



**18-Month Follow-Up
SUMMARY REPORT
February 7, 2025
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Legal Studies
Dean: Dr. Peter Stoett**

Under Ontario Tech University's Institutional Quality Assurance Process (IQAP) and the Ontario Quality Assurance Framework (QAF), all programs are subject to a comprehensive review at least/at minimum every eight years to ensure that they continue to meet provincial quality assurance requirements and to support their ongoing rigour and coherence. Program reviews involve several stages, including:

1. A comprehensive and analytical self-study brief developed by members of the program under review.
2. A site visit by academic experts who are external to and arm's length from the program. The visit involves discussions with senior academic administrators, faculty, staff, and students.
3. Submission of an external reviewers' report including recommendations on ways the program may be improved based on a review of the program's self-study brief, discussions during the site visit and supporting material.
4. Internal responses to the external review and recommendations prepared separately by the Program and Dean.
5. Development of an Implementation Plan prepared by the Dean including resource requirements and a timeline for acting on and monitoring the implementation of the recommendations.

All programs that undergo a review must provide a report eighteen months after the completion of the review to gather information on the progress that has been made implementing the agreed upon plans for improvement.

In 2021-2023 a review was scheduled for the Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Legal Studies, with a site visit on March 30 to April 3, 2023. The program has submitted to the Provost's Office a report outlining the progress they have made relative to the implementation plan resulting from the review. A summary of this progress is provided on the following pages.

Implementation Plan Action Item(s) (corresponding recommendation # from reviewers' report)		Timeline	Status*	Comments from Dean on progress of implementation
1	Consult with UPD on specializations and possible changes; consultations with students; explore summer course options.	Over the 2023-2024 academic year	<i>continuous</i>	We administered a survey to students in the spring of 2024 as a way to have a more informed basis for deciding whether/ how to implement the reviewer recommendations. Survey results are available. At our December Faculty council meeting, we voted to update two of the Legal Studies specializations' names to better reflect the content and make it more appealing.
2/3	Create a taskforce to identify the challenges advanced entry students face, develop a plan to address the challenges, and monitor/report on the results.	Over the 2023-2025 academic years	<i>On hold</i>	<i>Too many key people were on research leave over the past 2 years; will look into reviving this recommendation. Advanced Entry applications are down a bit for this program at present.</i>
5	Appointment of Teaching Faculty hire to do the work of an ongoing LTFM and allow for another service contributor.	2023-24	<i>Cancelled</i>	<i>Student numbers in the program do not justify a full-time continuous hire at this point, though a renewed LTFM appointment is important</i>

*Process Status Legend:

Complete: Accomplished action item; no further steps required.

Continuous: Initial action item complete but requires ongoing monitoring and/or enhancement.

In Progress: Progress on the action item has been initiated but is not complete at this time. Outline all steps taken in the comment's column.

On Hold: Unable to complete due to other dependent factor(s).

Cancelled: Item no longer relevant or resources unavailable.

Additional comments:

Further review of the specializations offered in this program will continue.

This summary report will be sent for approval to the appropriate standing committee of Academic Council (USC or GSC), and will subsequently be reported to Academic Council. It will then be posted on the Ontario Tech corporate website.

Next Scheduled Program Review: 2029-2031