

REPORT OF ACADEMIC STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Report #F2019-3; December 03 2019

In this report the Academic Standards Committee (ASC) brings to Senate its evaluation and recommendation on the following items:

- FACULTY OF ARTS – Honours degree designation for the Sociology program.

A. FACULTY OF ARTS – Honours degree designation for the Sociology program

The Sociology BA program is requesting to be designated as a Bachelor of Arts Honours degree. This proposal received approval by the Sociology Department Council on October 29, 2019.

The BA Sociology program has been assessed as meeting the Quality Assurance standards for an Honours degree. The program's Periodic Program Review was approved by Senate on May 29, 2019.

An Honours designation is of value to both prospective and current students. Many prospective students inquire about this designation at recruitment events. As students complete the program and pursue graduate and professional education, the Honours designation communicates that Ryerson's four-year degree program has the same academic and disciplinary rigour as other Sociology programs. An overview of comparable BA Sociology programs in close proximity to Ryerson is provided below:

Comparative Programs with other BA Sociology Honours Designations

	# single-term sociology courses for graduation	# required courses in sociological theory	# required courses in research methods	# of required senior W ⁰ (year) courses
Ryerson	20	2	5 ¹	2 ²
UofT (St. George)	14 ³	1	2	1
UofT Mississauga	14 ³	1	2	2
UofT Scarborough	14 ³	2	2	3 at 3 rd or 4 th year
York	16 ⁴	3	3	4
McMaster	15	2	2	3
Guelph	24	3	3	3

Notes:

¹ Includes SSH 301 (Research Design and Qualitative Methods), which is not counted as one of the 20 required SOC courses

² A second required 4th year course is being implemented beginning September 2020. Currently, students have 1 course

³ U of T provides the chance to earn a "specialist" in Sociology (20 credits) or a "major" in Sociology (14 credits)

⁴ York provides the chance to earn a "specialist" in Sociology (20 credits) or a "major" in Sociology (16 credits)

Recommendation

Having satisfied itself of the merit of this proposal, the Academic Standards Committee recommends: *that Senate approve the Honours degree designation for the Sociology program.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly MacKay, Chair for the Committee

ASC Members:

Charmaine Hack, Registrar

Donna Bell, Secretary of Senate

Kelly MacKay, Chair and Vice-Provost Academic

Anita Jack-Davies, Office of the Vice President, Equity and Community Inclusion

Bettina West, Director, Curriculum Quality Assurance
Ann Marie Singh, Faculty of Arts, Criminology
Dale Smith, Faculty of Arts, English
Gavin Adamson, Faculty of Communication and Design, Journalism
Robert Clapperton, Faculty of Communication and Design, Professional Communication
Thomas Tenakate, Faculty of Community Services, Occupational & Public Health
Ian Young, Faculty of Community Services, Occupational & Public Health
Jurij Leshchyshyn, Faculty of Engineering & Architectural Science, Architectural Science
Donatus Oguamanam, Faculty of Engineering & Architectural Science, Mechanical & Industrial Engineering
Miranda Kirby, Faculty of Science, Physics
Foivos Xanthos, Faculty of Science, Mathematics
Horatio Morgan, Ted Rogers School of Management, Global Management
Mary Han, Ted Rogers School of Management, Entrepreneurship and Strategy
May Yan, Library
Linda Koechli, Chang School of Continuing Education
Dalia Hanna, Chang School of Continuing Education
Jacob Circo, Student
Fahim Khan, Student