

ACADEMIC COUNCIL REPORT

ACTION REQUESTED:

Recommendation
Decision
Discussion/Direction
Information

DATE: 28 July 2020

FROM: Undergraduate Studies Committee

SUBJECT: Major Program Modification – Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

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 the USC, Academic Council hereby approve the Major Program Modification to the Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, as presented.

BACKGROUND/CONTEXT & RATIONALE:

The Faculty is proposing the creation of an optional internship for this program, consistent with other programs in the Faculty. This will provide alternative experiential learning for those looking for a more immersive work experience.

RESOURCES REQUIRED:

It is expected that this will have minimal impact on the Faculty resources as the internship already exists for the other programs. A program representative will sit on the Faculty's Experiential Learning Committee, which will be a sounding board for both the Internship and Practicum programs. Participation on the EL committee will count towards a faculty member's regular service workload. The FSSH Practicum Office will be involved in the vetting of both the applicants and the potential Internship placements, and will provide administrative support for the internship course. The two full-time Practicum Coordinators manage these aspects of the existing Practicum program, and much of their existing documentation and process will be applied to the Internship program. A recent restructuring of the Practicum office was undertaken with the creation of the Internship in mind, so that the increase in workload could be accommodated. Projected enrolment is expected to be relatively small and the cost of offering an additional course will be covered within the existing Faculty budget.

TRANSITION PLAN:

None, this program begins in Fall 2020, so internship will be available for the first set of students.

CONSULTATION AND APPROVAL:

Undergraduate Studies Committee Recommendation: 16 June 2020

Faculty Council Approval: May 26, 2020

Curriculum Committee Approval: May 5, 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](#)