

To: Academic Review Committee
From: Douglas Kneale, Dean, Faculty of Humanities
Date: 7 April 2013
Subject: Dean's Report Regarding the Implementation of Recommendations in the Final Assessment Report on the Program in CLAS (BA)

Senate approved the FAR report on CLAS (BA) on May 11, 2011. The one-year report to ARC was submitted in May 2012, and now the two-year progress report is due. The 15 recommendations are addressed in order of ARC priority below.

First Priority (6 Recommendations in total)

1. Curriculum Revision: Review of the Curriculum

Actions 2010-2013: Three working groups (ancient languages and literature, art and archaeology, and classical studies) set up 2010-2012. Changes discussed below.

3. Curriculum Revision: Concerning an increased presence of literature courses in the curriculum

Actions 2010-2013: Ongoing. Full credit literature courses have been replaced by half credit courses that focus on a historical period rather than a particular genre. Students must first complete CLAS 2P00, a course in which students learn the various genres of literature, vocabulary appropriate to discussing literature and basic skills in reading and analyzing a literary text. After CLAS 2P00, students choose from four half credit courses in Greek and Roman literature (CLAS 3P11/12/13/14). Offering these third year level courses as half credit courses provides students with more options to choose from. Since the courses do not focus on a single genre of literature, they can incorporate a broader range of topics and approaches. Students wishing to focus on a particular genre can do so at the fourth year level in a special topics course, but due to staffing constraints, such courses cannot be offered on a regular basis at this time.

4. Curriculum Revision: Further augmentations of the curriculum

Actions 2010-2013: No action. We have not added any such new courses at this time, given our staffing constraints. In future, we hope to develop a film course. We do address this issue by degree with the offering of CLAS 2V51 in 2012/2013, a course that focuses on great figures - this time on Cleopatra, including her image in popular culture and film. In addition, CLAS 4V20 (2012-2013) focused on ancient technology. Also see Graduate Review 11.

10. Leverage The Cypriote Collection: A Virtual Museum

Actions 2010-2013: Ongoing. We have integrated the collection with a number of undergraduate and graduate courses. This spring Prof. Greene used the collection in a seminar for CLAS 2P34: Ancient Cities and Sanctuaries. Each seminar section had one seminar held in the archaeology lab for the purpose of looking at artifacts in the Cypriote collection. Prof. Smith spent a seminar of CLAS 2P32 in the same way. In addition, we have put together three shows since 2010. One curated by undergraduate students, another by a graduate student and a third by two graduate students. The subject of one of the exhibits developed out of an undergraduate course on archaeological ethics (CLAS 4V28) and incorporated the research of an MRP by an MA student in our MA programme. Also, a new course - CLAS 4V20: Ancient Technology - made extensive use of the collection and curated a new show for the department's display cases. We have also been using the collection for community outreach. In Fall 2011, a Cypriote scholar, Dr. Ellen Herscher (University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology), gave an AIA lecture. This talk was followed by a "tour" of objects from the Cypriote collection. The event was a success and so we may consider bringing in another Cypriote scholar and doing similar events on a regular basis. Finally, with Open House 2013 we organized a tour for prospective students that included a view of the new curated exhibit of artifacts from the Cypriote collection. We hope to formalize this tour as a regular feature of Preview Day and Open House.

14. Appointment of a Visiting Scholar

Actions 2013-2014: None, but we plan to consider bringing in a Cypriote scholar for a week as a way to highlight the collection or a conservator to offer some workshops and do some work on the collection.

15. Establish a BSc in Archaeology

Actions 2010-2013: No action taken to date, but the archaeologists will explore this new degree with our new hire, Dr. Carrie Murray. It is not likely to be in place before 2017.

Second Priority (4 Recommendations in total)

6. Curriculum Revision: A reduction in the number of courses required in the Art/Archaeology Program

Actions 2010-2013: Done. The number of required credits for the ancient art and archaeology stream is now reduced to 12 credits

and thus in line with the other two Honours streams. We have also added a year-by-year breakdown for each stream in our 2012/13 calendar and include a note suggesting students meet with the Academic Advisor to plan out their programs. In addition, the Chair now sends an e-mail to all second year students prior to registration advising students about requirements they need to begin in year 2 of their studies. These changes should make it easier for the students in the ancient art and archaeology stream in particular to finish in a timely fashion. The Department has also begun a tradition of annual training sessions with second year students on navigating the online registration process. In 2013, we brought in a Peer Mentoring Programme in which student volunteers run a drop-in session in the Department. Interested students can discuss particular courses and programmes with these peer mentors.

7. Curriculum Revision: A consideration of upper-year course renumbering

Actions 2010-2013: Done. All 300 level Greek and Latin courses are now 400 level. We have not elevated the archaeological practicum to the 400 level, but other changes have been made to this stream that will help students complete their degree in a timely fashion.

8. Addition of a Concurrent BA/BEd Program

Actions 2010-2013: No action has been taken. The Department has not yet fully explored the Concurrent BA/BEd Program, but is still interested in doing so in future. We have, however, worked with the Faculty of Education on a separate matter: clarifying the language of teachable subjects so that our history sequences and civilization courses count toward teachable subjects in History for Education's Admissions Committee. As a result of our discussions, the Faculty of Education has approved the following calendar entry, "Applicants must have one undergraduate credit in Canadian History. (All history credits, including the Canadian History credit, must fall under the History department listing in the appropriate course calendar, or be cross-listed as a History credit). A maximum of one undergraduate credit in the History of Art, and one undergraduate credit in Greek/Roman Civilization is allowed. Canadian Politics and Canadian Studies courses are not acceptable" be replaced with "Applicants must have one undergraduate credit in Canadian History. All history credits, including the Canadian History credit, must fall under the History department listing in the appropriate course calendar, or be cross-listed as a History credit. The exception to this is that a maximum of one undergraduate credit in the History of Art or Greek/Roman Civilization that is not cross-listed with History is allowed. Canadian Politics and Canadian Studies courses are not acceptable." This change was approved by Senate in September 2012 and will be helpful to the committee when assessing applications from students with a degree in Classics wishing to enter Teacher's college.

9. Assure Adequate Provision for Student Work in the New Building

Actions 2010-2013: Done. Students have access to a computer in the Classics Undergraduate Workroom as well as essential reference works. Students can also use the Humanities Lounge as a study area and a meeting area for their student group, BUAS.

Recommendations that Will Not be Implemented (5 in total)

Recommendations 2, 5, 11, 12, 13. Note, however, that the Department has nevertheless taken action on two of these.

2. New Stream in Classics without languages

Actions 2010-2013: While we decided not to implement a non-language stream, we did develop a Classics with Major with reduced languages (two full credits only) and student flexibility to develop a programme combining all areas of study (literature, history, art and archaeology) or focusing on one area. Two credits of language enable students to switch into an honours stream by the end of the second year without delaying degree completion time.

5. Reduction in the number of history credits

Actions 2010-2013: The revamping of the ancient art and archaeology stream includes a reduction in the number of required credits in the ancient history sequence. This change decreases the number of requirements of this degree stream from 13 credits to 12 credits and thus puts it in line with the other Honours streams. Students choosing the new degree of Classics with Major are also free to choose how much of the ancient history sequences they take in the completion of their degree. Two full credits of the history sequences are still required in the classical languages stream and the classical studies stream. There is no plan to change this requirement for these two streams.