

Final Assessment Report

Name of Program

English Program at King's University College

Degrees Offered

BA Honors Specialization
BA Specialization
BA Major
BA Minor

External Consultants

Dennis Denisoff PhD - Professor & Graduate Program Director, Department of English, Ryerson University
Kenneth Graham PhD - Associate Professor, Department of English Language & Literature, Waterloo

Internal Reviewers

Mark Blagrove PhD - Dean, Faculty of Arts & Social Science, Huron University College

Date of Site Visit

March 3, 2016

Evaluation

Good Quality

Approved by SUPR-U

May 18, 2016

Approved by SCAPA

May 25, 2016

Executive Summary

The reviewers were impressed by the research records and commitment of the seven full-time members of the department and reported that the program, as currently constructed, reflects the norms of the discipline in Canada. They did note a tension between the claims of a distinct program mission on the one hand and strong cohesion with other programs in English in the Western system on the other hand. The department, in its response, argued that its distinctive pedagogical model provides differentiation even when the module structure and components are identical. However, the department did agree to explore ways of further differentiating its program content.

Significant Strengths of Program

The reviewers noted that faculty are productive researchers and disseminators who incorporate their research into their teaching. They were also impressed by "the thoroughness with which the program has considered and summarized the diverse ways in which faculty have assessed the Program outcomes for graduates of the English Major." They reported that the curriculum addresses the current state of the discipline and the department delivers a strong traditional Major. The relatively small classes were seen as a significant asset.

Suggestions for improvement & Enhancement

The reviewers suggested:

Developing a website that will engage prospective and current students, and considering developing a social media presence and strategy for the program;

Considering adding a course about environmental literature or literatures of place;

Ensuring that courses in creative writing count towards the modules;

Exploring replacing some second-year survey full-year courses with 0.5 courses;

Assessing consistency of writing requirements in courses, with a view to clear progression.

It is a stretch, they noted, to deliver the coverage enjoined by the current program requirements – ie expertise is spread thin to deliver a module that may suit better a larger department [such as that on the main campus].

Recommendations required for Program sustainability:

Recommendation	Responsibility	Resources	Timeline
Review of modules considering enrollments	Department and EPC	Regular processes	2018
Introduce a second-year course on writing about literature	Department, EPC	Regular processes	2018