

UNIVERSITY OF WINDSOR
UNIVERSITY PROGRAM REVIEW (UPR)
REPORT ON: LANGUAGES, LITERATURES AND CULTURES (LLC)
UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS
May 2016

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Review Preparation

In preparing this document, the Program Development Committee reviewed the following: LLC's Greek and Roman Studies Self Study (GRSS) (April 2015), LLC's French Studies Self Study (FSSS) (April 2015), LLC's Modern Languages Self-Study (MLSS) (April 2015), the undergraduate program review report of the external reviewers on Greek and Roman Studies (GRER) (June 2015), the undergraduate program review report of the external reviewers on French Studies (FSER) (June 2015), the undergraduate program review report of the external reviewers on Modern Languages (MLER) (June 2015), the response from the Head (HR) (September 2016), and the response from the Dean (DR) (March 2016) to the above material.

The external reviewers were: Dr. Margot Irvine, School of Languages and Literatures, University of Guelph (for: French Studies Programs and Modern Languages Programs), Dr. Donato Santeramo, Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures, Queen's University (for: Greek and Roman Studies Programs and Modern Languages Programs), Dr. Jeremy C. Trevett, Department of History, York University (for: Greek and Roman Studies Programs and French Studies Programs), Dr. Johanna Frank, Department of English Language, Literature and Creative Writing, University of Windsor (for: French Studies Programs), Dr. Catherine Hundleby, Department of Philosophy, University of Windsor (for: Modern Languages Programs), and Dr. Guy Lazure, Department of History, University of Windsor (for: Greek and Roman Studies Programs).

Undergraduate Programs

The Department offers a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Greek and Roman Studies (with Greek or Latin Option), a Bachelor of Arts (General) in French Studies, a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in French Studies, a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Modern Languages with Year Abroad, a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Modern Languages and Second-Language Education, and a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Modern Languages with Two Languages Option. Students also have the option of combining their Honours Greek and Roman Studies, their Honours French Studies, or Honours Modern Languages major with a major from another discipline. The Department also offers an eight-course Certificate in Second Language Education.

Note: Students who successfully complete BA (Honours) in Modern Languages and Second-Language Education, or the BA (Honours) in Modern Languages with Two Languages Option are eligible for the Certificate in Second Language Education upon application to graduate.

The Department collaborates with the Faculty of Education to offer a Concurrent Bachelor of Arts (General) in French Studies/Bachelor of Education (revised and reinstated January 2016). Students in this concurrent program may upgrade to an Honours French Studies degree by continuing their studies for a fifth year and completing the fourth year of the Honours program.

The Department offers Major and Minor Concentrations for the Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Arts and Science (BAS) in each of Greek and Roman Studies, French Studies, and Modern Languages, a BAS Minor Concentration in Linguistics and Literature, as well as the following Minors:

Minor in Greek and Roman Studies

Minor in French Studies

Minor in Modern Languages (Concentration in Language)

Minor in Modern Languages (Concentration in Language and Culture)

Minor in Modern Languages (Concentration in Linguistics and Literature)

Minor in Arabic Studies

Minor in Jewish Studies

Note: Classical Civilization was renamed Greek and Roman Studies in Spring 2014.

The Department does not offer graduate programs.

Enrolments

Undergraduate

	Fall 2011	Fall 2012	Fall 2013	Fall 2014	Fall 2015
Greek and Roman Studies Full-Time	26.5	29.5	30.5	26	15.5
Greek and Roman Studies Part-Time	6.5	7	8	4.5	3.5
French Studies Full-Time	213.45	197.85	206.55	156.95	124.3
French Studies Part-Time	26.8	38.26	32.75	18.81	21
Modern Languages Full-Time	51	45.5	40.5	46.5	37.5
Modern Languages Part-Time	11.5	20.5	15.5	14	13
Total LLC Full-Time	289.95	272.85	277.55	229.45	177.3
Total LLC Part-time	44.8	65.76	56.25	37.31	37.5

Human Resources

Faculty/Instructors

Tenured/tenure-track faculty	14 (including Head)
Sessional Lecturers	4
Faculty members involved in graduate program delivery	2

Full/Part-time Staff

Secretary	1
Secretary	.7

FINAL ASSESSMENT REPORT (with Implementation Plan)

Significant Strengths of the Programs

Dedicated faculty members, “the high quality of instruction and strong sense of engagement on the part of both instructors and students” are all significant strengths of the Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures, and contribute the success of its programs and students. (GRER, p.2, FSER, pp.5-6, MLER, pp.4-5). Specifically, “making use of a local Roman Re-enactor group to illustrate aspects of Roman military history, [...] the archeological practicum in Greece”, the Concurrent Bachelor in French Studies/Bachelor of Education, and the Modern Languages year abroad program – defined by the reviewers’ as “the department’s flagship degree” – are evidence of the Department’s commitment to the student experience and to delivering high quality, innovative undergraduate programs. (GRER, p.3, MLER, p.2)

Opportunities for Program Improvement/Enhancements

While the three external reviewers’ reports acknowledged the strength of the Greek and Roman Studies, French Studies, and Modern Languages programs in LLC, all three noted that the Department would benefit from greater collaboration and “inter-faculty cohesion” within the AAU, noting that “there is still some way to go in recognizing that, while respecting the need for students’ exposure to a number of different target languages and the specificities of individual programs, LLC will be a stronger whole the more it adopts a shared approach to planning. LLC members must work together to increase the visibility of the LLC’s activities on campus and in the community, by underscoring their important contributions to Windsor’s strategic priority to promote international engagement and to engage in

community partnerships that support the well-being of the Windsor-Essex region". (FSER, p. 5, MLER, p.4) As evidenced by this statement from the reviewers', while such collaborations could lead to the creation of interdisciplinary courses that touch on two or more of the disciplines in the AAU (offered either as required courses or as courses that students may opt to take to fulfill open requirements), adopting a shared approach to planning is not limited or specific to curriculum development. The decision to prepare three separate Self-Studies illustrates the reviewers' concern who believed "that a holistic approach would have allowed for a more incisive report which may further the important role LLC plays in delivering vital program for the [F]aculty and the university." (MLER, p.2, p.4)

Further opportunities for program improvements are captured in the recommendations listed below.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Recommendations (in priority order)

(Final recommendations arrived at by the Program Development Committee, following a review and assessment of the External Reviewers reports, the Head's response and the Dean's response.)

Recommendation 1: That the Department submit learning outcomes and assessment methods for each of its undergraduate programs and courses that clearly correspond to the University's stated "Characteristics of a University of Windsor Graduate".

[PDC notes that some work has been done on learning outcomes for its undergraduate programs and courses as provided in the Self Studies, and looks forward to receiving a complete package of learning outcomes for each of its programs and courses, appendix 3]

Agents: Department Council, Head, CTL, Vice-Provost, Teaching and Learning

Completion by: Fall 2017

Recommendation 2: That the Department develop a curriculum map that identifies the level of mastery for each course.

Agents: Department Council, Head, CTL, Vice-Provost, Teaching and Learning

Completion by: Fall 2019

Recommendation 3: That there be greater collaboration between the various Programs offered within the Department, which would enhance its position in the Faculty and would reflect the need for a more integrated, interdisciplinary approach to learning. (This may include initiatives such as those suggested by the external reviewers.¹)

Agents: Department Head, Department Council, faculty members

Completion by: Fall 2019

Recommendation 4: That the Department pursue strategic collaborations with other departments and post-secondary institutions. (This may include initiatives such as those suggested by the external reviewers².)

Agents: Department Council, Head

Completion by: Fall 2019

¹ Monthly informal lunch meetings, the creation of a curriculum committee for the LLC or departmental research presentations may initiate discussions on collaborations. Concrete examples of collaborative ventures could include cross-listing courses, integrating French Studies in to the Second-language pedagogy certificate offered in Modern Languages, advertising opportunities to participate in short-term language immersion opportunities to students in the whole department (for example, the Explore program or the OBW International Lake Constance Summer School), appointing a faculty member as "recruitment officer" who would attend the University's recruitment events on behalf of all programs or organizing a conference on minority languages and literatures. The creation or cross-listing of courses that can be taken by students in more than one program would also help alleviate the pressure on faculty resources within LLC. [MLER, recommendation 2; FSER, recommendation 2; GRER, recommendation 2]

² Strategic collaborations outside the department with other humanities departments, the Faculties of Nursing, Law, the Cross-Border Institute, Collège Boréal and Laurentian University, should also be envisaged when programs can be mutually enhanced by sharing their strengths. [FRER, recommendation 3] Greater collaboration with other departments that would perhaps help lessen the burden of heavy teaching loads on faculty members and at the same time give students a broader understanding of the subject matters they are studying. [MLER, recommendation 3]

Recommendation 5: That the Department review existing Greek and Roman Studies degree program regulations to improve clarity and consistency.

Agents: Department Council, Greek and Roman Studies Program Committee

Completion by: Fall 2017

Recommendation 6: That the Department develop a plan to investigate non-traditional modes of delivery of their courses (blended, flipped and greater use of technology in and outside of the classroom) which would further strengthen the learning outcomes, and implement appropriate changes.

Agents: Department Head, faculty members, Office of Open Learning

Completion by: Fall 2017 (plan); Fall 2019 (implementation)

Recommendation 7: That the Department produce a plan to improve course availability, to address the concern raised by students that it is difficult to satisfy degree requirements in a timely manner, particularly in the Modern Languages programs.

Agents: Department Head, faculty members, Dean of FAHSS

Completion by: Fall 2017

Recommendation 8: That the Department make a case to the Dean of FAHSS for additional resources in the form of one tenure-track faculty member (to be cross appointed to two or three programs within LLC) and two sessional instructors. The tenure-track faculty member could be hired in support of the planned Certificate in Translation as a 60% French and 40% Modern Languages appointment. The first sessional instructor could be a specialist in Second-language acquisition, with a 60% Modern Languages and 40% French appointment. The second sessional instructor could support the program in Greek and Roman Studies.

Agents: Department Head

Completion by: Fall 2017