

Master in Public and International Affairs/ Maîtrise, affaires publiques et internationales (MPIA) , Glendon

Cyclical Program Review – 2005 - 2013

Final Assessment Report and Implementation Plan

Reported to Joint-Committee on Quality Assurance: April 18, 2016

Program Description

The MPIA is the flagship component of the Glendon School of Public and International Affairs (GSPIA). It offers a bilingual 2-year education that prepares students for leadership roles in public and international affairs. Students are encouraged to participate in the various internationalization activities, including the opportunity to complete a dual credential with the University of Strasbourg in France.

Program	Accepts 2014	Enrolment FTES 2014	Degrees Awarded 2014
Master's	25	42	19

Reviewers appointed by the Vice-Provost Academic:

Dr. Kathy L. Brock, Professor, School of Policy Studies, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario
 Dr. Pierre Pahlavi, Directeur, Centre des études, Programs in Public Administration sur la sécurité nationale, Professeur agrégé, Collège des Forces canadiennes, Défense nationale, Toronto, Ontario
 Dr. Michaela Hynie, Associate Professor, Psychology, Faculty of Health, York University

Site Visit: October 22 and 23, 2015

The reviewers met with Alice Pitt, Vice-Provost Academic, Fahimul Quadir, Acting AVP/Dean Graduate, Donald Ipperciel, Principal, Glendon College, Mario Roy, Associate Principal Academic, Glendon College, Christina Clark-Kazak Associate Principal, Research and Graduate Studies, Glendon College, Roberto Perin, Graduate Program Director, Ken McRoberts, Director, School of Public and International Affairs at Glendon College, Dany Savard, Frost Librarian, faculty members in the program, the graduate program assistant and with students in the program.

Outcome: The Joint-Committee on Quality Assurance concluded that the Principal's Implementation Plan adequately addressed the review recommendations. Progress on the recommendations will be included in the Follow-up Report due October 31, 2017. The next Cyclical Program Review will begin in Fall 2021.

Strengths:

- The high quality of the program is evident in its clear commitment to full bilingualism, the clarity of its mission, and the collective commitment to excellence.
- Students benefit greatly from practical experience through summer internship with governmental or non-governmental organizations as well as through participation in various internationalization activities.
- Student assessment methods are strong, blending higher level academic skills with solid practical skills; in particular, the Capstone Seminar that uses the Memorandum



- to Cabinet exercise as a learning and assessment tool is excellent.
- A mandatory paid internship and high placement rate for graduates of the program are significant strengths of the program.
 - The MPIA courses have been mapped against the Degree Level Expectations and Program Learning Outcomes.
 - The MPIA offers a dual credential program with the University of Strasbourg in France and the dual credential with Laval University was approved by the York University Senate in March 2016.

Opportunities for Enhancement:

- A dedicated course covering two areas of increasing importance, Ethics and Data Analytics, should be considered.
- A short “bootcamp” for students prior to the start of the program, with the objective of familiarizing student with the terminology necessary for public administration and the expected proficiency in French and English, would enhance student experience.
- Course offerings in the evenings, on weekends and online should be expanded.
- Some one-day field trips could be integrated into the program (for example, to Queen’s Park, City Hall, Aboriginal sites) to great effect.
- It is important to ensure that the position of the Public-Servant-in-Residence is filled each year and to consider opportunities to engage more practitioners in the program.
- Faculty and student space is in need of improvement.

Principals’ Implementation Plan (Selected)

The Principal’s Implementation Plan includes measures to address key areas for enhancement identified by the reviewers and by the program by Fall 2017. Priority items include:

- Finalization of approvals for a dual degree option with the Université de Laval that builds upon the existing exchange option (approved the York University Senate in March 2016);
- Increased exchange opportunities and participation;
- Improved experiential options for students (practitioner in residence; field trips, clearer information for students regarding internship);
- Consideration of curricular enhancements and varied course delivery options; and
- Development of clear Degree Level Expectations that map the student learning outcomes against the curriculum at Glendon as well as Strasbourg (completed February 2016) and proposed new dual degree option with Laval (completed prior to March 2016).

The follow-up report which will be due in October 2017 will provide a report on completed items and a status update on those that are ongoing.

Alice J. Pitt, Vice-Provost Academic
York University