

Arts in action



Faculty of Arts | Ryerson University

☎ 416.979.5000 ext. 4040

✉ dean@arts.ryerson.ca

A full version of the Faculty of Arts academic plan is available online:
ryerson.ca/arts/about-arts/academic-plan

Contents

- 1 Message from the Dean
- 2 Vision & Mission
- 5 Arts at a glance
- 6 Arts today
- 8 Moving forward
- 10 Goal 1: Student success
- 12 ARTS+
- 14 Goal 2: Scholarly, creative and research activity
- 16 Goal 3: Innovation and social entrepreneurship
- 18 Goal 4: Activate partnerships at home and abroad
- 20 Goal 5: Create a flourishing and sustainable environment
- 22 Arts eco action plan



Message from the Dean

Ryerson's Faculty of Arts is home to a diverse group of innovators, thinkers and leaders who strive to push post-secondary education and research in the humanities and social sciences in new directions. This five-year academic plan, Arts in Action, articulates the Faculty's vision to support our graduates in advancing their professions and communities by constructing better civic realities. It builds upon past achievements, and highlights innovation, creativity and academic excellence above all else.

Under the leadership of Mohamed Lachemi, provost and vice president academic, Ryerson developed its 2014-19 academic plan, Our Time to Lead. The Faculty of Arts' plan supports Ryerson's vision to become Canada's leading comprehensive innovation university, and embraces the university's strategic priorities, which also reflect the unique nature of the Faculty.

Faculty members, staff and students from all Faculty of Arts academic departments and programs were consulted to ensure their objectives are reflected in this plan at a high level. Included among those who contributed their thoughts and priorities were department chairs and members, undergraduate and graduate program directors, the Arts Scholarly, Research and Creative Activity (SRC) Representative Committee, the Student Experience Centre team, and undergraduate and graduate student focus groups. Collectively with department plans, we are charting a course forward for the next five years that will ensure that the Faculty of Arts achieves even greater success.

The future is bright. There is enormous enthusiasm within the Faculty and among our partners for a Ryerson approach to the humanities and social sciences: research, teaching and learning that responds to ever-changing societal needs, and is connected to our city and its diverse communities. I am proud of what we have achieved together so far. Congratulations to you all.

Jean-Paul Boudreau



Vision

To empower graduates to become local and global citizens in action – leaders who advance their professions and communities by constructing a better world.

Mission

The Faculty of Arts embodies a dynamic union between academic excellence and practical experience. Our connected Arts community creates productive change on a local and global scale through intellectual bravery, creative leadership, and by actively responding to the evolving needs of students and society.





Arts at a glance

Undergraduate programs

Arts & Contemporary Studies
Criminology
English
Environment & Urban Sustainability
Geographic Analysis
History
International Economics & Finance
Language and Intercultural Relations
Philosophy
Politics and Governance
Public Administration and Governance (part-time program)
Psychology
Sociology
Undeclared Arts (First-year entry option)

Graduate programs

Economics (PhD)
International Economics and Finance (MA)
Literatures of Modernity (MA)
Philosophy (MA)
Psychology (MA/PhD)
Public Policy and Administration (MA)
Spatial Analysis (MSA)

Interdisciplinary graduate programs

Communication & Culture (MA/PhD)
Environmental Applied Science and Management (MASc & PhD)
Immigration and Settlement Studies (MA)
Policy Studies (PhD)

The future
is bright

13

undergraduate programs

4,070

full-time undergraduate students

15

minors

41,044

undergraduate course registrations

17

certificates

46

participants in first year of
SocialVentures Zone

7

graduate programs

536

graduate students

4

interdisciplinary graduate programs

6

Arts and Arts-affiliated research centres

\$16.5

million in external research

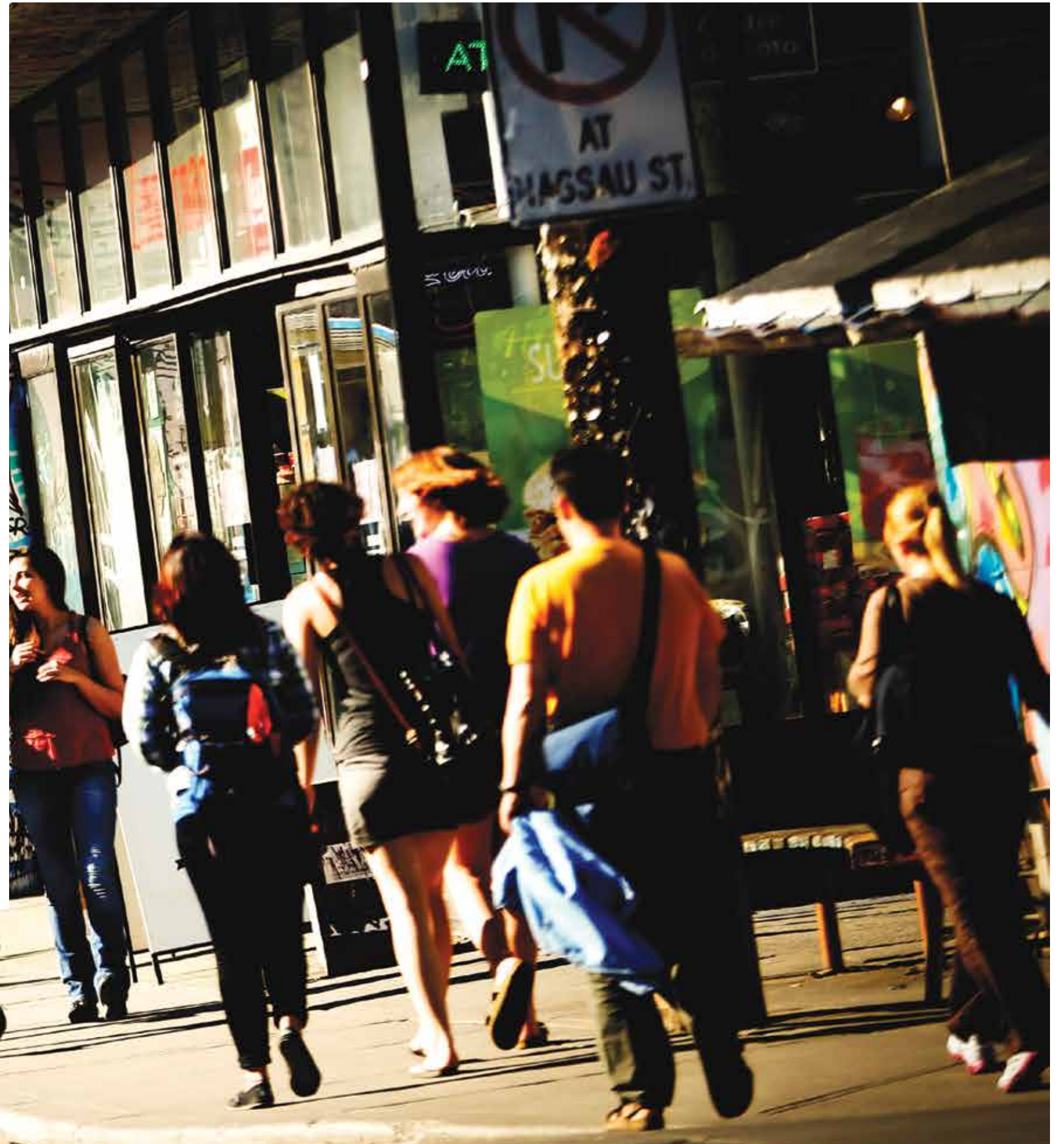
\$6.6

million in Tri-Council funding

202

full-time faculty

today



Moving forward

Academic excellence

Seamless connection between learning, experience and change

Relevant programming

Focused and engaged pedagogy in line with the emerging needs of our changing society

City building

Local and global impact outside classrooms and labs

Academic excellence

Over two hundred scholars pursue innovative research that helps transform people and communities. Funded through tri-council, foundation, public and industry sources, this research is a testament to the enormous value of the humanities and social sciences. Our research topics fall under ten overarching themes, including:

- Communication & Culture
- Digital Culture Innovation
- Diversity, Inclusion, & Human Rights
- First Nations & Indigenous People
- Global Affairs
- Governance
- Health & Wellness
- Innovation & Social Entrepreneurship
- Sustainability
- Urbanization

To fulfill our Faculty's research mission, we plan to double research activity over the next five years.

The Faculty of Arts has been experiencing remarkable growth, thanks to increasing interest in our existing programs, the introduction of new programs, and the growing momentum of our research activities. Our emphasis on innovating in teaching and learning, and on graduating knowledgeable, skillful and thoughtful students, reflects our commitment to our three pillars of success: academic excellence, relevant programming and city building.

Over the next five years, we will transform into Arts+, a Faculty that will feature significantly expanded activities and impact. Arts+ will embrace a seamless connection between learning,

experience and change. Building on our already outstanding academic foundations, we will create exceptional learning and engagement experiences that will ensure student success. We are committed to creating even greater access to opportunities for Arts students that will give them the best preparation for their professional careers or the next stage of their education. These will include enhanced access to:

- Experiential classes
- Internships and industry placements
- Research experience
- Zone learning

Our reputation for excellence is flourishing as we extend our reach. Our enhanced international strategy will be reflective of our culturally diverse students, staff and faculty; respectful of our international students; and inclusive of our global SRC activity. We will continue to expand our collaborations and partnerships with researchers around the world to increase our impact. We will also build on the success of the Ryerson ESL Foundations Program by inviting more international students to join our community.

Relevant programming

Relevance sets the agenda for our faculty's innovations in the classroom and the lab. Relevant programming allows us to educate future leaders who can advance their professions and build a better world. In light of changing demographics and education trends, such relevance is key. In Ontario, the number of youth between the ages of 18 and 21 is expected to decrease until 2021, which could affect undergraduate enrolment numbers. In addition, applications to humanities programs in Ontario have declined by 16 per cent in the last two years.

We are offering humanities and social sciences programming that make a difference to students' personal goals and career aspirations, as well as to local and global communities. These goals are reinforced by the university's location in the heart of Toronto, a diverse city in which 140 different languages and dialects are spoken. This cultural plurality is evident on our campus and helps to contribute to a vibrant and inclusive university community, while enriching our efforts to provide students with meaningful real-world learning experiences.

City building

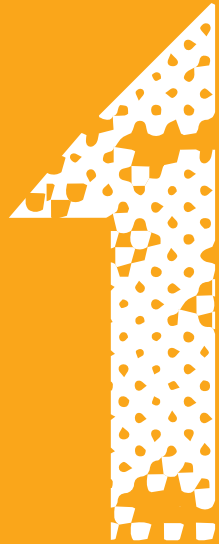
Engagement with the city as a learning laboratory connects our teaching and scholarship with real people, places and projects. Our faculty work in a wide range of fields that advance our understanding of the city, and contribute to changing cities at home and abroad. Research topics include:

- City ecologies
- City soundscapes
- Global cities
- High-rise living
- History of city riots
- Intercultural metropolis
- Narratives of the city
- Urban ecology
- Urban forests
- Urban indigeneity

Social innovation is also central to our future. Fueled by progressive research, community and industry partnerships, our social innovation agenda allows us to make a difference in both the local and global community. Our SocialVentures Zone provides students with opportunities to incubate ideas and transform them into meaningful action with social impact. Initiatives include:

- A cross-Canada ride to end violence against women
- Waste diversion and sustainable eco action
- Sustainable produce production in Northern Canada
- Re-educating former child soldiers in Africa

Finally, excellence in Arts is revealed in our commitment to sustainability. Ryerson sees itself as a partner with the broader community in building a shared future. To this end, the university is pursuing environmental, social and economic sustainability through its programs, research activity, policies, infrastructure and operations. In the Faculty of Arts, we are doing our part to support the principles of sustainability, and demonstrate that we are accountable to each other, our partners and our community. Through the collective efforts of faculty members and staff, the Faculty of Arts is executing its Eco Action Plan, an initiative that will help set our course for engaging in environmentally progressive action in the local community.



Enable student success through exceptional learning and engagement

Students are our top priority. We provide a strong academic foundation alongside a variety of opportunities in and out of the classroom to allow students to pursue their passions and grow into engaged citizens.

Our intention is simple: to ensure that every Faculty of Arts student has a meaningful and memorable learning experience during their time at Ryerson. That experience may include outstanding experiential training within the classroom; a one-on-one research opportunity with one of our accomplished faculty members; an internal or external volunteer placement or internship; or an opportunity to turn their passion into a viable initiative through the SocialVentures Zone. We call it ARTS+. Generally, these opportunities are offered to students in their third-and fourth-year of study. ARTS+ opportunities will be increased by more than 100% over the next five years to meet demand. Students have been clear that they want these experiences, and our exceptional faculty and staff members will continue to work collaboratively to make them happen.

In light of changing demographics and application trends, we recognize the importance of demonstrating that individuals with social sciences and humanities degrees can have stable careers. Faculty of Arts graduates are creative thinkers and problem solvers equipped with writing and critical thinking skills that are highly valued in a broad range of professions. Arts graduates go on to enjoy careers in diverse fields.

A liberal studies education is essential to every Ryerson student. As demand grows for new topics, we will expand our range of courses, both in our regular programming, and in the lifelong learning opportunities we offer in collaboration with The Chang School of Continuing Education.

highlights to date

5

new programs over the last 5 years including the introduction of a new program in Languages and Intercultural Relations

41,044

liberal studies offerings to Ryerson undergraduate students



Initiatives

1.1 Strengthen academic excellence and be responsive to current trends in the humanities and social sciences

1.2 Ready students for personal, graduate and professional success

1.3 Foster lifelong learning through continuing education

Activities to achieve this initiative

1.1.1 Support a full suite of undergraduate programs, introduce new BAs (Language & Intercultural Relations and Financial Economics) and explore complementary new BA program offerings that are strategically linked to Ryerson's societally relevant mandate (NOTE: BAs will proceed through the established approval/funding processes)

1.1.2 Complete periodic program reviews (PPRs) in Criminology, English, Environment and Urban Sustainability, Geographic Analysis, International Economics and Finance, Public Administration and Governance, Politics and Governance, Psychology and Sociology, and implement recommendations for program improvements where possible

1.1.3 Explore interdisciplinary teaching and learning opportunities, including new minors in areas such as Anthropology, and double majors in areas such as Philosophy-English, Philosophy-History, History-English, Psychology-Sociology and Philosophy-Psychology

1.1.4 Expand open choice and increase access to direct-entry BA degree programs

1.1.5 Expand liberal studies offerings in high-demand areas, and offer additional courses with a practical focus such as program evaluation and social innovation

1.1.6 Develop and implement a plan to address enrolment and retention trends to ensure healthy enrolment levels and high-quality recruitment

1.2.1 Introduce a new first-year student centre to ensure the success, connection and retention of first-year Arts students

1.2.2 Expand student skills building opportunities through a combination of internships, placements, faculty-student partnerships and community/industry partnerships

1.2.3 Increase and diversify the number of experiential learning opportunities across all programs. Every Arts program will have a suite of courses that will be experiential in nature. Faculty will be supported to develop and implement these courses and community opportunities through reduced class sizes, and/or support from a teaching assistant who is dedicated to supporting the experiential learning course

1.3.1 Grow and expand continuing education (CE) enrolment through in-demand course offerings and online offerings

1.3.2 Introduce new certificates with a practical emphasis, and postgraduate CE offerings, such as a professional graduate diploma program in Psychology

1.3.3 Attract international students by expanding the Ryerson ESL Foundation Program for qualified undergraduate students, and integrating into it a component for graduate students

Key performance indicators

- Ratio of applications to registrants
- Percentage of programs with internships, placements, experiential learning and volunteerism
- Percentage of students retained in any year level of the same program after 2 years



ARTS+

One of the top priorities of the Arts academic plan is to ensure that every Arts student gets the opportunity to develop the skills that will allow them to build thriving careers. By increasing access to internships, placements, partnerships with faculty, zone learning, and experiential learning, we will ensure the success and retention of Arts students.

ARTS+ focuses on five main areas:

Community or industry internships

Internships open doors. They provide students with valuable insight into career opportunities in their field and may potentially lead to their employment upon graduation.

Thesis or capstone project

Students who complete a thesis or capstone project delve deep into their subject matter, building invaluable research skills and a strong knowledge base that will serve them well as they transition into their careers.

Zone learning

Zone learning gives students the opportunity to collaborate with peers and develop projects that will make a difference in our community.

Experiential learning

Experiential learning initiatives encourage students to participate in community, industry, and government based projects.

Volunteer placements

Students engaged in volunteer placements have the opportunity to play a positive role in the community and gain valuable experience.



Intensify scholarly research and creative activity

The Faculty of Arts is a community of scholars. Our scholarly, research and creative activity agenda is gaining momentum, and is broadly recognized for its value and contributions to community, industry and society.

This goal intends to intensify research and create a collaborative knowledge environment. Associated efforts include: research assistance support, grant writing support and internal grants. These initiatives will help us better support Ryerson's strong upward trajectory in research growth, and further raise our reputation for high-quality scholarly research and creative endeavors. Our success will continue as we attract strong scholars and researchers, expand the activity and quality of our research, and increase externally funded research activity by 10 per cent each year, for a total estimated increase over the life of this plan by more than 50 per cent.

The key to enhanced success will be interdisciplinary collaborations associated with research, as well as teaching and learning in our labs, classrooms and offices, in the community and with colleagues from other universities.

We recognize the essential link between increased research and graduate programs. Strong graduate students across all of our current and potential master's and PhD programs will also support research intensification. Our graduate programs are distinct from other universities, which enables us to attract outstanding graduate students. The Faculty of Arts consistently meets all graduate admissions targets. Within the timeframe of this academic plan, and pending provincial funding, we aim to introduce new graduate programs in fields as diverse as history, criminology, sociology and applied economics alongside an interdisciplinary PhD. These new programs will prepare graduate students for careers in their chosen fields, further advancing research in the humanities and social sciences, and infusing their knowledge in local and global communities and industries.

Over the course of one year, the Faculty of Arts consulted on multiple occasions with graduate and undergraduate students, staff and faculty. The proposed action items that support this goal have all been identified as key actions for acceleration by these internal stakeholder groups, and they have been developed in consultation with the Office of the Vice President of Research and Innovation.

highlights to date

173%

increase in SRC activity over the past 5 years

\$16.5 m

active external research grants (2013-2014)

\$6.6 m

Tri-Council funding awarded (2013-2014)

Initiatives

Activities to achieve this initiative

2.1 Accelerate SRC activity

2.1.1 Promote and support current and new internal research grants, including the Arts Ideas grant

2.1.2 Support high-quality external grant proposals with access to grant review/writing support through a dedicated resource that can provide guidance and review alongside grant-writing workshops

2.1.3 Further advance administrative support to faculty with external grants

2.1.4 Advance research centres and institutes with the goal of introducing one new centre or institute per year

2.1.5 Establish a new grant to support Indigenous scholarly research and creative activity

2.2 Foster interdisciplinary research and creative initiatives

2.2.1 Introduce a database of fields of expertise complementary to the internal databases offered by the Office of Research and Innovation (OVPRI) (accessible by faculty)

2.2.2 Expand research and partnerships internationally in collaboration with the OVPRI

2.2.3 Introduce the Arts Accelerator grant for interdisciplinary research

2.2.4 Increase research chairs and fellows in the Humanities and Social Sciences

2.3 Advance the next generation of humanities and social sciences experts through graduate learning excellence

2.3.1 Increase domestic and international graduate enrolment through new programs, including interdisciplinary graduate programs such as master's degrees in Applied Economics & Policy Analysis, Criminology & Social Justice, Critical Social Research, Global Politics, Urban History and an interdisciplinary PhD. New professional graduate programs will also be explored

2.3.2 Review the balance of required versus open electives in current graduate programs

2.3.3 Support graduate student involvement in faculty research by continuing and expanding the current grant program

2.4 Build real-world experience through research and teaching excellence

2.4.1 Expand practicum and volunteer opportunities at research centres and institutes by formalizing internal internships

2.4.2 Introduce senior undergraduate research-related practicum courses that advance and support innovation and student-directed research across all programs that will be supported through additional resources

Key performance indicators

- Research productivity (number of articles, books and grants) and quality (impact factor)
- Externally funded and adjudicated dollar value per faculty member
- Knowledge dissemination and enhanced reputation as a place of innovative research (number of conferences and workshops)



Foster innovation and social entrepreneurship

The Faculty of Arts is committed to fostering opportunities for innovation in classrooms, research labs and external learning opportunities.

Pursuing this goal helps us to nurture and support an environment infused with critical, creative and entrepreneurial thinking. The associated initiatives embed social innovation and social enterprise across the faculty, with the goal of promoting learning and teaching innovations, and making the SocialVentures Zone a leader in zone learning.

Fueled by the humanities and social sciences, social innovation initiatives complement Ryerson's designation as Canada's first Ashoka Changemaker Campus. Ryerson is now part of an international network of universities and colleges that are committed to solving real-world problems in new and creative ways. Our contributions to Ryerson's innovation ecosystem will continue to break the barriers associated with uni-disciplinary thinking. We will engage faculty, staff and students in a spirit of making positive change that will weave its way through the university and into communities and businesses.



Ryerson recognizes that there are many kinds of innovators. Some people innovate for commercial reasons; others advocate new thinking and approaches designed to create positive social change; some do both. The definition above encompasses creative, cultural and social innovations that can enrich the fabric of society and improve quality of life, as well as innovations that create new companies, products and jobs, produce novel social and civic ventures, and drive change in existing organizations.

Our Time to Lead, Ryerson Academic Plan 2014-2019

Initiatives

Activities to achieve this initiative

3.1 Strengthen the SocialVentures Zone so that it becomes a champion of social enterprise and zone learning

3.1.1 Offer a suite of zone-readiness degree credit courses (three courses were introduced in 2014-15) and establish an optional specialization in SocialVentures

3.1.2 As part of Ryerson's zone learning coalition, collaborate with all zones and offer learning opportunities focused on social innovation and social entrepreneurship

3.1.3 Incubate viable social entrepreneurial projects, enterprises and ventures that are student, alumni and/or community driven through the SocialVentures Zone

3.2 Foster learning and teaching innovations

3.2.1 Pilot innovations in alternative learning and teaching delivery, and implement best practices (such as blended classrooms, e-learning, engagement of multiple national and international universities)

3.2.2 Strategically embed innovation practices into the pedagogy of existing courses and encourage faculty to participate in zone learning

3.3 Embed social innovation and social enterprise across the Faculty

3.3.1 Encourage social change through research activities that are focused on social innovation

3.3.2 Create a culture that engages faculty, staff and students in a spirit of making positive change that will weave its way through the university and into communities and businesses. Aid such efforts with a new opportunity fund and formal recognition

Key performance indicators

- Number of initiatives incubated or accelerated
- Number of students enrolled in zone readiness courses
- Leveraged funding from community and industry resources



Activate partnerships at home and abroad

We are local and global citizens. Our contribution to the cultural and social well-being and economic vitality of our city, province, country and the world is realized through our collective community of scholars, innovators, partners, creative staff and alumni who engage with our community and advance the scholarly research and creative activity of the humanities and social sciences.

The Faculty of Arts has a strong and growing reputation at home and beyond. Through the efforts outlined in this plan, we will further advance our reputation and recognition by dedicating additional resources to advance the impact of the Faculty of Arts and Ryerson University. Major national and international conferences are mutually beneficial to both the Faculty and the university. With this strategy, we will continue to attract exceptional local and international students, faculty and staff, and will expand our partners. Central to these reputation-enhancing efforts is increasing the number of applicants to our graduate and undergraduate programs, and to ensure the quality of these applicants.

Alumni are important ambassadors. We understand the importance of supporting alumni, and creating a network in which they feel a sense of pride. It is through their community- and industry-recognized accomplishments that our value to the greater community is realized. Strengthening efforts to engage alumni will be a significant focus for the Faculty of Arts.

This goal focuses on strengthening engagement in ways that move the Faculty of Arts and the university forward together. Engagement with community also impacts our philanthropy. Ryerson recognizes that a strong sense of community and shared belonging among students, faculty, staff, alumni and the broader public drives the impetus to give back. Through collaborative efforts with University Advancement, we will endeavour to build a stronger culture of philanthropy to help realize the vision of this academic plan and that of the university.

highlights to date

9,000+

expected national/international delegates at Congress 2017

55

students in second year of the Ryerson ESL Foundation program

5

upcoming conferences and more than 25 faculty-led conferences/workshops annually

Initiatives

Activities to achieve this initiative

4.1 Advance the reputation of the Faculty of Arts and Ryerson

4.1.1 Attract and host local, national and international academically focused conferences and large scale knowledge dissemination opportunities, including Congress 2017

4.1.2 Support the efforts of faculty and departments to lead conferences and disseminate knowledge through the introduction of a new knowledge dissemination grant

4.1.3 Build the reputation of the Faculty of Arts, departments and faculty members through focused communications and marketing activities including our website, social media and events

4.2 Contribute to Ryerson's priority of being a city builder and community contributor

4.2.1 Seek and build partnerships with community and industry that will benefit research activities, the reputation of the Faculty and/or strategic initiatives within the faculty

4.2.2 Engage distinguished visiting professors (DVPs), Ryerson government champions and advisory councils to ensure connectivity with the community, and to continue contributing to Ryerson's reputation as a city builder

4.2.3 Strengthen connections with distinct community groups in collaboration with research centres, research chairs and other strategic initiatives

4.2.4 Develop and implement an international plan for the Faculty of Arts

4.3 Build an alumni network

4.3.1 Support and engage Arts alumni through the development and implementation of an alumni engagement strategy that ensures focused efforts and collaboration with Alumni Relations

4.4 Enhance the financial viability of initiatives and scholarships

4.4.1 Advance the Faculty's goals, initiatives and scholarships through ongoing targeted donor relations campaigns in collaboration with colleagues in University Advancement

Key performance indicators

- Number of applications
- Number of internal and external delegates attending Ryerson or Faculty of Arts partnered conferences
- Number of social media engagements, website hits and media articles



Create a flourishing and sustainable environment

The Faculty of Arts is a great place to be, and we want to keep it that way. We are proud of the diversity of people wanting to work, teach and research at the Faculty of Arts. There is a direct connection between the environment and our well-being, hence why we are committed to making a difference through Arts eco actions outlined in our sustainability plan. We trust each other to do our best and to do the right thing, not because someone is watching or because we have to, but because we can and we want to.

We have a responsibility to ensure that our practices are in line with collective agreements, and with the university's People First strategy, which aims to achieve a fair, equitable, inclusive and progressive workplace. We will continue to collaborate with our partners internally and externally to create and support an environment that is conducive to individual and collective growth and well-being.

We are proud to acknowledge the successes of our faculty, staff, students and alumni when it comes to their learning, teaching, scholarly and leadership pursuits. By fostering and encouraging a stimulating environment and recognizing outstanding achievements, the Faculty of Arts and Ryerson will enable students, graduates, staff and faculty to make a positive and meaningful impact on the social, environmental and economic vitality of Toronto, Ontario and beyond.



Initiatives

Activities to achieve this initiative

5.1 Recognize exceptional teaching, research, leadership and service

5.1.1 Continue internal awards for students, faculty and staff

5.1.2 Engage in the university-wide informal recognition program

5.1.3 Celebrate the successes of the humanities and social sciences (events, communications, etc.)

5.2 Engage and retain exceptional staff and faculty

5.2.1 Support administrative leadership excellence across the Faculty of Arts through training and development

5.2.2 Support the professional development and growth of faculty and staff

5.2.3 Support the well-being of staff and faculty

5.2.4 Advance equity and diversity across the Faculty led by an Arts-based champion

5.3 Create a positive physical work environment

5.3.1 Address space issues by making the best use of our current space

5.3.2 Ensure appropriate and adequate office space for faculty and staff, including expanding into new spaces in Jorgenson and the Podium

5.3.3 Build spaces that stimulate collaboration within Arts and across faculties including the new Arts Accelerator

5.4 Embed sustainability practices, processes and actions in our classroom, meeting rooms and offices

5.4.1 Develop and implement a Faculty of Arts sustainability plan: Arts Eco Action

5.5 Operate efficiently and effectively in the current provincial and university fiscal environment

5.5.1 Allocate resources efficiently and innovate through partnerships and other revenue-generating mechanisms

5.5.2 Ensure staff and faculty have access to advanced technology that supports their teaching, administration and research

Key performance indicators

- Faculty and staff retention rates
- Percentage of waste diverted
- Percentage of employees participating in sustainability initiatives inclusive of volunteer hours

The arts eco action plan

Protect
Ryerson's
urban
ecosystem

Minimize
our
environmental
impact

Be an
important
community
partner

In the fall of 2014, the Faculty of Arts launched the Arts Eco Action Plan to ensure a sustainable environment across the university. During the inaugural months, we assessed need, monitored success, and amended our plan to ensure ongoing alignment with our three pillars.

The Faculty of Arts takes responsibility for a shared future with the broader community and aims to pursue environmental and social sustainability through its programs, research, and policies.

Thus far, some of our sustainable actions have included:

- planting native trees on campus;
- introducing a web tool, Nature in the City, that allows users to interact with Ryerson's urban forest;
- upgrading the Faculty's recycling and compost program;
- supporting a student led gardening and vermicomposting initiative;
- encouraging green transportation with a campaign titled: Cycling to Arts; and
- engaging in the multi partner O'Keefe Lane rejuvenation project

The Faculty of Arts has worked collaboratively with partners across the university under the umbrella of Ryerson's Sustainability Matters program to ensure that its eco actions are coordinated and respectful of broader university initiatives. In August 2015, Sustainability Matters certified The Arts Eco Action Plan with the first Faculty-led RU: Sustainable Campus Certification. Congratulations to our eco champions.

Moving forward, we will continue to implement unique initiatives through the involvement of faculty, staff and students in Arts Eco Actions. Building our team of changemakers, expanding our scope, and increasing community partnerships is fundamental to the next phase of the Arts Eco Action Plan. We welcome your participation.



Arts is home to a diverse group of innovators

“With our significant recent increases in funding from public, private, non-profit and tri-council sources, we have a superb foundation for conducting our social sciences and humanities research in ways that are truly transformative.”

– Dr. Janet Lum, Associate Dean of Arts, Research & Graduate Studies

“Helping students achieve their goals is intrinsically rewarding and the Faculty of Arts students are inspiring. I look forward to working with our students everyday.”

– Elizabeth Johnson
Undergraduate Program Administrator,
Sociology

“SocialVentures Zone gave me the support and tools needed to take my outrageous idea and transform it into reality.”

– Jennifer Fischer
Participant and founder of Soul Roots,
a Social Enterprise

“Partnerships are essential to shaping tomorrow’s leaders by extending classroom learning into the applied complexities of today’s world; enabling students to craft sustainable solutions for a progressive country where citizens thrive.”

– Allison Urowitz
Director of Development

“We are looking ahead with great excitement to the 2017 Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences at Ryerson. Grounded in a vibrant, multicultural Canadian metropolis, the Congress at Ryerson will offer an exciting exchange of ideas by researchers from a wide array of disciplines.”

– Antonia Maioni
Former President of the Federation for the
Humanities and Social Sciences

