

BA General Humanities

Undergraduate Review

Year 1 (2021) - FAR Implementation Report

(reviewed 2019/20)

Recommendation #1

The word "General" be dropped and that the program be referred to as the three-year "BA Pass Degree in Humanities".

ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers the recommendation to be accepted and in the process of implementation.

Implementation Plan (1st Priority)

Responsible for approving: Unit
 Responsible for resources: Unit
 Responsible for implementation: Unit
 Timeline: Dean of Humanities to report by the end of academic year 2020/21

Actions	Responsibility	Year One*	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 Propose Change to ARC, and then APC	Dean's Office	D		

Comments 2021:

There were no proposed calendar changes associated with GHUM in 2020/2021, as the Dean's Office was overworked responding to COVID-19. These changes will be part of the 2021/2022 submissions.

Recommendation #2

HUMA 1P50 be designated a required course for all students graduating with the BA Pass Degree in the Humanities.

ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers the recommendation to be accepted for consideration.

Implementation Plan (1st Priority)

Responsible for approving: Unit

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

Responsible for resources:	Unit
Responsible for implementation:	Unit
Timeline:	Dean of Humanities to report by the end of academic year 2020/21

Actions	Responsibility	Year One*	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 Consider making HUMA 1P50 a required course for Pass GHUM students	Dean's Office	C		

Comments 2021:

The Associate Dean (Undergraduate) discussed this recommendation with the Academic Advisors in the Faculty of Humanity, and - for now - will not make HUMA 1P50 a required course. The reason for this is that, periodically, the GHUM Pass degree becomes the sole option for a student who has struggled with a major program to graduate (and often the change of major from a disciplinary program to GHUM is processed in the final term before the student graduates). To impose a new requirement on GHUM students would seriously disadvantage such students.

Thus, Associate Dean and the Academic Advisors for the Faculty of Humanities will continue to promote HUMA 1P50 as a recommended course for incoming GHUM students (as it is most useful in the first years of study).

Recommendation #3

The creation of a third-year HUMA .5 credit independent study course that would be optional to students in the BA Pass Degree in the Humanities.

ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers the recommendation to be accepted for consideration as an option for students. The Committee understands that the program may be constrained by limited resources and therefore opt to use existing Faculty of Humanities independent study courses or a directed reading course to address this recommendation.

Implementation Plan (2nd Priority)

Responsible for approving:	Unit
Responsible for resources:	Unit
Responsible for implementation:	Unit
Timeline:	Dean of Humanities to report by the end of academic year 2021/22

Actions	Responsibility	Year One*	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 Survey Faculty of Humanities calendar offerings for independent study courses that may be open to GHUM students.	Dean's Office	D		
Action #2 To consider creating an optional third-year independent study half-credit course.	Dean's Office	D		

Comments 2021:

The first step in this process would be to survey existing independent study courses that may be available to GHUM students across the faculty. Unfortunately, this survey (and subsequent action) has been delayed in 2020/2021, as the Dean's Office was overworked responding to COVID-19. This survey and subsequent action will take place in 2021/2022.

Recommendation #4

The Faculty investigate the possibility of creating a four-year Bachelor of Arts in Humanities that would include a fourth-year capstone course.

ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers the recommendation to be accepted and in the process of implementation.

Implementation Plan (1st Priority)

Responsible for approving: Unit

Responsible for resources: Unit

Responsible for implementation: Unit

Timeline: Dean of Humanities to report by the end of academic year 2020/21

Actions	Responsibility	Year One*	Year Two	Year Three
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Action #1 Faculty investigate the possibility of creating a four-year Bachelor of Arts in Humanities.	Dean's Office	C		
Action #2 If a four-year degree is possible, consider including a fourth-year capstone course.	Dean's Office	C		

Comments 2021:

While there is institutional support for a 4-Year option in the General Humanities, the nomenclature issue remains (that is, the 4-year degree option available to non-Honours students in a 4-Year degree with major, and General students do not hold a major). As per the Academic Calendar, the BA degree offered by Brock include: Honours, With Major, Pass.

Given this institutional barrier, there will be no further consideration of this recommendation.

Recommendation #5

Clarification of the notation that appears on a student's record when they are adjudicated out of a Major to ensure that it is both accurate and conveys a positive message.

ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers the recommendation to be accepted and in the process of implementation. ARC understands that consultation with the Registrar's Office will be necessary to assess the viability of this recommendation.

Implementation Plan (1st Priority)

Responsible for approving: Unit
 Responsible for resources: Unit
 Responsible for implementation: Unit
 Timeline: Dean of Humanities to report by the end of academic year 2020/21

Actions	Responsibility	Year One*	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 Discuss messaging around adjudication with the Registrar's Office	Dean's Office	D		

Comments 2021:

Unfortunately, it was not possible to start these discussions in 2020/2021, as the Dean's Office and the Registrar's Office were overworked responding to COVID-19.

Recommendation #6

Ensure improved tracking of GHUM students through the program with annual audit by the Associate Dean, Faculty of Humanities, and Academic Advisors for the Faculty and the Student Success Centre to provide students with advice regarding (re)-enrolment in a major or in one or more minors as well as advice regarding academic support.

ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers the recommendation to be accepted and already in progress.

Implementation Plan (1st Priority)

Responsible for approving: Unit
 Responsible for resources: Unit
 Responsible for implementation: Unit
 Timeline: Dean of Humanities to report by the end of academic year 2020/21

Actions	Responsibility	Year One*	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 Associate Dean's Office will conduct an academic year-end audit of GHUM students, and contact appropriate Chairs and Directors if there are potential majors within this group.	Dean's Office	T		

Comments 2021:

A review of GHUM students was completed at the end of the 2019/2020 year, and several potential disciplinary majors were identified; Chairs and Directors were sent the list of potential disciplinary majors and invited to contact them.

Recommendation #7

The Dean's Office commit effort and resources to developing a sense of shared identity and community among all students in the BA Pass Degree in the Humanities.

ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers the recommendation to be accepted and in the process of implementation. The Committee understands that the unique nature of the program and a diverse student cohort will make efforts to foster a shared sense of identity and community a challenge.

Implementation Plan (1st Priority)

Responsible for approving: Unit
 Responsible for resources: Unit
 Responsible for implementation: Unit
 Timeline: Dean of Humanities to report by the end of academic year 2020/21

Actions	Responsibility	Year One*	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 Dean's Office include GHUM students in its orientation activities.	Dean's Office	T		
Action #2 Dean's Office organize a mid-year check-in with GHUM students	Dean's Office	T		

Comments 2021:

Action #1

In its Orientation messaging, GHUM students were explicitly welcomed, and a separate video was prepared for those students.

Action #2

The Dean's Office, together with Academic Advisors in the Faculty of Humanities, held two online Q+A sessions for GHUM students in 2020/2021 (at the beginning of the Fall and Winter terms). The Fall session was very well-attended, and the Winter session less so (though that have been related to online fatigue). Still, these sessions proved a valuable opportunity to answer questions and create a sense of community.