

YORK UNIVERSITY

Final Assessment Report – Executive Summary

**International Studies, Undergraduate Program
(BA, iBA)**

Glendon College

Cyclical Program Review – 2012 to 2020

This Final Assessment Report (FAR) provides a synthesis of the cyclical review of the programs listed below.

Program(s) Reviewed:

BA, iBA

Reviewers appointed by the Vice-Provost Academic:

Dr. Talbot Charles Imlay, Professor, Département des sciences historiques, Université Laval, Québec

Dr. David Leyton-Brown, Professor Emeritus, Department of Politics, Faculty of Liberal Arts and Professional Studies, York University

Cyclical Program Review Key Milestones:

Cyclical Program Review launch: September 19, 2019

Self-study submitted to Vice-Provost Academic: February 17, 2021

Date of the Site Visit: May 27, 2021

Review Report received: July 8, 2021

Program Response received: October 2021

Dean's Response received: January 2022

Implementation Plan and FAR confirmed by Joint Sub-Committee on Quality Assurance, March 2022.

Follow-up Report due October 2023.



Lyndon Martin, Vice-Provost Academic, York University

This review was conducted under the York University Quality Assurance Protocol, August 2013.

SITE VISIT: May 27, 2021

The virtual site visit was organized around a set of interviews with York University and Glendon colleagues, including Lyndon Martin, Vice Provost Academic, Marco Fiola, Principal, Glendon College, Hossam Ali-Hassan, Chair and Undergraduate Program Director, full-time and part-time faculty members, and undergraduate students.

In addition, the external reviewers met with two librarians, Jack Leong Associate Dean, Research & Open Scholarship and Patti Ryan, Director, Content Development and Analysis.

On June 10 the reviewers had an online meeting with two faculty members currently seconded to the Department of Sociology but scheduled to return to International Studies in the next academic year.

OUTCOME:

The Joint Sub-Committee on Quality Assurance received the Final Assessment Report and Implementation Plan and was assured that all the required elements of the Cyclical Program Review had been successfully completed, although with some understandable delays due to the Covid 19 Pandemic.

A report on the progress of the initiatives undertaken in response to recommendations in general and as specified in the implementation plan will be provided in the Follow-up Report which will be due in 18 months (October 2023).

The next cyclical program review will launch in the Fall of 2027 with a site visit expected in Fall of 2028 or Winter of 2029.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION AND STRENGTHS:

In 1968, the Senate of York University approved the granting of a Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree in International Studies at Glendon College, the only one in Canada. In September 2011, the now Department of International Studies re-examined its academic program and introduced the concept of three thematic pillars that not only touch on fundamental issues in international society, but also strengthen the program's interdisciplinary approach and identity.

In July 2016, the presidents of York University and Emlyon Business School in St. Etienne, France signed a document launching a collaboration between the two institutions, which introduced a dual degree program. The Dual Degree program with Emlyon Business School in France leads to an iBA in International Studies from York University and a Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) from Emlyon.

The International Studies Program (ISP) at Glendon Campus appears to be at something of a crossroads. The reviewers noted, "As it now stands, the International Studies Program is strongly tilted towards international business, a tilt reflected in recent

faculty hires as well as in the dual degree with business. The prominent place given to business studies appears to have been the result of circumstance (and opportunity) and less the result of planning. One result is that the relationship between business studies and international studies more generally is a fraught one.”

The reviewers noted that the location of Glendon is ideal for experiential education, and there is strong student interest in internships, co-ops, placements, and community-based and community-service learning. Glendon has established supports for the identification and nurturing of partnerships to enable these opportunities to grow.

There are opportunities for cross department and cross-program collaborations to enhance the course offerings for International Studies students.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

The chart below lays out the implementation plan approved by the Joint Sub-Committee at its meeting in March 2022

Recommendation	Action	Responsible for Follow-up	Timeline
1. That the department redesign aspects of the International Studies program.	Reduce the number of themes in the program to two.	Associate Principal Academic; Chair of Department	Curriculum development complete by Summer 2022; implementation for Fall 2023
2. That alternate structures for the program and department be considered.	Hold open discussions about structures and revisit name if appropriate.	Associate Principal Academic, Chair of International Studies, Director of the Glendon School of Public and International Affairs, Coordinator of the MA in Public and International Affairs, Chair of Sociology, Coordinator of Canadian Studies, Chair of Political Science, Coordinator of the Communications program	Complete no later than Spring 2023
3. That the contract faculty be included in discussions about program restructuring.	Consider formalization of part-time instructor participation.	Chair of Department/Program Coordinator	April 2022
4. That administrative support for experiential education be made available.	That the department work closely with the Glendon Department of Experiential Education.	Chair of Department/Program Coordinator, Office of Experiential Education, Director of Advancement and Alumni Relations	Ongoing
5. That exploration of opportunities to increase the number of courses available in the major be undertaken.	Identify barriers to cross-listing of courses and cross-affiliations; work to alleviate these in the short and medium term.	Associate Principal Academic, Program Coordinator, Chairs and Coordinators of interested Departments and Programs.	Spring 2023, and ongoing