

WICS ORIENTATION

Lessons Learned About Navigating First Year

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WHO WE ARE

Lin & Manya

Both 2A Computer Science at Waterloo

Lin

Lived in V1 · Internship at Block (Cash App)

Manya

Lived in REV · Internship with McGill and Bombardier

LESSON 01

Set your own bar

Pick a grade goal that's yours

Skip the "what did you get?"

Your average is one line on a résumé

01

LESSON 02

Just try things

01

Go to a bunch of firsts
— clubs, teams, orgs

02

Take a course that just
interests you

03

Get out of your room
— events, uptown, the
lakes

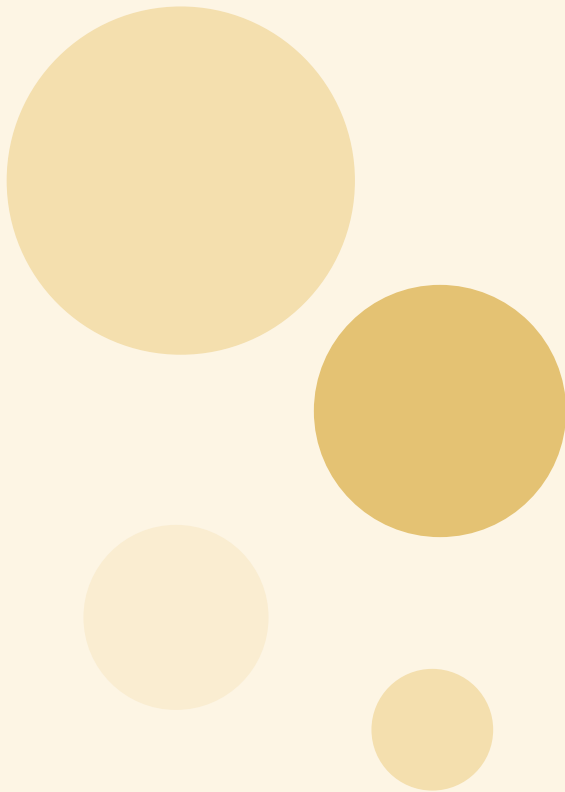
LESSON 03

Friendships will shift

You don't have to aim for best friends

One conversation is a complete thing

Initiate plans



LESSON 04

The Waterloo bubble

It's an echo chamber

You don't have to change yourself

It's okay to want different things



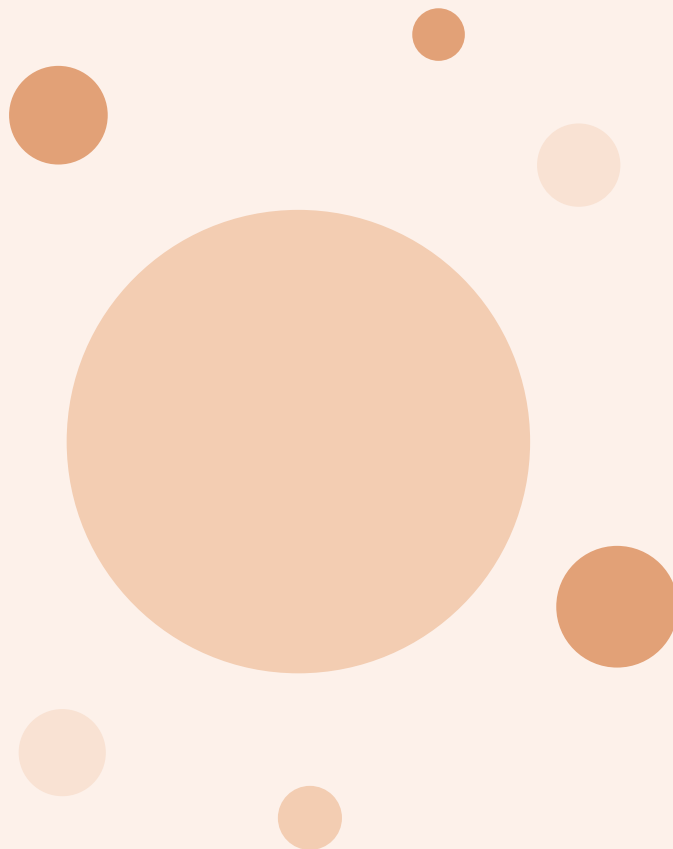
LESSON 05

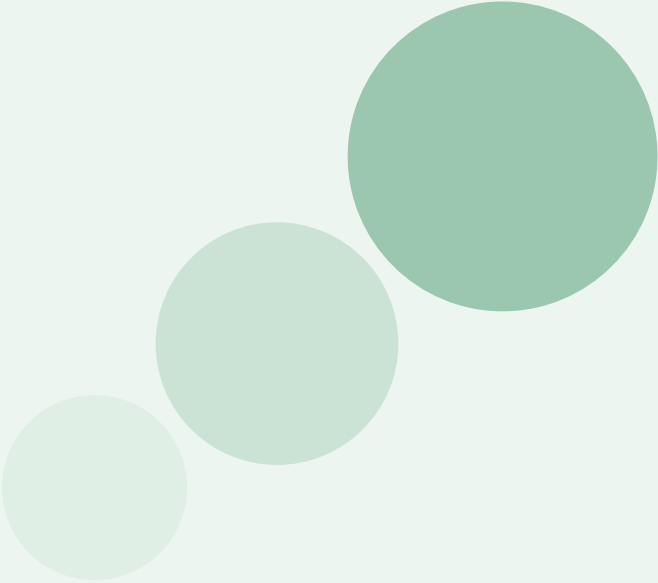
Popping the bubble

CS isn't known for people skills

That's not a reason to have bad ones

Co-op puts you around new people and ideas





LESSON 06

Ask an upper year

Sign up for Big CSisters

Ask people in your clubs

Advisors and counselling exist

SAVE THESE

Resources

r/uwaterloo

chaotic, genuinely useful

Club Instagram accounts

where events actually get posted

UWFlow

course and prof reviews

Questions?

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