



Four Year Report (2024) Kinesiology Undergraduate Programs (reviewed 2019/2020)

A. Summary of Review

1. This review was conducted under the terms and conditions of the IQAP approved by Senate on May 25, 2016.
2. The Review Committee consisted of two external reviewers: Patricia Weir (University of Windsor) and Douglas Brown (University of Manitoba) and an internal reviewer, Jeff Atkinson (Brock University).
3. The site visit occurred on January 26-28, 2020.
4. The Final Assessment Report was approved by Senate on May 27, 2020.
5. The academic programs offered by the Department of Kinesiology which were examined as part of the review are listed below, with the reviewers having assigned the following outcome categories:

Program (s)	Excellent Quality	Good Quality	Good Quality with Concerns	Non-Viable
BSc (Honours) Kinesiology		X		
BKin (Honours)		X		
BKin (Honours) Co-op		X		
BPhEd (Honours)		X		
BPhEd (Honours)/BEd Intermediate/Senior		X		
BPhEd (Honours)/BEd Junior/Intermediate		X		

6. The next review of the undergraduate programs in the Department of Kinesiology will be in 2027/28.

B: Recommendations

Recommendation #1

The Department should partner with the Office of Institutional Analysis to explore the relationship between admission average and Year 1 academic performance. This can be done on several levels including performance in KIN 1P90, 1P93 1P98 and overall academic performance, as well as retention from Year 1 to Year 2 in the same program.

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 2020/21

Actions Taken	Year Action Started	Year Action Completed
Action #1 Meet with Office of Institutional Analysis (OIA). <i>[Now Office of Institutional Planning, Analysis and Performance (IPAP)]</i>	2021	2022
Action #2 Conduct analysis of relationships between intake average and outcomes of performance in KINE 1P90, 1P93 1P98 and overall academic performance, as well as retention from Year 1 to Year 2 in the same program.	2021	2023
Action #3 Discuss the results of the analysis of relationships between intake and performance outcomes.	2021	2023
Action #4 Pending results of the departmental discussion, conduct supplementary analyses.	2021	2023

Explanation of Actions Taken, Status and Results:

The analysis of performance through the Office of Institutional Planning, Analysis and Performance (formerly OIA) was completed during 2022 then the curriculum committee continued with a more nuanced analysis of relationships between intake and performance in 2022-2023. As the biggest challenge for students were the Biomechanics courses, changes have been made to the curriculum by replacing BIOL 1P92 with PHYS 1P91 in year 1. In addition, a companion half-credit course to the 4th year thesis will be introduced in 2024 along with changes to the evaluation of internship courses. The impact of this change on the students' performance will be analyzed when the first cohort following the new curriculum will complete their studies.

Recommendation #2

The Department should revisit the Curriculum Mapping exercise with a goal of exploring and reviewing more fully the course level learning outcomes with an emphasis on the upper years.

ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

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

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 2021/22

Actions Taken	Year Action Started	Year Action Completed
Action #1 Departmental Curriculum Committee revisit the Curriculum Mapping exercise.	2021	2023
Action #2 The Department will invite CPI to lead another Curriculum Mapping activity during its 2021 and/or 2022 retreat.	2021	2023

Explanation of Actions Taken, Status and Results:

The Curriculum Committee updated the departmental definition of ‘mastery’ in course outcomes. During the academic year 2022-2023, the committee started working on establishing a few capstone courses in fourth year. The plan was finalized during the 2022 and 2023 retreats, and the relative calendar changes were submitted to UPC in October 2023. The most significant changes were the addition of a companion half-credit course (4Q91) to strengthen the experience of the 4th year thesis course (KINE 4F91). Changes were also made to the supervision and evaluation of internship courses.

Recommendation #3

The Department should track student success outcomes in terms of student funding through competitive scholarships (e.g., NSERC USRA), publications and presentations.

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 2020/21

Actions Taken	Year Action Started	Year Action Completed
Action #1 Survey department faculty about scholarship, publication, and presentation of undergrad students for 2020.	2021	2021
Action #2 Survey faculty each year for scholarship, publication, and presentation outcomes of undergrad students.	2021	Ongoing

Explanation of Actions Taken, Status and Results:

Reminder emails are sent to faculty members to update the database yearly.

Recommendation #4

The Department should review curricular structure in years 3 and 4 with the goal of rebalancing the core curriculum and elective courses to reduce reliance on directed studies courses.

ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers the recommendation to be accepted and in the process of implementation. The Committee understands that a review of years 3 and 4 of the curriculum would be done in the context of the curriculum as a whole.

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 2020/21

Actions Taken	Year Action Started	Year Action Completed
Action #1 Department Curriculum Committee meet to discuss ways to balance core and elective credits.	2021	2023
Action #2 Balance of core and elective upper year credits discussed at Departmental retreat.	2021	2023
Action #3 Offer some new upper year elective courses.	2022	2023
Action #4 Recode some existing core courses as electives.	2022	2023

Explanation of Actions Taken, Status and Results:

We continued to increase the available upper year electives offered every year. Two existing courses have been recoded from core to elective (KINE 3P90 and 3P94), and new electives were added across years of study (KINE 2P02, 4P09, 4Q91). During Fall 2023, an agreement was reached with the Canadian Society of Exercise Physiology (CSEP) to integrate the curriculum of their certifications (However, given the high number of majors in all our programs the existing heavy workload and the high student-to-faculty ratio does not allow much flexibility in elective offerings. Unless the administration supports the replacement of retirements, and at least one new teaching position the problem will persist). Discussion of recoding some existing core courses as electives continues.

Recommendation #5

Given recent growth and physical expansion of the department, identify actions that will promote connectedness among faculty, staff, and students.

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 2020/21

Actions Taken	Year Action Started	Year Action Completed
Action #1 Increase faculty participation in Kinesiology Student Association (KSA; departmental student council) events.	2021	Ongoing
Action #2 Offer 2-3 social events annually for departmental faculty.	2021	Ongoing

Explanation of Actions Taken, Status and Results:

Covid-19 continued to affect these initiatives, but once the pandemic restrictions were lifted, the Kinesiology Student Association (KSA) organized yearly events (e.g., research showcase, *TRIVIA night*) with faculty participation. The KSA continues to meet with their faculty coordinator (Dr. Shawn Beaudette) to discuss and organize additional initiatives. Some small online social events were also launched in 2022 (e.g., departmental College basketball pool). The spring retreats in 2022 and 2023 were in-person as some other social gatherings for faculty. The faculty lunchroom has been upgraded and is used regularly by faculty to meet and talk. Other social events for faculty and graduate students were launched in 2022 (e.g., bowling night, Christmas dinner, international pot-luck lunch, and baseball competition between KINE and HLSC).

C. Unit Summative Analysis and Evaluation

1. To what extent has the Department achieved the improvements suggested by the reviewers?

The Department fully achieved the improvements suggested by the reviewers.

2. What overall impact has it had on the Department's programs?

The changes implemented to the curriculum and course delivery have had a small but positive impact on the program's learning outcomes.

3. How is the Department adopting a process of continuous quality improvement for its programs?

The Department of Kinesiology historically has a strong Curriculum Committee and collegial internal review processes that focus on the continuous monitoring and improvement of its programs.

4. How well do the programs now align with Brock University strategic priorities?

The academic programs offered by the Department of Kinesiology build on Brock's 2018-2025 Strategic Plan with a focus on student education, and the management of the well-being of Canadians. Specifically, all KINE programs are supportive student-centered and experiential in that laboratory hours and community/clinical placements are planned to maximize student growth in hands-on skills necessary for the practice of kinesiology and physical education. By implementing the latest recommendations, our programs strengthen the transformational and accessible academic experience that is always fostered through an appropriate core/elective balance and a variety of experiential, research, and internship courses.

5. How does this review and its results position the programs as the Department moves into the next review cycle?

The KINE programs are semi-professional programs, in that they prepare students to register with the College of Kinesiologists of Ontario (CKO), but are also disciplinary programs preparing students for advanced, graduate degrees. This review and its results position our programs to integrate basic knowledge and skill development in kinesiology and physical education better and more smoothly with collaborative research projects and experiential learning. In doing so, our programs will address the fundamental current societal challenges, including the increased aging population, by proposing evidence-based exercise therapy strategies to prolong mobility and manage chronic pain.

D. ARC Final Summary

In final summary of the 2019/20 cyclical academic review of the programs offered by the Department of Kinesiology, ARC has determined the following:

1. That the Reviewers' Recommendations have been addressed satisfactorily.
2. That the Department has established a direction for next steps as it prepares for the next review cycle.
3. That the Department has achieved a broad-based, reflective, and forward-looking self-assessment.