



# **University of Toronto Quality Assurance Process (UTQAP)**

## **Cyclical Review: Final Assessment Report and Implementation Plan**

<b>Programs Reviewed:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• French Studies, B.A. (Hons.): Specialist, Major, Minor</li><li>• French and Italian, B.A. (Hons.): Specialist</li><li>• Italian, B.A. (Hons.): Specialist, Major, Minor</li><li>• Language Teaching and Learning: French, B.A. (Hons.): Major</li><li>• Language Teaching and Learning: Italian, B.A. (Hons.): Major</li><li>• Language Teaching and Learning: French and Italian, B.A. (Hons.): Specialist</li><li>• Linguistic Studies (Major/Minor)</li><li>• Education Studies (Minor)</li><li>• English Language Linguistics (Minor)</li><li>• Francophone Studies (Minor)</li><li>• Functional French (Minor)</li></ul>
<b>Unit Reviewed:</b>	Department of Language Studies, University of Toronto Mississauga (UTM)
<b>Commissioning Officer:</b>	Vice-Principal, Academic and Dean, UTM
<b>Reviewers (Name, Affiliation):</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Professor Andrea Ciccarelli, Ph.D., Dean, Hutton Honors College, Department of French &amp; Italian, Indiana University Bloomington</li><li>2. Professor Lucie Hotte, Ph.D., Research Chair in Cultures and Francophone Literature of Canada, Department of French, University of Ottawa</li></ol>
<b>Date of Review Visit:</b>	February 29 – March 1, 2016
<b>Date Reported to AP&amp;P:</b>	November 1, 2016

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

## 1 Outcome

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

## 2 Significant Program Strengths

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- High quality, popular programs with sharp, high-achieving students
- Remarkable Italian program with the right mix of language/cultural instruction, reflecting the strong community base in Toronto
- Impressive French course offerings, especially considering the size of the department
- Strong outreach programs with excellent reputations, including French Summer Camp, Italian play, and study abroad programs
- Highly productive faculty, especially given the small size of the complement, within a very collegial work environment
- Many professors collaborate with colleagues in other universities and organizations on research projects
- Sound organizational structure with well-handled finances
- Personnel are courteous and dedicated to the administrative and academic mission of the department
- Strong, well-balanced unit, with a great potential for increasing its already impressive ranking

## 3 Opportunities for Program Enhancement

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- Consolidating the programs under the four disciplines—French, Italian, Linguistics and Teaching and Learning—in order to build on current strengths
- Examining the frequency of course offerings and a clear calendar of course offerings, the possibility of summer courses and, as the complement expands, offering classes with a popular cultural focus on a more regular basis
- Reflecting on the right mix of responsibilities and appointment categories to support its many programs and courses and to support the research mission
- Focusing on supporting existing programs in terms of faculty growth and research output, specifically in French and Italian rather than expanding into new academic programs
- Maintaining the strong outreach programs offered by the department

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

## 4 Implementation Plan

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

### Immediate Term (6 months)

- Consolidating the programs under the four disciplines—French, Italian, Linguistics, and Teaching and Learning
  - Consultations and discussions with student groups, cognate departments (that may be affected) and faculty are being initiated
  - Decision to be made during retreat in May 2017
  - The Department will administratively suspend admissions prior to the potential closure of admissions through the UTM governance process
- Examining of the frequency of course offerings
  - The department will increase the number of courses offered yearly by reducing the number of courses currently offered in rotation
- Supporting existing programs in terms of faculty growth and research output
  - Since their academic plan of 2012, the Department has added 5 positions (3 teaching stream in FRE, LIN and ITA and 2 tenure stream in LIN and FRE). They are also currently searching this year for a tenure track hire in Linguistics and a 5-year Contractually Limited Term Appointment in Italian.
- Maintaining outreach
  - The Department believes that outreach and study abroad opportunities are strong assets and crucial to the success of their academic programs. As a result, they fully intend to continue excelling in this regard. They are also discussing whether increasing staffing compliments are needed to support their high number of outreach programs.

### Medium Term (1-2 years)

- Consolidating the programs under the four disciplines—French, Italian, Linguistics and Teaching and Learning
  - Based on the decision made at retreat in May 2017, major curriculum changes for the fall of 2018 can be initiated if needed
- Establishing the right mix of responsibilities and appointment categories to support programs, courses and the research mission
  - The Department is confident that this particular issue will be addressed as the faculty complement grows. In addition, this challenge will be discussed and addressed at the retreat in May 2017.
- Supporting existing programs in terms of faculty growth and research output
  - The Department anticipates eventually proposing new minor programs and faculty hires in the two areas of Chinese and Spanish. Adding such programs would strengthen the mandate of the department.

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

## 5 Executive Summary

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The reviewers identified the programs' strengths as their high quality, which attracts sharp, high-achieving students; the remarkable Italian program with the right mix of language/cultural instruction, reflecting the strong community base in Toronto; impressive French course offerings, especially considering the size of the department; strong outreach programs with excellent reputations, including French Summer Camp, Italian play, and study abroad programs; highly productive faculty, especially given the small size of the complement, within a very collegial work environment; many professors who collaborate with colleagues in other universities and organizations on research projects; sound organizational structure with well-handled finances; personnel who are courteous and dedicated to the administrative and academic mission of the department; and the strong, well-balanced unit, with a great potential for increasing its already impressive ranking. The reviewers recommended that the following issues be addressed: consolidating the programs under the four disciplines—French, Italian, Linguistics and Teaching and Learning—in order to build on current strengths; examining the frequency of course offerings and a clear calendar of course offerings, the possibility of summer courses, and, as the complement expands, offering classes with a popular cultural focus on a more regular basis; reflecting on the right mix of responsibilities and appointment categories to support its many programs and courses and to support the research mission; focusing on supporting existing programs in terms of faculty growth and research output, specifically in French and Italian rather than expanding into new academic programs; and maintaining the strong outreach programs offered by the department. The Department is engaging in consultation about suspending program admission. The department will increase the number of courses offered yearly by reducing the number of courses currently offered in rotation. The department has added teaching stream positions, and they are searching for a tenure-stream position. The Department anticipates eventually proposing new minor programs and faculty hires in the two areas of Chinese and Spanish. Adding such programs would strengthen the mandate of the department. The Committee on Academic Policy and Programs (AP&P) concluded that the Decanal response adequately addressed the review recommendations.