



Lexicon of Exeter Terminology and Slang

Here is a brief primer of word and acronyms you might hear around campus. The terms and definitions originated from an alphabetical list in the Parent Handbook. Of course, some of the terms and acronyms are clear and make sense but others are from a time gone by and the origin is either lost or tucked away.

About students:

Juniors: a.k.a. preps – 9th graders

Lowerys: a.k.a. lower middlers – 10th graders

Upperys: a.k.a. upper middlers – 11th graders

Seniors: 12th graders

Exonian: Adjective describing a student who attends Exeter. It is also our student newspaper.

Fac-Brat: Refers to the sons and daughters of faculty, usually those who live on campus (we believe, a term of endearment).

P.G.'s: a.k.a. post-graduates, one-year students who attend Exeter for an additional year after graduating from high school. We refer to post-graduates as seniors.

Proctors: Students (usually seniors) selected by their dorm team who help with check-in duties as well as making themselves accessible to students a trusted friend and an additional connection to dorm faculty.

Red-Bandits: Students (usually seniors) who aim to ignite school spirit at athletic contests, particularly the Exeter/Andover contests.

Smurfs: A nickname for Andover students (school color is blue)

Dorm-Related

Back-up: Refers to a dormitory arrangement when a student proctor does check-in, while a faculty member is present in the building and supports the proctor.

Check-in: Students must check into their dorm with the person on duty

- Preps and lowers 8 p.m.
- Uppers 9 p.m.
- Seniors 10 p.m.

As well as....

- Student on disciplinary action 8 p.m.
- Friday nights before no Saturday class day 10 p.m.
- Saturday nights 11 p.m.

Check-out: Students may ask to check out of the dorm, during study hours, to the library, music building, photo lab, computer room, observatory, math help, quiet study or an appointment with a faculty member.

Fac/Proc: A regular meeting of the faculty and proctors of a dormitory. Here the well-being of individual students as well as general dorm issues are discussed.

Illegal V's: Visitations that do not enjoy faculty permission and may be outside the allowed times for visiting.

Late-lights: Preps and lowers who have not completed their work by 10:30 p.m. may ask faculty on duty to extend their bedtimes (varies from dorm to dorm).

Midnight Scream: This ritual involves yelling out the nearest dormitory window at midnight on the last night of each term. Because of the impact on the community, we limit this behavior and don't encourage it.

Sevens: Early check-in (usually 7:00 p.m. – hence the name) for one or several nights, assigned by dorm faculty as a result of late check-in, excessive noise in dorm, poor housekeeping, etc.

Study card: Advisers may put a study card on a student's door, after discussing it with the student and perhaps other dorm faculty, to remind student and friends that the student is to be doing homework in their dorm room during study hours. The students may not have visitors in their room during study hours when a Study Card

is on their door. Students can also request a Study Card from an adviser if they want some additional structure during study hours.

Study hours: Those periods of the day when classes are normally held, and between 8 and 10 p.m. every night, except Friday night before no-Saturday classes and Saturday nights.

V's or Visitations: Boys and girls are allowed, with permission of the faculty on duty, to visit each other in dorm rooms with the door at least halfway open and the lights on. Visitations can be requested on school nights from 7:00 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. and on Saturday nights from 8:00 p.m. to 10:45 p.m. Visitations are at the discretion of the faculty on duty.

Around campus and Exeter:

Academy Life Day: A day set aside early in the fall term to allow students and faculty to engage in some special activities in dorm, adviser/advisee, or day student groups.

Bubble (or Wentworth Bubble): The semi-circular glass enclosure on the North side (facing Webster Hall) of Wentworth Hall

Community Directory: A search tool on Exeter Connect that permits Exeter community members to find directory information for fellow students, faculty and staff.

D.S.L.: a.k.a. the Day Student Lounge, located in the Phelps Academy Center

E.P. or Evening Prayer: A non-denominational service, held weekly (Tuesday evenings, 9:30 p.m.) in Phillips Church. Typically, EP is quiet and softly lit. This service usually involves performances by student musicians or reading from various traditions. Students are able to check-out from their dormitories to attend this service.

Exeter Connect: Our password protected intranet for students, faculty and staff. Use for internal communications, class materials, contact information resources, and many other important Exeter community resources.

Fishbowl: Windowed dining room at the far end of Wetherell Dining Hall

Grill: Snack bar located on the first floor of the Phelps Academy Center. Traditionally, Exonians omit the article “the” when referring to it, as in: “Let’s go to Grill.”

Lion Card: A multipurpose identification, dorm access, library and debit account card which serves as the official ID card of the Academy. The Lion Card may be used within the Academy campus for purchases once funds are added.

Meditation: Wednesday mornings, Phillips Church, speakers from the Academy community talk for 20-25 minutes about something important to them. Attendance is not required.

Parent Portal: This is a personalized online resource that requires individual logins and passwords for access. Information available to authorized users includes grades, and comments, dorm and adviser assignments, permission forms as well as other important information, handbooks and resources. The Parent Portal can be used to view and pay bills as well as add funds to student Lion Cards (debit accounts).

The Path: Exonians talk of greeting one another “on the path” – that is, greeting others (whether you know them or not) when encountering them around campus. Greeting people on the path is one of our more cherished traditions.

PEAN: Our school yearbook.

P.O.: The Academy Post Office. When Exonians refer to it, they omit the article “the.” For example: “Are you going to P.O.?”

Principal’s Day: The principal has the power to cancel classes one day each year, at his discretion. This is usually a surprise to all and a fervently discussed matter. In the past, Principal’s Day has been in the spring term.

Psych: Little treats, notes of encouragement, signs, etc. given to athletes by teammates, managers, coaches or friends on the day of a contest.

About Academics, Classes, Schedule

333: Usually used to refer to the research paper required in the third course in the U.S. History sequence, History 333. The course (and paper) is required of most

students and typically taken by uppers. This year the course has been renumbered, now History 430, so we will have to see if students will call the paper the “430.”

A.T.: a.k.a. adviser/teacher meeting, organized by the Dean of Students office where concerns about a student in trouble are discussed. In this meeting, the student’s adviser meets with all of their teachers to discuss how things are going and how best to support the student. The Dean of Academic Affairs hosts this meeting.

A.T.C.W. or Advice: Advice to Consider Withdrawing from PEA, given to students and their parents on the vote of the faculty when the student’s academic performance at Exeter is below acceptable levels.

D.H.M.: A term used by students to describe their quest to understand a text – that is, to uncover or discover the “deep hidden meaning” of a text, usually used to refer to English or Language assignments.

Dick: A verb form of “dickey,” meaning both the act of a student missing a class and the act of a teacher turning in an absence, as in “I dicked that class” and “I just got dicked.” Wells Kerr served as the Dean of Students (from 1930 to 1953!). The students of the time viewed Mr. Kerr as being very honest and fair-minded. They made a connection between Mr. Kerr and Dickey Kerr, the one “honest” starting player employed by the White Sox during the scandalous 1919 World Series and so began calling Mr. Kerr, “Dickey.” Notes received from Mr. Kerr (which were often about attendance) were eventually referred to as “dickeys,” and the rest evolved from there.

Dickey: An absence slip; now delivered electronically when a student misses a required an appointment (see previous explanation).

Fat Block: Class meeting of 1 hour and 10 minutes. Each format has one of these per week, used for labs, extended classes or testing.

Format: The word used to describe a block of time in our daily schedule. For example, the class period that begins at 8:55 a.m., Week 1, on Monday, is called “B format.”

Marking Period: The point in the term when teachers report a student’s progress in their course, done at the end of each term.

Midterm Grades Reporting Period: At the midpoint of each term, teachers submit to the Dean’s Office grades for all students. These grades are not final, but

meant to be progress reports. They are not sent home to parents and guardians, although they are not meant to be kept secret from them either.

Opt or Opting: a.k.a. sports option. An upper or senior can choose not to participate in a physical education activity or sport for one term each year. Doing so is referring to as “opting.”

R.A.L.: The reporter-at-large paper required of some upper English students. The students observe the work of a person of their choice during December break. They then write a detailed, descriptive account of their experiences.

Reserve: A format meeting that generally belongs to a regular repeating format, giving that format an additional meeting period per week, indicated on the schedule by the letters Q, T, U, V, W, Y or Z. For example, “A” format has the reserve block of “T” format.

Scholastic Probation: Voted by the faculty, a student is placed on scholastic probation if there is serious concern about a student’s academic record; lasts at least one half of a term. Scholastic Probation is more serious than Scholastic Warning, see next entry.

Scholastic Warning: Typically the first response of the faculty when a student has an unsatisfactory academic record in a given term or marking period; voted on by the faculty.

Spaz: a.k.a. “prep-spaz” or “Prep Program.” A fond nickname for the ninth-grade physical education program required of all preps not playing a varsity or JV sport in a given term.

Week 1 and Week 2: our daily schedule follows a “Week 1” and “Week 2” pattern. Students can check the Daily Calendar on Exeter Connect to see what “Week” we are following.

About Rules and Procedures

A.S.A.P.: a.k.a. Academy Student Assistance Program, coordinated through the Dean’s Office and Health Services to assist students in difficulty. Typically, this is a non-disciplinary response that involves parent notification and required meetings with a counselor, health educator, physician or other health professionals. Some students like to use it as a verb, even though it is a noun.

D.C. or Discipline Committee: A committee composed of faculty and non-voting students who convene to determine the disciplinary response to a rule violation after hearing from the student(s) involved.

The E Book: Academy rule and information handbook. Read it carefully!

N.D.R.: a.k.a. Non Disciplinary Response, a policy by which student can come to an adult and discuss a student problem without disciplinary consequences. There are conditions when a N.D.R. can be invoked.

OOT or Out-of-town: Written permission required by students to leave the Academy for a day trip out of the Exeter vicinity or for an overnight visit somewhere.

Petition: If a student needs to miss a required Academy appointment (class, sports, Assembly, dormitory check-in, etc.) for any reason, they need to complete a petition form ahead of time. The deans consider these requests during their regular meetings.

Probation or Probs: a.k.a. Disciplinary Probation, the most stringent disciplinary consequence while still remaining at the Academy; a twelve-week period that includes five weeks of early check-in, a mid-point review and a final review by the Discipline Committee. If a student does not pass the review they will be required to withdraw from the Academy.

Put-up: A student caught breaking a major rule are required to appear before the Disciplinary Committee for a hearing; therefore, they are “put-up” before the committee.

Requirement or R.T.W.: Students are “Required to Withdraw” from the Academy as a result of a major rule violation, decided by the Discipline Committee; or as a result of ongoing poor academic performance, decided on by a faculty vote.

Restrictions: a.k.a. “Stricts”, disciplinary consequences for some disciplinary infraction or attendance difficulties, requires early check-in and denies out-of-town permissions for a period of two to three weeks.

RdR or Restrictions with Review: Disciplinary consequence for regular or major discipline, including attendance difficulties. It involves four weeks of early check-in and no out-of-town permissions, and a review by either the Attendance

Committee or the Discipline Committee at the end of the four weeks, depending on the origin of the “stricts.

Stricts: see “Restrictions,” above.