



Program Review Quality Assurance Plan

Quality Assurance Plan for: Asian Studies Program

Date submitted to SSCPR: January 2018

Date Self-Study Report approved by SSCPR: December 7, 2017

Date of External Review: January 25, 2017

SUMMARY

Summarize what the program has determined - through evidence - about program quality (e.g. strengths, challenges, opportunities for improvement, potential threats, etc.)

Overall, the program review process has confirmed that the KPU Asian Studies Program does an excellent job of providing academically sound courses to its students. Program faculty are engaged and effective and KPU Asian Studies students and alumni spoke positively and strongly in support of the program. However, the external reviewers noted that the program has not been promoted widely, either within KPU or, most importantly, to our local communities. The reviewers also concluded that the program has yet to establish a niche for itself within a competitive post-secondary environment. Remedying these two issues will be crucial as the program moves forward over the next five years.

Going forward, the program must move beyond “a campus-based collection of courses in Asian Studies” (ERT Report, p.8), to become a well-defined program with a clear identity. The benefits of an Asian Studies degree must be foregrounded, with particular emphasis on the cultural competencies gained throughout the program. New, integrative courses can be used to highlight the program’s strengths at the first-year level, and new, experiential opportunities must be developed to build and strengthen ties between KPU Asian Studies and our local communities. If the program does not raise its profile within KPU and externally, through additional promotional efforts and the creation of a Program Advisory Committee (PAC), and establish its value among competing programs at local post-secondary institutions, opportunities for future growth and expansion will be limited.

QUALITY ASSURANCE GOALS

List the program’s Quality Assurance Goals (broad statements about what the program intends to accomplish to ensure program quality). Identify the Recommendation(s) – drawn from the Self-Study Report and External Review Report - each Goal addresses. Provide a brief Rationale for each Goal (see the Quality Assurance Plan Guidelines for instructions). Add or remove rows as necessary.

GOAL 1: Establish connections among geographic and thematic areas at the beginning of a student’s program; ensure thematic consistency in each stream; identify core competencies that students will achieve as they progress through the program (reinforced in the integrative capstone at the end of the program)

RATIONALE FOR THIS GOAL: Thematic and geographic connections are desirable because the Asian Studies degrees were designed with a pan-Asian focus. Limited faculty resources when the program launched meant that courses were developed in specific areas of expertise and students could progress through the vast majority of their degrees without stepping beyond an East or South Asian focus. Introducing students to program competencies in an integrative course at year one will allow them to better articulate the skills they gain throughout the remainder of the program.

Recommendation(s) this Goal Addresses	Report (page number)
“Develop an interdisciplinary introductory course on Asian Studies that highlights the range of faculty and curricular offerings—a “gateway” to the major or minor.”	ERR p.3 (recommendation #1)
“... an opportunity [exists] for KPU to distinguish itself in the local educational market for offering an Asian Studies major that provide “cultural competency” or “ways of understanding where the other person is coming from”—a key need for BC’s multicultural and international businesses and professions.”	ERR p.3 (rationale)
“develop introductory skills-building courses that examine Asia as a coherent whole; these courses should include an introduction to library resources and research skills [i.e., core competencies]”	SSR p.33 (STR #2)

GOAL 2: Rationalize the courses/schedule for students, via ASIA website and other initiatives (including timetabling with other departments and offering more courses in the summer), and communicate these changes more broadly to enable more effective student planning and to establish the relevance of our Asian Studies courses and programs to our students and the broader community.

RATIONALE FOR THIS GOAL: Given a relatively small number of course offerings it is imperative that students be better able to plan their program in advance and to avoid conflicts with core program requirements; the program’s profile needs to be raised among our students and within our local communities in order for the reorganized program to develop an identity and to establish its relevance.

Recommendation(s) this Goal Addresses	Report (page number)
“Define, in detail, the relevance of courses and programs in Asian Studies at KPU – building on the demographic, social and cultural characteristics of the region.”	ERR p.2 (recommendation #1)

“Implement and publicize a one-two year schedule of course rotation and offerings to assist student timetable planning.”	ERR p.5 (recommendation #1)
“Alumni and students both spoke very highly of the program and would strongly recommend it to others, but noted that there is a general lack of awareness of the program. The report recommendation to improve promotion of the program and to use alumni as ambassadors is supported by the survey results and student/alumni discussion during the visit.”	ERR p.5 (rationale)
“Timetable with other disciplines so as to avoid direct timetable conflicts with other core Asian Studies courses”	SSR p.33 (STR #4)
“ensure that two-year Educational Plans are available to students via the Asian Studies program website to facilitate more efficient course planning”	SSR p.33 (STR #5)
“add Asian Studies sections in the summer, when there is less overlap with courses offered by other disciplines”	SSR p.33 (STR #6)
“review and revise the Asian Studies core course list to include only those courses that can reliably be guaranteed to students on a regular basis.”	SSR p.33 (STR #10)
“market the degree internally and externally so as to ensure that KPU gains a greater share of province-wide Asian Studies enrolment; this includes marketing to high schools and to institutions in Asia”	SSR p.33 (LTR #1)
“build/enhance connections to our alumni who are best able to promote our program”	SSR p.34 (LTR #4)

GOAL 3: Create a Program Advisory Committee (PAC) for the program

RATIONALE FOR THIS GOAL: It is necessary to build and strengthen ties to our broader communities to enhance opportunities for our students, to increase and foreground links to industry and potential careers, and to establish KPU Asian Studies as a preferred choice for those seeking an education in Asian Studies.

Recommendation(s) this Goal Addresses	Report (page number)
“Increase resources provided to Asian Studies in order to develop viable, sustainable relationships with on-campus units, alumni and off-campus community groups.”	ERR p.7 (recommendation #1)
“Other Asian Studies programs in the province have developed extensive on-campus and community-supported connections, essential for student, faculty and institutional support and recognition.”	ERR p.7 (rationale)
“Increase and foreground links to industry and potential careers”	SSR. p.33 (STR #8)
“Develop a more coherent identity, both internally for Asian Studies students, and externally within KPU’s wider communities”	SSR p.33 (STR #7)

GOAL 4: In order to address the limitations of the program’s current regional foci, pursue the creation of a shared faculty position with the School of Business, focusing on either Korea or Southeast Asia

RATIONALE FOR THIS GOAL: The addition of a faculty member with expertise in either Korea or Southeast Asia would expand the geographical reach of our Asian Studies Program, as requested by ASIA students and alumni, while simultaneously building a permanent connection to students in the School of Business who would benefit greatly from an Asian Studies Minor or stream. Fill a gap in Asian Studies education in the Lower Mainland and establish a niche for KPU Asia.

Recommendation(s) this Goal Addresses	Report (page number)
“A proposal raised with which the ERT agrees is to add a ½ FTE in collaboration with another program, for example, Business (and focusing on Southeast Asia).”	EER p.3 (rationale)
“Address the limitations of the program’s regional foci and consider creating additional cultural, social, and linguistics courses.”	SSR p.34 (LTR #4)
“... an opportunity [exists] for KPU to distinguish itself in the local educational market for offering an Asian Studies major that provide “cultural competency” or “ways of understanding where the other person is coming from”—a key need for BC’s multicultural and <i>international businesses</i> and professions.”	ERR p.3 (rationale)

GOAL 5: Emphasize experiential learning and improve connections with our local communities by exploring field school, coop, and faculty exchange opportunities, ideally in collaboration with the School of Business (see Goal 4 above) which already has a number of co-op options in place.

RATIONALE FOR THIS GOAL: Increasing opportunities for experiential learning, field work, and international exchanges are a core element of KPU’s vision and academic plan. Asian Studies is ideally positioned to contribute to KPU’s stated goal of meaningful internationalization.

Recommendation(s) this Goal Addresses	Report (page number)
“Develop and regularize the offering of co-op and field school opportunities.”	EER p.4 (recommendation #1)
“Investigate additional experiential components, including field schools, a co-op option, and create more undergraduate research opportunities”	SSR p.34 (LTR #2)

RECOMMENDATIONS THE QUALITY ASSURANCE PLAN DOES NOT ADDRESS

List the Recommendations from the Self-Study and External Review this Plan does not address. Provide a brief explanation why these Recommendations cannot be addressed. Add or remove rows as necessary.

Recommendations	Report (page number)	Explanation
The report recommends an effort to introduce students to the availability of all library resources offered. Interviews with alumni and students during the site visit indicated satisfaction with the resources they are familiar with, but the surveys revealed students are not aware of all resources available.	EER p. 6	Faculty will continue to introduce library training into their courses, working with the KPU Asian Studies liaison librarian. Since this wasn't a formal recommendation we will simply mark it for continued attention, in particular in the new integrative first-year course, rather than creating a separate goal.
Demonstrate the ease with which students in other programs and faculties who have completed several Asian Studies electives could transition into the B.A. Minor	SSR p. 33 (STR #1)	While not explicitly addressed in the QAP, this will be part of the ongoing efforts to work with other departments on timetabling and coordination. It will also be promoted as part of the revamp of the Asian Studies website (a Faculty of Arts initiative).
Work with the Educational Studies program to strongly encourage international students to complete EDUC 1150 either before transitioning into lower level Asian Studies courses, or, at minimum, complete this course at the same time	SSR p. 33 (STR #3)	Alongside the development of the integrative ASIA 1100 course, the Chair of Asian Studies will be working with the Educational Studies Department and the English Department to develop a cohort-based course bundle, specifically targeted to International Students. Since this initiative involves other programs besides Asian Studies we did not feel it could be listed as an explicit recommendation for Asian Studies.

QUALITY ASSURANCE FIVE-YEAR ACTION PLAN

Describe the Quality Assurance Strategies (specific plans of action) the program must achieve to attain its Goal over the next five year. Detail the steps the program will take to achieve each Strategy. Add or remove Strategies and tables as necessary.

MONTH/YEAR WHEN THE FIVE-YEAR ACTION PLAN BEGINS: 09/2017

STRATEGY 1: To establish an ASIA 1100 course that foregrounds core competencies gained through an Asian Studies degree

GOAL(S) THIS STRATEGY SUPPORTS: Goal #1: Establish connections among geographic and thematic areas at the beginning of a student’s program; ensure thematic consistency in each stream; identify core competencies that students will achieve as they progress through the program

RATIONALE FOR THIS STRATEGY: Thematic and geographic connections are desirable because the Asian Studies degrees were designed with a pan-Asian focus. Limited faculty resources when the program launched meant that courses were developed in specific areas of expertise and students could progress through the vast majority of their degrees without stepping beyond an East or South Asian focus. Introducing students to program competencies in an integrative course at year one will allow them to better articulate the skills they gain throughout the remainder of the program.

Step(s) Required to Achieve this Strategy	To be Led by	To Begin on (M/YY)	To be Completed By (M/YY)	Notes
ASIA Internal Advisory Board (AIAB) team members will work collaboratively to create this course	ASIA Internal Advisory Board	09/17	12/17	Implementation September 2018 (earliest possible due to current curricular implementation dates)
				**All curriculum development will be undertaken by existing faculty and will utilize base sections allocated to the Asian Studies Program

Resource Implications (if applicable)
What are the resources required to achieve this Strategy? None
When are these resources required? N/A
What Faculty and/or Institutional support is required? None

STRATEGY 2: Establish an upper level film course to balance E/S Asia offerings in the program’s film stream. Rework ASIA 2151 (Folklore) to become an upper level course to parallel the South Asia folklore course. Rework ASIA 2150 to include a pan-Asian focus.

GOAL(S) THIS STRATEGY SUPPORTS: Goal #1: Ensure thematic consistency in each stream; foreground pan-Asian connections.

RATIONALE FOR THIS STRATEGY: Thematic and geographic connections are desirable because the Asian Studies degrees were designed with a pan-Asian focus, a goal which is reinforced in the integrative capstone at the end of the program

Step(s) Required to Achieve this Strategy	To be Led by	To Begin on (M/YY)	To be Completed By (M/YY)	Notes
Create ASIA 3252: Bollywood & Contemporary India [thematic consistency E/S Asia]	Kamala Nayar	09/17	12/17	Done. Implementation September 2018 (earliest possible due to current curricular implementation dates)
Revise ASIA 2151 and ASIA 2150 [pan-Asian focus]	Jack Hayes	09/17	12/17	Implementation September 2018 (earliest possible due to current curricular implementation dates)

Resource Implications (if applicable)
What are the resources required to achieve this Strategy? None
When are these resources required? N/A
What Faculty and/or Institutional support is required? None

STRATEGY 3: Work to promote KPU Asian Studies more broadly at KPU Open House events, recruitment evenings, and via expanded activities in our local communities (for example, our partnership with the DocuAsia group which brings community members to KPU for topical film screenings)

GOAL(S) THIS STRATEGY SUPPORTS: GOAL 2: Rationalize the courses/schedule for students, via ASIA website and other initiatives (including timetabling with other departments and offering more courses in the summer), and communicate these changes more broadly to enable more effective student planning and to establish the relevance of our Asian Studies courses and programs to our students and the broader community.

RATIONALE FOR THIS GOAL: Given a relatively small number of course offerings it is imperative that students be better able to plan their program in advance and to avoid conflicts with core program requirements; the program's profile needs to be raised among our students and within our local communities in order for the reorganized program to develop an identity and to establish its relevance.

Step(s) Required to Achieve this Strategy	To be Led by	To Begin on (M/YY)	To be Completed By (M/YY)	Notes
Utilize the expertise of the Marketing Department through the Faculty of Arts to create a new advertising campaign, both print and digital	Chair of Asian Studies	09/17	09/18	
Attend KPU Open House and other internal events; continue to develop external partnerships that will promote the program	Chair of Asian Studies	09/17	09/21	This should be ongoing throughout the next five years

Resource Implications (if applicable)
What are the resources required to achieve this Strategy? None
When are these resources required? N/A
What Faculty and/or Institutional support is required? support from Faculty of Arts marketing liaison

STRATEGY 4: Add a year-by-year detailed two-year schedule to KPU Asian Studies website so that students can better map out their program and publish via social media. Add courses in the summer when there are fewer conflicts with other core courses in the program and timetable collaboratively with other departments to avoid course conflicts. Remove courses from the Asian Studies Core Course list that cannot be reliably guaranteed to students

GOAL(S) THIS STRATEGY SUPPORTS: GOAL 2: Rationalize the courses/schedule for students, via ASIA website and other initiatives (including timetabling with other departments and offering more courses in the summer), and communicate these changes more broadly to enable more effective student planning and to establish the relevance of our Asian Studies courses and programs to our students and the broader community.

RATIONALE FOR THIS GOAL: Given a relatively small number of course offerings it is imperative that students be better able to plan their program in advance and to avoid conflicts with core program requirements; the program’s profile needs to be raised among our students and within our local communities in order for the reorganized program to develop an identity and to establish its relevance.

Step(s) Required to Achieve this Strategy	To be Led by	To Begin on (M/YY)	To be Completed By (M/YY)	Notes
Increase sections offered in the summer session and timetable collaboratively with departments offering core courses in the Asian Studies Program	Chair of Asian Studies	09/17	09/19	
Rationalize the Asian Studies Core Course list so as to ensure that all core courses can be reliably guaranteed to students on a regular basis.	Chair of Asian Studies	09/17	12/17	
Create a new scheduling page on www.kpu.ca/arts/asian-studies to allow students to map out their program options more effectively	Chair of Asian Studies	09/17	09/21	This should be ongoing throughout the next five years

Resource Implications (if applicable)
What are the resources required to achieve this Strategy? None
When are these resources required? N/A
What Faculty and/or Institutional support is required? support from Faculty of Arts marketing liaison

STRATEGY 5: Create a Program Advisory Committee (PAC) for the program (referred to in Arts as an External Advisory Board)

GOAL(S) THIS STRATEGY SUPPORTS: Goal #3: Create a Program Advisory Committee (PAC) for the program

RATIONALE FOR THIS STRATEGY: It is necessary to build and strengthen ties to our broader communities to enhance opportunities for our students, to increase and foreground links to industry and potential careers, and to establish KPU Asian Studies as a preferred choice for those seeking an education in Asian Studies

Step(s) Required to Achieve this Strategy	To be Led by	To Begin on (M/YY)	To be Completed By (M/YY)	Notes
Establish terms of reference for the Program Advisory Committee (PAC) – AIAB to look at the terms for existing committees in formulating the terms of reference for the ASIA PAC	Asia Internal Advisory Board (AIAB)	09/17	12/17	
Identify and contact potential Program Advisory Committee (PAC) members from our local communities	AIAB	09/17	12/17	
Organize an initial meeting of the ASIA PAC	Chair of Asian Studies	05/18		

Resource Implications (if applicable)
What are the resources required to achieve this Strategy? Budget to come from the Dean’s Office in the Faculty of Arts
When are these resources required? 2018-2019 fiscal
What Faculty and/or Institutional support is required? Funding from Dean’s Office, Faculty of Arts to provide refreshments, parking passes, etc. at meetings of the ASIA PAC. This would be part of a broader Arts initiative to support the creation of PACs.

STRATEGY 6: Consult with stakeholders regarding the creation of a 50/50 shared position with a regional specialization in Southeast Asia or Korea.

GOAL(S) THIS STRATEGY SUPPORTS: Goal #4: In order to address the limitations of the program’s current regional foci, pursue the creation of a shared faculty position with the School of Business, focusing on either Korea or Southeast Asia

RATIONALE FOR THIS STRATEGY: The addition of a faculty member with expertise in either Korea or Southeast Asia would expand the geographical reach of our Asian Studies Program, as requested by ASIA students and alumni, while simultaneously building a permanent connection to students in the School of Business who would benefit greatly from an Asian Studies Minor or stream. Fill a gap in Asian Studies education in the Lower Mainland and establish a niche for KPU Asia.

Step(s) Required to Achieve this Strategy	To be Led by	To Begin on (M/YY)	To be Completed By (M/YY)	Notes
Initial discussions with the School of Business	Chair of Asian Studies	09/17	05/18	Since this objective requires collaboration across two faculties, we anticipate this will be the longest-term goal of the QA Plan
Consult with IAP to design an assessment tool to determine demand for either Korea or Southeast Asia specialist within the Asian Studies Program	Chair of Asian Studies / IAP	01/18	05/18	

Resource Implications (if applicable)
What are the resources required to achieve this Strategy? None in the consultation phase
When are these resources required? N/A
What Faculty and/or Institutional support is required? IAP, HR, and the Office of the Dean of Arts

STRATEGY 7: Explore opportunities to establish either a stand-alone field school, or a field school in collaboration with other post-secondary institutions in the province or, potentially, with the KPU School of Business, or a faculty/student exchange program.

GOAL(S) THIS STRATEGY SUPPORTS: Goal #5: Emphasize experiential learning and improve connections with our local communities by exploring field school, coop, and faculty exchange opportunities, ideally in collaboration with the School of Business (see Goal 4 above) which already has a number of co-op options in place.


RATIONALE FOR THIS STRATEGY: Increasing opportunities for experiential learning, field work, and international exchanges are a core element of KPU’s vision and academic plan. Asian Studies is ideally positioned to contribute to KPU’s stated goal of meaningful internationalization.

Step(s) Required to Achieve this Strategy	To be Led by	To Begin on (M/YY)	To be Completed By (M/YY)	Notes
Initial consultations with the School of Business and BCCAT	Chair of Asian Studies	09/17	09/19	Estimated timeframe may vary depending on institutional decisions on the establishment of additional field schools
Consultation with possible host venues	Chair of Asian Studies	01/18	09/19	
Work with KPU International to establish the structural parameters of the field school	Chair of Asian Studies	09/17	09/19	Estimated timeframe may vary depending on institutional decisions on the establishment of additional field schools
Travel to Asia in order to ascertain potential exchange partners	Chair of Asian Studies	01/18	08/18	Since a Japan Field School already exists, the focus of this effort will be on South Asia in parallel with the increased recruitment efforts in South Asia by KPU International.

Resource Implications (if applicable)
What are the resources required to achieve this Strategy? Funding either from 0.6 fund or from KPU International for travel to identify potential exchange partners
When are these resources required? 2018-2019 fiscal
What Faculty and/or Institutional support is required? Support from KPU International in order to establish the parameters of a field school and to assist in the identification of potential exchange partners

PLAN APPROVED BY:

Salvador Ferreras		February 20, 2018
Provost's Name	Provost's Signature	Date

Diane Purvey		February 21, 2018
Dean's Name	Dean's Signature	Date