





CONTENTS

StFX University

Academics

International Exchange Study

Student Services & Facilities

Living Arrangements

Arriving & Settling In

StFX Map

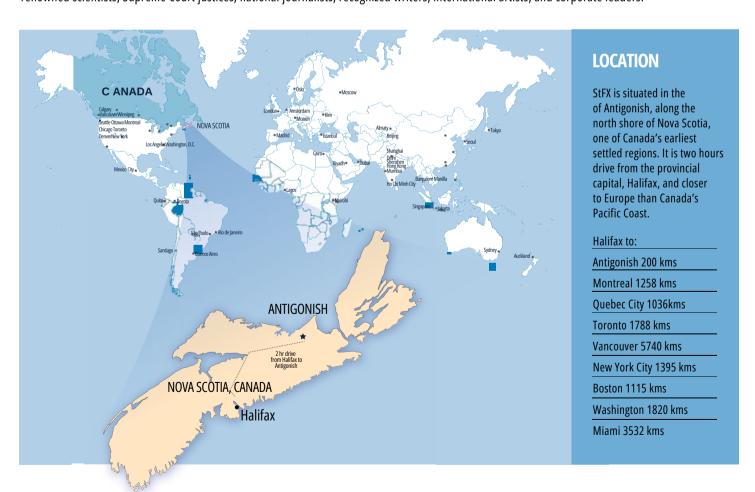
Contacts



StFX UNIVERSITY

Each year 4,000 students come to StFX from Canada and around the world, for quality programs in the humanities, social sciences, sciences and business. Our accomplished faculty and students enjoy a reputation for academic excellence. The university has one of the highest rates of tenured faculty teaching first year students of any university in Canada, and StFX consistently ranks nationally as one of the finest small universities in Canada.

While StFX is situated in rural Nova Scotia, our students may choose to directly experience the broader academic world through community based and international service learning, conference presentations and competitions, research partnerships, internships and international exchanges. Our primary teaching focus is at the undergraduate level of university education and this engages young students in academic collaboration and research with experts in their fields of learning. This enriched undergraduate academic experience has led StFX students and graduates to achieve acclaim in many settings. Amongst StFX graduates, are a former prime minister and numerous provincial premiers, senior government members, renowned scientists, Supreme Court justices, national journalists, recognized writers, international artists, and corporate leaders.





ACADEMICSACADEMIC YEAR

The undergraduate year at StFX is from September to April. The fall semester ends during the third week of December. The winter semester begins the first week of January and continues into the third week of April. In addition to the Christmas break, there is a weeklong break in late February.

COURSE OFFERINGS

Exchange students are not restricted to registering in courses in a specific academic discipline, but without sufficient background knowledge (equivalent to required course prerequisites), they will not be allowed to register in some courses. Senior level seminar courses are usually restricted to graduating degree students.

A single semester course is given 3 credits and a full year course is worth 6 credits. A full course load per semester is 15 credits and students may have a mix of full year and single semester courses to a maximum of 30 credits. Not all courses are offered each year or each semester. Final course offerings for the up- coming year are posted in mid-June. This course list can be found in the "Course Timetable". See **www2.mystfx.ca/registrars-office/Course-Timetable**.

CLASS TIMES

Generally classes are 2.5 lecture hours per week. This may be for three 55 minute classes, two 75 minute classes, or a single class of 2.5 hours. Science and Language courses are likely to have additional class time scheduled for lab work. Daily classes begin at 8:15 in the morning. There is a break in the class schedule during the supper hour, and night classes start at 6:30 pm.

PROFESSORS' EXPECTATIONS

Class attendance is expected of all students and students are expected to complete reading assignments regularly. Students should spend as much as 2 hours of independent study for every 1 hour of lecture time. In most courses students are expected to purchase textbooks or other reading material as part of the requirements of the course.

Students most often are evaluated on any one, or combination of: class participation, project group work, research essays, in-class tests, lab work, presentations and final exams at the end of term. Professors expect that individual or group work is completed by assigned deadlines, and they usually deduct marks for late submissions. Professors are available to meet with students during assigned office hours and welcome students' questions relating to course work.

COURSE REGISTRATION

Registration for courses offered in fall and winter semesters begins in June. Courses fill up quickly and once courses are filled there is no guarantee that more students will be allowed to join a class. Exchange students must provide their course choices to the International Exchange Coordinator to have the best opportunity to enroll in specific courses in June. Every effort is made to accommodate exchange student choice within the constraints of restricted class sizes, course pre-requisites, and course content.

Students may change their course choices up to the end of the first week of classes of of the fall semester. After this they may drop a course from their schedule but cannot enroll in a different fall or full year course. Students may change their registration for second term courses up until the second week of the winter term. There are deadlines each term for dropping courses without penalty. Once the deadline has passed, the student will receive a grade for the course even if they have not attended classes.

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS

FACULTY OF ARTS

Art
Anthropology
Aquatic Resources
Catholic Studies
Celtic Studies
Classical Studies
Climate and Environment
Computer Science
Development Studies
Economics
English

Health History Math

Modern Languages

Music

Philosophy Political Science

Political Science Psychology

Public Policy and Governance

Religious Studies

Sociology

Women's & Gender Studies

FACULTY OF SCIENCE

Aquatic Resources
Biology
Chemistr y
Computer Science
Earth Sciences
Economics
Engineering
Climate and
Environment Health
Human Kinetics
Human Nutrition
Math
Nursing
Physics

FACULTY OF BUSINESS

Accounting
Enterprise Systems
Entrepreneurship
Finance
International Business
Management and Leadership
Marketing

Psychology



INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE STUDY

OFFICE OF INTERNATIONALIZATION

The Office of Internationalization supports all international students on campus in relation to academic, cultural, personal, and social concerns. The Office of Internationalization is responsible for the management of welcome programs and provides advising services to international students. For full degree students, the International Student Engagement Coordinator consults with university departments on various matters supporting student success. The Office of Internationalization is located in 424 Bloomfield Centre. International students are free to drop by to discuss any concern they have relating to their academic experience. See www.stfx.ca/international.

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE

All activity relating to admissions, course registration, settling in to campus and academic advising for incoming exchange students is addressed by the International Exchange Coordinator. The International Exchange Coordinator is also responsible for managing outgoing exchange students, and managing relationships between StFX and its international exchange partners. Exchange students coming to StFX or in the process of studying on campus should address any inquiries about their experience to the International Exchange Coordinator. The International Exchange website can be found at www2.mystfx.ca/international-exchange/.

EXCHANGE STUDENT ADMISSION

The exchange student admission process begins with an email notice of nomination by the home university international exchange office followed by: • An International Exchange Application form

- Original or certified copies of a most recent university transcript
- Evidence of ability to study successfully in English
- Indication on the application form of a request for residence accommodation

APPLICATION DEADLINES

Nomination Application Package

For Fall Semester or Full Year Study May 1 May 15
For Winter Semester Study October 1 October 15



ENGLISH COMPETENCY

For full degree students, the admissions English Language Requirements include a TOEFL score of at least 580, IELTS test score of 6.5, or IBT score of 80. For exchange students, a recommendation from the home university International Office regarding a student's competency to study in English will be accepted. International students attending StFX on exchange attend classes with primarily Canadian students. Therefore, it is expected that they can be academically successful when studying with native English speakers.

ACCEPTANCE LETTERS

Once an applicatiaon has been approved by the StFX Admissions Office, the student will receive a letter of acceptance accompanied by a 'visa' form. The 'visa' form is needed for the student to apply for a Study Permit or Visa. Acceptance letters are sent by email and scan to the student's email address. Students should be sure to print clearly their address information on the form to prevent any delays in receiving their acceptance letter.

UNIVERSITY HOUSING APPLICATIONS

To arrange for on campus housing, exchange students should first indicate that they are interested in this option on the exchange application form. Students will be advised on how to apply online for university housing through their website. Residence fees vary depending on the style of accommodation and particular residence. Booking a room on campus involves signing a Residence Contract. This contract carries the same weight as a private lease would in a non-campus setting. Students who sign residence contracts should realize that they are committed to living on campus for the duration of the contract. Only in exceptional circumstances can students be released from their residence contract. Finding alternative accommodations off campus once in Antigonish is NOT one of these circumstances.

GAINING ENTRY INTO CANADA

Whether an exchange student needs a study permit and/or visa will depend on the home country and the length of study. All international students studying for more than 6 months in Canada must have a study permit. It is the student's responsibility to obtain this authorization. Starting in 2018, applicants from all countries, other than the US, are required to complete Biometric Identify screening. For information on study permits, visas, and Biomertric screening visit https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/study-canada/study-permit.html.

DO I NEED AN ETA?

All visitors to Canada, arriving by air, are required to apply for an eTA. This application is done online before the traveler's travel date. If the traveler has not applied for an eTA before departure, they canbe refused entry to Canada.

DO I NEED AN ENTRY VISA?

Students from some countries need a a temporary resident visa to enter Canada. This visa is the same for either a tourist visitor or for short term study (less than 6 months).

If you apply for a Temporary Resident Visa, you do not need to apply for an eTA.

DO I NEED A STUDY PERMIT?

All students planning to study for more than 6 months will need to apply for a Study Permit. The Study Permit covers the Temporary Resident Visa or eTA requirement. The Study Permit does not give exchange students permission to work in Canada during their study period.



STUDENT SERVICES & FACILITIES

StFX University is primarily a residential campus with the facilities and services essential to a quality undergraduate education, available on the campus is available on page 14 of this document.

StFX has a number of residence halls with varying styles of accommodation. Each residence has its unique characteristics in terms of location, history, facilities, and organization of space. For different residence options visit **www2.mystfx.ca/university-housing/**.

FOOD SERVICES

Morrison Hall is the primary meal hall. It is at Morrison Hall that students access their meal plans. **Keating Café, MSB Café,** and **Mini Moes** are locations where students can purchase lunch menu items, snacks and beverages. **Bloomfield Café** boasts an array of amenities including a big screen TV, lounge furniture, and Mac computers. Students can choose to eat breakfast, lunch or dinner at this location.

HEALTH SERVICES

Located in Bloomfield Centre, the StFX Health and Counseling Centre promotes a holistic approach to student centered health and wellbeing. For immediate service, nurses are available for consultation during regular university working hours (Monday - Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.). Also, students may call 902-867-2263 or drop by the Health Centre to make an appointment to see a doctor. Other services available to students through the StFX Health Centre include: psychological counseling, addictions outreach, and referrals to a variety of health related services in the community. More information about Health Centre and Counseling services can be found at www2.mystfx.ca/health-and-counselling/.

If students need medical assistance after the office hours, they should contact the Antigonish After Hours Clinic at 40 Church Street. The After Hours Clinic has doctors' hours Monday to Friday from 6-9 pm. Those needing this service can call after 5 pm to book a same day appointment (902-735-4000).

For medical services outside the hours above, students can visit the St. Martha's Regional Hospital outpatients / emergency area. If medical attention is needed immediately, an ambulance can be summoned by using the 911 calling service from any phone. Ambulance services are expensive and should not be used unless necessary.



RECREATION FACILITIES

StFX recreation activities include student sports clubs and intramural leagues often organized around residence halls. StFX recreation facilities include:

The **Alumni Aquatic Centre**, which offers a variety of group water fitness programs, along with an open swim schedule at the six-lane 25m swimming pool.

The **Charles V. Keating Centre** houses 2 ice hockey surfaces, with seating for 1,500 spectators. The main arena transforms to a large venue for indoor concerts, conferences and other major events. The first floor of the Keating Centre houses a fitness and recreation centre consisting of two dance studios, an indoor running track, and a wellness centre with over 3300 sg. feet of cardio and resistance equipment.

StFX **Memorial Field** provides practice space for numerous varsity and club teams, and is the main outdoor facility utilized by the StFX Intramural pro- gram. Memorial field also provides green space for informal recreational activities.

The **Oland Centre** features a main gymnasium with seating for 2500 spectators for basketball or volleyball games. A second gymnasium serves as a practice facility for StFX varsity teams, along with a teaching area for Human Kinetics skills classes, and recreational space for students. The Oland Centre also houses 4 racquetball courts and 2 squash courts.

Oland Stadium features an artificial field with field lines for football, rugby, soccer and lacrosse, along with an eight-lane 400m running track. There is grandstand seating for 4000, stadium lighting and perimeter fencing.

LIBRARY SERVICES

The Angus L Macdonald Library is the main library on campus. All registered students are eligible to borrow library materials and have access to electronic databases through the library collections, including remote access to electronic library resources. Once a student registers with library services, the student ID card serves as a library card. For registration, the student must present ID information. The Angus L. MacDonald website is at www2.mystfx.ca/library/.

COMPUTER ACCESS

Wireless access is available in all campus facilities. StFX IT Services maintains computer labs for students in a variety of buildings across campus. These labs have black and white laser printing service.



STFX STORE

The university's StFX Store is the principal location for purchasing textbooks for all courses offered by StFX University. In addition the StFX Store offers a large assortment of StFX crested gifts and souvenirs, as well as clothing for adults and children. The StFX Store on the ground floor of Bloomfield Centre. See **www2.mystfx.ca/stfx-store/**.

THE STUDENT SUCCESS CENTRE

The Student Success Centre provides one-to-one appointments to StFX students who need assistance particularly with their academic writing. SSC instructors assist students from all disciplines in developing their critical thinking, writing, and editing skills. Instructors help students apply these skills while understanding that good writing requires planning, critical reflection, and plenty of editing time. Students may meet with a SSC instructor at any stage in the writing process from the initial organization to final revisions. Appointments can be booked by visiting the SSC website: www2.mystfx.ca/student-success/.

CHAPLAINCY

StFX Chaplaincy encourages and inspires students, faculty, staff, and alumni to practice and live their faith. The center of worship for the Christian community at St. FX is the University Chapel. StFX Chaplaincy organizes various events and oversees activities aimed at encouraging students to explore spirituality and see its relevance in today's modern world.

WELLSPRING

Situated in Morrison Hall, Wellspring is an oasis to students, staff and faculty, who use this space for quiet reflection, to study, or relax amongst friends. Wellspring facilities include a spacious common room, kitchenette facilities, a seminar room, a quiet room for reflection and prayer, and friendly, helpful staff. All events and activities held at Wellspring reflect the Sisters of St. Martha's mission to serve the Xaverian family in the Martha tradition of hospitality to all. See www2.mystfx.ca/wellspring/.

STUDENTS' UNION – "THE U"

The StFX Students' Union is run by and for the students of StFX. The organization consists of over 200 employees and many volunteers. The Students' Union oversees the management of the Bloomfield Centre - the Students' Union Building. There are 99 student societies within the Students' Union. They range from advocating groups, to athletics, to academics and more. The Students' Union organizes 'Society Nights' at the beginning of each semester, where students can sign up to become a member of societies that interest them. Visit **www.theu.ca/**.



LIVING ARRANGEMENTS

UNIVERSITY HOUSING

Students have the choice of living on campus or off campus. The advantages of on campus living are the proximity to facilities and events on campus and the convenience of services close at hand. There are a number of options for university residence living and students should book their campus accommodations as soon as possible in the spring or fall. More information on residence living can be found on the University Housing website at

www2.mystfx.ca/dining-services/.

MEAL PLANS

Students living on campus must purchase some level of meal service. Students in traditional residence are required to purchase a meal plan with the main dining hall. Students in apartment style residences do not need to purchase a meal plan, but they are required to purchase a minimum credit towards food purchases at any food service outlet on campus. This is referred to as a declining balance (DCB). The DCB is tagged to the Student ID card and functions like a debit card. Each time the student purchases a meal or food item at campus food service outlets, the ID card is swiped and that amount is debited from the DCB account. See http://sites.stfx.ca/dining_services/.

Exchange students who are staying in residence are able to move on campus for the fall International Student Orientation without paying extra residence fees. StFX does not provide residence accommodation during International Student Orientation for students who will be living off campus in the fall.

NEEDED PURCHASES

University Housing does not provide linens, blankets, pillows, lamps, alarm clocks, utensils, dishes etc. Students who cannot bring these, should be prepared to purchase such items in Antigonish. If students bring electronic devices, they should bring any adapters needed to make these electronic devices compatible with North America electrical systems.

A parcel may be sent ahead to the university with necessary belongings. This may be mailed to:

(student name)
C/O the Office of Internationalization
St. Francis Xavier University
PO Box 5000, Antigonish
Nova Scotia, CANADA
B2G 2W5

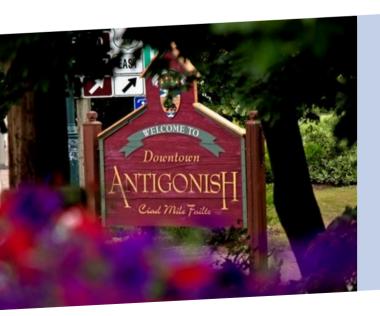


OFF CAMPUS HOUSING

The Office of Internationalization does not manage off campus housing arrangements. However, if incoming exchange students have general questions related to off campus housing, they are welcome to make inquiries to the Office of Internationalization. Off campus housing prices in Antigonish range between \$500-600 plus utilities a month for shared apartments or houses, to \$600+ per month for a one-bedroom apartment.

TRANSPORTATION IN ANTIGONISH

Most off campus housing is within walking distance of the university campus. But students may choose to use the local taxi system for transportation. Most destinations within the community are \$8-10 per taxi drive. A local bus service, Antigonish Community Transit, has a bus stop on campus. The bus route includes stops at the major shopping and service areas in Antigonish town.



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS MAKE GREAT THINGS HAPPEN

For more than 150 years, St. Francis Xavier University and the local community have grown and prospered together. Both have benefited from a mutually supportive partnership that has withstood the test of time. In a spirit of cooperation, community leaders and residents of Antigonish town and county have supported StFX as it grew from a small diocesan school to one of Canada's finest undergraduate universities.

As StFX grew, so did the local community. Today StFX and the Antigonish area offer one of the best places in Canada to live, study, work, visit and invest. It's small-town living with the very best that bigger communities have to offer: Modern educational facilities, cultural and artistic events, great facilities for conferences, athletics, entertainment and a vibrant business sector.



ARRIVING & SETTLING IN

COMMUNICATE YOUR EXPECTED ARRIVAL

International students coming to StFX for the first time are invited to participate in an orientation program through the Office of Internationalization. When registering, they will need to provide flight and ground travel information.

HALIFAX STANFIELD INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

The closest public airport to Antigonish is outside Halifax, the provincial capital. Halifax Stanfield International Airport has many daily arrivals of flights from a number of airlines with connections to major cities in Canada and the eastern United States. Some flights arrive directly from Europe, but many European travelers usually are routed through Montreal or Toronto. See **www.hiaa.ca**

GROUND TRANSPORTATION

Unless notified otherwise, students are responsible for arranging transportation from Halifax Stanfield International Airport to Antigonish. On the airport website there is information about transportation services from the airport to Antigonish. The distance is approximately 200 kms and takes approximately 2.5 – 3.0 hours by public transport.

Maritime Bus is the bus service that has routes throughout Atlantic Canada and connecting with central Canada. For information on bus schedules and ticket prices see **www.maritimebus.com/en**.

There may also be mini-van shuttle services that transport individuals from the Halifax International Airport to destinations in eastern Nova Scotia. These companies usually need to be notified beforehand, in order to book your transport with them. However, if you arrive at the airport and go to Ground Transportation, they may direct you to shuttle service options available at that time.

Most of these shuttle services take cash only and the ticket prices are approximately \$50. If for some reason your schedule of arrival changes and you will not be able to meet a pre-booked shuttle, you should try to contact the shuttle to cancel the booking. Taxi travel from the airport to Antigonish is possible but is expensive (approximately \$350).



ORIENTATION TO CAMPUS

Exchange students arriving at the beginning of term will be provided an orientation to campus. Exchange students will be given directions and assistance with:

- Learning about on campus services
- Moving into residence
- Acquiring a student identification card
- Activating their StFX email account and Webfx wireless access
- Using Banner and Mes Amis to manage their StFX profile
- Accessing mail services on campus
- Activating their library card
- Activating their Recreation Centre pass
- Understanding their course schedule

MANDATORY FEES

Fee amounts are finalized in June each year. Visit **www2.mystfx.ca/financial-services/student-accounts** for updated information on student fees. Exchange students are not required to pay tuition fees however they are required to pay the following fees. Students studying for a single semester would pay half of the rates listed.

- Information Technology Fee
- Facilities Management Fee
- Student Union Fee
- Health and Wellness Fee
- Recreation Facilities Fee
- Medical Insurance

STUDENT ACCOUNTS

Each student is assigned an account at the business office. Any billed fees will be posted to this account and can be viewed by the student through his or her Mes Amis profile. Students are expected to pay their fees for each semester by the indicated deadline. Fees not paid by that time will be subject to interest charges and a late fee charge. For information on student fees and payment options see **www2.mystfx.ca/financial-services/student-accounts**



TEXTBOOKS EXPENSES

In almost all courses students are required to purchase textbooks or other reading materials. Occasionally professors will prepare a 'course pack' containing required readings. Whatever types of texts are required for courses, students should be aware that the cost of individual textbooks is usually high. Students should be prepared to pay as much as \$100 per course for required reading texts. To survey possible costs, students can refer to the StFX Store website for information about such costs at www2.mystfx.ca/stfx-store/.

MEDICAL INSURANCE

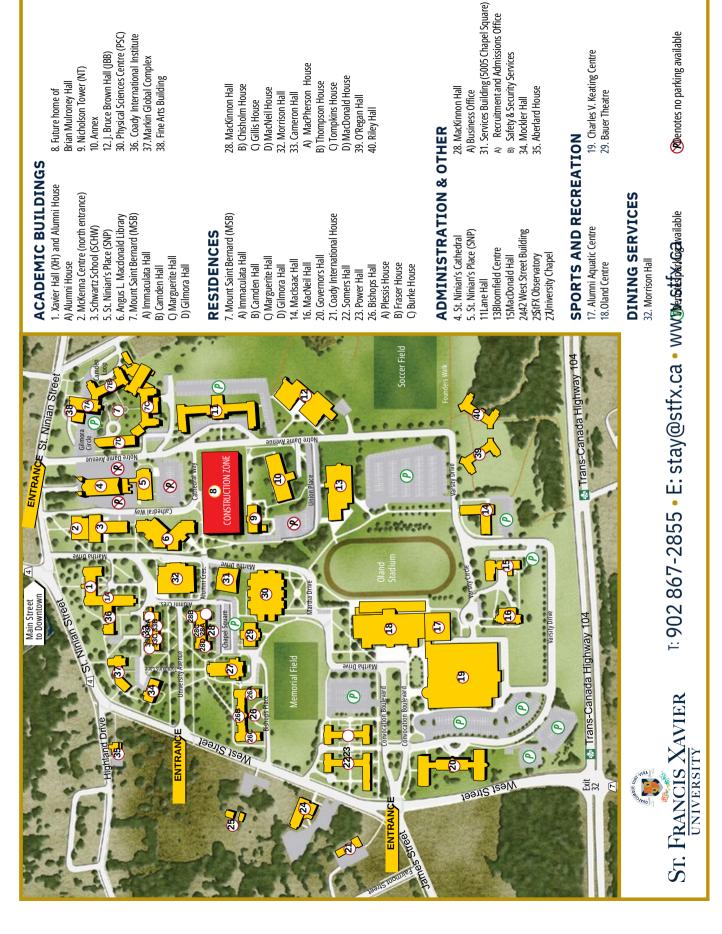
The StFX Students' Union health plan includes coverage for medical services, prescription drugs, and dental care. Details of the types of services and any co-payments involved can be found at the following website: https://mystudentplan.ca/.

In addition to the health coverage, a primary advantage for international students covered by the plan is that any costs of medical services in the local area are billed directly to the plan. This reduces any difficulty associated with paying for services in advance and having to submit receipts to an outside insurer for reimbursement.

COMPLETION OF STUDY

At the end of each semester, professors are required to submit final term grades within a week of the final examination date for that semester. Students may access their Mes Amis profiles through the web and find their final grades posted at the "My Grades" link.

The Office of Internationalization arranges for academic transcripts to be sent to the International Office of exchange partner universities once these marks are entered in the Registrar's Office records. Should students wish to order additional copies of their transcript, they may do so at the StFX Registrar's Office website. See **www2.mystfx.ca/registrars-office/transcript-requests**.





CONTACTS

INTERNATIONALIZATION

www.stfx.ca/international

Lubna Rahman

International Student Advisor Lrahman@stfx.ca

Nate Taylor Education Abroad Advisor Ntaylor@stfx.ca

University Housing

residence@stfx.ca Phone: (902) 867-5106 Fax: (902) 867-3751 www2.mystfx.ca/university-housing/

THE ADMISSIONS OFFICE

admit@stfx.ca Phone: (902) 867-2219 (902) 867-2329 www.stfx.ca/admissions

OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR

registrar.office@stfx.ca Phone: (902) 867-2160 Fax: (902) 867-5458

www.mystfx.ca/registrars-office/

All regular mail should be addressed to the relevant university department using the following mailing address: (department) St. Francis Xavier University Antigonish, NS, Canada B2G 2W5

For courier deliveries: Office of Internationalization 424 Bloomfield Centre 5555 Union Square St. Francis Xavier University Antigonish, NS, Canada B2G 2W5

Phone: 902-867-4532