



Four Year Report (2023)

Child and Youth Studies Graduate and Undergraduate Programs (reviewed 2018-19)

A. Summary of Review

1. This review was conducted under the terms and conditions of the IQAP approved by Senate on May 25, 2016.
2. The academic programs offered by the Department of Child & Youth Studies which were examined as part of the review were:
 - PhD
 - MA
 - BA (Honours)
 - BA (with major)
 - BA (Honours) combined
 - BA (with major) combined
 - BA (Honours)/BEd
 - BA (Pass)
3. The Review Committee consisted of two external reviewers: Lauren Silver (Rutgers University) and Judy Finlay (Ryerson University) and an internal reviewer, Erin Sharpe (Brock University).
4. The site visit occurred on March 17-19, 2019.
5. The Final Assessment Report was approved by Senate on November 13, 2019.
6. The reviewers assigned the programs the following outcome categories:

Program(s)	Excellent Quality	Good Quality	Good Quality with Concerns	Non-Viable
PhD	X			
MA	X			
BA (Honours)	X			
BA (with major)	X			
BA (Honours) combined	X			
BA (with major) combined	X			
BA (Honours)/BEd	X			
BA (Pass)	X			

7. The next review of the graduate and undergraduate programs in the Department of Child & Youth Studies will be in 2026/27.

B: Recommendations

Recommendation #1.A

Increasing Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

A. That CHYS take the multiple steps required to ensure a culture of equity, diversity and inclusion with attention to: curriculum development and course content; student admissions; recruitment and retainment of Faculty and staff and the creation of community based diverse knowledge exchanges.

ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers recommendation 1A to be accepted and in the process of implementation.

Implementation Plan (1st Priority)

Responsible for approving:	Department
Responsible for resources:	Department
Responsible for implementation:	Department
Timeline:	Dean of Social Sciences to report by the end of academic year 2019/20

Actions Taken	Year Action Started	Year Action Completed
Action #1 CHYS has recent CRC hire (July 1, 2020) that meets SSHRC defined equity targets around visible minorities	2020	2021
Action #2 CHYS is currently posting for assistant professor in Critical Disabilities (July 1, 2020 hire)	2020	2021
Action #3 CHYS continues to build curriculum considering issues of diversity, indigeneity, and disability	Ongoing	Ongoing

Explanation of Actions Taken, Status and Results:

The CHYS Department has an undergraduate program committee that continually reviews our courses to ensure there is a wide range of options for students around topics of diversity, disability, and indigeneity. We hired an Assistant Professor in the field of Critical Disability Studies and have since hired two faculty who have self-identified as meeting Brock's equity target. In addition, we have formed a standing committee which focuses on equity and diversity within the Department from a systems perspective. The CHYS Department's graduate student body has diversity and regularly accepts diverse international and domestic applicants to ensure continued diversity among our graduate students. With respect to our undergraduate program, the Department regularly engages in discussions on how to increase diversity among our student body.

Recommendation #1.B**Increasing Diversity, Equity and Inclusion**

B. That CHYS continue to work with the Joint Committee on Employment Equity to advance its hiring equity policy for both faculty and staff members, targeting hiring from racialized groups.

ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers recommendation 1B to reflect current practice and the provisions of the Brock University/Faculty Association Collective Agreement.

Implementation Plan

Recommendation not accepted. Current practice.

Recommendation #2**Maintain/Augment Funding of Graduate Teaching Assistantships**

That CHYS maintain and augment capacity of both the graduate and undergraduate program by the funding of graduate teaching assistantships.

ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers the recommendation to be not accepted as it lies outside of the Committee's jurisdiction. The Committee understands that graduate TAs are governed by the Brock University/CUPE Collective Agreements. ARC notes the positive response of the Dean of Social Sciences with regard to additional TA funding now available within the Faculty. The Committee expects that the Department will proceed through normal channels of advocacy to maintain and augment Teaching Assistantship resources.

Implementation Plan

Recommendation not accepted

Recommendation #3.A**Maintain/Augment Service Learning and Professionalism**

A. That CHYS prioritize its preferred teaching modalities with attention to experiential learning / service learning. This may mean a shift to a more applied approach with a wider range of community partners. This is absolutely consistent with trans/interdisciplinary practice and may require a redistribution of resources.

ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers recommendation 3A to be accepted for consideration. The Committee recognizes the importance of prioritizing experiential learning as an element of Brock's Strategic Plan but expects the Department to advocate for any allocation of resources through normal channels.

Implementation Plan (1st Priority)	
Responsibility for approving:	Department
Responsibility for resources:	Department
Responsibility for implementation:	Department
Timeline:	Dean of Social Sciences to report by end of academic year 2019/20

Actions Taken	Year Action Started	Year Action Completed
Action #1 CHYS continues to offer CHYS 2P/F15 - core courses where students have experiential learning placements	Ongoing	Ongoing
Action #2 CHYS has launched CHYS 2P/F16 - a new core course where students at Brock experience curriculum based on community engagement	2020	2021

Explanation of Actions Taken, Status and Results:

The CHYS Department continues to offer 2P/F15, a core experiential learning course. In 2020, we began to offer 2P/F16, where students focus on Community Engagement. To ensure sustainability with learning placements, in Fall 2024, the Faculty of Education will begin offering a course, like CHYS 2P15, to J/I and I/S ConEd students). Until this time, CHYS will continue to provide this course to the J/I and I/S ConEd students. CHYS will continue to offer 2F15 to the CHYS P/J ConEd students. In addition, the Department is in the process of developing a 3rd year experiential/community engagement course to be offered in the 2024/25 academic year.

Recommendation #3.B

<p>Maintain/Augment Service Learning and Professionalism</p> <p>B. That CHYS maintain internal advising staff with the addition of a part time placement assistant to support the Placement Coordinator for maintenance and development of service learning opportunities and partner collaborations.</p> <p>ARC Disposition of the Recommendation</p> <p>ARC considers recommendation 3B to be not accepted as it lies outside of the Committee’s jurisdiction. The Committee recognizes the need for adequate advising staff and expects that the Department will proceed through normal channels of advocacy for these resources. The Committee encourages the Department to consult with the new Faculty of Social Sciences Experiential Coordinator.</p> <p>Implementation Plan</p> <p>Recommendation not accepted</p>

Recommendation #4

Provide Teaching Evaluations for Contract Instructors

- A. That CHYS provide the ability to evaluate Contract Lecturers.
- B. That Faculty members provide leadership to contract instructors to ensure continuity in content and delivery, oversight and pedagogical understanding

ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers recommendation 4A and 4B to reflect current practice at Brock. The Committee recognizes the Department’s plans to review and improve its current.

Implementation Plan

Not accepted. Current practice.

Recommendation #5.A

Prioritize CHYS Capacity and Maintenance of Academic Mission

5A. That CHYS begin a process of consolidation of the lessons learned to date particularly as it relates to its apparent “open door” policy which accommodates the interests and demands from other Faculties.

ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers recommendation 5A to be accepted for consideration

Implementation Plan (1st Priority)

Responsibility for approving: Department
 Responsibility for resources: Department
 Responsibility for implementation: Department
 Timeline: Dean of Social Sciences to report by end of academic year 2019/20

Actions Taken	Year Action Started	Year Action Completed
Action #1 Continuing work with FOSS Dean and other units	Ongoing	Ongoing

Explanation of Actions Taken, Status and Results:

The CHYS Department continues to work in open dialogue with the Dean of Social Sciences and other departments to maintain high quality offerings, pedagogy, and research partnerships.

Recommendation #5.B

<p>Prioritize CHYS Capacity and Maintenance of Academic Mission</p> <p>5B. That CHYS consider other modes of curriculum delivery (e.g. online courses and hybrid models, in-class simulations) that have proven successful in other jurisdictions and that attempt to address issues related to increased enrolment.</p> <p>ARC Disposition of the Recommendation ARC considers recommendation 5B to be accepted and in the process of implementation.</p> <p>Implementation Plan (1st Priority) Responsibility for approving: Department Responsibility for resources: Department Responsibility for implementation: Department Timeline: Dean of Social Sciences to report by end of academic year 2019/20</p>	
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Actions Taken	Year Action Started	Year Action Completed
Action #1 Offering several online CHYS courses	Ongoing	Ongoing

Explanation of Actions Taken, Status and Results:

Since 2019, the CHYS Department continues to offer a mix of face-to-face, online, and hybrid course offerings. The Department continues to review its online and hybrid course offerings to ensure there is a range of course delivery.

Recommendation #6.A

Provide Flexibility in Course Options for Undergraduate Years 1 and 2

6A. That CHYS take into consideration students who present with exceptionalities that require accommodation.

ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers Recommendation 6A to be current practice at Brock in compliance with AODA legislation.

Implementation Plan

Not accepted. Current practice.

Recommendation #6.B

Provide Flexibility in Course Options for Undergraduate Years 1 and 2

6B. That CHYS maintain internal advising staff to support a range of student academic and social needs.

ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers Recommendation 6B to be current practice in the Department. In response to both Recommendations A and B, the Committee encourages the Department to consult with campus resources that provide support to students with exceptionalities.

Implementation Plan

Not accepted. Current practice.

Recommendation #6.C

Provide Flexibility in Course Options for Undergraduate Years 1 and 2

6.C. That CHYS explore curriculum modes and pedagogies to augment student choices in first two years of undergraduate degree program.

ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers Recommendation 6C to be accepted and in the process of implementation. The Committee recognizes the Department's ongoing evaluation of program curriculum and pedagogies for students with accommodations.

Implementation Plan (1st Priority)

Responsibility for approving:	Department
Responsibility for resources:	Department
Responsibility for implementation:	Department
Timeline:	Dean of Social Sciences to report by end of academic year 2019/20

Actions Taken	Year Action Started	Year Action Completed
Action #1 Curriculum and students advisors continually monitor student progress in 1 st and 2 nd year.	Ongoing	Ongoing

Explanation of Actions Taken, Status and Results:

The CHYS Department has a full-time internal Academic Advisor and is currently seeking a second Academic Advisor to meet the needs of a growing student body. The internal Academic Advisor continually monitors student progress, particularly in years 1 and 2, and identifies and offers additional support to students with special needs. In 2020, we developed and continue to offer a CHYS academic bootcamp for 1st and 2nd year students. This year, the bootcamp was offered in person and will also be available online to extend its reach. In addition, in 2023, we introduced several workshops on various topics and have customized these workshops to 1st and 2nd year course expectations (e.g., referencing to avoid academic misconduct, time management, essay writing, etc.).

C. Unit Summative Analysis and Evaluation

1. To what extent has the Department achieved the improvements suggested by the reviewers?

The CHYS Department has fully met all the suggested improvements.

2. What overall impact has it had on the Department's programs?

The suggested improvements have resulted in the establishment of standing departmental committees (e.g., Equity and Diversity Committee), discussions to ensure sustainability of experiential experiences and the development of a new year 3 experiential course offering.

3. Is the Department adopting a process of continuous quality improvement for its programs?

The CHYS Department continually reviews its course offerings through the Undergraduate Program Committee seeking ways to strengthen the CHYS program offerings. Courses are discontinued or added based on the changing environment, new areas of research, and student interest.

4. How well do the programs now align with Brock University strategic priorities?

The CHYS Department course offerings support the Brock University strategic priorities with experiential learning opportunities and community engagement opportunities.

5. How does this review and its results position the programs as the Department moves into the next review cycle?

This review has allowed the Department to further strengthen our course offerings and develop mechanisms to ensure quality, diversity, and varied offerings across all four years.

D. ARC Final Summary

In final summary of the 2018-2019 cyclical academic review of the programs offered by the Department of Child & Youth Studies, ARC has determined the following:

1. That the Reviewers' Recommendations have been addressed satisfactorily.
2. That the Department has established a direction for next steps as it prepares for the next review cycle.
3. That the Department has achieved a broad-based, reflective and forward-looking self-assessment.