



**Centre for Global Studies, Huron University
College
Final Assessment Report**

Faculty / Affiliated University College	Huron University College
Degrees Offered	BA
Modules Reviewed	Honors Specialization in Global Culture Studies Honors Specialization in Global Development Studies Honors Specialization in Global Gender Studies Honors Specialization in Global Health Studies Honors Specialization in Global Rights Studies Honors Specialization in Globalization Studies Specialization in Global Culture Studies Specialization in Global Development Studies Specialization in Global Gender Studies Specialization in Global Rights Studies Specialization in Globalization Studies Major in Global Culture Studies Major in Global Development Studies Major in Globalization Studies
External Consultants	Dr. Madeleine Wong, Global Studies, St. Lawrence University Dr. Catherine Nolin, Geography Program, University of Northern British Columbia
Internal Reviewers	Dr. John Mitchell, Brescia University College
Date of Site Visit	February 15-16, 2018
Evaluation	Good Quality with Report in Two Years
Approval Dates	SUPR-U: June 6, 2018 SCAPA: Senate:

Executive Summary

During their onsite visit the External Consultants met with John Doerksen (Vice-Provost, Academic Programs); Internal Reviewer, John Mitchell; Barry Craig, Principal of Huron University College; the Centre for Global Studies (CGS) Director; CGS full-time faculty and three sessional instructors; Administrative Assistant, FAAS; Coordinator, Teaching and Research; Director, Library and Learning Services; Librarian, Research & Instructional Services; Coordinator, Access Services; Registrar; FASS Academic Advisor; and four undergraduate students enrolled in CGS. The External Consultants also had a roundtable discussion with the full Educational Policy Committee (EPC) of Huron University College.

The External Consultants described CGS as “a pioneering program” that “has a strong philosophical foundation that make it a vibrant and growing program on campus”. The External Consultants commented on appreciating the distinction that the CGS makes between it as a Centre, a site of an academic program, rather than as a department, and how this supports its interdisciplinarity.

The External Consultants had comments on the number of courses available to students in these modules and the apparent complexity of the modules (Globalization Studies, Global Development Studies, Global Cultural Studies, Global Gender Studies, Global Health Studies, and Global Rights Studies). These consideration offer both a strength and potential weakness to the program. The External

Consultants thought that, considering how options are laid out in the academic calendar, it was confusing for students to identify a clear trajectory or series of courses. The External Consultants wrote “That is, while there was a list of courses students were required to take, there was not a clearly demarcated set of foci that correlated well to particular regions or areas or themes to allow and students to have a clear sense of the justification for the progression along a given module.” In response to the External Consultants’ criticism, CGS does not agree that its modules are overly complex but does accept that it needs to more effectively communicate with students the course paths through the various modules.

The External Consultations identified a number of strengths of the program (see below). The suggestions and recommendations have to do with improving the program or improving communication about the program.

Significant Strengths of the Program

- Integrated, multidisciplinary global perspective;
- The intentionality with which an innovative curriculum has been developed;
- Rigorous and intellectually stimulating course content and creative pedagogical approaches;
- “Intense loyalty” and commitment of the faculty members;
- The extent to which learning goals are successfully addressed and learning outcomes accomplished;
- Strong collaboration among faculty members to work on curricular coherence;
- Quality of teaching.

Suggestions for Improvement & Enhancement

- Develop and provide to students information on a set rotation of courses;
- Build and present to students and potential students a more cohesive vision/description of the program;
- Develop clear paths through the range of courses;
- Support and resource more experiential learning opportunities with purposeful integration of experiential learning into courses;
- Decrease the frequency with which new courses are developed and introduced;
- Hire a full-time faculty member with a focus on Global Development Studies;
- Better communication across Huron to enhance visibility of the CGS;
- Better utilize administrative support;
- Encourage a college-wide communications team to build on social media work of CGS faculty;
- On a semi-regular basis, invite key staff to CGS Program Meetings.

Recommendations Required for Program Sustainability

Recommendation	Responsibility
Review the structure of the modules and consider streamlining course options	CGS Faculty, EPC
Consider a full-time faculty hire in Global Development	CGS Leadership, Huron Administration