

YORK UNIVERSITY

Final Assessment Report – Executive Summary

Translation BA, IBA

School of Translation, Glendon College

Cyclical Program Review – 2012 to 2020

This Final Assessment Report (FAR) provides a synthesis of the cyclical review of the programs listed below.

Program(s) Reviewed:

Translation, BA, IBA

Certificate in Technical and Professional Communication

Reviewers appointed by the Vice-Provost Academic:

Dr. Georges Bastin, Full Professor, Department of Linguistics and Translation,
University of Montreal

Dr. Marc Charron, Vice-Dean of Academic Programs at the Faculty of Arts, Associate
Professor, Translation and Interpretation, University of Ottawa

Dr. Igor Djordjevic, Chair, Associate Professor, Department of English, Glendon College,
York University

Cyclical Program Review Key Milestones:

Cyclical Program Review launch: September 16, 2020

Self-study submitted to Vice-Provost Academic: September 15, 2021

Date of the Site Visit: November 16, 2021

Review Report received: January 24, 2022

Program Response received: March, 2022

Dean's Response received: April, 2022

Implementation Plan and FAR confirmed by Joint Sub-Committee on Quality Assurance,
November 2022.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lyndon C. Martin".

Submitted by Lyndon Martin, Vice-Provost Academic, York University

This review was conducted under the York University Quality Assurance Protocol,
August 2020.

SITE VISIT: November 16, 2021

A site visit was organized around a set of interviews with multiple internal stakeholders that included:

- Lyndon Martin, Vice Provost Academic
- Thomas Loebel, Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies
- Marco Fiola, Principal, Glendon College
- Colin Coates, Associate Principal, Research and Graduate Studies
- Audrey Pyee, Associate Principal, Academics, Glendon College
- Julie McDonough-Dolmaya, Chair of the School of Translation
- Lyse Hébert, former Chair of the School of Translation
- Full-time and part-time faculty
- Students
- Jacqueline Angoh and Véronique Lim, Administrative assistants
- Jack Leong, Associate Dean of Libraries, Research and Open Scholarship
- Leigh Jackson, Content Development Librarian

The site visit took place virtually due to the ongoing pandemic.

OUTCOME:

The Joint Sub-Committee on Quality Assurance received the Program and Decanal responses to the recommendations and has approved an implementation plan.

A report on the progress of the initiatives undertaken in response to recommendations in general and as specified in the implementation plan will be provided in the Follow-up Report which will be due 18 months after the review of this report by the York University Joint Sub-Committee on Quality Assurance (in May 2024).

In order to align with other programs in the School, the next Cyclical Program Review for this program will begin in the Fall of 2026 with a site visit expected in the Fall of 2027 or Winter of 2028.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION AND STRENGTHS

The first translation program at York was established in 1979, and the School of Translation was established shortly thereafter, in 1984.

The School currently offers the following programs:

- Honours BA in Translation (Two streams: English to French and French to English)
- Accelerated Honours BA in Translation for holders of a previous degree (Two streams as above)

- Honours iBA in Translation (bilingual or trilingual)
- Certificate in Technical and Professional Communication (CTPC)
- Qualifying Program for admission to the MA in Translation Studies. Three language options are available: English-French; English-Spanish; English and a language other than French or Spanish.

The School also houses the undergraduate program in Communications, launched in 2017. This program has yet to undergo a CPR.

All of the undergraduate programs require the same core courses and are recognized by both the Québec and the Ontario accrediting bodies (the Ordre des traducteurs, terminologues et interprètes du Québec, and the Association of Translators and Interpreters of Ontario).

The School describes its programs in its self-study as “at once humanities-based and professionally oriented, leading to graduate studies in translation, as well as to employment in a variety of areas involving cross-linguistic and cross-cultural communication.”

The reviewers indicated in their report that the general objectives and the learning outcomes of the program are clear and appropriate. Regarding the mode of delivery, the reviewers suggest, “The modes of delivery are appropriate in that they achieve the desired program learning outcomes. Looking beyond the pandemic, in-person, online and hybrid courses should be delivered keeping in mind some of the positive features of teaching and learning of the past two years.”

The reviewers also indicated that further professionalization of the programs would be desirable, stating, “Closer links with the industry and the multicultural community of Toronto should be established so that all the programs can better benefit from the city’s demographic and multilingual unique richness.”

The review report comments on the challenges presented by the small number of full-time faculty in the program and the heavy administrative burden placed on these individuals. This also has an impact on the working language of the program which is primarily English. Some students expressed dissatisfaction with the lack of French courses. The reviewers state, “The faculty as a whole is certainly expert in the main areas of the School,” and recommend that full-time faculty should teach first-year courses.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

The chart below lays out the implementation plan approved by the Joint Sub-Committee at its meeting in November 2022.

	Recommendation	Action	Responsible for Follow-up	Timeline
1.	That the program review teaching assignments for full-time and part-time faculty and that a hiring plan for the faculty complement be prepared.	The program should carefully consider teaching assignments and continue to plan for faculty retirements. The program should consider ways to enhance enrolments in the program, such as by reviewing admission requirements and making courses more accessible to non-translation students, possibly enabling them to pursue a certificate in translation.	Chair of the School of Translation; Glendon Recruitment Team; Director, Continuing Education and Business Development	Review to be undertaken in 2023 and any relevant changes prepared for consideration in late 2023 or early 2024.
2.	That the program review the program requirements to focus on specialized skills that are highly desired by employers.	The program should review its requirements and courses, and consider them in the context of the Glendon College curriculum initiatives and core program learning outcomes.	Chair of the School; Associate Principal Academic	Review to be launched in Winter 2023.
3.	That the School not pursue the creation of a not-for-profit translation agency.	The program should continue to explore experiential education opportunities and make use of supports available at Glendon.	Chair of the School; Associate Principal Academics; Director of Continuing Education and Business Development	Discussions to begin in Winter 2023.