

Final Assessment Report

Name of Program

King's University College, Childhood and Social Institutions

Degrees Offered

Bachelor of Arts

External Consultants

Dr. Kay Tisdall, Professor of Childhood Policy and Co-Director of the Center for Research on Families and Relationships - University of Edinburgh
Dr. John Wall, Professor of Religion and Childhood Studies - Rutgers University

Internal Reviewers

Dr. Donna Rogers, Professor and Academic Dean - Brescia University College at Western University

Date of Site Visit

March 18, 2015

Evaluation

Good Quality

Approved by SUPR-U

September 23, 2015

Approved by SCAPA

September 30, 2015

Executive Summary

On their one day visit the reviewers met with the Vice Provost, Academic Dean, Internal Reviewer, program faculty and students, librarian and program support staff. Overall, they described the CSI program as being unique, appropriate in the international context, current in its core theories and methodologies, and having enormous long term possibilities. In their opinion, "the curriculum is well designed to promote a vibrant and coherent learning environment" and the teaching methods "appropriate and effective". In short, the reviewers were satisfied with the program's design, content and delivery. They thoughtfully identified strengths and areas for improvement. These are summarized below.

Significant Strengths of Program

Fits well with Western University's strategy in terms of internationalization, experiential learning and pedagogical innovation; Unique across North American Universities as it provides a differentiated opportunity for both Canadian and international students; Courses appropriately grounded in examinations of children's "agency" and "voice" as well as children's experiences and childhood's discourses and contexts; The program's requirements and associated learning outcomes seem suitably clear and appropriate to the undergraduate degree level expectations; CSI faculty are well-regarded in their research areas and exceptionally dedicated to their teaching and the program.

Suggestions for improvement & Enhancement

Faculty resources available to the program need to be increased; Course offerings in other areas within childhood studies need to be strengthened; Non-CSI students should be encouraged to take CSI courses; The meaning of "applicability" and "experiential learning" in the CSI context needs to be reviewed; Considerations needs to be given to setting requirements for quantitative research skills for students in the honors and major programs; The capstone project should be (re)considered for honors students; Student involvement in the review and development of the CSI program, and in informal student-student mentoring should be encouraged.

Recommendations required for Program sustainability:

Recommendation	Responsibility	Resources	Timeline
To explore program development opportunities in terms of increasing breadth within childhood studies, quantitative skill development, capstone course delivery, and applied and experiential learning.	Department and EPC	Budgetary and Human Resources	Ongoing
To clarify and simplify CSI program requirements.	Department and EPC	none	2016