



Life Well Learned.

MBCI Science Department

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Here are a few direct quotes from the student testimonials we've received over the years related to our science program:

"One of the most difficult parts of any university course is the conceptual content. The professors don't just want you to memorize, they want you to grasp the larger idea and apply it to various situations. Yes, you need to know what you're doing, but you also need to know why you're doing it. This is an aspect that I've seen many AP/IB students struggle with, as they seem to mainly focus on memorization.

I remember in one of my first year chemistry labs I ended up helping a group of eight AP students figure out some calculations that we had done dozens of times in MBCI. One of the AP students wasn't even sure how to use a pipette!

Additionally I'd like to comment on MBCI's difficulty when compared to other schools. MBCI presents a challenging environment that helps to foster growth in students. The difficulty level is far more akin to what you'd find in a university course, except that the MBCI teachers are always there to provide extra support and clarification. Many students in my university classes have talked to me about how they used to have A+ averages in high school, yet have dropped to all C's in university. My MBCI classmates who also attend university do not seem to have experienced this sudden drop in grades, or at least not to the same extent."

-Kristen Braun (grad 2014)

"After completing the MBCI science program I was able to enter first-year university with a solid grounding in each of the scientific disciplines. I have been able to understand and interface with university sciences at an equivalent level to my peers who completed programs in AP sciences. The MBCI experience allowed students who were passionate about the sciences to push themselves and engage the material on a sophisticated level similar to that presented to all students in the AP stream."

-Nick Czehryn (grad 2013)

"Science classes were motivating and engaging, and the comprehensive nature of the courses fostered the development of a stellar work ethic. My transition into university courses was smooth and many of the scientific concepts were already well-established."

-Caleb Wong (grad 2014)

"The MBCI science program has prepared me for post secondary studies substantially. Not only did MBCI prepare me through the material taught in science classes themselves, but also provided me with laboratory skills needed for labs at the university level, and study habits outside the classroom."

-Corina Dubon (grad 2015)

“As an MBCI alumnus completing her first year of science at the University of Manitoba, I have found that my experiences in my high school science courses have given me an indispensable advantage. Many of my peers did not have the opportunity to work with high tech lab equipment in their high schools, and consequently have trouble with some of the lab work. My success in the lab can be largely attributed to prior experience and exposure to lab equipment. Interacting with more complex lab technologies in high school is highly advantageous; it is significantly easier to learn how to use equipment with the guidance of an experienced teacher than independently in an undergraduate lab with limited time. Aside from excellent experience, it was truly the more sophisticated labs I completed during my biology classes at MBCI that inspired me to pursue a career in research. Concepts learnt in biology are often abstract and difficult to conceptualize. The hands on lab I completed truly brought the theory to life before my eyes and planted seeds of inspiration and intrigue in me. I am very grateful for the opportunities I had during high school and I hope that future students will continue to be given the same advantages I was.”

- Alexa McAdam Schulich Leader (grad 2013)

“Being the oldest child in my family, I had no idea what to expect from university. The course planning and freedom was completely new to me, but what I found quite reassuring was that the subject material covered in many of my courses was not new. Being a Biology major, many of the courses I have been taking are biology related and what I have found is that not only was I extremely well prepared in terms of the subject material, but the study skills, dissection/lab procedures and project management all taught in grade 11 and 12 Biology helped give me an edge over many of my current peers. Biology at MBCI has not only given me a strong foundation for future studies in biology, but also encouraged me to pursue a career in the field itself. The phenomenal teaching goes far beyond preparing students for future studies in biology, but also lays an important groundwork for crucial study skills and time management applicable to any field a student may want to study in the future.”

- Graham Kurbis (grad 2015)

“My experience with the biology program at MBCI was both challenging and rewarding. The material presented in class allowed me to have a detailed understanding of all the major topics presented in first year biology at the University of Winnipeg. I found this course very valuable because in University the topics are often glossed over making it quite difficult to understand. The teachers at MBCI provided university level content and they were always open to questions and provided extra help outside of class if needed. I am grateful for the laboratory portion of the biology program. These labs allowed me to develop the skills necessary to function in a university lab environment. The dissections performed at MBCI provided valuable information about the anatomy that is focused on in university introductory biology. In addition, many of the labs completed at MBCI paralleled those done in university. For example, the gel electrophoresis lab performed in grade 12 was also completed in my second year biochemistry course.”

-Hailey Hildebrand (grad 2014)

“The MBCI science program has fully prepared me for university level science courses. In mechanical engineering, physics and both chemistry 1300 and 1310 (chemistry 1 and 2) are required to be taken. Not only have I been able to achieve high marks in all three of these courses, yet much of the material studied was already familiar from high school chemistry and physics. A handful of my friends who took the IB program were taking science courses at the same time as me and they also performed well in all the subjects however struggled more with chemistry 1310 in particular, while still achieving high grades. This course is known to be one of the tougher science courses, yet it was not as challenging for me because the main ideas were already understood.”

-Alex Czehrzn Schulich Leader (grad 2014)