

# English Language and Literature

## Graduate and Undergraduate Review

### Year 3 (2020) - FAR Implementation Report

(reviewed 2016/17)

#### Recommendation #1

To hire additional support staff for the Graduate program.

#### ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers the recommendation to be worthy of consideration but outside of the jurisdiction of the Committee. It is expected that the program will proceed through normal channels of advocacy for these administrative support resources.

#### Implementation Plan

Recommendation not accepted.

#### Comments 2018:

As of August 2017, English and History share a Graduate Administrative Assistant.

#### Recommendation #2

To eliminate the BA in English and Contemporary Culture.

#### ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC understands that discussions are underway within the Department to consider the discontinuation of the program. The Committee considers the recommendation to be accepted and in the process of implementation.

#### Implementation Plan (1<sup>st</sup> Priority)

Responsible for approving:	Department
Responsible for resources:	Department
Responsible for implementation:	Department
Timeline:	Dean of Humanities to report by the end of academic year 2017/18

Actions	Responsibility	Year One*	Year Two	Year Three
<b>Action #1</b> Hold official departmental vote on the question of eliminating the ECUL program	Chair Department	C		

Action #2 Submit Discontinuation of Program form for Decanal comment	Chair Department	C		
Action #3 Submit completed Discontinuation of Program form to ARC	Chair Dean	C		

**Comments 2019:**

ECUL Program Discontinuation was approved by Senate in spring 2018.

**Recommendation 3**

Diversify and enlarge the MA application stream by exploring options for additional for-credit experiences within MA, eg. Internships and/or experiential learning with local arts and community groups; curatorial collaborations with Special collections.

**ARC Disposition of the Recommendation**

ARC considers the recommendation to be accepted and in the process of implementation. The Department is encouraged to work with the Faculty of Humanities Coordinator for Career, Co-op and Experiential Education to address this recommendation.

**Implementation Plan (1<sup>st</sup> Priority)**

Responsible for approving: Department  
 Responsible for resources: Department  
 Responsible for implementation: Department  
 Timeline: Dean of Humanities to report by the end of academic year 2017/18

Actions	Responsibility	Year One*	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 Increase active recruitment efforts by directly contacting GPDs around the country	Chair GPD Department	T	T	T
Action #2 Continue Departmental discussions about ways to offer experiential learning at the MA level while still maintaining the fundamental integrity of a program that is operating well as it stands	Chair GPD Department	T	T	T

**Comments 2019:**

Our GPD continues to contact other GPDs, and we try to maintain contact with our MA graduates in PhD programs to encourage them to direct promising students our way. We continue to discuss experiential learning possibilities for both our graduate and undergraduate programs.

**Comments 2020:**

We continue with active recruiting efforts, and it seems to be paying off: we have held steady at our target intake number in almost every year since the review. We will have a new GPD as of July 2020, and the Chair and out-going GPD will consult with them about how to continue and expand these efforts.

**Recommendation 4**

Consider offering Creative Writing at the Grad level.

**ARC Disposition of the Recommendation**

ARC considers the recommendation to be accepted for consideration by the Department. The Committee expects that the availability and allocation of resources required for the implementation of the recommendation will be included in this consideration.

**Implementation Plan (1<sup>st</sup> Priority)**

Responsible for approving:	Department
Responsible for resources:	Department
Responsible for implementation:	Department
Timeline:	Dean of Humanities to report by the end of academic year 2017/18

Actions	Responsibility	Year One*	Year Two	Year Three
<b>Action #1</b> Continue Departmental discussion about the possibility of a creative MRP option within the framework of our existing program requirements	Chair GPD ENCW (English and Creative Writing) Committee Department	T	T	T
<b>Action #2</b>	ENCW Committee	H	H	H

\*On Target (T), On Hold (H), Delayed (D), Complete (C), Ongoing (O)

ENCW Committee will prepare a draft proposal for consideration for 2018-19 when all members of that committee have returned from academic leave	Department			
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**Comments 2019:**

The Department approved some (minor) revisions to the language of our Graduate Procedures to allow for creative MRP projects. General consensus is that a full Creative Writing MA is a long way off, if it's even possible, but we continue to discuss the possibility.

**Comments 2020:**

The long-term goal is still to have a more robust creative option for the MRP at the grad level; however, with current staffing numbers (there are only 2.5 faculty members connected to the Creative Writing program to serve both graduate and undergraduate needs), it is our position that further development in this direction is not yet possible.

**Recommendation 5**

To be pro-active in incorporating experiential learning at the Undergraduate and Graduate levels.

**ARC Disposition of the Recommendation**

ARC considers the recommendation to be accepted. The Committee encourages the Department to work with the Faculty of Humanities Coordinator for Career, Co-op and Experiential Education to address this recommendation.

**Implementation Plan (1<sup>st</sup> Priority)**

Responsible for approving:	Department
Responsible for resources:	Department
Responsible for implementation:	Department
Timeline:	Dean of Humanities to report by the end of academic year 2017/18

Actions	Responsibility	Year One*	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 Assess opportunities for experiential learning already integrated as part of existing (especially WRDS) courses	Chair Department	T	T	T

\*On Target (T), On Hold (H), Delayed (D), Complete (C), Ongoing (O)

<b>Action #2</b> Meet with Faculty of Humanities Coordinator for Career, Co-op and Experiential Education during the summer of 2018 to discuss possible options	Chair	T	T	T
<b>Action #3</b> Chair to prepare working draft proposal for possible experiential learning opportunities for Departmental consideration as on-going business for 2018-19	Chair	T	T	T

**Comments 2019:**

See comments on Recommendation #3.

**Comments 2020:**

We continue to discuss various experiential learning options. We recognize that in our discipline many of the things we often do in a number of our “regular classes”—encouraging students to lead make presentations and lead seminar discussions; holding public reading events in various venues; livestreaming with authors, scholars, and publishers, etc.—provide valuable, discipline-specific experiential opportunities. The Chair hasn’t yet met with the FOH Co-op Coordinator, but will make every effort to do so in advance of the next review cycle.

**Recommendation 6**

Pursue competitive funding for MA students, and maintain opportunities for them to be teaching assistants.

**ARC Disposition of the Recommendation**

ARC considers the recommendation to be accepted and in the process of implementation. The Committee expects the Department to work through normal channels of advocacy for the means to address this recommendation.

**Implementation Plan (3<sup>rd</sup> Priority)**

Responsible for approving:	Department
Responsible for resources:	Department
Responsible for implementation:	Department
Timeline:	Dean of Humanities to report by the end of academic year 2019/20

Actions	Responsibility	Year One*	Year Two	Year Three

Action #1 Department will meet to discuss further options and opportunities for graduate funding	Chair GPD Department	T	T	T
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**Comments 2020:**

Faculty members with external funding have often hired incoming graduate students as Research Assistants, and that practice will continue. Given that we often don't know which faculty members will have such funding (or how much), it's difficult to use this possibility as a stable incentive for potential graduate students, but we pursue the possibility when we can.

**Recommendation 7**

Increase diversity of literature course options.

**ARC Disposition of the Recommendation**

ARC considers the recommendation to be accepted. The Committee expects that this issue will be included in regular curricular review using the curriculum map developed for the Self Study.

**Implementation Plan (3<sup>rd</sup> Priority)**

Responsible for approving: Department  
Responsible for resources: Department  
Responsible for implementation: Department  
Timeline: Dean of Humanities to report by the end of academic year 2019/20

Actions	Responsibility	Year One*	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 Department will meet to discuss ways to diversify our literature course options	Chair Department	T	T	T

**Comments 2019:**

The Department is in the process of revising our first-year offerings (rethinking how we present required courses for majors and creating a context-credit course for non-majors). We are taking this recommendation into account as we have those conversations.

**Comments 2020:**

The Chair will make a comprehensive proposal for curriculum changes to our first- and second-year programming this Spring in order, in part, to address this issue. When we are once again able to meet face-to-face and have an appropriately robust discussion, we will begin the process of implementing those changes.

**Recommendation 8**

Develop indigenous literature course offerings, and explore options for inviting Indigenous scholars into program (eg. Tenure track position; Indigenous Writer in Residence; Indigenous Postdoctoral Fellow).

**ARC Disposition of the Recommendation**

ARC considers the recommendation to be accepted and in the process of implementation. The Committee encourages the Department to connect with the Two Row Council to explore options for implementing this recommendation.

**Implementation Plan (1<sup>st</sup> Priority)**

Responsible for approving: Department  
 Responsible for resources: Department  
 Responsible for implementation: Department  
 Timeline: Dean of Humanities to report by the end of academic year 2017/18

Actions On Target (T), On Hold (H), Delayed (D), Complete (C)	Responsibility	Year One*	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 Continue to assess Indigenous authors and texts already integrated as part of existing courses	Chair Department	T	T	T
Action #2 ENCW Committee to continue discussion of Writer-in-Residence program proposal with this Recommendation in mind	ENCW Committee Department	T	H	T
Action #3 Chair to arrange to meet (summer 2018) with representative from the Two Row Council to discuss this Recommendation	Chair	H	H	T

**Comments 2019:**

Though committed to the principles of Indigenization and Decolonization, the Department wants to ensure that any changes we make in those terms are carefully integrated into

\*On Target (T), On Hold (H), Delayed (D), Complete (C), Ongoing (O)

the acknowledged strengths of our program; simply adding courses for sake of adding them would be, we think, self-defeating. We did, however, submit a(n unsuccessful) proposal for a CRC in Indigenous Writing, and we hope to be able to submit that proposal again if the opportunity presents itself. The Chair has asked for volunteers from the Department to approach the Two Row Council to begin a conversation about our programs.

**Comments 2020:**

In February 2020, the Chair and the Undergraduate Programs Coordinator met with the VP Indigenous Engagement to discuss strategies and opportunities. Both parties recognize the complexities involved, particularly when resources are scarce and there are no self-identifying indigenous faculty members in the Department. However, we discussed, for example, the possibility of establishing a formal co-major in English and Indigenous Studies. It was a productive conversation, and we hope to continue to connect with the VP Indigenous Engagement and his office going forward.

**Recommendation 9**

Consult with English Undergraduate Association to explore additional ways to develop a strong undergraduate community, including space and/or other amenities.

**ARC Disposition of the Recommendation**

ARC considers the recommendation to be accepted. The Committee believes that the Department is best positioned to determine appropriate strategies to move forward on this issue.

**Implementation Plan (2<sup>nd</sup> Priority)**

Responsible for approving: Department  
 Responsible for resources: Department  
 Responsible for implementation: Department  
 Timeline: Dean of Humanities to report by the end of academic year 2018/19

Actions	Responsibility	Year One*	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 The Chair and Undergraduate Officer will meet with incoming ESA Executive to ways to develop a stronger sense of community among the students	Chair Undergraduate Officer Department	T	T	T

\*On Target (T), On Hold (H), Delayed (D), Complete (C), Ongoing (O)



**Comments 2019:**

The ESA was somewhat late getting started this year and, perhaps consequently, less active than they have been in the past (which happens, from time to time). The Chair and Undergraduate Officer will contact the incoming ESA Executive next year to talk over this recommendation in more detail.

**Comments 2020:**

The ESA continues to be somewhat less active than it has been in past years, but the Department continues to connect with them when possible. In addition, in summer 2019, the Chair identified a lounge/meeting space in our Department and invited our senior undergraduates to share that space with us. That space is now fairly well-used by our Honours cohort, who have indicated to the Chair (informally) that they have enjoyed having the opportunity to use a shared work and social space in the Department itself.

**Recommendation 10**

Consider offering one or two online courses.

**ARC Disposition of the Recommendation**

ARC considers the recommendation to be current practice. No further action is required.

**Implementation Plan**

No further action required.

**Recommendation 11**

Confidential Recommendation

As per the IQAP Section 2.10 regarding confidential recommendations "relating to personnel issues or other matters involving specific individuals" found in the Reviewers' Report, these recommendations "will only be released to the Dean(s), the academic unit and ARC."