

Title	Academic Programs		
Classification	Academic	Oversight & Responsibility	Office of the VP Academic
Category	Education & Teaching	Effective Date	2019 Jul 24
Approval	Academic Council	Policy No	1015

This policy is applied in a manner consistent with applicable statutory and legal obligations, including university collective agreements and terms of employment.

NOTE: The most up-to-date versions of our policies are posted on the policy & procedure website. If you've printed this policy, check the website to be sure you have the current version.

Background

Pursuant to the Academic Quality Assurance policy, this policy establishes the principles and practices to ensure that appropriate standards are achieved and maintained in the university's academic programs and research and that it is offering a high-quality education consistent with national standards.

New and Existing Programs

1. All new degree programs must be approved through procedures as determined by Academic Council before recommendation to the Board of Governors. All new degrees are subject to final approval by the Minister of Advanced Education.
2. All new diploma and certificate programs must be approved by Academic Council through procedures as determined by Council.
3. New program proposals must go through a consultative process which includes faculty and other relevant bodies.
4. All substantive changes to existing degree, diploma, and certificate programs must be approved by Academic Council through procedures as determined by Council.
5. All new and revised credit courses must be approved through procedures as determined by Curriculum Committee.
6. All program admission and progression requirements must be approved through procedures as determined by Admissions Committee.

Quality Assurance Monitoring

1. Regular and systematic evaluation of teaching and research will be conducted to measure quality and support curricular improvements.
2. On an annual basis, each program must submit a written report to the relevant dean's office providing an overview of key performance indicators associated with program performance to aid continuous quality improvement processes. Reports will be made available to the VP Academic and Provost.
3. All degree programs will be subject to external review on a five-to-seven year cycle for the purpose of program improvement. Responsibility for oversight of external reviews resides with the VP Academic and Provost.

4. A certificate or diploma program that is embedded or affiliated with a degree program will be included in the external review of the relevant degree. Other certificate and diploma programs may be subject to external review at the discretion of the VP Academic and Provost.

Reporting

Academic Council will receive annual reports from the VP Academic and Provost on academic and research quality measures, program reviews and improvements.

Related Documents and Information

Related RRU policies

- [Academic Quality Assurance](#)

Review and Revision History

Date	Action
2004-Jul-21	Approved by Academic Council as Academic Council Quality Assurance
2006-Dec-20	Revised
2007-Nov-21	Revised
2016-Oct-12	Revised and renamed "Academic Programs"
2019-Jul-24	Revised – current published version
2021-Oct-04	Transfer to new template – no changes to content
Next Review	
2021-Jul-24	For review