

# Action Plan: Program/Department Name: Philosophy

Date Self-Study was submitted to AQA: June 17, 2021

Date of External Review: July 7, 2021

The Action Plan, which follows the Self-Study and External Review, guides programs and departments as they:

- Follow-up on recommendations from the Self-Study and External Review
- Develop realistic goals for improving or maintaining program quality
- Determine the steps and resources required to reach those goals
- Determine the people/groups responsible for each action
- Establish a timeline (before the next program review cycle) within which these steps will occur.

The Action Plan, like all other aspects of a Langara Program Review, is faculty driven and Dean led. Faculty develop the Action Plan in close collaboration with the Division Chair and Dean. Once the Action Plan is ready for review, the Chair/Coordinator, Division Chair and Dean should schedule a meeting with the Provost.

## Institutional Response

Congratulations to the faculty members in the Philosophy department for completing their Self-Study and Action Plan. The faculty members are to be commended for their common vision and goal of developing learning outcomes for the department's courses, program learning outcomes, and a curriculum map. These goals, and others, align well with the recommendations from the external reviewers.

The Action Plan provides a clear vision for the next seven years and breaks the actions into achievable projects to ensure steady progress. The plan will be reviewed annually and offers an opportunity to adjust where needed.

The Dean and Vice President, Academic are committed to supporting the Philosophy department members in achieving their goals through ongoing guidance and regular progress reviews.

Signed



Dean

February 25, 2022  
Date

Signed



Provost and Vice-President

February 25, 2022  
Date

**Recommendations from the Self-Study and External Review this Action Plan does NOT Address.**

*Provide a brief rationale for why each Recommendation cannot be addressed. Add or remove rows as necessary.*

Recommendation	Self-Study or External Review (include p.#)	Rationale
	SELF STUDY p.#	
Discuss and investigate the possibility of a citation in Philosophy for those students who are interested in pursuing their studies with a focus in Philosophy.	6	Beyond our Scope at this time – need to address LOs first.
Undertake a review of department practices and course offerings that might affect international student enrollment.	6	Beyond our Scope at this time
Investigate the benefits of enhancing methods that increase the oral communication and group collaboration skills of students in those courses that provide opportunities for such activities.	9	Beyond our Scope at this time
Investigate possible factors affecting retention rates of students from one term to another.	16	Beyond our Scope at this time
Explore the value of and student demand for offering a citation in Philosophy, potentially in coordination with the Diploma in Applied Social Sciences and Humanities (DASSH) program.	16	Beyond our Scope at this time – need to address LOs first.
Work with the Library to explore the possibility of enhancing access to relevant journals.	19	Beyond our Scope at this time
Identify classrooms that better support small group discussions where needed.	19	Beyond our Scope at this time
Review the department's practices for maintaining alumni relations.	20	Beyond our Scope at this time
Explore student views on whether and how they would like to maintain ties to the Langara Philosophy department once they graduate or leave Langara.	20	Beyond our Scope at this time
Develop a plan to advertise department events such as the Philosophers' Jam more broadly to encourage alumni to engage with faculty and philosophy.	20	Beyond our Scope at this time

## Goal 1: Learning Outcomes and Articulation

List the Recommendation(s) this Goal addresses. Check the appropriate column to indicate if the Recommendation is from the Self-Study or External Review. Add or remove rows as needed.

Recommendation	Self-Study (specify page #)	External Review (specify page #)
Develop more opportunities for faculty to collaborate on course learning objectives and methods of assessment.	16	4
Learn more about the services and support offered by TCDC, EdTech, and Langara Library.	19	5
Work with Langara's Teaching and Curriculum Development Centre (TCDC) to develop a curriculum map.	9	3
Explore program learning outcomes with TCDC that support students in completing their Associate Degree in Philosophy requirements, their lower-level course requirements for transfer to a 4-year university for further education, and in completing Degree requirements in other disciplines such as the Bachelor of Science: Nursing and Bachelor of Business Administration.	9	4
Explore course offerings to determine if the needs of students are being met.	16	4
Discuss grading practices of faculty members in equivalent courses, and in the program in general.	16	4
Investigate aligning course and program goal development with grading practices.	16	4

Academic Plan 2025 Lens or Lenses this Goal supports. See the end of this document for the Academic Plan. Add or remove rows as needed,

Academic Plan 2025 Lens (only include the title of the lens)
Lens One: Curiosity, Creativity, and Innovation: Create the Future Together
Lens Three: Transformational Learning Experiences

Planned Actions the program/department will complete to achieve this goal. Add or remove rows as needed.

Planned Actions	Led by	Begin on	Anticipated Completion	Notes
LO/Typical Grade Weights 1100	Rana Ahmad	1-May-25	30-Jun-25	Part of Criminology, DASSH
LO/Typical Grade Weights 1101	Kent Schmor	1-Sep-22	20-Dec-22	

Planned Actions	Led by	Begin on	Anticipated Completion	Notes
LO/Typical Grade Weights 1102	Kent Schmor	1-Sep-23	20-Dec-23	
LO/Typical Grade Weights 1103	Kent Schmor	1-Sep-24	20-Dec-24	Maybe connect with faculty of Science.
LO/Typical Grade Weights 1104	Liam Dempsey	1-May-23	30-Jun-23	
LO/Typical Grade Weights 1105	Rana Ahmad	1-May-24	30-Jun-24	Part of BSc Nursing
LO/Typical Grade Weights 1195, 2295	Alex Boston	1-May-23	30-Jun-23	
LO/Typical Grade Weights 1140	Richard Johns	1-May-24	30-Jun-24	
LO/Typical Grade Weights 1125	Alex Boston	1-May-24	30-Jun-24	Assoc. with Classical Studies
LO/Typical Grade Weights 2201	Richard Johns	1-May-23	30-Jun-23	
LO/Typical Grade Weights 2202	Rana Ahmad	1-May-26	30-Jun-26	
LO/Typical Grade Weights 2203	Richard Johns	1-May-25	30-Jun-25	
LO/Typical Grade Weights 2210	Rana Ahmad	1-May-27	30-Jun-27	
LO/Typical Grade Weights 2225	Wayne Henry	1-May-26	30-Jun-26	
LO/Typical Grade Weights 2226	Katharine Browne	1-Apr-24	30-Apr-24	
LO/Typical Grade Weights 2160	Alex Boston	1-May-25	30-Jun-25	
LO/Typical Grade Weights 3200	Wayne Henry	1-May-22	30-Jun-22	Part of B Business Admin
Connect to TCDC, EdTech, Library.	Richard Johns	1-May-22	30-Jun-22	
Make Curriculum Map with TCDC for all courses	Alex Boston	1-May-26	30-Jun-26	
Program LOs to Connect both to various Langara programs and to those at UBC, SFU, etc.	Kent Schmor	1-Sep-25	20-Dec-25	
Create info (web page, mini posters) for students showing how PHIL courses connect to UBC, SFU, UVic, other colleges.	Kent Schmor	1-Sep-26	20-Dec-26	

Planned Actions	Led by	Begin on	Anticipated Completion	Notes
Explore possible articulation of other courses	Katharine Browne	1-Apr-25	30-Apr-26	
Create shared file space for philosophy faculty for LOs, Curriculum Map, Program LOs, etc., as works in progress and references, and for links to various resources.	Alex Boston	1-May-22	30-Jun-22	
Review existing LO/Typical Grade Weights 1106,1110,1120,2222	TBD	1-May-23	30-Jun-24	

*Resources required to achieve this goal.*

Resources Required
TCDC for certain. Otherwise, to be determined.

## Goal 2: Diversity

List the Recommendation(s) this Goal addresses. Check the appropriate column to indicate if the Recommendation is from the Self-Study or External Review. Add or remove rows as needed.

Recommendation	Self-Study (specify page #)	External Review (specify page #)
Explore ways to promote Philosophy among female students.	6	3
Undertake to review the department's practices and curriculum in light of college priorities in the areas of Indigenous education, internationalization and inclusion and diversity where possible.	9	4

Academic Plan 2025 Lens or Lenses this Goal supports. See the end of this document for the Academic Plan. Add or remove rows as needed,

Academic Plan 2025 Lens (only include the title of the lens)
Lens Two: Holistic Student Engagement and Support
Lens Four: Social Responsibility/Community Relationships

Planned Actions the program/department will complete to achieve this goal. Add or remove rows as needed.

Planned Actions	Led by	Begin on	Anticipated Completion	Notes
Articulate Feminist Philosophy course.	TBD	1-May-25	30-Jun-25	
Articulate Philosophy of Race course.	TBD	1-May-26	30-Jun-26	
Connect with Langara's Intercultural Engagement Coordinator and Resources to explore how existing philosophical courses and practices could be adapted to include internationalization, intercultural needs, etc.	Wayne Henry	1-May-24	30-Jun-25	
Explore how to address sexism, racism, ethnocentrism, etc., of philosophers we study in our courses.	Katharine Browne	1-Apr-22	30-Apr-23	
Explore how to add feminist perspectives, racial perspectives, indigenous perspectives, intercultural perspectives to existing courses.	Rana Ahmad	1-May-22	30-Jun-23	

Resources required to achieve this goal.

Original: Department Chair; cc: Division Chair, Dean, Provost & VPA, Director, AQA

## Resources Required

TCDC for certain. Otherwise, to be determined.

### Academic Plan Lenses

#### ***Lens One: Curiosity, Creativity, and Innovation: Create the Future Together***

A community animated by inquisitiveness, imagination, and the intentional seeking of the unknown, Langara College offers opportunities to explore, ideate, and challenge through original, innovative programming, evolving and intrepid pedagogy, and meaningful technology integration. Together we create opportunities for intellectual discovery, work, and play through applied research, interdisciplinary approaches, and honest reflective practice.

#### ***Lens Two: Holistic Student Engagement and Support***

At Langara College we nurture a culture of student engagement through work-integrated learning, experiential learning, service learning, co-curricular learning, undergraduate student applied research, and community service. We support the whole student across their entire learning journey by ensuring a sense of belonging, and by embracing justice, equity, diversity and inclusion in curricular and cocurricular offerings and through service delivery and support.

#### ***Lens Three: Transformational Learning Experiences***

Langara College acknowledges, supports, and celebrates the transformational learning experiences of instructors and students. Building on our extensive student-centred teaching experience, we interweave principles of universal design, open education, digital literacy, and continual learning on our pathway to academic success. We support students, faculty, and staff through their academic journeys with opportunities to learn and the tools, resources, and services to facilitate their work.

#### ***Lens Four: Social Responsibility/ Community Relationships***

We, at Langara College, celebrate our vital role in inspiring and nurturing the growth of students, one another, and our society. We commit to serving our communities by teaching and modeling our social duty to focus on social justice, to provide equity of access and opportunity, to embrace diversity and to intentionally foster inclusion. We commit to caring for our environment in all we do, from pedagogy to infrastructure, and to looking for sustainable solutions in all contexts.