UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

FOR APPROVAL **PUBLIC** **OPEN SESSION**

TO: Committee on Academic Policy and Programs

SPONSOR:
CONTACT INFO:
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PRESENTER:
CONTACT INFO:
Same as above.

DATE: May 6, 2025 for May 13, 2025

AGENDA ITEM: 14

ITEM IDENTIFICATION:

Proposal to Create Regulation: Completion of More than One Program Type in the Same Area, Faculty of Arts and Science

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

The establishment, termination or major amendment of University-wide policies governing academic regulations are considered by the Committee and forwarded to the Academic Board for approval, for example, but not limited to, policies on academic appeal procedures and standards of professional practice behaviour for students in professional faculties. Minor amendments to University-wide policies may be approved by the Committee. Amendments to divisional academic regulations that will have a major affect in the division or that would require an exception to some element of University-wide policy are considered by the Committee for approval. (AP&P Terms of Reference, Section 4.3)

GOVERNANCE PATH:

1. **Committee of Academic Policy and Programs [For Approval] (February 13, 2025)**

PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:

The Faculty of Arts and Science Faculty Council approved the proposal to create the Completion of More than One Program Type in the Same Area regulation on April 16, 2025.

HIGHLIGHTS:

This is a proposal introduce in the Faculty of Arts & Science a policy stating that undergraduate students can complete only one program type – a Specialist, Major, or Minor – in any individual area. Currently, students can complete more than one program type in the same area, for

example, both a Mathematics Major (program code ASMAJ1165) and a Mathematics Minor (program code ASMIN1165), unless a specific academic unit has stipulated in the Academic Calendar that it is not possible for them to do so.

The goals of the change are:

- To formalize in policy an aspect of program enrolment that many stakeholders, including advisors in both College Registrar's Offices and academic units, believe is already in effect.
- To address the confusion that arises when stakeholders are informed that it currently is possible for students to complete more than one program type in the same area and that, in the case of a Major and two Minors, both a Major and Minor in the same area can contribute to degree completion.
- To ensure that the way in which the policy is referenced is consistent across academic units, rather than individual academic units submitting proposals for program modifications with different phrasing, for clarity and transparency for students and advisors.

The proposed policy would bring the Faculty of Arts & Science into alignment with a cognate policy at the University of Toronto Mississauga (UTM). The change is effective for all new and in progress students as of September 1, 2025.

Consultation outside the Faculty of Arts and Science has taken place with the University of Toronto Mississauga; University of Toronto Scarborough and the John H. Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design. All divisions were supportive of the change.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Any new financial obligations resulting from this change will be met at the divisional level.

RECOMMENDATION:

Be It Resolved:

THAT the proposed changes to Faculty of Arts and Science academic regulations, as described in the proposal from the Faculty of Arts and Science dated March 28, 2025, be approved effective September 1, 2025.

DOCUMENTATION PROVIDED:

- Proposal to Limit Completion for More than One Program Type in the Same Area, Faculty of Arts and Science

Proposal for the Creation of a New Policy/Calendar Statement or the Modification of an Existing Policy/Calendar Statement

Policy Name	The completion of more than one program type in the same area
Proponent	Lisa Feng Faculty Registrar & Director, Academic Services Faculty of Arts & Science
Version Date (Please change the date as you edit the proposal.)	March 28, 2025

Summary

Please provide a brief description of the policy or calendar statement being proposed/modified and the goals for the change.

Proposal for Consideration

The proposal for consideration is to introduce in the Faculty of Arts & Science a policy stating that undergraduate students can complete only one program type – a Specialist, Major, or Minor – in any individual area, as referenced by the same final four-digit program code (also known as a subject POSt code). Currently, students can complete more than one program type in the same area, for example, both a Mathematics Major (program code ASMAJ1165) and a Mathematics Minor (program code ASMIN1165), unless a specific academic unit has stipulated in the Academic Calendar that it is not possible for them to do so. As an example, the Department of Sociology states the following:

- "Students cannot combine a Sociology Specialist program with another Sociology program (Major or Minor) for their degree." The program code for the Specialist is ASSPE1013.
- "Students cannot combine a Sociology Major program with another Sociology program (Specialist or Minor) for their degree." The program code for the Major is ASMAJ1013.
- "Students cannot combine a Sociology Minor program with another Sociology program (Specialist or Major) for their degree." The program code for the Minor is ASMIN1013.

A review of the 2024-2025 Academic Calendar identified a few academic units that state in their Calendar sections that students can complete only one program type in any individual area, or that reference similar

content.

To be eligible to graduate with an [Honours Bachelor of Arts or Honours Bachelor of Science degree](#), students must complete – in addition to other degree requirements – the requirements for one of the following:

- One Specialist
- Two Majors
- One Major and two Minors

Students enrolled in two Majors or one Major and two Minors must complete 12.0 distinct credits across these programs as part of their degree requirements. For students completing one Major and two Minors, both the Major and one of the Minors could currently be in the same area, unless the relevant academic unit has stipulated that students cannot be enrolled in both, and both could contribute to the completion of the degree as long as the 12.0 distinct credit requirement is met across the Major and both Minors.

Students can in fact enrol in a maximum of three programs, no more than two of which can be a Major or a Specialist. In the case of a student enrolling in, for example, a Specialist and a Major in the same area, although only the Specialist is required for degree completion, were the student to complete both programs both would be noted on the student's transcript at the time of graduation.

The proposed policy would bring the Faculty of Arts & Science into alignment with a cognate policy at the University of Toronto Mississauga (UTM). UTM's 2024-2025 Academic Calendar stipulates, within the degree requirements for both the [Honours Bachelor of Arts](#) and [Honours Bachelor of Science](#):

"For degree completion, it is not permissible to complete more than one program type (Specialist, Major, Minor) containing the same final four-digit program code. For example, students may not complete a Major in English (ERMA**1645**) and a Minor in English (ERMIN**1645**)."

It would remain within academic units' discretion pending review by the Faculty of Arts & Science's Undergraduate Curriculum Committees, as it is currently, to state additional ineligible program combinations among their own programs, as is the case for the [Centre for Industrial Relations and Human Resources](#), for example.

Goals

- To formalize in policy an aspect of program enrolment that many stakeholders, including advisors in both College Registrar's Offices and academic units, believe is already in effect.

- To address the confusion that arises when stakeholders are informed that it currently is possible for students to complete more than one program type in the same area and that, in the case of a Major and two Minors, both a Major and Minor in the same area can contribute to degree completion.

- To ensure that the way in which the policy is referenced is consistent across academic units, rather than individual academic units submitting proposals for program modifications with different phrasing, for clarity and transparency for students and advisors.

Policy Statement or Calendar Language

Current Text *State the current policy statement or the current language as it appears in the Academic Calendar.*	Proposed Text *State the proposed policy statement or the proposed language as it would appear in the Academic Calendar.*
(https://artsci.calendar.utoronto.ca/how-use-calendar#about-programs) **Specialist, Major, and Minor Programs** Programs offered by the Faculty that may be used to complete a degree can have the status of a Specialist, Major, or Minor. **Specialist** programs (from 10.0 to 14.0 credits to complete) offer the deepest and most extensive study of the subject matter in question, and almost always represent the key area of degree studies. **Major** programs (from 6.0 to 8.0 credits to complete) offer a comprehensive study of the subject matter, and may be the primary area of degree studies, complemented with another Major or some Minor programs. **Minor** programs (4.0 credits to complete) offer a fundamental study of the subject matter and complement degree studies where a Major or a Specialist is also being pursued. For more information on what combination of programs ensure completion of a degree, and the allowable combinations of programs, refer to the HBA/HBSc or BCom Degree Requirements. ** (https://artsci.calendar.utoronto.ca/hbahbsc-requirements#program-requirements) *[content excerpted]* Students are required to: - Enrol in at least one and no more than three programs (of which only two can be Majors or Specialists), in the session in which they pass the course that brings them to a total of	(https://artsci.calendar.utoronto.ca/how-use-calendar#about-programs) **Specialist, Major, and Minor Programs** Programs offered by the Faculty that may be used to complete a degree can have the status of a Specialist, Major, or Minor. **Specialist** programs (from 10.0 to 14.0 credits to complete) offer the deepest and most extensive study of the subject matter in question, and almost always represent the key area of degree studies. **Major** programs (from 6.0 to 8.0 credits to complete) offer a comprehensive study of the subject matter, and may be the primary area of degree studies, complemented with another Major or some Minor programs. **Minor** programs (4.0 credits to complete) offer a fundamental study of the subject matter and complement degree studies where a Major or a Specialist is also being pursued. Effective September 2025, students can complete only one program type – Specialist, Major, or Minor – in any individual area, as referenced by the same final four-digit program code. For example, students can complete only one of a Specialist (ASSPE1013), Major (ASMAJ1013), or Minor (ASMIN1013) in Sociology. For more information on what combination of programs ensure completion of a degree, and the allowable combinations of programs, refer to the HBA/HBSc or BCom Degree Requirements. ** (https://artsci.calendar.utoronto.ca/hbahbsc-requirements#program-requirements) *[content excerpted]*

4.0 credits. See the Arts & Science Program Toolkit for details. • Meet any enrolment requirements for a program as stated in the Calendar. • The programs(s) completed determine whether a student receives the Honours Bachelor of Science (HBSc) or the Honours Bachelor of Arts (HBA) degree upon graduation. Each program entry lists the type of degree it leads to. For example, in the English section, the English Specialist listing is followed by "Arts program;" in the Mathematics section, the Math Major is followed by "Science program," etc. A student completing one Specialist in an Arts area would receive the HBA; a student completing one Specialist in a Science area would receive the HBSc.	Students are required to: • Enrol in at least one and no more than three programs (of which only two can be Majors or Specialists), in the session in which they pass the course that brings them to a total of 4.0 credits. See the Arts & Science Program Toolkit for details. • Meet any enrolment requirements for a program as stated in the Calendar. • The programs(s) completed determine whether a student receives the Honours Bachelor of Science (HBSc) or the Honours Bachelor of Arts (HBA) degree upon graduation. Each program entry lists the type of degree it leads to. For example, in the English section, the English Specialist listing is followed by "Arts program;" in the Mathematics section, the Math Major is followed by "Science program," etc. A student completing one Specialist in an Arts area would receive the HBA; a student completing one Specialist in a Science area would receive the HBSc. ○ Effective September 2025, students can complete only one program type – Specialist, Major, or Minor – in any individual area, as referenced by the same final four-digit program code. For example, students can complete only one of a Specialist (ASSPE1013), Major (ASMAJ1013), or Minor (ASMIN1013) in Sociology. ** The completion requirements of each relevant program will also be updated with the following templated statement: "Students completing [program] cannot also complete [program or programs]."

Rationale or Case for Action

You may wish to speak to when the policy or calendar statement was first created or last modified; past success/failure of the policy being modified. What has led to the decision to propose/modify the policy or calendar statement? Where appropriate, include relevant metrics and/or explain alignment with the division's academic plan.

Many advisors in both College Registrar's Offices and academic units believe that the proposed policy is already in effect. Among advisors who are, or who become, aware that this policy is not in fact in effect, for what reason students can complete more than one program type in the same area – whether or not both programs are required for graduation – has long been a topic of discussion.

Although the 12.0 distinct credit degree requirement is in place to ensure the breadth and variety of courses that students complete across programs required for graduation – of particular relevance for this proposal is the combination of one Major and two Minors – the completion of two program types in the same area when each of the programs is required for degree completion does not seem to follow the intention of the degree requirement.

The new Faculty-level policy will ensure consistency and equity across academic units, rather than individual academic units submitting proposals for program modifications with different phrasing, and will also strengthen the intention of the Faculty of Arts & Science's degree requirements.

Impact and Implementation of Proposed Change(s)

Indicate the positive and negative implications that need to be considered in the creation/modification of the policy or calendar statement. State the impact of the creation/modification of policy or calendar statement on the divisional student experience as well as potential effects on other University of Toronto divisions.

Students from the John H. Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design (Daniels Faculty) are eligible to enrol in Faculty of Arts & Science programs, therefore the proposed new policy will have an impact on both Faculty of Arts & Science students and Daniels Faculty students.

For example, a Daniels Faculty student who is completing a Major in Visual Studies, a Daniels Faculty program, and a Mathematics Major (ASMAJ1165), a Faculty of Arts & Science program, who enrols in March 2026 in a Mathematics Minor (ASMIN1165) cannot complete both the Mathematics Major and the Mathematics Minor.

The feedback provided on the proposal by the Daniels Faculty Registrar is included on page 7 of this document, in the 'Consultation Undertaken' section.

To ensure transparency for students, the policy will be referenced within the completion requirements of each relevant program in the Academic Calendar, as well as implemented in Degree Explorer.

The following templated statement will be added within each relevant program's completion requirements in the Academic Calendar:

"Students completing [program] cannot also complete [program or programs]."

Any previously existing statements within program completion requirements that reference the completion of more than one program type in the same area will be replaced with the new templated statement.

It is important that academic units do not refuse a student's request to enrol in a [limited enrolment program](#) only because they are already enrolled in another program type in the same area, in order to allow students to choose which program they will complete.

Degree Explorer is a central University of Toronto application used by the Faculty of Arts & Science to allow students to track their progress through their programs and degree, academic units to assess whether students have completed their program requirements before graduation, and the Office of the Faculty Registrar (OFR) to assess whether students have completed their overall degree requirements and are eligible to graduate.

New program offerings will be created in Degree Explorer to implement the new policy. Effective as of program enrolment in March 2026 and going forward, for a student who enrols in more than one program type in the same area, a program completion requirement in Degree Explorer that references the programs that cannot be combined will remain incomplete as long as the student remains enrolled in each program. If one or more of the programs are required for graduation, the student's overall degree requirements will also remain incomplete. If none of the programs are required for graduation, the student's degree requirements may become complete and they would be eligible to graduate, however none of the programs in the same area would be noted as completed on the student's transcript since the programs remained incomplete. Once the student [deletes](#) one (or more) of the programs that cannot be concurrently completed, the relevant completion requirement in the program in which they remain enrolled would change from incomplete to complete.

Academic units will have access to run reports on the completion requirement that references the programs that cannot be combined, in order to facilitate their ability to proactively contact students who are enrolled in more than one program type in the same area.

Consultation Undertaken

Please provide evidence of consultation with any stakeholders (e.g., students, staff, faculty members, alumni, U of T divisions, third-party stakeholders if applicable) to be affected by the creation/modification of policy or calendar statement. Indicate how stakeholders will be notified of the proposed/modified policy or calendar statement following approval.

In the Faculty of Arts & Science
Consultation has been undertaken with the following stakeholder groups:

December 11, 2024: Presentation at the Faculty Management Team (FMT) meeting; support was expressed for the proposal.

January 21, 2025: Presentation at the Social Sciences Undergraduate Curriculum Committee meeting; support was expressed for the proposal.

January 22, 2025: Presentation at the Humanities Undergraduate Curriculum Committee meeting; support was expressed for the proposal.

January 24, 2025: Presentation at the Sciences Undergraduate Curriculum Committee meeting; support was expressed for the proposal.

January 30, 2025: Presentation at the Arts & Science Registrarial Collaboration Committee (ARCC), the members of which include advisors in College Registrar's Offices; no objections were expressed concerning the proposal.

January 30, 2025: Presentation at the Arts & Science Communication & Consultation (C&C) meeting, the participants in which include advisors in College Registrar's Offices, departmental administrators, and Associate Chairs, Undergraduate; no objections were expressed concerning the proposal.

February 4, 2025: Presentation shared with the Association of Part-Time Undergraduate Students (APUS); no objections were put forward by this stakeholder group.

February 5, 2025: Discussion in a meeting of the Faculty Registrar and College Registrars; the College Registrars expressed support for the proposal.

February 14, 2025: Presentation to the Arts & Science Students' Union (ASSU); support was expressed for the proposal.

Across the University

The proposal was shared with the Registrars of, and registrarial colleagues at, UTM and the University of Toronto Scarborough (UTSC) on January 30, 2025. The feedback that was provided on the implementation of the proposal was taken into consideration and the approach to implementation was modified on the basis of this feedback.

The proposal was also shared with the Registrar of the Daniels Faculty on January 30, 2025. Since Daniels Faculty students can enrol in Faculty of Arts & Science programs, the proposed new policy would also be in effect for Daniels Faculty students enrolling in Arts & Science programs as of March 2026. The Registrar of the Daniels Faculty confirmed support for the proposal.

Policy Implementation

Please indicate when the proposed/modified policy or calendar statement will go into effect as well as where and how this will be implemented.

Effective Date

Pending the relevant governance approval, the proposed new policy will go into effect with the publication of the 2025-2026 Academic Calendar in May 2025. The Calendar will be in effect as of September 1, 2025; since the proposed new policy applies to, and will be coded within, the completion requirements of new Degree Explorer offerings of the relevant programs, the policy will be in effect on a going-forward basis as of program enrolment in March 2026 for all in-progress students. Any students enrolled prior to March 2026 in more than one program type in the same area will be permitted to complete the programs.

Implementation Timeline

Pending the relevant governance approval, the proposed new policy will be implemented in Degree Explorer in advance of the program enrolment period that begins in March 2026. New offerings of each relevant program will be created in Degree Explorer, and the completion requirement that references the programs that cannot be concurrently completed will be included in the coding for each program.

Consultation/Governance Pathway

Steps/Stakeholders	Date(s) of Sign-offs/Approvals
The Office of the Faculty Registrar, Faculty of Arts & Science	December 11, 2024
Office of the Dean, Faculty of Arts & Science	December 11, 2024
VPAP Sign-off	March 25, 2025
Arts & Science Council	April 16, 2025 (for approval)
University of Toronto Committee on Academic Policy and Programs	May 13, 2025 (for approval)