

Year 2 (2026) - FAR Implementation Report

Economics

Graduate and Undergraduate Programs (reviewed 2023/24)

Recommendation #1: Evaluate historical changes in mathematical content of programs implemented since the previous review to determine how enrolment and graduation rates have been impacted.

ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers this recommendation to be accepted. The Committee encourages the Department to work with the Dean’s office and Institutional Planning, Analysis and Performance (IPAP) to determine appropriate strategies to evaluate historical changes in mathematical content of programs to determine how enrolment and graduation rates have been impacted.

Implementation Plan (1st Priority)

Responsible for approving:	Department
Responsible for resources:	Department/Dean
Responsible for implementation:	Department/Dean with support of IPAP
Timeline:	Dean of Social Sciences to report by the end of academic year 2024-25.

Actions	Responsibility	Year One	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 Evaluate changes in mathematical content at a program level.	Department	D	O	
Action #2 Create core stream subcommittees (CSCC) to evaluate mathematical content.	Department	D	O	
Action #3 Work with IPAP to obtain data on retention and graduation rates.	Department/Dean/IPAP	T	C	
Action #4 Evaluate data (e.g. historical changes since previous review).	Department	T	C	
Action #5 CSCCs will examine content and advise undergraduate program committee.	Department	T	O	
Action #6 Undergraduate program committee to evaluate and adjust current offerings accordingly.	Department	T	O	

*On Target (T), Delayed (D), Complete (C), Complete and Ongoing (O)

Comments 2025:

From an overall program perspective, no changes in mathematical content, in terms of course offerings or requirements, were implemented since the previous review. Therefore, the department addressed this recommendation by forming core stream subcommittees (CSCC), one in each of microeconomics, macroeconomics, mathematical economics and econometrics, and evaluated the changes in mathematical contents, amongst other things. In general, the material covered in each of these courses remained relatively constant.

The department is now in the process of addressing these issues further by working with IPAP and the Dean's office to collect data to be analyzed. The results of the analysis will then be examined by each CSCC to bring forward recommendations to the Departmental Undergraduate Program Committee who will integrate any such recommendations.

Comments 2026:

The department reviewed the math requirements of the program and are in the middle of implementing program changes. The changes include eliminating MATH 1P97 and STAT 1P98 as required courses in the programs offered. Instead, the material will be scaffolded in all the required second year courses in the program.

The department also completed the Curriculum Delivery Initiative (CDI) and through the data analyzed by IPAP, it was agreed that this is the appropriate way forward.

Recommendation #2: Evaluate changes in course offerings and student flow through to graduation since the previous review to determine how enrolment and graduation rates have been impacted by specific courses.

ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers this recommendation to be to be accepted. The Committee encourages the Department to work with the Dean's office and Institutional Planning, Analysis and Performance (IPAP) to determine appropriate strategies to evaluate changes in course offerings and student flow through to graduation to determine how enrolment and graduation rates have been impacted by specific courses.

Implementation Plan (1st Priority)

Responsible for approving:	Department
Responsible for resources:	Department/Dean
Responsible for implementation:	Department/Dean with support of IPAP
Timeline:	Dean of Social Sciences to report by the end of academic year 2024-25.

Actions	Responsibility	Year One	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 Work with IPAP to obtain data on flow through to graduation, enrolment, retention and graduation rates.	Department	T	C	

*On Target (T), Delayed (D), Complete (C), Complete and Ongoing (O)

Action #2 Evaluate data.	Department	T	C	
Action #3 Adjustment of course offerings resulting from Action #2.	Department	T	T	

Comments 2025:

The department will continue working with IPAP and the Dean's office to examine the course offerings and student flow through to graduation. The department has actively monitored the impact and relevance of each course offered and required in our programs. A tentative plan to remove two required first year courses (Math 1P97 and STAT 1P98) from all programs offered by the department are considered.

The department has also taken up the opportunity to participate in the Curriculum Delivery Initiative (CDI) and currently await our turn to further explore opportunities identified.

Comments 2026:

The department completed the Curriculum Delivery Initiative which worked with IPAP to obtain the necessary data to understand the flow through. It was noted by IPAP that there is an absolute necessity to continue offering all required courses of the program in both the Fall and the Winter, and that the spring offering of required 2nd year courses is also helpful and achieves the objective of increased enrolment, improved retention and maintaining graduation rates.

The department also removed barriers for students to enter the program from both adjacent and orthogonal disciplines by eliminating the 1st year required Math and Stats courses (mentioned above). While some of these changes have gone through, there was a partial delay in others due to procedural hurdles the department was up against.

Recommendation #3: Conduct a review of all degree required courses with a high failure rate from students and make changes required to scaffold content and experience as needed.

ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers this recommendation to be accepted. The Committee recognizes that the Department will undertake the necessary review and determine appropriate strategies, to make changes required to scaffold content and experience; this may be pursued in conjunction with Recommendation #8.

Implementation Plan (1st Priority)

Responsible for approving:	Department
Responsible for resources:	Department/Dean
Responsible for implementation:	Department/Dean with support of IPAP
Timeline:	Dean of Social Sciences to report by the end of academic year 2024-25.

*On Target (T), Delayed (D), Complete (C), Complete and Ongoing (O)

Actions	Responsibility	Year One	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 Work with IPAP to obtain data.	Department	T	C	
Action #2 Review all degree required courses, focusing on those with high failure rate.	Department	T	C	
Action #3 Review program requirements particularly courses where students experience the most difficulty.	Department	T	O	
Action #4 Adjust program requirements resulting from Actions 2 and 3.	Department	T	O	

Comments 2025:

The department will continue working with IPAP and the Dean's office to examine the course offerings and student flow through to graduation. The department has actively monitored the impact and relevance of each course offered and required in our programs. A tentative plan to remove two required first year courses (Math 1P97 and STAT 1P98) from all programs offered by the department are considered. The material will then be scaffolded into our remaining existing required courses in the program.

The department has also taken up the opportunity to participate in the Curriculum Delivery Initiative (CDI) and currently await our turn to further explore opportunities identified.

Comments 2026:

From IPAP's own data analysis through our CDI participation, they confirmed the department's position that the success of our programs hinge on offering the required courses of the program in both the Fall and Winter. Furthermore, the spring offering of required 2nd year courses is also helpful and achieves the objective of increased enrolment, improved retention and maintaining graduation rates.

The department also removed barriers for students to enter the program from both adjacent and orthogonal disciplines by eliminating the 1st year required Math and Stats courses. While some of these changes have gone through, there was a partial delay in others due to procedural hurdles the department was up against. The material will now be scaffolded across all the required courses in the program starting in year 2.

Recommendation #4: Re-invigorate committee structures and activities to enable greater delegation of work from the Department Chair.

ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers this recommendation to be accepted and believes that the Department is best positioned to determine appropriate strategies to re-invigorate committee structures in order to move forward on this issue.

*On Target (T), Delayed (D), Complete (C), Complete and Ongoing (O)

Implementation Plan (1st Priority)

Responsible for approving:	Department
Responsible for resources:	Department
Responsible for implementation:	Department
Timeline:	Dean of Social Sciences to report by the end of academic year 2024-25.

Actions	Responsibility	Year One	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 Review departmental Policy and Procedures, including committees, committee structures, functions and reporting pathways.	Department	T	O	
Action #2 Revise departmental Policy and Procedures, including committees, committee structures, functions and reporting pathways.	Department	T	O	
Action #3 Re-invigorate committee activities and reporting.	Department	O		
Action #4 Ongoing review and upkeep of active committee structures and reporting.	Department	T	O	

Comments 2025:

The department will re-invigorate committee structures to enable greater delegation of work from the Department Chair. A number of departmental committees and subcommittees have been created as an initial step to re-invigorating committee structures. The results of this structuring will be re-evaluated over the next few years to determine its effectiveness.

Four core stream curriculum committees were formed (Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, Econometrics and Mathematical Economics) to evaluate the coherency of the sequence of core classes in each stream. The objective of these committees is to make annual evaluations and recommended changes as they arise.

A student recruitment committee was also constructed to reinvigorate efforts for student recruitment at the high-school level. High-school outreach programs and events along with a larger faculty and student presence at recruitment events have resulted.

Comments 2026:

The department re-examined committee structures and have made appropriate adjustments. The department will continually evaluate the effectiveness of committee structures moving forward.

Recommendation #5: Encourage faculty members to develop more sustainable and self-reliant external funding resources for research, student support, and other activities like visiting speakers.

ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers this recommendation to be accepted. The Committee encourages the Department to work with the Dean's office and the Office of Research Services (ORS) to determine strategies to encourage faculty members to develop more sustainable and self-reliant external funding resources.

Implementation Plan (1st Priority)

Responsible for approving:	Department
Responsible for resources:	Department/Dean
Responsible for implementation:	Department/Dean with support of ORS
Timeline:	Dean of Social Sciences to report by the end of academic year 2024-25.

Actions	Responsibility	Year One	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 Invite the Dean's Office and ORS staff to participate in our annual departmental retreat.	Department	T	O	
Action #2 Add External Funding as a standing Department Meeting Agenda Item.	Department	O		
Action #3 Work with FOSS Associate Dean Graduate Studies and Research and/or ORS regarding faculty grant applications on an ongoing basis.	Department	T	O	

Comments 2025:

The department will continue to collaborate with the Dean's office and the Office of Research Services to gather and analyze data to determine strategies to encourage faculty members to develop more sustainable and self-reliant external funding resources. The department will actively circulate any funding opportunities, sign up to mailing lists offered by the ORS and other funding sources to receive the latest updates.

The department will include funding opportunities as a standing department meeting agenda to provide verbal updates on any success stories and to openly discuss collaborative opportunities as they arise.

The department will continue to involve the Dean's office as well as ORS at our annual retreats to obtain updates and best practices moving forward.

Comments 2026:

The department will continue to collaborate with the Dean's office and the Office of Research Services to gather and analyze data to determine strategies to encourage faculty members to develop more sustainable and self-reliant external funding resources. The department will actively circulate any funding opportunities, sign up to mailing lists offered by the ORS and other funding sources to receive the latest updates.

*On Target (T), Delayed (D), Complete (C), Complete and Ongoing (O)

The department will include funding opportunities as a standing department meeting agenda to provide verbal updates on any success stories and to openly discuss collaborative opportunities as they arise. The department will also continue to post these success stories on the department website.

The department will continue to involve the Dean's office as well as ORS at our annual retreats to obtain updates and best practices moving forward.

Recommendation #6: Develop and implement a strategy to increase award funding, within appropriate disciplinary norms and expectations.

ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers this recommendation to be accepted. The Committee encourages the Department to utilize the resources mentioned by the Faculty Dean in order to move forward on this issue; which may be pursued in conjunction with Recommendation #5.

Implementation Plan (1st Priority)

Responsible for approving:	Department
Responsible for resources:	Department/Dean
Responsible for implementation:	Department with support of ORS
Timeline:	Dean of Social Sciences to report by the end of academic year 2024-25.

Actions	Responsibility	Year One	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 Invite the Dean's Office and ORS staff to participate in our annual departmental retreat.	Department	T	O	
Action #2 Create a repository of grant applications.	Department	T	O	
Action #3 Create a Departmental Mentorship Program.	Department	T	O	

Comments 2025:

The department is in the process of creating a repository for successful and unsuccessful external grant applications, including comments and other relevant materials shared, as reference material for future applicants thereby providing them with a wider variety of examples.

The department will begin a mentor volunteer initiative where potential new applicants may tap into our pool of previously successful volunteers who have self-identified as mentors for guidance and advice. Any member who intends to apply for funds will be assigned to a mentor upon request.

The department will also continue to consult with the Dean's office as well as the Office of Research Services for opportunities and ideas to further strengthen our strategy. This will be an ongoing agenda item for departmental retreats.

*On Target (T), Delayed (D), Complete (C), Complete and Ongoing (O)

Comments 2026:

The department created a repository of grant applications and circulated a list of members who will serve as mentors for potential new applicants in the future.

Recommendation #7: Develop and hold events and opportunities tailored for 4th year students to assist in retaining Economics students beyond the minimum PASS degree expectations.

ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers this recommendation to be accepted. The Committee believes that the Department, in consultation with the Dean's office, is best positioned to determine appropriate events and opportunities tailored for 4th year students.

Implementation Plan (1st Priority)

Responsible for approving:	Department
Responsible for resources:	Department/Dean
Responsible for implementation:	Department
Timeline:	Dean of Social Sciences to report by the end of academic year 2024-25.

Actions	Responsibility	Year One	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 Help support an Economics Student Association / Club.	Department	T	O	
Action #2 Develop and hold events and opportunities for 4 th year students.	Department	T	O	
Action #3 Invite seminar speakers with research that aligns with student interests.	Department	T	O	
Action #4 Establish a schedule of annual events.	Department	T	O	

Comments 2025:

The department reached out to upper undergraduate students to establish ratified BUSU Brock Economics Student Club. The club will begin in September 2025. The department intends to actively support the club by providing resources around club events. Our hope is to utilize the student club platform to encourage students from the 3 year pass to the 4 year program.

The department collaborated with the Office of Career Education from CCEE and offered all our fourth year students access to the VMock platform.

The department is also actively exploring the possibility of offering a 4 year Bachelor's of Business Economics program with Major. We believe that the offering of this degree will encourage students to switch from the 3

*On Target (T), Delayed (D), Complete (C), Complete and Ongoing (O)

year Economics Pass program to this new offering. We are currently evaluating the appropriateness of courses, program requirements and resources to be able to offer this program effectively and efficiently.

Comments 2026:

The department supported the development and ratification of the Brock Economics Student Association (BESA) in the Fall. We helped organize and participated in many events throughout the year including an alumni panel career and networking event, internal and external seminar speaker series, and Python workshops. The department has actively promoted these events on its website to increase awareness and encourage student participation.

The department will also strive to have a stronger social media presence.

Recommendation #8: Work with Centre for Pedagogical Innovation (CPI) to review current pedagogical practices within the Department.

ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers this recommendation to be accepted. The Committee recognizes the importance of the Department engaging the Centre for Pedagogical Innovation (CPI) as they undertake the necessary review of current undergraduate and graduate pedagogical practices.

Implementation Plan (1st Priority)

Responsible for approving:	Department
Responsible for resources:	Department/Dean
Responsible for implementation:	Department with the support of CPI
Timeline:	Dean of Social Sciences to report by the end of academic year 2024-25.

Actions	Responsibility	Year One	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 Meeting/Session with CPI to review and assess current pedagogical practices.	Department	T	T	
Action #2 Develop plans to adjust practices based on assessment.	Department	T	T	
Action #3 Participate in the Curriculum Delivery Initiative.	Department	T	C	
Action #4 Adjust modes of delivery to align with student learning needs.	Department	T	T	

*On Target (T), Delayed (D), Complete (C), Complete and Ongoing (O)

Comments 2025:

The department will continue to collaborate with CPI to review current pedagogical practices within the Department. In particular, it will be an ongoing agenda item both at department meetings as well as the Annual departmental review.

The department will also be participating in the curriculum delivery initiative which will hopefully highlight new opportunities for the department. We are looking forward to an active and ongoing relationship with CPI to further maintain our department strengths and improve in areas where opportunities exist.

Comments 2026:

The department will continue to collaborate with CPI to review current pedagogical practices within the Department. It will be an ongoing agenda item both at department meetings as well as the Annual departmental review.

The department completed the Curriculum Delivery Initiative and is in the process of implementing the recommendations developed and discussed there.

Recommendation #9: Develop recruitment and orientation events.
ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers this recommendation to be accepted. The Committee encourages the Department to utilize the resources mentioned by the Deans to determine appropriate strategies to increase and develop its recruitment and orientation activities for both for the undergraduate and MBE programs.

Implementation Plan (1st Priority)

Responsible for approving:	Department
Responsible for resources:	Department/Dean
Responsible for implementation:	Department/Deans
Timeline:	Dean of Social Sciences to report by the end of academic year 2024-25.

Actions	Responsibility	Year One	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 Develop recruitment and orientation events.	Department	T	T	
Action #2 Engage in High school outreach.	Department	T	T	
Action #3 Develop a promotional video.	Department	T	T	

Comments 2025:

The department actively engaged in recruitment and orientation events both in collaboration with existing university and faculty efforts as well as new initiatives. There is both a larger faculty presence as well as a

*On Target (T), Delayed (D), Complete (C), Complete and Ongoing (O)

student presence at these events than in the past (Fall and Spring Open House, Ontario University Fair, High-School Day, Student Orientation Events, etc).

Additionally, the department has: expanded its outreach efforts towards high school students, offering presentations similar to those offered during open house events; begun revamping its website; begun creating a promotional video for the department and its programs; altered open house offerings to be more inclusive of potential students with non-traditional backgrounds for economics major; and increased student outreach to non-economics majors taking introductory economics courses.

Comments 2026:

The department again actively engaged in recruitment and orientation. We maintained a larger faculty presence as well as a student presence at these events than in the past (Fall and Spring Open House, Ontario University Fair, High-School Day, Student Orientation Events, Alumni Events etc.).

The departmental website was also revised with updated information to include clearer program information and student resources. This process will be ongoing.

In addition, the numerous student-oriented events held will hopefully help attract students as well.

The department also created a social media committee to establish a stronger social media presence.

Recommendation #10: Consider offering economics courses in the MBE, and the undergraduate Business Economic streams, that are more in line with the advertised business emphasis.

ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers this recommendation to be accepted for consideration. The Committee expects that the Department will consider offering more economics courses with a business emphasis in the MBE and the undergraduate Business Economic streams in conjunction with Recommendation #8.

Implementation Plan (1st Priority)

Responsible for approving:	Department
Responsible for resources:	Department/Dean
Responsible for implementation:	Department
Timeline:	Dean of Social Sciences to report by the end of academic year 2024-25.

Actions	Responsibility	Year One	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 Create a Business Economics Curriculum Committee.	Department	T	T	
Action #2 Committee to examine and evaluate the business content in the BBE and MBE programs.	Department	T	T	

*On Target (T), Delayed (D), Complete (C), Complete and Ongoing (O)

Action #3 Committee to make recommendations for improvement as needed.	Department	T	T	
Action #4 Committee to manage ongoing evaluations.	Department	T	O	

Comments 2025:

The department will develop a Business Economics Curriculum committee to evaluate the business emphasis in the existing courses. The committee will analyze and evaluate the information collected in the exploratory phase and make recommendations, if any, to improve on the issue addressed by the recommendation. This initiative will be an ongoing process and we anticipate forthcoming recommendations soon.

Comments 2026:

The department is exploring various economics courses, both existing and new, with an increased emphasis on business.