



University of Toronto Quality Assurance Process (UTQAP) Cyclical Review: Final Assessment Report and Implementation Plan

Program Reviewed:	Jewish Studies, B.A., Hons.: Specialist, Major, Minor
Division/Unit Offering Program:	Faculty of Arts and Science (Programs housed in the Anne Tanenbaum Centre for Jewish Studies)
Commissioning Officer:	Dean, Faculty of Arts and Science
Reviewers (Name, Affiliation):	1. Professor Deborah Dash Moore, Frederick G.L. Huetwell Professor of History and Director, Frankel Center for Judaic Studies, University of Michigan 2. Professor Ira Robinson, Department of Religion, Concordia University
Date of Review Visit:	January 12–13, 2015
Date Reported to AP&P:	October 27, 2015

Unless otherwise noted, all bulleted comments apply to all programs reviewed.

1 Outcome

The Committee on Academic Policy and Programs (AP&P) concluded that the Decanal response adequately addressed the review recommendations.

2 Significant Program Strengths

- Program provides outstanding educational experience
- Compelling course offerings and organization reflect major international trends
- Creative use of collaborative, engaging teaching models in introductory courses
- Undergraduate students have strong sense of belonging and community
- Internships and service learning in Jewish community organizations
- Passionate and enthusiastic faculty are highly productive, world-class scholars

3 Opportunities for Program Enhancement

The reviewers recommended that the following be considered:

- Growing curricular offerings and faculty complement in line with the Centre's growth
- Strengthening the program by providing support for and recognition of postdoctoral fellows, staff, and teaching stream faculty
- Fostering additional research, collaborative projects, and public events
- Improving staffing to support the program

4 Implementation Plan

The Dean undertook in consultation with the Centre to support the following changes:

- Immediate Term (6 months)
 - Growing curricular offerings and faculty complement in line with the Centre's growth
 - The Centre will consult with the Department of History on working to fill the Zaks Chair in Jewish History on a continuous basis, therefore allowing for more consistent course offerings in European Jewish History and Modern Israel's History.
 - Strengthening the program by providing support for and recognition of postdoctoral fellows, staff, and teaching stream faculty
 - The Centre has begun to provide an orientation to its postdoctoral fellows. The Director of the Centre will meet with the fellows to help them adjust to the University and its community, as well as provide guidance on how best to prioritize their responsibilities and work during their fellowships.
 - Fostering additional research, collaborative projects, and public events
 - The Centre has begun to support additional working groups and reading groups throughout the academic year.
- Medium Term (1–2 years)
 - Growing curricular offerings and faculty complement in line with the Centre's growth
 - The Faculty of Arts and Science and the Anne Tanenbaum Centre will consult and discuss the possibility of submitting a proposal to change the status of the Centre, currently an EDU:C.
 - The Centre will approach cognate units to develop a proposal for an appointment in Hebrew and Yiddish Literature.
 - Strengthening the program by providing support for and recognition of postdoctoral fellows, staff, and teaching stream faculty
 - The Director will consult within the Centre on ways to best support and recognize staff and teaching stream faculty.
 - Fostering additional research, collaborative projects, and public events
 - The Centre has provided funds to enable smaller scale events proposed by affiliated faculty members in Slavic, Medieval Studies and Near and Middle Eastern Civilizations.
 - The Director has established a Jewish Studies faculty colloquium for faculty to present working papers to each other. The current plan is to schedule four

presentations in diverse areas of Jewish Studies to ensure it becomes a vital part of the Centre's culture.

The Dean's Office will follow up annually with the unit to assess progress.

5 Executive Summary

The reviewers identified the programs' strengths as providing outstanding educational experience; compelling course offerings; engaging teaching models; students' sense of belonging; internships and service learning; and world-class scholars. The reviewers recommended that the following issues be addressed: growing curricular offerings and faculty complement in line with the Centre's growth; strengthening the program by providing support for and recognition of postdoctoral fellows, staff, and teaching stream faculty; fostering additional research, collaborative projects, and public events; and improving staffing to support the program. The Centre will consult with the Department of History on working to fill the Zaks Chair in Jewish History on a continuous basis, and will approach cognate units to develop a proposal for an appointment in Hebrew and Yiddish Literature. The Centre has initiated an orientation for postdoctoral fellows, and will provide ongoing support for them. The Director has established a Jewish Studies faculty colloquium, and the Centre has provided funds to enable smaller scale events proposed by affiliated faculty members in Slavic, Medieval Studies and Near and Middle Eastern Civilizations. The Committee on Academic Policy and Programs concluded that the Decanal response adequately addressed the review recommendations.