



Pathways from French Language College Programs from La Cité to a Bachelor of Arts Degree Completion Program at Glendon College – York University



**Final Report Prepared for the Ontario Council on
Articulation and Transfer (ONCAT)**

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The objective of this project was to create pathways between Glendon's BA and La Cité diploma programs in the areas of early childhood education, social work, gerontology and public relations. This was in response to the provincial need to increase access to French-language postsecondary educational opportunities in Centre and Southwestern Ontario. The project was built on the recognition of Glendon College of York University as the "hub" of French-language postsecondary education in Central and Southwestern Ontario and the desire of La Cité to increase its presence and educational expertise in the aforementioned region by developing a targeted program and service offer. The common goal of both postsecondary education institutions was to meet the needs of the Francophone and Francophile communities as well as the current need for a francophone and bilingual skilled workforce in many areas of the Ontario economy.

Following the signature of a Memorandum of Understanding between York University – Glendon College and La Cité (see Appendix A), Glendon College and La Cité intended, with ONCAT funding, to strengthen a pathway between three 2-year college diploma programs offered at La Cité and the Glendon Bachelor of Arts in order to improve access to French-language college and university programs and training in the regions of Central and Southwestern Ontario within the French-language postsecondary education continuum.

With this objective in mind, Glendon College of York University and La Cité collégiale set out to continue the analysis of the learning outcomes in light of York University's degree level expectations. La Cité was hoping that such analysis would lead to the establishment of a 2+2 articulation agreement between the two institutions. The funding also allowed Glendon to acquire teaching resources in French and translate some of its existing English material to strengthen its bridging curriculum. The funding was also used to expand on experiential learning opportunities for all students involved in the programs. Internships were sought within francophone community organizations.

The project allowed both institutions to complete the analysis of its pathways between three college diploma programs offered at La Cité and the Bachelor of Arts offered at Glendon. Even though the curriculum analysis did not result in the identification of additional transfer credits for La Cité's programs, graduates from La Cité's program in Techniques de travail social – Gerontology and Éducation en services à l'enfance/Early Childhood Education are now able to transfer into the Glendon's Bachelor of Arts in Psychology program while Graduates from Social work would be able to transfer into the Bachelor of Arts in Sociology earning 30 credits. La Cité's graduates in public relations, journalism or advertising could transfer into the Glendon's Bachelor of Arts in Multidisciplinary Studies (Communications minor).

The Glendon-La Cité pathways will allow college students to access a wide range of courses and to study under numerous francophone professors and experts in the field of social and cognitive sciences. For instance, Professor Guy Proulx is a neuropsychologist who specializes in cognitive impairment and aging is the former Director of psychology of Baycrest Geriatric Centre. The identified pathways will enable college students to pursue university education in the field of psychology and help respond to the needs of employers looking for qualified and experienced bilingual staff possessing both the advanced knowledge and skills to work in the health and social service sector in Toronto.

After a preliminary analysis of curriculum and learning outcomes, it was determined that additional analysis would be required to ensure accuracy of credit transfers, congruency

with Glendon's BA matrix and to develop bridging curriculum at La Cité to facilitate student mobility between these two institutions.

Both institutions were able to establish student support services to ensure success and retention. However, in the absence of a Toronto campus for La Cité, the number of students taking advantage of these pathways has been very limited.

Both institutions are now working on identifying effective strategies to promote these pathways. Information sessions are being scheduled at La Cité's campuses in Eastern Ontario.