ONCAT PROJECT 2015-10

DIPLOMA/DEGREE PATHWAY: LAKEHEAD HISTORY DEGREES

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

History is one of the most popular degrees sought in the Social Sciences and Humanities at Lakehead University and has the potential to be an attractive degree option for college transfer students. It is a discipline that combines content knowledge with the development and honing of analytical, critical thinking, writing, and communication skills that are highly sought after by employers. Many of these foundational skills are developed as part of college diploma programs and are articulated by the associated program learning outcomes. However, college diploma programs do not always offer the content-based or process learning in courses that facilitate transfer of credits. It is an issue further compounded by 3-year and 4-year University degree level expectations as well as course and program level learner outcome requirements.

This report covers the three phases of the project.

1) An analysis and evaluation of existing Ontario Council on Articulation and Transfer (ONCAT) projects, history specific and/or history related content offered by Ontario's colleges, and progress towards the identification of partners, negotiations, and planning for next steps in the larger college-university pathway project focused on aspects of discipline-specific process learning.

Method of analysis included survey of existing reports by College-University Consortium Council (CUCC) and ONCAT, including the assessment of more than 280 courses offered by 20 colleges in Ontario, the identification of colleges with a level of existing relevant course capacity and the gathering of secondary literature as well as telephone and in-person discussions.

2) The development of a skills/competencies based Modular Online Bridging Course that allows students who have completed college level history related courses to receive university level transfer credits at the first, second, and third year.

3) Implementation of the pathway bridging course.