Final Assessment Report
Submitted by SUPR-G to SCAPA

Program:	**Master of Arts in Ancient Philosophy**
Degrees Offered:	MA
Approved Fields:	Ancient Philosophy
Date of Site Visit:	October 29-30, 2012
Evaluation:	*Approved to commence*

Summary:

The proposed MA in Ancient Philosophy is an interdisciplinary program sponsored by the Department of Philosophy and the Department of Classical Studies. The onsite review included external reviewers Prof. Marguerite Deslauriers (McGill University) and Prof. Mark Joyal (University of Manitoba), and internal reviewers Prof. Catherine Nolan (Music) and PhD graduate student Mark Ward (Chemistry). The onsite visit was coordinated well, and included opportunities to meet with faculty, staff, and student representatives from both departments. Some last-minute amendments to the schedule (including an unscheduled meeting with the Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities and an unscheduled teleconference with the Chair of the Department of Philosophy, who was unavoidably delayed in New York City because of Hurricane Sandy) were handled effectively and provided the reviewers with access to all key faculty members during the visit. The report of the external reviewers and the joint response by the Chairs of Philosophy and Classical Studies are consistent with each other and with the brief in their support for this program.

The program will integrate rigorous training in classical languages with research and critical skills in philosophy in order to prepare students philologically and philosophically for doctoral study in Ancient Philosophy at Western and elsewhere. The program will be primarily course-based, but will include a Summer Research Paper in Term 3. Learning objectives are well articulated and faculty commitment to the program from both departments is impressively strong. Strong primary and supporting faculty members from both units provide a solid foundation for the program, which builds on resources for the most part already in place.

In summary, the program is of high quality.

Recommendation:	Responsibility
Maintain strength and numbers of core faculty in ancient philosophy as the program evolves.	Dean, Faculty of Arts and Humanities Chair, Department of Classical Studies Chair, Department of Philosophy
Maintain strong ties and build greater integration between the two departments.	Chair, Department of Classical Studies Chair, Department of Philosophy
Ensure fair assessment of student applications to SSHRC and other funding sources.	Program Director Program Committee Associate Dean (Research)
Encourage faculty members in both departments to seek research funding from SSHRC and other sources.	Associate Dean (Research)
Ensure regular tracking of student progress.	Program Director
Reconsider the prescribed length of summer research project.	Program Director Program Committee

Ensure that study of Greek and Latin extends beyond language learning to include full scholarly engagement with ancient texts	Program Director Program Committee
Review program when it reaches full complement.	Program Director Program Committee
Clarify funding commitment to students in promotional materials.	Program Director Program Committee