

# Final Assessment Report

## Name of Program

Majors and Minors in Theology and Religious Ethics, Bible Studies Huron University College

## Degrees Offered

B.Th.

## External Consultants

Dr. L. Gregory Bloomquist - (Faculty of Theology, Saint Paul University, Ottawa)  
Dr. William Morrow - (School of Religion, Queen's University, Kingston)

## Internal Reviewers

Dr. Renée Soulodre-La France - Associate Professor and Associate Dean King's University College

## Date of Site Visit

February 11, 2016

## Evaluation

Good Quality, With Report in Two Years

## Approved by SUPR-U

April 13, 2016

## Approved by SCAPA

April 27, 2016

## Executive Summary

On their site visit the external reviewers met with the Vice-Provost, the Dean of Theology, the Dean of Social Sciences, the Principal, the Internal Reviewer, program faculty and students, librarians and program support staff. The reviewers determined that "the B.Th. Program conforms well to the Province of Ontario's established degree level expectations for undergraduate degrees." It was agreed that the B.Th. closely aligned with both Western's Strategic Plan and Huron University College's mission and strategic plan, and that this program offered undergraduate students a unique opportunity to study academic theology. The reviewers were impressed at the level of commitment by Faculty to ensuring the excellence of the program and to the idea of teaching academic theology at the undergraduate level. They found the Faculty to be impressive in their pedagogical and research orientations and strengths.

## Significant Strengths of Program

High level of quality of Faculty teaching and research  
Uniqueness of a program of Academic Theology at the undergraduate level  
Modes of delivery appropriate and effective in meeting identified learning outcomes  
Methodological perspective that allows students to reflect on religious experience 'from within'

Suggestions for improvement & Enhancement

That the identity of the B.Th be resolved as this question is crucial to the program's viability

That faculty resources be brought more into alignment with the themes represented by the modules-especially for the Theology and Religious Ethics modules

That enrolment be increased so as to create recognizable and viable cohorts

That Academic Counselling resources, and student mentorship be increased

That a better sequencing of courses be developed to add more 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> year courses where learning outcomes can be refined and mastered

That capstone courses or experiences, more Community Based Learning opportunities with specific tailored learning outcomes, Library resources for learning/media literacy and perhaps distance education possibilities be explored and possibly developed

Recommendations required for Program sustainability:

<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Resources</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
That the identity of the B.Th be resolved and the ambivalence regarding its nomenclature and direction be addressed	Dean of Theology and EPC	none	2018
That an identifiable program mentor such as a Chair or Coordinator of the program be established	Dean of Theology and EPC	Program	2017
Enhance communications between the program and Undergraduate Academic Advisor	Dean of Theology	Program/Dean's Office	2017