

Health Sciences

Undergraduate Review

Year 1 (2019) - FAR Implementation Report (reviewed 2017/18)

Recommendation #1

The Bachelor of Public Health Co-op be restructured so that the co-op is offered in the fall and/or winter terms too.

ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers the recommendation to be accepted as an alternative to closing the program, given that the reviewers categorized it as non-viable. The Committee recognizes that a program in the health and well-being disciplines with a strong experiential component fits very well into the priorities of Brock's Strategic Mandate Agreement (SMA) with the province, both in terms of areas of program strength and expansion and societal need in the Niagara Region. ARC expects that the Department will proceed through normal channels of advocacy for any necessary new faculty resources.

Implementation Plan (2nd Priority)

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|---------------------------------|---|
| Responsible for approving: | Department |
| Responsible for resources: | Department |
| Responsible for implementation: | Department |
| Timeline: | Dean of Applied Health Sciences to report by the end of academic year 2019/20 |

| Actions | Responsibility | Year One* | Year Two | Year Three |
|--|----------------------------------|-----------|----------|------------|
| Action #1 - Meet with CCEE office to agree on rescheduling of co-op terms and adjust the curriculum to a 3-term program. | Chair | C | | |
| Action #2 - Review of the BPH program by HLSC curriculum committee to facilitate students' progression through the 3-term program. | Chair Curriculum Committee | T | | |
| Action #3 - Request two additional full-time tenure-stream faculty members to offer more courses during the Spring and Summer terms. | Chair | H | | |

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

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|---|-------|---|--|--|
| Action # 4 - Request one FT staff: Public Health Programs Coordinator. | Chair | H | | |
|---|-------|---|--|--|

Comments 2019:**Action #1**

On January 24, the Chair met with representatives of Co-op, Career & Experiential Education (CCEE). The consensus is that having a program that spans three terms would be ideal to allow the students to take courses throughout the year and work terms at different times. The chart below represents the most efficient agreed upon sequence.

| Time | Fall | Winter | Spring/Summer |
|--------|---|--|--|
| Year 1 | Academic Term | Academic Term | Off |
| Year 2 | Academic Term & Co-op Professional Preparation Course (HLSC ON90) | Academic Term | Academic Term & Co-op Job Search Term |
| Year 3 | Work Term 1 | Academic Term & Co-op Job Search Term | Work Term 2 |
| Year 4 | Academic Term & Co-op Job Search Term | Work Term 3 | Academic Term (last semester - students will convocate in October) |

Action #2

After several meetings analyzing options, the curriculum committee in agreement with the Chair recommended to the Departmental Committee to split HLSC 3F20 "*Program Planning and Evaluation*". Having a full-credit course in third year was forcing students to choose between a core course and a work term. On March 27, 2019, the Departmental Committee approved the course split with ensuing UPC submission in October this year.

Additionally, the Curriculum Committee commissioned a subcommittee (*i.e.*, the BPH subcommittee) to conduct an in-depth analysis of the program in terms of: (i) the Core competencies for Public Health in Canada as outlined by the Public Health Agency of Canada; (ii) Course-level learning outcomes; (iii) reviewing the balance of core versus elective courses (iv); flexibility of course offerings in support of the 3-term program, among others.

Action #3

Only one full-time tenure-stream faculty position was approved with the other position being deferred until 2020. A position in Health and Diverse Populations (JR-1002165) was posted with a closing date of April 6.

The second position will be in Child/Maternal Health as approved by the Departmental Committee.

Action # 4

The job description “Public Health Programs Coordinator” was approved by the Dean and Human Resources, however but didn’t receive funding and hiring has been postponed to 2020.

Recommendation #2

The HLSC department explore changing the BA Child Health to either a Bachelor of Child Health or a BSc.

ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers the recommendation to be accepted and under consideration.

Implementation Plan (2nd Priority)

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

| Actions* | Responsibility | Year One | Year Two | Year Three |
|--|---------------------------|----------|----------|------------|
| Action #1 - Consult with the Vice-Provost & Associate Vice-President, Academic for clarifications on process to be followed | Chair | C | | |
| Action #2 - Consult with Department of Child and Youth Studies. | Chair Academic Advisor | C | | |
| Action #3 - Submit name change proposal to UPC. | Academic Advisor | C | | |

Comments 2019:

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

Action #1

In consultation with the Vice-Provost & Associate Vice-President, Academic it was decided that the department could not change the program from a BA to a BSC without substantial changes in the curriculum, primarily including a majority of science courses. Therefore, it was decided to apply for a name change only.

In consultation with the Vice-Provost & Associate Vice-President, Academic it was confirmed that changing the program name from "BA Child Health" to "Bachelor of Child Health (BCH)" only required submission to UPC and not to ARC.

Additionally, since the change was a name change and not a program change, we were only required to inform CHYS instead of a more formal consultation, which is done when proposing program changes "that cross departments and therefore have an impact on them ("e.g. additions, deletions, revisions to courses or course components, revision to program requirements that impact a program in another Department/Centre")."

Action #2

On October 24, 2018, HLSC Academic Advisor informed CHYS of our upcoming submission to UPC regarding the name change.

Action #3

The UPC submission was completed in October 2018 with the change appearing in the 2019-2020 Undergraduate Calendar <https://brocku.ca/webcal/2019/undergrad/chil.html>

Child Health

This program is offered through the Department of Health Sciences

Chair

Ana Sanchez

Undergraduate Program Co-ordinator

Maryann Polce-Gordon

Experiential Education Co-ordinator

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The Bachelor of Child Health is a collaborative effort between the Department of Health Sciences and the Department of Child and Youth Studies and is managed by the Department of Health Sciences. It is designed for students wishing to pursue careers concerned with the health of children. The program provides students with a biological, psychological and sociological overview of the major determinants of health from birth through adolescence.



Recommendation #3

The FAHS should establish a new strategic plan as soon as possible.

ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers the recommendation to be outside the scope of the review and the mandate of the reviewers and therefore it is not accepted.

Implementation Plan

Recommendation not accepted.

Recommendation #4

The HLSC should revisit the terminology used by instructors for The Course Level Learning Outcomes and ensure they are consistent with and/or map on to the program level outcomes.

ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers the recommendation to be accepted and in the process of implementation. The Department is encouraged to undertake an ongoing process of curriculum review and revision, utilizing the curriculum map which was prepared for the cyclical review.

Implementation Plan (1st Priority)

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

| Actions* | Responsibility | Year One | Year Two | Year Three |
|---|----------------------|----------|----------|------------|
| Action #1 - Curriculum Committee to examine the Medical Sciences degree program plan | Curriculum Committee | C | | |
| Action #2 - Curriculum Committee to examine the Public Health degree program plan | Curriculum Committee | T | | |
| Action #3 - Curriculum Committee to examine the Community Health degree program plan | Curriculum Committee | T | | |

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

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|--|----------------------|---|--|--|
| Action #4 - Curriculum Committee to examine the Child Health degree program plan | Curriculum Committee | H | | |
| Action #5 - Curriculum Committee to create a guideline document to help instructors in reviewing their course learning outcomes. | Curriculum Committee | T | | |
| Action #6 - Instructors review their own course outline to ensure that they align with the program learning outcomes. | Department | T | | |

Comments 2019:

Actions #1 to #4

Before revisiting the Course Level Learning Outcomes for each of our courses, as recommended by the reviewers, we aim to undertake a thorough review of our programs. Actions 1-4 will be taken as foundational steps to fulfil the recommendation.

Action #5

The Curriculum Committee will create a guideline document to help instructors understand the pedagogical terminology utilized for designing **Course Level Learning Outcomes**.

Action #6

Instructors will apply consistent terminology across their course outlines / syllabi to ensure Course Level Learning Outcomes are consistent with Program Level Outcomes.

Recommendation #5

The HLSC should explore options for increasing elective course offerings (e.g., changes to curriculum, online courses or modules).

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: | Department |
| Responsible for resources: | Department |
| Responsible for implementation: | Department |
| Timeline: | Dean of Applied Health Sciences to report by the end of academic year 2018/19 |

| Actions* | Responsibility | Year One | Year Two | Year Three |
|---|---------------------------------------|----------|----------|------------|
| Action #1 - Encourage faculty members to create elective courses | Chair Curriculum Committee | T | | |
| Action #2 - Submit new courses to UPC | Academic Advisor Curriculum Committee | T | | |

Comments 2019:

Creating new courses with the current number of faculty members is a challenge. However, we have been creative to fulfill this recommendation. For example, we have reallocated teaching loads and created courses to be taught by Sessionals until we get more faculty positions.

Action #1

Between 2018 and 2019, have created the following new elective courses:

#HLSC 2P00 Writing in Health Sciences

HLSC 3Q90 Geospatial Analytics for Public Health

HLSC 3Q91 Special Topics in Medical Sciences (Directed Study)

HLSC 3Q92 Special Topics in Public Health (Directed Study)

HLSC 3Q93 Special Topics in Child Health (Directed Study)

*HLSC 3Q96 Childhood Obesity

¥HLSC 3Q97 Global Health

**HLSC 3Q98 Laboratory Techniques for Biomedical Research

¥HLSC 4P04 Environmental Health

HLSC 4P89 Current Topics in Infection and Immunity (created not submitted to UPC yet)

HLSC 4P98 Biomarkers and Disease Processes

taught by ILTA

*not offered because we are short of one Child Health faculty member (deferred to 2020)

¥taught by Sessional instructor

**not offered because the faculty member is on teaching remission (research award)

Action #2

All above-mentioned courses are approved by UPC and in the 2019-2020 Calendar except for HLSC 4P89 Current Topics in Infection and Immunity because the instructor is on course remission approved by the Dean.

Recommendation #6

The HLSC, and perhaps the Faculty, should develop a strategy to better track and evaluate student success both within the program (e.g., scholarly output, awards) and after graduation (e.g., employment, postgraduate study).

ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers the recommendation to track student success within the program to be consistent with current practice. The Committee considers the recommendation to track and evaluate student success after graduation to be accepted and in the process of implementation. It is understood that existing efforts by the Department may be further enhanced and supported by resources such as the Office of Institutional Analysis and Office of Alumni Relations.

Implementation Plan (3rd Priority)

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Responsible for approving: | Department |
| Responsible for resources: | Department |
| Responsible for implementation: | Department |
| Timeline: | Dean of Applied Health Sciences to report by the end of academic year 2020/21 |

| Actions* | Responsibility | Year One | Year Two | Year Three |
|--|--|----------|----------|------------|
| Action #1 All HLSC courses will implement online course evaluations (Primary and secondary course components) | Chair Administrative Assistant CPI | T | | |
| Action #2 Create, implement and update evaluations for the placement component of courses with integrated experiential learning | Experiential Education Coordinator | T | | |
| Action #3 Expand current HLSC alumni database | Academic Advisor Alumni Relations | T | | |

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

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|--|--|--|--|--|
| | Experiential Education Coordinator | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|

Comments 2019:

Action #1

As of 2018/2019 D3 term, all but one course has implemented online evaluations for their primary component. The Administrative Assistant with the collaboration of CPI will implement online evaluations for secondary components in 2019/2020 D2 term. The Experiential Education Coordinator has assisted some instructors with adding experiential education to the online evaluations.

Action #2

The Experiential Education Coordinator has created the Student Performance Evaluation to be completed by the placement supervisor. This form is intended to gather feedback from our community partners to ensure that our students are satisfying learning outcomes and expectations. The form will be piloted in the Child Health Internship course (HLSC 3P34) in the current term.

Additionally, the Experiential Education Coordinator has recommended to the Chair, that a form be created for students to evaluate the placements.

Action #3

This is a slow process, but we are optimistic that this goal can be achieved as we now have a dedicated Experiential Education Coordinator to help the Academic Advisor with this task.

Recommendation #7

An examination should be made of the first-year retention rate and the six-year graduation rate of students in HLSC.

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: | Department |
| Responsible for resources: | Department |
| Responsible for implementation: | Department |
| Timeline: | Dean of Applied Health Sciences to report by the end of academic year 2018/19 |

| Actions* | Responsibility | Year One | Year Two | Year Three |
|---|--|----------|----------|------------|
| Action # 1 - Review first year courses, specifically HLSC 1F90 and the Math requirement. | Chair Curriculum Committee Academic Advisor | C | | |
| Action # 2 Increase course offering in Spring and Summer terms | Chair Academic Advisor Instructors | C | | |
| Action # 3 Creating online courses | Chair Academic Advisor Instructors | T | | |
| Action #4 - Enhance student engagement | Experiential Education Coordinator Academic Advisor | T | | |
| Action #5 - Create a 3-year BSc and submit to UPC | Chair Curriculum Committee Academic Advisor | T | | |

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

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|--|--------------------------------------|----------|--|--|
| <p>Action #6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Obtain data and analyze six-year graduation rate of HLSC students. | <p>Chair</p> <p>Academic Advisor</p> | <p>T</p> | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|----------|--|--|

Comments 2019:

Action #1

As explained in our Response to reviewers (p12), we made changes in HLSC 1F90 to provide more content consistency and streamline evaluation of students. We now have two instructors and fewer guest speakers, to provide better continuity in the class, which we expect will enhance retention rates.

Also, in the Response to Reviewers (p12) we made note of supporting the creation of MATH 1P99, designed specifically for Health Sciences students.

Students must achieve at least a 60% in these two courses to remain in our programs. Any positive change in either will definitively contribute to student success and first-year retention rate.

Action #2

We regularly offer HLSC 1F90 in the Spring term (6-week period). Students who, during the regular term did not achieve the minimum grade requirement to remain in our programs, can repeat the course right away, often with success. Transfer students also benefit from the spring offering.

Additionally (although not our course) MATH 1P98 is now offered online and in-class during the Spring. This maximizes opportunities for retention.

Action #3

To contribute to student success, we are in the process of developing two online courses for the BPH program: HLSC 2P07 (Biostatistics I) and HLSC 4P50 (Research Methods in Epidemiology). Although the main drive of this initiative is to support MPH applicants, they will benefit undergrad students who cannot stay in town for the spring and summer.

Action #4

Our Experiential Education Coordinator has been involved with several activities in this regard, including:

- Creating and managing a Sakai info-site for all our students to received timely information about their programs, placement and job opportunities, events, etc.
- Organizing and delivering "The Edge", an informational event tailored to each year of study.
- Supporting HLSC Student Council

- Change in protocol for acquiring practicums for academic credit. There is now a dialogue between each student and the Experiential Education Coordinator to determine interests and goals. This direct engagement and follow up establishes a sense of belonging and support.

Our Academic Advisor continues to reach out to students through mass e-mails to deliver timely information pertaining a full range of issues, from registration to graduation. She also participates in Smart Start.

We also use social media to engage our students, specifically through Twitter.

Action #5

The department has approved the proposal of a 3-year BSc in Human Health Sciences which is basically the first 3 years of our Medical Sciences Program. This program is not intended for direct entry but for exceptional students who move into professional schools. These students want to graduate with a 3-year science degree instead of the alternative 3-yr arts degree. Normally these students apply to graduate with a 3-yr General Science degree. By having this degree, we will be able to keep these exceptional students as Health Science alumni.

Action #6

We will be reaching out to the appropriate units at Brock to obtain data on six-year graduation rate in this department. If data show that this is an issue for HLSC, we will address it within the limits of our influence.