



Cyclical Review of Political Science Programs at Huron University College Final Assessment Report

Faculty / Affiliated University College	Huron University College
Degrees Offered	Bachelor of Arts
Modules Reviewed	Honors Specialization in Political Science Major in Political Science Major in Political Studies: Globalization and Governance Major in Political Studies: Ideology and Identity Major in Political Studies: State and Policy
External Consultants	Dr. Leah Bradshaw (Political Science, Brock University) Dr. Byron Sheldrick (Political Science, University of Guelph)
Internal Reviewers	Dr. Sauro Camiletti, King's University College
Date of Site Visit	March 22-23, 2018
Evaluation	Good Quality
Approval Dates	SUPR-U: September 5, 2018 SCAPA: Senate:

Executive Summary

Over the course of their two day on-site visit, the External Consultants met with Vice-Provosts John Doerksen and Karen Campbell; Internal Reviewer Sauro Camiletti; Acting Dean Jim Crimmins, the Political Science faculty, Principal Barry Craig; FASS Administrative Assistant; Coordinator, Teaching and Research; Chair, Political Science; Library and support services personnel; Registrar; members of the Educational Policy Committee; Student Internal reviewers; and Political Science students. The Consultants concluded that “The Political Science Program at Huron is well aligned with the mission and strategic priorities of Huron College and Western University. Learning outcomes are clearly articulated and well-integrated into the program.” Furthermore, they describe the program as high-quality and meeting all expectations.

Significant Strengths of the Program

- The curriculum in the Department of Political Science reflects the current state of the discipline in Canada.
- All the faculty, including those in tenured and in limited term contracts, are outstanding researchers and teachers. The research and scholarship records of the faculty are stellar.
- The Consultants were extremely impressed by the resources available to support students and faculty – including library resources, the level of technology, supports for pedagogical innovation, course redesign and student research projects, and a robust writing and learning centre.
- In general, the faculty complement is sufficient.
- The Consultants have, “no concerns with the intellectual quality of the program or the student experience.”

- “The commitment to the liberal-arts education, small class sizes, and an active faculty that work closely with students, in combination with an impressive facility, and student supports, has resulted in an exceptional program.”

Suggestions for Improvement & Enhancement

- Develop a transition plan to address upcoming and anticipated faculty retirements;
- Sustain major, honours and minor modules in political science;
- Relax specifications for required courses for these modules;
- Delete the thematic modules from the program offerings;
- Consider expanding course offerings in qualitative and quantitative methods;
- Review course offerings to remove courses that have not been offered in some time, or which are not anticipated to be offered in the future;
- Consider introducing a course on indigenous politics;
- Consider ways to enhance the use of classroom technology.

Recommendations Required for Program Sustainability

Recommendation	Responsibility
1. Develop a transition plan to address upcoming and anticipated faculty retirements.	Department, EPC and Huron Administration
2. Rationalize course and module offerings.	Department and EPC
3. Consider expanding course offerings in qualitative and quantitative methods and introducing a course on indigenous politics.	Department and EPC