; Education Social Development from a Global Perspective.

**INDIVIDUAL WELL-BEING AND DEVELOPMENT**
**DESIGNED FOR:** Students interested in careers in areas such as life coaching and training, leadership development, or human resources.

**SAMPLE COURSES:** Adult Life Crises and Events; Optimal Living; Positive Psychology.

**SOCIAL POLICY AND SOCIAL ACTION**
**DESIGNED FOR:** Students interested in careers in public service or organizations focused on social justice, in areas such as community organization, law, global governance, human rights, health, housing, or the environment.

**SAMPLE COURSES:** Homelessness and Public Policy; Decolonization and Social Action; Radical Ideology and Social Policy.

**DIVERSITY AND EQUITY**
**DESIGNED FOR:** Students interested in developing knowledge and skills that help them understand and work with people from diverse backgrounds, both within Canada and internationally.

**SAMPLE COURSES:** Cross-Cultural Psychology; Religion and Social Development; Disability and Society.

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**EXTRA FUNDING**

**SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES**
As a Renison student, you’ll have access to additional scholarships, awards, and bursaries available for every single term of study. You are also eligible for financial support though Waterloo. Ask us how you can apply for additional funding!

**OTHER FUNDING AVAILABLE**
› Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP), which provides loans and bursaries for Ontario residents.
› External scholarships and bursaries.
› Co-op and part-time jobs on campus.

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**$500 GUARANTEED SCHOLARSHIP**
for any Renison student going on an international exchange experience

[link to uwaterloo.ca/renison/student-travel-fund]

**UP TO $6,000**
for your degree with the SDS Equity Scholarship

[link to uwaterloo.ca/renison/sds-ed-scholarship]
RENISON MAIN CAMPUS / 2 MINUTE WALK

STUDENT LIFE CENTRE AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES COMPLEX / 2 MINUTE WALK

MATH & COMPUTING, ENGINEERING, TRANSIT HUB (BUS/LRT) / 7 MINUTE WALK

UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO

ARTS LECTURE HALL AND DANA PORTER LIBRARY / 4 MINUTE WALK

SOUTH CAMPUS HALL BUS STOP / 5-7 MINUTE WALK

RESIDENCE
Renison is a part of Waterloo’s first-year residence guarantee, and we reserve 80 per cent of our rooms for first-year students! To make sure you live at Renison, rank it as your number one choice on the Waterloo First-Year-Guarantee Residence Application, and make sure you have accepted your offer and paid your residence deposit by the deadlines. Residence information can be found at:

uwaterloo.ca/renison/residence

The residence prices listed below are based on the previous year and may be used as a guide but are subject to change. Your meal plan is included in your residence fees.

8-MONTH CONTRACT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ROOM TYPE</th>
<th>PRICE (2022-2023)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Link double room</td>
<td>$12,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traditional double room</td>
<td>$11,770</td>
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<tr>
<td>Traditional single room</td>
<td>$12,980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Link single room</td>
<td>$13,200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

COMING VISIT US

Book your tour today!
renison@uwaterloo.ca

Tips on how to apply:
uwaterloo.ca/renison/apply

uwaterloo.ca/renison/residence
The University of Waterloo acknowledges that much of our work takes place on the traditional territory of the Neutral, Anishinaabeg, and Haudenosaunee peoples. Our main campus is situated on the Haldimand Tract, the land granted to the Six Nations that includes six miles on each side of the Grand River.