

# Final Assessment Report

## Name of Program

Family Studies Program at Brescia University College

## Degrees Offered

Bachelor of Arts

## External Consultants

Dr. Donna Lero, Professor, Department of Family Relations and Applied Nutrition - University of Guelph  
Dr. Aine Humble, Associate Professor, Department of Family Studies and Gerontology - Mount Saint Vincent

## Internal Reviewers

Dr. Sauro Camiletti, Vice Principal and Academic Dean - King's University College at Western University

## Date of Site Visit

February 25, 2016

## Evaluation

Good Quality with Report in Two Years

## Approved by SUPR-U

May 18, 2016

## Approved by SCAPA

May 25, 2016

## Executive Summary

Drs. Donna Lero and Aine Humble conducted a thorough and comprehensive review of the Family Studies Program at Brescia University College. Over their two day visit the Reviewers met with Vice Provosts from Western University, the Department Chair, the Internal Reviewer, members of senior administration at Brescia, program faculty and students, and student support personnel. The Reviewers described the Family Studies Program as "successful", "with many strengths". They noted the commitment of the faculty to "a high quality learning experience", to program leadership and stability and to curriculum development. Furthermore, they felt that the program benefitted from the experience of the part time faculty, healthy student enrolment and from some of the initiatives that have been introduced into the Division. The Reviewers did outline a number of concerns and suggestions with respect to resources in support of the program and curriculum development. These together with identified strengths of the program are listed below.

## Significant Strengths of Program

The program is described as successful with dedicated core faculty who are active scholars.

The program has healthy enrolments and is adequately supported in terms of physical space and classroom facilities, library, and information technology services.

The students evaluate the program and faculty positively and class sizes are appropriate to learning objectives.

The design of the modules provides students with considerable flexibility and accommodates a wide range of student interests.

The Advanced Teaching and Learning Centre just opened and an Experiential Learning Coordinator position has been created to facilitate the expansion of experiential learning opportunities.

## Suggestions for improvement & Enhancement

Hire at least one additional full-time, tenure track faculty member as soon as possible.

Ensure that the Practicum course is offered every year as an integral component of the HSP and SP modules.

Consider whether all FS, HSP, Spec and Major modules should include a common core of courses.

Add a course in family support and family life education.

Incorporate more applied communication skills in the counselling course (FS 2235).

Investigate program accreditation in Family Life Education from the National Council on Family Relations.

Offer a 4th year current topics or seminar on a regular basis for honors students as resources permit.

Recommendations required for Program sustainability:

<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Resources</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
Hire at least one additional full-time, tenure track faculty member as soon as possible.	EPC and Faculty Council	Budgetary	2018
Ensure that the Practicum course is offered every year as an integral component of the HSP and SP modules.	EPC and Faculty Council	Budgetary	2018
Consider adding a course in family support and family life education.	EPC and Faculty Council	Budgetary	2018