ACADEMIC COUNCIL MEETING
Undergraduate Studies Committee
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AGENDA
Date: February 17, 2026
Time: 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
Zoom Videoconference Link *(registration required)*

USC Meeting Schedule and Materials 2025-2026

No.		Topic	Lead	Suggested Start Time
		PUBLIC SESSION		
1.		**Call to Order and Land Acknowledgement**	Chair	9:00 a.m.
2.		**Agenda (M)**		
3.		**Chair's Remarks**		
4.		**Major Program Modifications (Recommendation)**		
	4.1	Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science: BEng - Software Engineering – Railway Engineering specialization and Program Adjustments	M. Agelin-Chaab	9:05 a.m.
5.		**Minor Program Adjustments (Approval)**		
	5.1	Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science: Automotive, Industrial, and Mechanical Engineering	M. Agelin-Chaab	9:15 a.m.
	5.2	Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science: Electrical Engineering	M. Agelin-Chaab	
	5.3	Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science: Manufacturing Engineering	M. Agelin-Chaab	
	5.4	Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science: Mechatronics Engineering	M. Agelin-Chaab	
	5.5	Faculty of Science: Co-operative Education in the Faculty of Science	R. Fortier	
	5.6	Faculty of Science: Bachelor of Arts and Science (Hons), Sustainability	R. Fortier	

	5.7	Faculty of Business and Information Technology: Entrepreneurship minor	A. Hogue	
	5.8	Frazer Faculty of Education: Bachelor of Education – Primary/Junior and Intermediate/Senior options	C. Elia	
	5.9	Faculty of Social Science and Humanities: Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Criminology and Justice	T. McMorrow	
6.		**Consent Agenda: (M)**	Chair	9:55 a.m.
	6.1	Public Minutes of the January 20, 2026 Meeting* (M)		
	6.2	New courses: SIMU 3000U, SIMU 3050U		
	6.3	Course change(s): CSCI 1030U, ELEE 2200U, ELEE 2450U, ELEE 3100U, ELEE 3110U, ELEE 3130U, ELEE 3250U, ELEE 3450U, ENGR 3011U, ENGR 4022U, ENGR 4033U, ENGR 4044U, ESNS 3380U, HLSC 1050U, HLSC 2802U, HLSC 3464U, HLSC 4990U, MECE 3350U, MECE 4290U, NUCL 4525U, NURS 2605U, NURS 2701U, NURS 2821U, NURS 3700U, SOFE 4610U		
7.		**Termination**	Chair	10:00 a.m.

Sandra Grouette, Assistant University Secretary

UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES COMMITTEE REPORT

ACTION REQUESTED:

Recommendation	☒
Decision	☐
Discussion/Direction	☐
Information	☐

DATE: **17 February 2026**

FROM: **Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science**

SUBJECT: **Major Program Modification – Bachelor of Engineering (Hons) in Software Engineering – Railway Engineering specialization and Minor Program Adjustments – Software Engineering, Software Engineering – Internet of Things specialization**

COMMITTEE MANDATE:
In accordance with the Undergraduate Studies Committee (USC) Terms of Reference, USC has the responsibility "to examine proposals for new undergraduate degree programs and major changes to existing programs and to recommend their approval, as appropriate, to the Academic Council".

MOTION FOR CONSIDERATION:
That USC hereby recommends to Academic Council the approval of the Major Program Modification to the Bachelor of Engineering (Hons) in Software Engineering to introduce a new Railway Engineering Specialization and to make additional changes to upper-year offerings within the main program – including capstone courses - and the Internet of Things specialization.

BACKGROUND/CONTEXT & RATIONALE:
The Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science is proposing:
- The addition of the Railway Engineering Specialization to the Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) in Software Engineering program. The Railway Engineering Specialization is already available for Automotive, Manufacturing, Mechanical, and Mechatronics Engineering students. The proposed specialization will replace the three existing engineering electives in the core Software Engineering program with four railway specific courses: ENGR 3011 – Introduction to Railway Systems, ENGR 4022 – Railway Safety and Signalling, ENGR 4033 – Railway Rolling Stock, and ENGR 4044 – Railway Systems Operation and Maintenance.

- Replace the current program specific capstone systems design courses with two common capstone systems design courses for all engineering programs. The introduction of common capstone courses further strengthens the student experience by enabling multi-disciplinary design teams that more closely mirror industry practice, while also improving consistency in course delivery and learning across all engineering programs.
- Editorial updates to total credit hours in the programs resulting from previously approved changes to the [common first year](#).
- Updates to the program map and an expansion of the elective course options to include more AI into the Software Engineering curriculum.

RESOURCES REQUIRED:
Existing faculty will be used to teach the courses in the specialization as part of their regular teaching loads. Since several other Engineering programs have already incorporated the Railway Engineering specialization, this allows for additional efficiencies in course delivery.

No additional resources required. The capstone changes will allow better utilization of resources with the reduction from ten (10) courses to two (2) different courses that are common to all programs and the program map changes involve removing courses or combining existing courses.

TRANSITION AND COMMUNICATION PLAN:
There is no impact on the core Software Engineering program since the specialization is simply replacing three existing engineering electives with specific courses for those students who take the specialization. Existing students can potentially take the specialization by taking the four specified courses.

The new common capstone structure will take effect in the 2026–2027 academic year; any current students who have not yet completed their existing capstone sequence will transition to the two new common capstone systems design courses.

The proposed program map changes to be implemented starting Fall 2026. Fall 2025 cohort will follow the new program map, Fall 2024 cohort staring year 3 will follow the new program map, and Fall 2023 cohort starting year 4 will follow the new program map.

Communications to students will be made via the FEAS Academic Advising Office and FEAS social media channels.

CONSULTATION AND APPROVAL:
- ✓ Engineering Curriculum Committee (MPA): 3 April 2025
- ✓ Engineering Curriculum Committee (capstone): 18 September 2025
- ✓ Faculty Council (capstone): 25 September 2025
- ✓ Department Council (MPM): 11 December 2025
- ✓ Engineering Curriculum Committee (MPM): 18 December 2025
- ✓ Faculty Council: 29 January 2026
- • Undergraduate Studies Committee (Recommendation): 17 February 2026

- Academic Council (Approval): 24 March 2026

There is student representation on the Program Curriculum Committee. The idea of the proposed specialization was presented at the CMAI - Future Forward: Competencies Forum on September 19, 2024, in Toronto and it received a great amount of interest from students and industry.

NEXT STEPS:
Pending the recommendation of USC, this change will be presented to Academic Council for approval. If approved, it will be included in the 2026-2027 Academic Calendar.

SUPPORTING REFERENCE MATERIALS:
Major Program Modification:
- Software Engineering – Railway Engineering Specialization

Minor Program Adjustment:
  - Software Engineering
  - Software Engineering – Internet of Things specialization
- New course(s): ENGR 4111U, ENGR 4222U, ARTE 4100U, ARTE 4110U, ARTE 4200U
- Course change(s): SOFE 3620U, SOFE 3720U, SOFE 3950U

UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES COMMITTEE REPORT

ACTION REQUESTED:

Recommendation	☐
Decision	☒
Discussion/Direction	☐
Information	☐

DATE: **17 February 2026**

FROM: **Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science**

SUBJECT: **Minor Program Adjustment – Automotive Engineering, Automotive Engineering – Railway Engineering specialization, Industrial Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering – Artificial Intelligence specialization, Mechanical Engineering – Energy Engineering specialization, Mechanical Engineering – Railway Engineering specialization,**

COMMITTEE MANDATE:
In accordance with the Undergraduate Studies Committee (USC) Terms of Reference, USC has the responsibility "to approve minor program adjustments and report them to Academic Council for information."

MOTION FOR CONSIDERATION:
That USC hereby approves the Minor Program Adjustment in the Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science to support the integration of the common capstone and the editorial adjustment in total credit hours to reflect previously approved changes to the common first year.

BACKGROUND/CONTEXT & RATIONALE:
The Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science is proposing changes to the Automotive Engineering, Automotive Engineering – Railway Engineering specialization, Industrial Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering – Artificial Intelligence specialization, Mechanical Engineering – Energy Engineering specialization, Mechanical Engineering – Railway Engineering specialization programs to replace the current program-specific capstone systems-design courses with two common capstone systems-design courses for all engineering programs. The introduction of common

capstone courses further strengthens the student experience by enabling multi-disciplinary design teams that more closely mirror industry practice, while also improving consistency in course delivery and learning across all engineering programs.

The change to create a common first year, approved at Academic Council on January 27, 2026, resulted in the reduction of total credit hours across the programs and are reflected with the capstone changes.

RESOURCES REQUIRED:
No additional resources required. The changes will allow better utilization of resources with the reduction from ten (10) courses to two (2) different courses that are common to all programs.

TRANSITION AND COMMUNICATION PLAN:
The new common capstone structure will take effect in the 2026–2027 academic year; any current students who have not yet completed their existing capstone sequence will transition to the two new common capstone systems design courses. Engineering Advising will notify students of these capstone changes through direct email communication.

CONSULTATION AND APPROVAL:
- ✓ Engineering Curriculum Committee: 18 September 2025
- ✓ Faculty Council: 25 September 2025
- ● Undergraduate Studies Committee (for approval): 17 February 2026
- ● Academic Council (for information): 24 March 2026

NEXT STEPS:
Pending the approval of USC, this change will be presented for information to Academic Council and included in the 2026-2027 Academic Calendar.

SUPPORTING REFERENCE MATERIALS:
- ● Minor Program Adjustment:
  - ○ Automotive Engineering
  - ○ Automotive Engineering – Railway Engineering specialization
  - ○ Industrial Engineering
  - ○ Mechanical Engineering
  - ○ Mechanical Engineering – Artificial Intelligence specialization
  - ○ Mechanical Engineering – Energy Engineering specialization
  - ○ Mechanical Engineering – Railway Engineering specialization
- ● New course(s):   ENGR 4111U, ENGR 4222U

UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES COMMITTEE REPORT

ACTION REQUESTED:

Recommendation	☐
Decision	☒
Discussion/Direction	☐
Information	☐

DATE: 17 February 2026

FROM: Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science

SUBJECT: Minor Program Adjustment – Electrical Engineering and Electrical Engineering – Smart Grid specialization

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COMMITTEE MANDATE:
In accordance with the Undergraduate Studies Committee (USC) Terms of Reference, USC has the responsibility "to approve minor program adjustments and report them to Academic Council for information."

MOTION FOR CONSIDERATION:
That USC hereby approves the Minor Program Adjustment in the Electrical Engineering, Electrical Engineering – Smart Grid Specialization programs.

BACKGROUND/CONTEXT & RATIONALE:
The Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science is proposing changes in the Electrical Engineering, Electrical Engineering – Smart Grid Specialization programs as follows:

- Replace the current program specific capstone systems design courses with two common capstone systems design courses for all engineering programs. The introduction of common capstone courses further strengthens the student experience by enabling multi-disciplinary design teams that more closely mirror industry practice, while also improving consistency in course delivery and learning across all engineering programs.

- Editorial update to total credit hours in the programs resulting from previously approved changes to the common first year.

- Expand elective options to include the Railway Engineering specialization courses in the list of approved electives in the Electrical Engineering and Electrical Engineering – Smart Grid Specialization programs.

- Move two mandatory courses in the Electrical Engineering – Smart Grid Specialization, and the corresponding Engineering and Management program, to the Fall term in order to help students gain the necessary technical knowledge in time to start their Capstone projects.

RESOURCES REQUIRED:
No additional resources required. The capstone changes will allow better utilization of resources with the reduction from ten (10) courses to two (2) different courses that are common to all programs.

TRANSITION AND COMMUNICATION PLAN:
The proposed changes to be implemented starting Fall 2026. Any current students who have not yet completed their existing capstone sequence will transition to the two new common capstone systems design courses.

Fall 2023 cohort and later: students will follow the new program map.

Communications to students will be made via the FEAS Academic Advising Office.

CONSULTATION AND APPROVAL:
- ✓ Engineering Curriculum Committee (capstone): 18 September 2025
- ✓ Faculty Council (capstone): 25 September 2025
- ✓ Engineering Curriculum Committee: 20 November 2025
- ✓ Faculty Council: 29 January 2026
- Undergraduate Studies Committee (for approval): 17 February 2026
- Academic Council (for information): 24 March 2026

NEXT STEPS:
Pending the approval of USC, this change will be presented for information to Academic Council and included in the 2026-2027 Academic Calendar.

SUPPORTING REFERENCE MATERIALS:
- Minor Program Adjustment:
  - Electrical Engineering
  - Electrical Engineering – Smart Grid Specialization
- New course(s):   ENGR 4111U, ENGR 4222U

UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES COMMITTEE REPORT

ACTION REQUESTED:

Recommendation	☐
Decision	☒
Discussion/Direction	☐
Information	☐

DATE: 17 February 2026

FROM: **Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science**

SUBJECT: **Minor Program Adjustment – Manufacturing Engineering and Manufacturing Engineering – Railway Engineering specialization**

COMMITTEE MANDATE:
In accordance with the Undergraduate Studies Committee (USC) Terms of Reference, USC has the responsibility "to approve minor program adjustments and report them to Academic Council for information."

MOTION FOR CONSIDERATION:
That USC hereby approves the Minor Program Adjustment in the Manufacturing Engineering and Manufacturing Engineering – Railway Engineering Specialization.

BACKGROUND/CONTEXT & RATIONALE:
The Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science is proposing the following changes to the Manufacturing Engineering and Manufacturing Engineering – Railway Engineering Specialization programs:

- Replace the current program specific capstone systems design courses with two common capstone systems design courses for all engineering programs. The introduction of common capstone courses further strengthens the student experience by enabling multi-disciplinary design teams that more closely mirror industry practice, while also improving consistency in course delivery and learning across all engineering programs.

- Editorial update to total credit hours in the programs resulting from previously approved changes to the common first year.

- Modify offerings and sequencing in Year 3 and 4, enabling students to further engage in taking minors and electives.

RESOURCES REQUIRED:
No additional resources required. The changes will allow better utilization of resources with the reduction from ten (10) courses to two (2) different courses that are common to all programs.

TRANSITION AND COMMUNICATION PLAN:
The proposed changes will take effect in the 2026–2027 academic year. Any current students who have not yet completed their existing capstone sequence will transition to the two new common capstone systems design courses. Engineering Advising will notify students of these capstone changes through direct email communication.

CONSULTATION AND APPROVAL:
- ✓ Engineering Curriculum Committee (capstone): 18 September 2025
- ✓ Faculty Council (capstone): 25 September 2025
- ✓ Engineering Curriculum Committee: 22 January 2026
- ✓ Faculty Council: 29 January 2026
- • Undergraduate Studies Committee (for approval): 17 February 2026
- • Academic Council (for information): 24 March 2026

NEXT STEPS:
Pending the approval of USC, this change will be presented for information to Academic Council and included in the 2026-2027 Academic Calendar.

SUPPORTING REFERENCE MATERIALS:
- ● Minor Program Adjustment:
  - o Manufacturing Engineering
  - o Manufacturing Engineering – Railway Engineering Specialization
- • New course(s):   ENGR 4111U, ENGR 4222U

UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES COMMITTEE REPORT

ACTION REQUESTED:

Recommendation	☐
Decision	☒
Discussion/Direction	☐
Information	☐

DATE: 17 February 2026

FROM: Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science

SUBJECT: Minor Program Adjustment – Mechatronics Engineering, Mechatronics Engineering – Artificial Intelligence specialization and Mechatronics Engineering – Railway Engineering specialization

COMMITTEE MANDATE:
In accordance with the Undergraduate Studies Committee (USC) Terms of Reference, USC has the responsibility "to approve minor program adjustments and report them to Academic Council for information."

MOTION FOR CONSIDERATION:
That USC hereby approves the Minor Program Adjustment in the Mechatronics Engineering, Mechatronics Engineering – Artificial Intelligence specialization and Mechatronics Engineering – Railway Engineering specialization.

BACKGROUND/CONTEXT & RATIONALE:
The Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science is proposing changes to the Mechatronics Engineering, Mechatronics Engineering – Artificial Intelligence specialization and Mechatronics Engineering – Railway Engineering specialization including:

- Replace the current program specific capstone systems design courses with two common capstone systems design courses for all engineering programs. The introduction of common capstone courses further strengthens the student experience by enabling multi-disciplinary design teams that more closely mirror industry practice, while also improving consistency in course delivery and learning across all engineering programs.

- Editorial update to total credit hours in the programs resulting from previously approved changes to the common first year.
- Update Year 3 offerings, including the addition two new courses.

RESOURCES REQUIRED:

No additional resources required. The capstone changes will allow better utilization of resources with the reduction from ten (10) courses to two (2) different courses that are common to all programs. The update to Year 3 offerings results in a net reduction of one course which reduces the overall cost of program delivery.

TRANSITION AND COMMUNICATION PLAN:

The new common capstone structure will take effect in the 2026–2027 academic year; any current students who have not yet completed their existing capstone sequence will transition to the two new common capstone systems design courses.

Students who started Fall 2023 or earlier will stay on the existing third year program map unless a student has not started third year, in which case they will follow the new program map. Students who started Fall 2024 and onwards will follow the new program map. Students who have already completed one or more of the courses removed from the engineering elective list prior to the Fall 2026 semester will have those courses still count as engineering electives.

Communications to students will be made via the FEAS Academic Advising Office.

CONSULTATION AND APPROVAL:
- ✓ Engineering Curriculum Committee (capstone): 18 September 2025
- ✓ Faculty Council (capstone): 25 September 2025
- ✓ Engineering Curriculum Committee: 18 December 2025
- ✓ Faculty Council: 29 January 2026
- • Undergraduate Studies Committee (for approval): 17 February 2026
- • Academic Council (for information): 24 March 2026

NEXT STEPS:

Pending the approval of USC, this change will be presented for information to Academic Council and included in the 2026-2027 Academic Calendar.

SUPPORTING REFERENCE MATERIALS:
- Minor Program Adjustment:
  - Mechatronics Engineering
  - Mechatronics Engineering – Artificial Intelligence specialization
  - Mechatronics Engineering – Railway Engineering specialization
- New course(s): ENGR 4111U, ENGR 4222U, METE 3300U, METE 3400U
- Course change(s): METE 4280U, METE 4300U, METE 4350U, METE 4500U

UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES COMMITTEE REPORT

ACTION REQUESTED:

Recommendation ☐
Decision ☒
Discussion/Direction ☐
Information ☐

DATE: **17 February 2026**

FROM: **Faculty of Science**

SUBJECT: **Minor Program Adjustment – Co-operative Education in the Faculty of Science**

COMMITTEE MANDATE:
In accordance with the Undergraduate Studies Committee (USC) Terms of Reference, USC has the responsibility "to approve minor program adjustments and report them to Academic Council for information."

MOTION FOR CONSIDERATION:
That USC hereby approves the Minor Program Adjustment to Co-operative Education in the Faculty of Science.

BACKGROUND/CONTEXT & RATIONALE:
The Faculty of Science is proposing adjustments to clean up the calendar entry for Co-operative Education by changing the language to clarify information already in place.

RESOURCES REQUIRED:
No additional resources required.

TRANSITION PLAN:
Students will receive guidance from Academic Advising.

CONSULTATION AND APPROVAL:
- ✓ Curriculum Committee: 8 January 2026
- ✓ Faculty Council: 13 January 2026
- • Undergraduate Studies Committee (for approval): 17 February 2026

- Academic Council (for information): 24 March 2026

NEXT STEPS:
Pending the approval of USC, this change will be presented for information to Academic Council and included in the 2026-2027 Academic Calendar.

SUPPORTING REFERENCE MATERIALS:
Minor Program Adjustment:
- [Co-operative Education in the Faculty of Science](#)

UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES COMMITTEE REPORT

ACTION REQUESTED:

Recommendation	☐
Decision	☒
Discussion/Direction	☐
Information	☐

DATE: 17 February 2026

FROM: Faculty of Science

SUBJECT: Minor Program Adjustment – Bachelor of Arts and Science (Hons), Sustainability

COMMITTEE MANDATE:
In accordance with the Undergraduate Studies Committee (USC) Terms of Reference, USC has the responsibility "to approve minor program adjustments and report them to Academic Council for information."

MOTION FOR CONSIDERATION:
That USC hereby approves the Minor Program Adjustment to the Bachelor of Arts and Science (Hons) Sustainability program.

BACKGROUND/CONTEXT & RATIONALE:
The Faculty of Science, along with co-host Faculties including Engineering and Applied Science, Health Sciences, and Social Science and Humanities, is proposing the addition of the Faculty of Business and Information Technology as a co-host Faculty, the replacement of INDG 2000U with INDG 1000U, and minor changes to the approved elective list.

Adding FBIT as a co-host will enhance the student experience by incorporating FBIT perspective into the program, including newly developed elective courses and capstone opportunities.

RESOURCES REQUIRED:
No additional resources required.

TRANSITION PLAN:
Students will receive guidance from Academic Advising.

CONSULTATION AND APPROVAL:
- ✓ FSci Curriculum Committee: 17 November 2025
- ✓ FSci Faculty Council: 2 December 2025
- ✓ FHSc Faculty Council: 7 January 2026
- ✓ FSSH Faculty Council: 28 January 2026
- ✓ FEAS Faculty Council: 29 January 2026
- ✓ FBIT Faculty Council: 3 February 2026
- • Undergraduate Studies Committee (for approval): 17 February 2026
- • Academic Council (for information): 24 March 2026

Consultation occurred with FBIT faculty members. The FBIT Dean will appoint a point person to the Sustainability committee.

NEXT STEPS:
Pending the approval of USC, this change will be presented for information to Academic Council and included in the 2026-2027 Academic Calendar.

SUPPORTING REFERENCE MATERIALS:
- ● [Minor Program Adjustment](#)

UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES COMMITTEE REPORT

ACTION REQUESTED:

Recommendation	☐
Decision	☒
Discussion/Direction	☐
Information	☐

DATE: 17 February 2026

FROM: Faculty of Business and Information Technology

SUBJECT: Minor Program Adjustment – Entrepreneurship Minor

COMMITTEE MANDATE:
In accordance with the Undergraduate Studies Committee (USC) Terms of Reference, USC has the responsibility "to approve minor program adjustments and report them to Academic Council for information."

MOTION FOR CONSIDERATION:
That USC hereby approves the Minor Program Adjustment to update the eligibility and program requirements for the Entrepreneurship minor.

BACKGROUND/CONTEXT & RATIONALE:
There are presently two entrepreneurship minor options - one is for FBIT students and the other is designed for students in all other programs at Ontario Tech. In order to better align with student program maps, we are adjusting the FBIT student option to be exclusive to Bachelor of Commerce students. Bachelor of Information Technology students interested in the minor will now follow the same map as all other students.

BUSI 2311U - Organizational Behaviour will also replace BUSI 2000U as a core course requirement of the Entrepreneurship minor for students outside the Business Commerce program as it provides a broader skill set and is a more appropriate selection for students outside of the Commerce program.

RESOURCES REQUIRED:
No additional resources are required.

TRANSITION AND COMMUNICATION PLAN:
Commerce students currently enrolled in the Entrepreneurship Minor will not be affected by this change. Students currently enrolled in the Entrepreneurship Minor outside Commerce will adhere to their entry year program map and thus wouldn't be affected by these changes. As the changes are not retroactive, current students will not need to be informed of the new program/degree requirements. New students will follow the academic calendar for their program, which will house these new changes.

CONSULTATION AND APPROVAL:
- ✓ Curriculum Committee: 20 January 2026
- ✓ Faculty Council: 3 February 2026
- • Undergraduate Studies Committee (for approval): 17 February 2026
- • Academic Council (for information): 24 March 2026

NEXT STEPS:
Pending the approval of USC, this change will be presented for information to Academic Council and included in the 2026-2027 Academic Calendar.

SUPPORTING REFERENCE MATERIALS:
- • [Entrepreneurship minor for Bachelor of Commerce students](#)
- • [Entrepreneurship minor for students outside Bachelor of Commerce](#)

UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES COMMITTEE REPORT

ACTION REQUESTED:

Recommendation	☐
Decision	☒
Discussion/Direction	☐
Information	☐

DATE: 17 February 2026

FROM: Frazer Faculty of Education

SUBJECT: Minor Program Adjustment – Bachelor of Education – Primary/Junior and Intermediate/Senior options

COMMITTEE MANDATE:
In accordance with the Undergraduate Studies Committee (USC) Terms of Reference, USC has the responsibility "to approve minor program adjustments and report them to Academic Council for information."

MOTION FOR CONSIDERATION:
That USC hereby approves the Minor Program Adjustment to the Primary/Junior and Intermediate/Senior options of the Bachelor of Education program to clarify and adjust program requirements to ensure that they are reflective of current practices within the Faculty.

BACKGROUND/CONTEXT & RATIONALE:
The Faculty is proposing updated calendar language to provide clarification on the current practices of the Faculty in the administration of the program. Proposed changes include:
- Adjusting language to clarify the minimum required average for Consecutive applicants as "B (73 to 76 per cent or 3.0 GPA) in their best 10 full-year or best 20 half-year courses completed";
- Adjusting language to clarify that Concurrent applicants must possess the GPA referenced in their offer letters in place of the 3.3 previously referenced;
- Clarifying that failure of a Foundations course will not result in automatic removal from the program;

- Removing the requirement that all B.Ed courses be successfully completed with minimum B (73-76 percent) grades.
- Removing language regarding mandatory attendance and the related possibility of cancelling field experience or removal from the program; issues will now be addressed on a case-by-case basis.

RESOURCES REQUIRED:
No additional resources are required.

TRANSITION AND COMMUNICATION PLAN:
Functionally, the above changes have been in place for several years (competitive Concurrent GPA, allowing students to remain in the program despite failed Practicum, etc.), so no transition plan is required. Students will be informed of these changes through the academic calendar and academic advising.

CONSULTATION AND APPROVAL:
- ✓ Curriculum Committee: 14 January 2026
- ✓ Faculty Council: 5 February 2026
- • Undergraduate Studies Committee (for approval): 17 February 2026
- • Academic Council (for information): 24 March 2026

NEXT STEPS:
Pending the approval of USC, these changes will be presented for information to Academic Council and included in the 2026-2027 Academic Calendar.

SUPPORTING REFERENCE MATERIALS:
- Minor Program Adjustment proposal (B.Ed P/J)
- Minor Program Adjustment proposal (B.Ed I/S)

UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES COMMITTEE REPORT

ACTION REQUESTED:

Recommendation	☐
Decision	☒
Discussion/Direction	☐
Information	☐

DATE: 17 February 2026

FROM: Faculty of Social Science and Humanities

SUBJECT: Minor Program Adjustment – Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Criminology and Justice

COMMITTEE MANDATE:
In accordance with the Undergraduate Studies Committee (USC) Terms of Reference, USC has the responsibility "to approve minor program adjustments and report them to Academic Council for information."

MOTION FOR CONSIDERATION:
That USC hereby approves the Minor Program Adjustment to the Criminology and Justice program to include LGLS 1000U as a first-year required course for the program and to add PSYC 1000U as a required course within the Youth Justice specialization.

BACKGROUND/CONTEXT & RATIONALE:
LGLS 1000U is being added as a required course for the program as it is a prerequisite for CRMN 2010U and CRMN 2050U which are components of three of the program's specializations. The change will ensure that students have the necessary courses in place in their first year to pursue these specializations. PSYC 1000U is being added as a required course for the Youth Justice specialization as it is a pre-requisite for PSYC 2010U, a required course within the specialization.

RESOURCES REQUIRED:

No additional resources are required.

TRANSITION AND COMMUNICATION PLAN:

Current students will follow the existing program map; new students will be required to follow the updated program map. This information will be communicated through the academic calendar and academic advising.

CONSULTATION AND APPROVAL:
- ✓ Curriculum Committee: 21 January 2026
- ✓ Faculty Council: 28 January 2026
- • Undergraduate Studies Committee (for approval): 17 February 2026
- • Academic Council (for information): 24 March 2026

NEXT STEPS:
Pending the approval of USC, this change will be presented for information to Academic Council and included in the 2026-2027 Academic Calendar.

SUPPORTING REFERENCE MATERIALS:
- • [Minor Program Adjustment proposal](#)

![Ontario Tech University logo]

ACADEMIC COUNCIL
UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES COMMITTEE (USC)

Minutes of the Public Session of the January 20, 2026 Meeting
via Videoconference
9:00 a.m. - 9:58 a.m.

Undergraduate Studies Committee Agenda & Materials 2025-2026

Present:
Mary Bluechardt, Chair	Ana Duff	Kimberley McCartney
Martin Agelin-Chaab	Randy Fortier	Thomas McMorrow
Wendy Barber	Andrew Hogue	Adam Wingate
Nicola Crow	Janet McCabe	

Regrets:
Jessica Boswell	Holly MacPherson
Christian Elia	Jemma Tam

Staff and Guests:
Kirstie Ayotte, Sandra Grouette (Secretary)

1. **Call to Order and Land Acknowledgement**
   The Chair called the Public Session of the Undergraduate Studies Committee (USC) Meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and J. McCabe provided their personal Land Acknowledgement.

   The Chair welcomed new and returning Members to the 2026 Winter Semester and thanked Members for bringing their experience, commitment and diverse perspectives to the Committee.

   Noting a concern previously raised by a Member, the Chair reiterated expectations for Committee discussions, emphasizing the importance of inclusive, open, respectful and constructive dialogue to support effective participation by all Members, and the Committee's ability to complete its work.

   The Chair reaffirmed their role in guiding discussion to ensure meetings remain focused, respectful, are aligned with the agenda and value everyone's time and contributions.

2. **Approval of Agenda**

   Upon a motion duly made by A. Hogue and seconded by T. McMorrow, the USC Agenda was approved as presented, including approving and receiving the Consent Agenda and its contents.

3. Chair's Remarks

The Chair welcomed S. Grouette as the new Assistant University Secretary; A. Hogue as Associate Dean, Faculty of Business and IT; and M. Agelin-Chaab as Interim Associate Dean in the Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science.

4. Major Program Modifications (Recommendation)

4.1 Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science: Bachelor of Engineering (Hons) in Mechanical Engineering – Aerospace Specialization* (M)

M. Agelin-Chaab explained that the proposed Aerospace Specialization is a result of student requests and will enable more student options within the Program. The proposal replaces four existing electives with four specialization courses where students are going to learn specific skills related to aerospace. He noted that this will also enable the Faculty to determine if a standalone program could be developed in the future.

The Committee discussed potential transitional resource needs, as well as evaluation metrics and timeline for the Specialization, with M. Agelin-Chaab outlining the plans the Faculty has with respect to these matters.

Upon a motion duly made by A. Hogue and seconded by R. Fortier, the USC hereby recommends to Academic Council the approval of the Major Program Modification to introduce an Aerospace Specialization within the Bachelor of Engineering (Hons) in Mechanical Engineering program.

4.2 Faculty of Health Sciences: Bachelor of Health Science (Hons) in Kinesiology – Fitness and Health Promotion Pathway* (M)

J. McCabe advised that the rationale for shifting the program from an Advance Entry model to a Bridge structure was to encourage more applications. The Bridge structure is designed to reduce completion time from three to two years which will open the pool of candidates.

A discussion ensued which included clarification regarding the length of the program. J. McCabe advised that the Spring/Summer Bridge structure is perhaps a summer plus two years program with the Bridge giving access to the Program itself. In response to a question regarding whether there would be a minimum grade requirement, J. McCabe noted that she will look into this further in readiness for Academic Council.

Upon a motion duly made by A. Duff and seconded by R. Fortier, the USC hereby recommends to Academic Council the approval of the Major Program Modification to the Bachelor of Health Science (Hons) in Kinesiology – Fitness and Health Promotion Pathway, shifting the program from an Advanced Entry model to a Bridge structure.

4.3 Faculty of Social Science and Humanities: Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Legal Studies – Teesside LLB Pathway* (M)

T. McMorrow advised of an error in the materials that will be corrected to note that the first Teesside cohort begins in Fall 2026, not 2027. He provided an overview of the Pathway that was

approved last year and reported that this proposal adds the University of Aberdeen as a partner and the renaming of the pathway to the UK LLB Pathway. T. McMorrow also shared that by adding the University of Aberdeen, students with the highest GPA can now choose between Aberdeen or Teesside.

Through the ensuing discussion student success was highlighted as an integral part of the Pathway's development. T. McMorrow also provided clarity regarding tuition fees and student eligibility for some level of OSAP when paying international fees to the UK partner institutions. In response to a Member's question, details were provided on the draw to the Program being students getting a law degree and within a faster period of time. Students can then go through Canada's National Committee of Accreditation.

Upon a motion duly made by A. Duff and seconded by J. McCabe, the USC hereby recommends to Academic Council the approval of the Major Program Modification to add the University of Aberdeen as a new institutional partner to the Honours Legal Studies – Teesside LLB pathway and amend the pathway title to the UK LLB pathway.

5. **Minor Program Adjustments (Approval)**
   5.1 **Faculty of Business and IT: Bachelor of Commerce Co-Operative Education* (M)**
   A. Hogue advised that this proposed change updates program structure, policies and language to enable alignment with other changes. In addition, he noted that in response to student and employer feedback, the proposal introduces an optional 16-month extended co-op work term. This will allow students to continue working for a longer period if the employer has the capacity, thus offering more learning opportunities. He further reported that students will remain as full-time registered students. A. Hogue shared that the proposal provides clarity regarding misconduct implications for co-op eligibility.

   The Committee also discussed the differentials between internship and co-op opportunities dependent on the Program.

   Upon a motion duly made by A. Hogue and seconded by A. Duff, the USC hereby approves the Minor Program Adjustment to the Bachelor of Commerce Co-operative Education program to update both the structure of the program and the policies and procedures.

   Motion to Extend Meeting
   Due to the Meeting likely going beyond the time prescribed in the Agenda, N. Crow recommended that the Committee approve a meeting extension.

   Upon a motion duly made by A. Duff and seconded by A. Hogue, the USC approved a meeting extension past the scheduled end time of 9:40 a.m., to allow the completion of the Agenda's business in a timely manner.

   5.2 **Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science: Energy Engineering* (M)**
   M. Agelin-Chaab shared that this Minor Program Adjustment is again student focused. It will

replace the current program specific capstone with two common multi-disciplinary capstone courses to align with industry practice of multi-disciplinary engineering teams. This will allow students to work together on a project for a year in a multi-disciplinary environment. This proposal

also includes adjustments to Year 3 scheduling by moving some courses from the Fall to Winter Semester.

M. Agelin-Chaab also noted that the common capstone course approach provides for a common course across all the Faculty's programs to enable multi-disciplinary teams to work on a specific project, reflecting industry practice and so making students work-ready.

Upon a motion duly made by A. Duff and seconded by R. Fortier, the USC hereby approves the Minor Program Adjustment to the Energy Engineering program to replace the current program-specific capstone courses with two common capstone system design courses and to replace and reschedule select Year 3 courses.

5.3 Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science: Nuclear Engineering* (M)
M. Agelin-Chaab advised that this is very similar to the prior Agenda item in that it provides for a common capstone as well as updating the Faculty's programming by replacing existing courses with more tutorials and electives to support individualized pathways.

Upon a motion duly made by R. Fortier and seconded by T. McMorrow, the USC hereby approves the Minor Program Adjustment to the Nuclear Engineering program to support the integration of the common first year, common capstone, and address minimum AU requirements.

5.4 Faculty of Health Sciences: Bachelor of Health Administration (Hons)* (M)
J. McCabe shared that this proposal responds to the identified need to replace the existing accounting course with an online healthcare finance course that is more appropriate for students in this Program.

Upon a motion duly made by A. Duff and seconded by M. Agelin-Chaab, the USC hereby approves the Minor Program Adjustment to the Bachelor of Health Administration (Hons) program to revise the program's required courses.

5.5 Faculty of Health Sciences: Bachelor of Health Sciences (Hons) in Kinesiology* (M)
J. McCabe summarized that the Minor Program Adjustment will remove, due to increasing costs, two anatomy courses currently taken at the Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College (CMCC) in the fourth year. Students will instead take these courses after entering CMCC and select two electives at Ontario Tech. She advised that the Faculty has worked with CMCC to make this change.

Upon a motion duly made by J. McCabe and seconded by R. Fortier, the USC hereby approves the Minor Program Adjustment to the Bachelor of Health Sciences (Hons) in Kinesiology program to update the required courses for students in the Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College (CMCC) pathway option.

5.6   Faculty of Health Sciences: Bachelor of Science in Nursing (Hons) and RPN to BScN – Advanced Entry* (M)

J. McCabe shared that this adjustment is due to a calendar clean-up following last year's curriculum changes in the nursing program.

Upon a motion duly made by J. McCabe and seconded by R. Fortier, the USC hereby approves the Minor Program Adjustment to the program progression requirements for the honours Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BScN) and RPN to BScN Advanced Entry programs.

6.   Consent Agenda* (M)

The Chair confirmed that the contents of the Consent Agenda were approved and received under Agenda Item # 2.

6.1   Public Minutes of the Meeting of December 16, 2025* (M)

6.2   2026-2027 Undergraduate Academic Schedule* (I)

6.3   Course change(s):
BUSI 3601U, BUSI 4455U, HLSC 4820U, HLSC 4991U, NURS 2703U, NURS 3700U, NURS 4600U, NUCL 2240U, NUCL 4120U, RADI 3570U

6.4   New Course(s):
HLSC 4406U, KINE 4406U, SIMU 2000U

7.   Termination

Ahead of the Meeting's termination, a Member suggested an increased time allocation for agenda items. The Chair acknowledged the feedback, noted the balancing required in the agenda time allocation process, and indicated that this will be considered when the next Meeting's agenda is set.

There being no other business, and upon a motion to terminate by A. Wingate, the USC Meeting terminated at 9:58 a.m.

Sandra Grouette, Assistant University Secretary