

York University Final Report for ONCAT Funded Project: 2014-11

Seneca College Community Services Pathway to BA in Educational Studies at York University

November 7, 2017

List of Participants and Partner Institutions

York University

Chloe Brushwood-Rose, Associate Dean – Academic Programs, Faculty of Education
Yvette Munro, Director, Academic Partnerships and Planning
Julie Parna, Director, Academic Programs and Policy
Alice Pitt, Vice-Provost Academic

Seneca College

Victoria Baker, Manager, Degree and Credit Transfer
Henry Decock, Associate Vice-President Academic, Academic Partnerships
Maria May, Dean, Faculty of Applied Arts and Health Sciences

York Seneca Partnership

Paula Green, Manager

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Executive Summary

This project created a transfer pathway from Seneca College's college diploma programs (Community Services programs) to a new BA in Educational Studies at York. The project involved two phases a) development/approval of a BA in Educational Studies (120 credits) and b) consultations and planning to support development of transfer pathways although it should be noted that ONCAT funds supported the latter phase. Curriculum mapping focused on a review and comparison of Learning Outcomes for the programs after it was determined that a one to one course mapping would not result in specific major credit to be awarded. The block credit awarded for these diplomas is more than the base block credit normally allocated and includes 12 credits (four semester courses) towards the Educational Studies major.

The development of transfer pathways were dependent upon the approval of a new BA in Educational Studies which required internal institutional approval and was approved by the Quality Council in April 2015. In consultation with Seneca College, three Community Services programs were identified for inclusion in the project: Child & Youth Worker, Early Childhood Education and Social Services Worker.

A review of program and course learning outcomes for both sending programs and the receiving program (new BA in Educational Studies) was completed and transfer pathway/articulation agreement approved in October 2017. The 45 block credits awarded for these diplomas is more than the base block credit normally allocated but aligns with other articulation agreements with these Seneca programs. These agreements identify 12 credits towards the Educational Studies major. The additional credits may be used as elective credits. Students will complete a minimum of 75 additional credits (5 semesters) to complete a 120 credits Honours degree at York University.

Three Articulation Agreements (Social Services Worker Diploma programs to Educational Studies; Early Childhood Education Diploma to Educational Studies; Child and Youth Care Advanced Diploma to Educational Studies) were signed in November 2017 and students will be able to access the pathway effective Winter 2018.

Pathway Development

Methodology

The course descriptions and outlines from the Seneca programs (Social Services Worker diplomas, Early Childhood Education and Child and Youth Worker) were sent to York University and reviewed by the Associate Dean, Academic Programs (Faculty of Education) and compared to the individual course requirements for the newly approved major in Educational Studies. In addition, the Learning Outcomes published for each program were reviewed.

Program Comparison and Analysis

The Associate Dean, Academic Programs (Faculty of Education) of Education determined that there were courses or course combinations taught in the three programs that would be the equivalent or near equivalent of individual courses in the Educational Studies major. In addition, it was determined that students would be required to complete all the mandatory courses in the Educational Studies major at York University.

However, based on a review of the Program Outcomes, she determined that it would be possible to award 12 credits towards the major (leaving 36 credits of Education Studies courses to be completed at York University). These generic major credits are in recognition of the skills and knowledge obtained through completion of these diplomas.

In addition, general education requirements were reviewed and using the formula established by York University, required areas were deemed satisfied. For the two diploma sets, two areas of general education were considered completed and students will be required to take 6 credits of Humanities or Social Science at York University. For the Advanced Diploma, all general education requirements for the BA at York University were deemed satisfied.

Implementation Process and Timelines

Timelines for this project were extended due to the extended approval process for the BA in Educational Studies and for several other reasons .

Once signed, the pathway agreements go into effect immediately and will be applicable to students applying for admission in the Winter term 2018. The agreements apply to graduates from previous years but notes that York University reserves the right to exclude students from this pathway agreement if they graduated from the relevant sending programs prior to 2015.

The York Office of Admissions ensures that staff on the Transfer and Transitions team is aware of the agreement and that it is posted on the York University website and the OnTransfer site. The Seneca Degree and Transfer Office will ensure that the details of the agreements are made available to students at Seneca.

Summary of Pathways Created

Social Services Worker Diplomas to BA Educational Studies

Transfer Credit awarded:

45 block credit; includes 12 credits towards the major; 12 credits of General Education

Minimum required for Honours Degree at York University:

75 credits (5 semesters) for Honours degree (120 credits); 36 credits for the Educational Studies major at the 2000/3000 level (total of 42 credits); 6 credits in Humanities or Social Science

Early Childhood Education Diploma to BA Educational Studies

Transfer Credit awarded:

45 block credit; includes 12 credits towards the major; 12 credits of General Education

Minimum required for Honours Degree at York University:

75 credits (5 semesters) for Honours degree (120 credits); 36 credits for the Educational Studies major at the 2000/3000 level (total of 42 credits); 6 credits in Humanities or Social Science

Child and Youth Care Advanced Diploma to BA Educational Studies

Transfer Credit awarded:

48 block credit; includes 12 credits towards the major; 12 credits of General Education

Minimum required for Honours Degree at York University:

75 credits (5 semesters) for Honours degree (120 credits); 36 credits for the Educational Studies major at the 2000/3000 level (total of 42 credits); 6 credits in Humanities or Social Science