



University of Toronto Quality Assurance Process (UTQAP) Cyclical Review: Final Assessment Report and Implementation Plan

Program(s) Reviewed:	Diaspora and Transnational Studies, Honours B.A.: Major, Minor
Unit Offering Program:	Centre for Diaspora and Transnational Studies
Commissioning Officer:	Dean, Faculty of Arts & Science
Reviewers (Name, Affiliation):	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Prof. Jonathan Boyarin, Ph.D., Mann Professor of Modern Jewish Studies, Professor of Anthropology, Department of Near Eastern Studies, Cornell University2. Prof. Imre Szeman, Ph.D., Canada Research Chair in Cultural Studies, Professor of English, Film Studies and Sociology, University of Alberta
Date of Review Visit:	March 31 to April 1, 2015
Date Reported to AP&P:	March 30, 2016

Unless otherwise noted, all bulleted comments apply to all programs reviewed.

1 Outcome

The Committee on Academic Policy and Programs (AP&P) concluded that the decanal response adequately addressed the review recommendations.

2 Significant Program Strengths

- Unique, vibrant and important program; only program of its kind within the North American academy
- Students are thrilled with the program
- Faculty are producing excellent individual research
- Rapid program enrolment since its inception in 2005, and program is poised to continue to grow

3 Opportunities for Program Enhancement

The reviewers recommended that the following be considered:

- Reviewing the substantial number of cross-listed courses and clarifying the impact of this on the program's learning objectives
- Gathering information on the accomplishments of its graduates in order that students might better understand the range of careers and opportunities open to them on completion of the program
- Making better connections to help the program address the barriers students have to taking courses in other departments, engage faculty from other units, increase the number of experiential learning opportunities, and improve the Centre's research profile
- Addressing the resource-intensive nature of the tri-campus undergraduate program
- Better using the program's physical space

4 Implementation Plan

The Dean undertook in consultation with the Centre to support the following changes:

- Immediate Term (6 months)
 - Reviewing the substantial number of cross-listed courses and clarifying the impact of this on the program's learning objectives
 - The Centre's faculty will continue to provide students with core courses in 2nd, 3rd, and 4th year, which anchor a unified experience for those enrolled in the major and minor programs. The Centre's leadership will consider adding a service learning course in third year and will be reviewing, in consultation with the Dean's Office, the implications for the program.
 - Addressing the resource-intensive nature of the tri-campus undergraduate program
 - The Dean's Office will meet with the Director of the Centre and members of the University of Toronto Mississauga (UTM) program to evaluate its current status and review arrangements currently in place.
 - Better using the program's physical space
 - The Director and the Dean's Office will review the current space of the Centre to determine what is needed to make the Centre space more welcoming to its students.
- Medium Term (1–2 years)
 - Gathering information on the accomplishments of its graduates in order that students might better understand the range of careers and opportunities open to them on completion of the program
 - The Centre will maintain a mailing list of all students (current and graduates) to conserve relations and request information on their achievements after graduation. The Centre will also dedicate a section of their website to highlighting alumni relations.
 - Making better connections to help the program address the barriers students have to taking courses in other departments, engage faculty from other units, increase the number of experiential learning opportunities, and improve the Centre's research profile

- The Centre and the Dean's Office will work together to review current agreements with units cross-listing courses and firming up these relationships to better assist Centre students with their academic and experiential learning opportunities.

The Dean's Office will follow up annually with the unit to assess progress.

5 Executive Summary

The reviewers identified the programs' strengths as its unique, important place as the only program of its kind within the North American academy; the high level of student satisfaction with the program; the faculty's excellent individual research; and the rapid enrolment growth in the program since its inception in 2005. The reviewers recommended that the following issues be addressed: reviewing the substantial number of cross-listed courses and their impact program's learning objectives; gathering information on the accomplishments of graduates; making better connections to help the program address the barriers students have to taking courses in other departments, engage faculty from other units, increase the number of experiential learning opportunities, and improve the Centre's research profile; addressing the resource-intensive nature of the tri-campus undergraduate program; and better using the program's physical space. The Director and the Dean's Office will review the current space of the Centre to determine what is needed to make the Centre space more welcoming to its students. The Dean's Office will meet with the Director of the Centre and members of the University of Toronto Mississauga (UTM) program to evaluate its current status and review arrangements currently in place. The Centre and the Dean's Office will work together to review current agreements with units cross-listing courses and firming up these relationships to better assist Centre students with their academic and experiential learning opportunities. The Centre will improve its communication and engagement with alumni. The Committee on Academic Policy and Programs (AP&P) concluded that the decanal response adequately addressed the review recommendations.