

**English Studies, Undergraduate Program, Glendon College**

**Cyclical Program Review – 2008 to 2015**

**Final Assessment Report and Implementation Plan Executive Summary  
 Reported to Joint-Committee on Quality Assurance: December 4, 2017**

**Program Description**

The English Department at Glendon was founded in 1966 and is one of the founding departments. Through its offerings in Literature and Drama, Linguistics and Language Studies, ESL and Applied Linguistics, and the Certificate in D-TEIL, the English Department plays a major role in furthering Glendon’s mission of bilingual excellence and a bilingual education in the Liberal Arts.

Degree options include Specialized Honours (BA and IBA), Honours (BA and IBA), 90-credit BA and double major and major/minors.

Students may also pursue the Certificate in the Discipline of Teaching English as an International Language, of particular interest to those who wish to teach English abroad.

	Registration (new intake) 2015	Enrolment FTES 2015/16	Degrees Awarded 2016
English (BA)	38	149	33 Hons; 7 90-credit; 9 minor
Certificates			6

**Reviewers appointed by the Vice-Provost Academic:**

Dr. Jeremy Lopez, University of Toronto  
 Dr. Maria Constanza Guzman, School of Translation and Department of Hispanic Studies, Glendon College, York University



## **Documentation Provided to the External Reviewers**

Prior to the site visit, the external reviewers are provided with the following:

- Principal's Agenda of Concerns
- Program Self-Study Brief, which includes program structure, curriculum and learning outcomes, program reflection, enrolment and retention data, resources, student input and quality enhancement opportunities
- Faculty CVs
- University, Faculty and Program planning documents

## **Cyclical Program Review Process**

The self-study report was a joint-effort of the current and previous Acting Chairs. The document was distributed to the entire department on December 1st, 2016 inviting feedback (additional information, points of clarification, alternative points of view) until December 15, 2016. Online discussion afforded all members of the department the opportunity to participate in the preparation of the self-study report. Students provided input through a student survey.

**Site Visit:** March 1, 2017

During the site visit, the reviewers met with the Vice-Provost Academic, Alice Pitt, and the following individuals from Glendon: Principal Donald Ipperciel, Dany Savard, Acting Head of the Leslie Frost Library, faculty members, the administrative assistant and two groups of students, including majors and non-majors. In addition, e-mail communication from a faculty member was reviewed.

### **Outcome:**

The Joint-Committee on Quality Assurance concluded that the Decanal response adequately addressed the review recommendations. Progress on the recommendations will be included in the Follow-up Report due June 2019. The next CPR will begin in the Fall of 2023.

### **Strengths:**

The Reviewers stated, "The English studies curriculum is rigorous and wide-ranging," and they noted the extraordinary amount of work that ensures ...students are well-versed in the English literary tradition, in linguistics, and in current critical and theoretical topics and fields of literary studies. The Reviewers noted the essential services provided by the ESL program for the bilingual mission of the College. "Small class sizes and strong faculty commitment give students the small-liberal-arts-college experience for which they have come to Glendon."

## **Opportunities for Enhancement:**

The Reviewers noted the challenges presented by the small instructional complement which means “that almost any given course will be offered once every two or three years”.

While the Reviewers understood that linguistics has historically been central to the identity of the Department of English Studies, it was not made clear by faculty or students why linguistics courses should continue to be offered, and required, when there is a separate program at Glendon in Linguistics and Language Studies in the Glendon Department of Multidisciplinary Studies.

The Reviewers also questioned what practical goal is achieved by “insisting on drama as a discrete area of focus, especially since no drama course (or set of drama courses) alone fulfills a program requirement. In fact, Drama Studies is offered as a major through the Department of Multidisciplinary Studies at Glendon.

The Reviewers made the following comment on resources. “The Department of English Studies does not have enough permanent faculty to deliver its program, or even a much reduced version of its program, easily and efficiently to students. Current faculty resources are stretched to maximum capacity.”

The Reviewers also noted that the lack of a Chair has impacted recruitment and complement planning.

## **Reviewer Recommendations and Dean’s Implementation Plan**

The Principal at Glendon notes that the likelihood of the recommendations being successfully implemented is predicated on re-establishing proper departmental governance. An Interim Chair is in place for FW2017-2018. He also notes in his implementation plan does not include the recommendation to hire three new faculty members. The Principal notes that, “It will be important that we conduct a Faculty-wide discussion in order to reach general consensus on hiring priority among the departments/programs.”

The chart on the following page outlines the recommendations that are being considered and provides timelines for implementation.

<b>B</b>	<b>Accepted recommendations (abbreviated)</b>	<b>Agents</b>	<b>Dependencies</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>
1	<i>Replace ESL and D-TEIL professors when they retire</i>	Office of the Provost	Office of the Principal	n/a	n/a
2	<i>Convert existing CLA position into a permanent position after the current contract</i>	Office of the Provost	Office of the Principal	1-Sep-20	1-Sep-21
4	<i>Revise curriculum so that it is less requirement-intensive</i>	program	Senate	1-Sep-17	1-Sep-18
5	<i>Explore the possibility of establishing a Writer-on-the-Grounds position</i>	program	Office of the Principal	1-Sep-18	1-Sep-19
6	<i>Explore possibilities of collaboration with the Communications program</i>	program	School of Translation, Communications program	1-Sep-17	1-Sep-18
7	<i>Create blended/online courses and EE courses</i>	program	EE coordinator	1-Sep-17	on-going
8	<i>Develop closer liaison with the Recruitment Office</i>	program	Recruitment Office	1-Sep-17	on-going

A report on the progress of these initiatives will be provided in the Follow-up Report which will be due in June 2019.

Alice J. Pitt  
Vice-Provost Academic  
York University