

# University of Toronto Annual Report on Graduate Collaborative Specialization Reviews, Cycle 6, 2020-21

## Collaborative Specialization Reviews are Commissioned by the Dean of the Lead Faculty

**Collaborative Specialization (CS) Definition:** "an intra-university graduate field of study that provides an additional multidisciplinary experience for students enrolled in and completing the degree requirements for one of a number of approved master's and/or PhD programs within the collaborative specialization. Students meet the admission requirements of and register in the participating (or "home") program but complete, in addition to the degree requirements of that program, the additional requirements specified by the Collaborative Specialization. The degree conferred is that of the home program, and the completion of the Collaborative Specialization is indicated by a transcript notation indicating the additional specialization that has been attained." ([Quality Assurance Framework](#))

The learning outcomes of a collaborative specialization are in addition to those supported by the home program.

Collaborative Specialization & Lead Faculty	Participating Programs & Degrees	Appropriateness of Collaborative Specialization Requirements	Vitality of Collaborative Specialization	Other Strengths or Challenges Identified	Review Outcome
<b>Ancient and Medieval Philosophy (AMP)</b>  <b>Lead Faculty:</b> Arts and Science  <b>Date of Summary Assessment Report:</b> April 12, 2021	Classics — PhD Medieval Studies — PhD Philosophy — PhD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The CS meets the requirement that 30% of the courses taken are in the area of the specialization.</li> <li>Students in the CS share in a common learning experience through participation in the required proseminar (AMP2000Y); its principal objective is to improve students' abilities to translate and interpret ancient and medieval philosophical text.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CSAMP is by all accounts a vibrant "hub for research and instruction in Ancient and Medieval Philosophy."</li> <li>The CS sponsors an impressive array of workshops, seminars and conferences. It also welcomes visiting faculty for short or extended stays and has postdoctoral students. Students in the CS have also organized their own work-in-progress workshop. Student feedback on these aspects of their</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Philosophy students did express concerns about the ancient language requirements. This concern was also raised in the previous review, which recommended that the program reconsider the appropriateness of the language requirements if time-to-completion or attrition rose.</li> <li>Attrition and completion do not appear to have been a significant issue for students in the CS since the previous review. This suggests that</li> </ul>	Memorandum of Agreement is recommended for renewal.

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students in Medieval Studies and Classics must also complete two non-historical half courses in philosophy.</li> <li>• Additionally, students must gain competence in two non-English modern languages and Latin, Greek or Arabic; this is assessed through examinations and a paper involving translation from one of the historic languages (these are already part of the doctoral requirements in Medieval Studies and Classics, but not Philosophy).</li> <li>• Student feedback is very effusive about the structure of the program in its current configuration, though students do note some opaqueness to program requirements, as well as offer some suggested revisions (allowing historical philosophy courses to count for non-Philosophy students, and requiring ancient specialists to take a seminar in medieval philosophy, and vice versa).</li> <li>• To address concerns and suggestions, the CS director plans to construct and</li> </ul>	<p>experiences was positive. They were especially enthusiastic about a small grant program that offers small travel grants for students attending conferences.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enrolment counts reported by the unit indicate a resurgence in enrolments.</li> <li>• Course enrolments in the common required proseminar course, AMP2000Y have been steady.</li> <li>• The CS appears fairly robust in terms of total enrolment and class size in AMP2000Y, though the core proseminar has not attracted any Medieval Studies students since 2014-15, at least in terms of official ROSI enrolments.</li> <li>• As cross-disciplinary student participation is important to the vitality of any CS, CSAMP leadership should work to encourage student participation and (official) enrolment across all participating units.</li> <li>• The three core units remain committed to the CS. Indeed,</li> </ul>	<p>the extra language requirements for Philosophy students have not acted as a barrier to their progress through the CS.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unclear whether time-to-completion is changing for CSAMP students; for future reports it would be useful to include data on TTC.</li> <li>• 71 percent (15 of 21) of graduating students landed academic appointments.</li> <li>• The CS in Ancient and Medieval Philosophy capitalizes on the unparalleled strengths of participating faculty across the contributing disciplines. It offers students a rich, deep and rewarding interdisciplinary educational experience, which students value and appreciate.</li> <li>• Financially, CSAMP has benefited from the research support from two Canada Research Chair (CRC) Professorships and an endowment in the Philosophy department. As one CRC is set to expire in 2022,</li> </ul>	

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		<p>communicate a clear timeline for students in consultation with the CS committee and broader faculty.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overall, the structure and requirements of the CSAMP appear to be appropriate and support the learning outcomes very well.</li> </ul>	<p>Philosophy has recently added to its faculty complement, with several appointments in the field of ancient philosophy.</p>	<p>CSAMP leadership is mindful of the potential shortfall that may arise if they do not find alternate research funding sources.</p>	