

# Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures

## Undergraduate Review

### Year 2 (2020) - FAR Implementation Report

(reviewed 2017/18)

#### Recommendation #1

...it is the opinion of the Review Committee that the Department must act immediately to renew, restructure and/or reconsider its programs, both individually and as a whole.

#### ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers the recommendation to be accepted. Recommendations #1-4 deal with curriculum review with Recommendation 3 providing suggestions on how to begin this process. Changes to the programs must be reflective of the resources (human, financial and physical) which are presently available to the Department.

#### 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 2019/20

Actions	Responsibility	Year One*	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 Implementation of hybrid courses	Department	T	T	
Action #2 Focus on Experiential component in course outlines & course delivery	Department	T	T	
Action #3 Implementation of Internship & Community Outreach Courses	Department	T	T	

#### Comments 2019:

- Through their consultations, members of the Department came to the conclusion that all Programs in MLLC need to be represented on the Curriculum Review. Therefore, it has been quite impossible to strike such a Committee until now, as not all representatives have been available in 2018-2019.
- MLLC members think that Recommendation #9 (conduct a Climate Review) must be implemented before a Curriculum Committee can be effective.

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

**Comments 2020:**

- MLLC members think that Recommendation #9 (conduct a Climate Review) must be implemented before a Curriculum Committee can be effective. The HRI Symposium on Curriculum may provide some ideas for future discussions
- individual Programs have been working on better identifying experiential opportunities in their courses and individual instructors have been considering the viability of converting some courses to a hybrid delivery. Curricular discussion on these topics must occur.

**Recommendation #2**

The Reviewers recommend the Creation of a Curriculum Committee to plan and coordinate the proposed changes to the Department programs.

**ARC Disposition of the Recommendation**

ARC considers the recommendation to be accepted and encourages the Department to begin this process as soon as possible, utilizing the curriculum maps developed for the Self Study as a starting point. See also the response to Recommendation #1.

**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 2019/20

Actions	Responsibility	Year One	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 Consultations on how to strike a Curriculum Committee	Department	T	T	
Action #2 Creation of a Curriculum Committee	Department	H	H	

**Comments 2019:**

- Through their consultations, members of the Department came to the conclusion that all Programs in MLLC need to be represented on the Curriculum Committee. Therefore, it has been quite impossible to strike such a Committee until now, as not all representatives have been available in 2018-2019.
- MLLC members still think that Recommendation #9 (conduct a Climate Review) must be implemented before a Curriculum Committee can be effective.

**Comments 2020:**

- MLLC members strongly feel that Recommendation #9 (conduct a Climate Review) must be implemented before a Curriculum Committee can be struck since all Programs in MLLC should be represented on the Curriculum Committee.

-due to COVID-19 the planned symposium on curriculum in cooperation with the Dean's office has been postponed. This symposium would have provided an opportunity for a preliminary conversation regarding curriculum, even though it would not have been Program specific or specific to our Department.

**Recommendation #3**

It is recommended that the Department, or Departmental Curriculum Committee, once created, discuss the following changes, applicable to each of its programs or courses as appropriate to their individual characteristics, based on the requirements and courses listed in a new Curriculum:

- Introduction of placements test for the French BA and BA-Ed.
- Changes to course descriptions and outlines: elimination of traditional categorization and periodization, introduction of areas or themes;
- Introduction of more courses in language pedagogy, children's literature, cultural studies, cinema, arts and culture; creation of courses in contemporary literature, digital humanities;
- Update the Undergraduate Calendar to reflect the courses taught in recent academic years;
- Check the consistency of course descriptions across language programs;
- Offer a wider variety of formats with more online, blended, experiential and community outreach courses.
- Based on the Self-Study Report data, students have shown interest in programs that are geared towards the acquisition of professional linguistic skills, such as the French BA-B.Ed. It is recommended that, in reforming its programs, the Department consider diversifying its degrees, giving each of them specific objectives, by offering Majors or Minors either in 'Studies', which include courses taught in English or cross-listed, or in a 'Language', the latter oriented more towards language learning or acquiring linguistic skills --also in specific fields or with specific purposes. The Department has already introduced courses aiming towards the students' professionalization. Introductory courses to benefit language skills for tourism in the Niagara region, social and health workers and business, make the programs even more attractive.

**ARC Disposition of the Recommendation**

ARC considers the recommendation to be accepted. See also the response to Recommendations #1 and 2.

**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 2019/20

Actions	Responsibility	Year One	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 Creation of a placement test in French	Department	H	H	
Action #2 Review course calendar, course descriptions and outlines	Department	T	T	
Action #3 Hiring BUFA instructor (Business French & Translation)	Dean of Humanities	T	C	
Action #4 Cross-listing MLLC courses	Department	T	H	

**Comments 2019:**

- In order to create a placement test and to offer more courses in areas highlighted by reviewers, MLLC would need more resources, including new hires.
- Through their consultations, members of the Department came to the conclusion that all Programs in MLLC need to be represented on the Curriculum Committee. Therefore, it has been quite impossible to strike such a Committee until now, as not all representatives have been available in 2018-2019.
- MLLC members still think that Recommendation #9 (conduct a Climate Review) must be implemented before a Curriculum Committee can be effective.
- Several MLLC courses are now cross-listed with STAC, IASC, LING, VISA, etc.
- MLLC will continue to explore other cross-listing options.

**Comments 2020:**

- In order to create a placement test and to offer more courses in areas highlighted by reviewers, MLLC would need more resources, including new hires.
- Course calendar and course descriptions have not been reviewed by a Curriculum Committee as it has been impossible to strike the committee. Instructors within Programs have been looking at their individual courses and courses that are program specific
- MLLC members maintain that Recommendation #9 (conduct a Climate Review) must be implemented before a Curriculum Committee can be effective.
- Several MLLC courses are now cross-listed with STAC, IASC, LING, VISA, CLASS, MARS.
- MLLC will continue to explore other cross-listing options.
- MLLC is waiting for response regarding its request to convert to tenure track the faculty hired as LTA for Business French and Translation

**Recommendation #4**

This Review Committee recommends the curricular addition of a fourth in-class conversation hour a week in those courses and levels that can benefit from it, to provide more exposure and promote oral discussion and interaction in smaller groups.

**ARC Disposition of the Recommendation**

ARC 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 2018/19

Actions	Responsibility	Year One	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 Reintroduction of a 4 <sup>th</sup> hour in Language Courses	Department	T	T	

**Comments 2019:**

- A fourth hour for oral practice has been added to most of our language courses.
- MLLC will continue to explore ways of implementing the oral component in other courses.
- As the initial project to build a new Language Lab in EA has been postponed, MLLC main concern is how/whether Scheduling will be able to accommodate all our Language Labs sessions within existing space.

**Comments 2020:**

- A fourth hour for oral practice has been added to FREN 1F90 and FREN 2F00
- MLLC will continue to explore ways of implementing the oral component in its language courses.
- The Language Lab in EA was not completed for 2019-20 academic year, therefore language labs for FREN 1F90 and 2F00 were scheduled in PLZ309 and MCJ202. Communication on the EA lab is taking place, it will be ready for Sept 2020. MLLC remains concerned about whether Scheduling will be able to accommodate all Language Lab sessions within the space created and is concerned about IT support, conversation on this topic is occurring.

**Recommendation #5**

The Department should arrange for MLLC students to benefit from similar opportunities to practice the language orally and be exposed to cultural experiences on campus and locally.

**ARC Disposition of the Recommendation**

ARC considers the recommendation to be accepted and recognizes that it reflects current practice for the Department.

**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 2018/19

Actions	Responsibility	Year One	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 Invitation of more guest speakers in classrooms	Department	T	T	
Action #2 Implementation of Internship & Community Outreach Courses in preparation for Canada Games 2021	Department	T	T	
Action #3 Encouraging students' participation in community events for more linguistic & cultural exposure	Department	T	T	
Action #4 Reintroduction of a 4th hour in Language Courses	Department	T	T	

**Comments 2019:**

- Through their consultations, members of the Department came to the conclusion that all Programs in MLLC need to be represented on the Curriculum Committee. Therefore, it has been quite impossible to strike such a Committee until now, as not all representatives have been available in 2018-2019.
- MLLC members still think that Recommendation #9 (conduct a Climate Review) must be implemented before a Curriculum Committee can be effective.
- The Canada Games (to be hosted at Brock in Summer 2021) will provide our students opportunities for community outreach & placement. Two MLLC faculty, members of the Canada Games committee, have identified courses whose contents and practicum could be Canada-Games-centered, before, during, and after the Games.
- A fourth hour for oral practice has been added to most of our language courses.
- MLLC will continue to explore ways of implementing the oral component in other courses.

**Comments 2020:**

- Through their consultations, members of the Department came to the conclusion that all Programs in MLLC need to be represented on the Curriculum Committee. Therefore, it has

been quite impossible to strike such a Committee, as not all representatives have been available in 2019-2020.

- MLLC members still think that Recommendation #9 (conduct a Climate Review) must be implemented before a Curriculum Committee can be effective.
- The Canada Games (to be hosted at Brock in Summer 2021) will provide MLLC students with opportunities for community outreach & placement as well as experiential learning. Two MLLC faculty, members of the Canada Games committee, have identified courses whose contents and practicum could be Canada-Games-centered, before, during, and after the Games. Others are considering the Canada Games as a theme in courses as well as applying for CPI grant support
- Experiential components to courses are being explored and implemented where possible.
- A fourth hour for oral practice has been added to FREN 1F90 and FREN 2F00.
- MLLC will continue to explore ways of implementing the oral component in its other language courses.

### Recommendation #6

It is to the benefit of all Department's programs to create more collaborations also with the Department of Linguistics, especially in the areas of psychology of language, sociolinguistics, literacy in childhood and youth, child language acquisition, language learning, and materials and curriculum design.

#### ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers the Recommendation to investigate collaborations with Linguistics to be accepted.

#### 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 2018/19

Actions	Responsibility	Year One	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 MLLC-LING Cross-listing	Department	T	T	
Action #2 MLLC-STAC Cross-listing	Department	C	C	
Action #3 Exploring more options for potential co-degrees with other Departments (CLASS, TOUR, Science, etc.)	Department	T	T	

**Comments 2019:**

- Through their consultations, members of the Department came to the conclusion that all Programs in MLLC need to be represented on the Curriculum Committee. Therefore, it has been quite impossible to strike such a Committee until now, as not all representatives have been available in 2018-2019.
- MLLC members still think that Recommendation #9 (conduct a Climate Review) must be implemented before a Curriculum Committee can be effective.
- Several MLLC courses are now cross-listed with STAC, IASC, LING, VISA, etc.
- MLLC will continue to explore other cross-listing options.
- MLLC will continue to explore other co-degree options.

**Comments 2020:**

- Through their consultations, members of the Department came to the conclusion that all Programs in MLLC need to be represented on the Curriculum Committee. Therefore, it has been quite impossible to strike such a Committee until now, as not all representatives have been available in 2019-2020.
- MLLC members still think that Recommendation #9 (conduct a Climate Review) must be implemented before a Curriculum Committee can be effective.
- Several MLLC courses are now cross-listed with STAC, IASC, LING, VISA, etc.
- MLLC will continue to explore other cross-listing options.
- MLLC will continue to explore other co-degree options.

**Recommendation #7**

Courses at all levels should be taught by all full-time faculty members. Tenured faculty should participate also in the teaching of lower level courses.

**ARC Disposition of the Recommendation**

ARC considers the recommendation to be accepted. The Committee strongly encourages the Department to work towards full-time faculty teaching at all course levels, utilizing the resources presently available and in concert with the curriculum changes suggested in Recommendations #1-4.

**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 2019/20

Actions	Responsibility	Year One	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 Consultation within Unit on deployment of BUFA instructors at all levels	Department	T	T	
Action #2 Consultation within Unit on deployment of BUFA coordinators for multi section courses	Department	T	T	
Action #3 Consultation within Unit on deployment of BUFA Supervisors for courses taught by PTIs	Department	T	T	

**Comments 2019:**

- Due to its shortage of tenured faculty, MLLC continues to rely heavily on PTIs. Therefore, having full-time faculty teaching at all course levels continues to be challenging, especially in programs with fewer BUFA members.
- MLLC will continue consultations on how to implement curriculum changes suggested in Recommendations #1-4. However, striking a comprehensive Curriculum Committee continues to be a challenge, as some program representatives remain unavailable.
- MLLC members still think that Recommendation #9 (conduct a Climate Review) must be implemented before a Curriculum Committee can be effective.

**Comments 2020:**

- Due to its shortage of tenured faculty, MLLC continues to rely heavily on PTIs. Therefore, having full-time faculty teaching at all course levels continues to be challenging, especially in programs with fewer BUFA members.
- MLLC will continue consultations on how to implement curriculum changes suggested in Recommendations #1-4. However, striking a comprehensive Curriculum Committee continues to be a challenge, as some program representatives remain unavailable.
- MLLC members still think that Recommendation #9 (conduct a Climate Review) must be implemented before a Curriculum Committee can be effective.

**Recommendation #8**

Since the program was introduced a number of years ago [2010] with no results, the Review Committee recommends that the Hons. B.A. in Studies in Comparative Literatures and Cultures be discontinued. The Reviewers also recommend it to be replaced with a new Departmental program based on a sense of collegiality and collaboration, which could be in Studies in Languages (Literatures and Cultures), Intercultural Studies, European Studies, Romance Languages, or similar.

**ARC Disposition of the Recommendation**

ARC considers the recommendation to be accepted and in the process of implementation. The Request for Program Discontinuation should be submitted to the Committee as soon as possible.

**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 2018/19

Actions	Responsibility	Year One	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 Application to discontinue SCLC Program	Department	C	C	
Action #2 Converting SCLC courses into MLLC courses	Department	C	C	
Action #3 Cross-listing MLLC courses	Department	T	T	

**Comments 2019:**

Action #1- The proposed discontinuation of the Hons. B.A. in Studies in Comparative Literatures and Cultures has been submitted to ARC.

Action #3- Several MLLC courses are now cross-listed with STAC, IASC, LING, VISA, etc.

- MLLC will continue to explore other cross-listing options.
- MLLC will continue to explore other co-degree options.

**Comments 2020:**

- MLLC members still think that Recommendation #9 (conduct a Climate Review) must be implemented in order for a Curriculum Committee to be struck and to effectively evaluate, redesign and propose new MLLC courses in line with SMA and additional cross-listings and co-degree options.

- MLLC will continue to explore other cross-listing options.
- MLLC will continue to explore other co-degree options.

**Recommendation #9**

It is the opinion of the Reviewers that a Climate Review is urgently needed and must be conducted in the Department ASAP.

**ARC Disposition of the Recommendation**

ARC 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 2019/20

Actions	Responsibility	Year One	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 Preliminary Assessment of the climate in MLLC	HRE	C	C	
Action #2 Climate Review in MLLC	HRE	T	D	

**Comments 2019:**

The Preliminary Assessment Report was submitted in August 2018 which concluded that a full climate review was necessary. The review is still in process and the final Report to the Dean has not yet been received.

**Comments 2020:**

Interviews have taken place. The department is still waiting for the Report and its official recommendations.