

RECOMMENDATIONS	GOALDATE	INPROGRESS	COMPLETED
A. FirstYearCourses			

C. Addressing the Needs of Generation 1.5 Students

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Excerpts from the Douglas College English Department External Review
Dr. Janice Stewart
Professor of Teaching & Associate Dean Equity, Innovation and Strategy, UBC
March 2, 2021

GENERAL CONCLUSIONS

The Department will benefit from the ongoing support provided by the Dean of the Faculty of Language, Literature and Performing Arts and College leadership. The Department should be encouraged to work with and learn from other units grappling with undergraduate enrolment, governance protocols, diversity initiatives. Ultimately, all members of the Department will need to make a renewed commitment to address a variety of fundamental issues around revitalizing and renewing curriculum, and governance in the months and years to come. That shared commitment must be the first step in the work of rebuilding a sense of community in the Department. The exercise of creating a common vision of where the department is going over the next five years would be really helpful for all faculty to start making a common goal. Some committees need to be established to share the burden of work that would be helpful to the program: curriculum renewal committee, a dedicated group working around transfer credits to ensure that students are best being served, committee dedicated to making connections to other units, peer review of teaching committee, name a few. A clear expectation of universal participation in service on the part of all faculty members is essential to departmental morale and workload equity. Overall, the English department faculty is a dynamic and enthusiastic group of people who are working at a very high level. The unit is commended for its success in a complex mission.

SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations Undergraduate Instruction and Learning

1. One way for the English Department to expand the curriculum is to foster closer relationships with the other units that English serves. Creating courses that echo the other unit could be a way to ensure participation of students in upper level courses. Working across units will give the students options for upper level electives and offer the faculty a way to bring their disciplines into courses in a more connected way. i.e., creating courses that speak more directly to other areas. Criminology might be a course on mystery novels, or Victorian Jack the Ripper (novels, movies, stories) cases as relevant and give the faculty more options to teach their specialities.
2. Space and relatedly, infrastructure poses major constraints and challenges on many university campuses. It may be a benefit for Douglas to...

4. Course outline renewal should happen every 5 years with oversight from a faculty-led curriculum committee to ensure that students are benefiting from current trends in the field.

Recommendations— Research, Scholarly, and Professional Activity

1. Future hires might include people who have direct connections to other units, i.e., health/literature. Or others that have worked in other adjacent fields.
2. COVID-19 has afforded everyone the opportunity to experiment with online teaching. Consideration should be given to offering a select part of the program online and to formalize that in the curriculum.
3. Professional Development should include some specific workshops/speakers who are connected more directly to English, Academic Writing, and efforts to continue to offer up to date curriculum with consideration to EDI.
4. Pedagogy is key to this department. Informal peer review of faculty can be really helpful in structuring ongoing development. Regular review of course outlines to make sure they are in line with the department vision and expectations as well as supporting the diverse student body.

Recommendations— Service

1. Creating individual service agreements for the academic year for each faculty member would provide one mechanism for transparency and may assist the distribution of service more evenly. It also would help many of the faculty who are proactive in the department to not suffer burn out. A) Having everyone sign up for a committee or two would distribute the service load.

3. Some faculty are concerned about the safety problems linked with teaching at night. All of the services of the university are closed. This is something that should be taken on by the department in consultation with the Dean if there are any possibilities for some services being kept open. Courses could be scheduled in clusters at the same time in the evening, so faculty do not feel alone in the buildings.



DOUGLAS COLLEGE COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW (CR)
RESPONSE FROM THE
OFFICE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, ACADEMIC AND PROVOST

A38: Program Review

FACULTY (Lead Dean/Associate Dean)	<i>Language, Literature and Performing Arts</i>
Department / Program	
Date Submitted	
External Review Panel (ERP) <i>List all</i>	



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Academic Direction #3:

Policy

Curriculum Development and Approval



	<p>Committee process</p> <hr data-bbox="646 1459 1133 1463"/>
Next scheduled PR (5 – 7 years):	