

ACADEMIC COUNCIL REPORT

ACTION REQUESTED:

Recommendation
Decision
Discussion/Direction
Information

DATE: 26 January 2021

FROM: Undergraduate Studies Committee

SUBJECT: Major Program Modification – Bachelor of Arts in Educational Studies and Digital Technology

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, pursuant to the recommendation of USC, Academic Council hereby approve the Major Program Modification to the Bachelor of Arts in Educational Studies and Digital Technology, as presented.

BACKGROUND/CONTEXT & RATIONALE:

The Faculty is proposing to change the name of the Adult Education and Digital Technology specialization to Lifelong Learning with Technology specialization. The specialization has not been attracting a sufficient number of prospective students to make it viable. The issue is primarily around whether college graduates, the main market from which the BA program recruits, see themselves as working towards a degree dealing with adult education. The Faculty has concluded that this is not an attractive name for many/most college graduates in the Ontario system. Following the name change will be a program promotion campaign designed to drive the numbers of students up in this program.

RESOURCES REQUIRED:

There are no impacts on resources.

TRANSITION PLAN:

Fall 2021 implementation into the Academic Calendar to reflect the new name. Current students in the program will not be affected and graduate with their current specialization. New students beginning Fall 2021 will graduate with the new specialization name.

CONSULTATION AND APPROVAL:

USC: 15 December 2020

Faculty Council: November 30th, 2020

Curriculum Committee: November 18th, 2020

NEXT STEPS:

- Pending the approval of Academic Council, this change will be included in the 2021-2022 Academic Calendar

SUPPORTING REFERENCE MATERIALS:

- [Major Program Modification Proposal](#)