University of Calgary Faculty of Arts

Department of Communication, Media, and Film Curriculum Review – Public Report



April 21, 2017

Executive Summary

community engagement. The curriculum review confirmed that instructors in CMCL, COMS

Curriculum Review Process and Mandate

Curriculum Review is an "Academic, staff-led critical examination of each undergraduate . . . program for the purpose of optimizing the learning outcomes of that program" (University of Calgary, 2013, p. 2). In 2016, the Department of Communication, Media and Film in the Faculty of Arts embarked on an intensive curriculum review process for its undergraduate programs, as mandated by the University of Calgary. This report outlines the context for and scope of the curriculum review, the research methods, timeline, findings, recommendations, and action plan. The next curriculum review is scheduled to take place in 2022, five years from now, with an interim report due in 2020.

The curriculum review was led by a team of four members:

Barbara Schneider – Head, Department of Communication, Media and Film Jo-Anne Andre – Director of Undergraduate Programs, Communication, Media and Film Lisa Stowe – Coordinator of the Communication and Media Studies Program Carla McCutchin – Research assistant, hired with

Guiding Questions

In addition, students in the BA in Communication and Media Studies Co-op degree will

Demonstrate the ability to apply their developing scholarly and professional skills in the successful completion of three work terms related to film and media studies.

In addition, students in the Bachelor of Communication and Media Studies (BOMS) program will

Demonstrate the ability to successfully complete an advanced research and media production project.

Graduates with a BA in Communication and Media Studies will be prepared to continue scholarly research at the graduate level.

Program Learning Outcomes for the BA in FILM and BFS In completing the BA in Film Studies, students should be able to ...

Depth and Breadth of Knowledge

Articulate the distinctive concepts, core assumptions, and methods that comprise film studies as a discipline;

Demonstrate knowledge of historical, theoretical, and cultural frameworks of film studies;

Demonstrate an understanding of film as a cultural industry and an appreciation of the role of archives, film festivals and other institutions in the field of film studies;

Demonstrate an understanding of film as both a local and global phenomena;

Demonstrate specialized knowledge and critical understanding of varied film studies topics, including

- o Genre
- o Authorship
- o Aesthetics of film, including technologies of sound and image
- o National, and transnational (global) cinemas
- **o** Cultural theory and issues of representation

Scholarly and Professional Competences

Deploy film-analytical skills to wide-ranging filmic texts;

Read and critically assess historical, theoretical, and cultural texts in the discipline;

Articulate the aesthetic, conceptual, historical, cultural, and technological

Produce discerning and informed writing on film topics. In addition, students in the Honours BA in Film Studies program will Demonstrate the ability to

C6

| | | C10.2 – Develop an explicit syllabus for the new COMS/FILM 595 & 597, specifying course expectations, assessment responsibilities, etc. C10.3 – Update Honours materials | Dec. 2017 Dec. | DH & HPC HPC | |
|-----|---|--|----------------------|--------------------|--|
| C11 | Consider occasionally offering production- oriented courses in FILM. | on the Dept. website as necessary C11.1 – Offer a course in Filmmaking in spring 2017. | 2017 Jan. 2017 | DH & FPC | Done. Film 409 Filmmaking – has been scheduled for P17. |
| C12 | Consider enrolment restrictions for COMS 363 from Fall 2018 onward | C12.1 Determine appropriate enrolment caps and restrictions for COMS 363 from Fall 2018 onward. C12.2 Consult with other units as | Jan. 2018 | DH & UPD | |

T3.2 Strike a committee of COMS instructors to (a) identify COMS courses in which we might enhance student writing instruction and support and (b) to suggest methods by which such support might be integrated (e.g., through tutorial

| | | positions attained by past Film Studies graduates. R1.3—Update descriptive and promotional materials to better emphasize our programs' strengths and unique attributes. | Jan. 2018 | UPD, CPC, CFP | |
|----|--|--|--------------|---------------------|---------|
| R2 | Update Department website | R2.1 – Review and update the CMF website to ensure that it is user- friendly and effectively represents and promotes our department's activities, programs, and strengths. | Jan. 2018 | DH, UPD | |
| R3 | Increase promotion of the Honours and degree programs in COMS | | | | · · · · |