



**FOR RECOMMENDATION**

**PUBLIC**

**OPEN SESSION**

**TO:** Committee on Academic Policy and Programs

**SPONSOR:** Sioban Nelson, Vice-Provost, Academic Programs

**CONTACT INFO:** (416) 978-2122, [vp.academicprograms@utoronto.ca](mailto:vp.academicprograms@utoronto.ca)

**PRESENTER:** As above

**CONTACT INFO:**

**DATE:** December 4, 2013 for January 14, 2014

**AGENDA ITEM:** 1

**ITEM IDENTIFICATION:**

Proposal for the closure the Minor in French for Francophones, University of Toronto Scarborough

**JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:**

The Committee on Academic Policy and Programs approves the closures of undergraduate programs within an existing degree, as defined by the University of Toronto Quality Assurance Process. (*AP&P Terms of Reference, Section 4.4.b.i.*)

**GOVERNANCE PATH:**

1. UTSC Academic Affairs Committee [For Recommendation] (Tuesday, November 12, 2013)
2. **Committee on Academic Policy and Programs [For Approval] (Tuesday, January 14, 2014)**

**PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:**

**HIGHLIGHTS:**

This is a proposal to close the Minor in French for Francophones currently offered by the Centre for French and Linguistics at UTSC. The minor is the only program at UTSC in French for Francophones.

Enrolment in the freestanding minor has been low as reflected in the proposal. The Centre will continue to offer Specialist, Major, and Minor programs in French (B.A). These programs have always accommodated a wide range of students of varying levels of language competency. through the identification of the appropriate sequencing of courses. The Centre feels that native French speakers can best be accommodated through the same process. These students will be permitted to replace French Language practice courses with French literature, linguistics or culture courses. As a result, Francophone students who might have been interested in the Minor in French for Francophones, can pursue a very similar program by enrolling in the Minor Program in French.

Courses associated with the program will continue to be offered allowing students currently enrolled in the program to complete it in a timely manner. Any students will also have the option of meeting with the Undergraduate Assistant or the Associate Director (French) to discuss alternative program requirements if they wish.

The closure of this program will not have any negative impacts on faculty or staff as they will continue to support the remaining programs in French and Linguistics.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

None.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

BE IT RESOLVED

THAT the proposed closure of the Minor in French for Francophones, as described in the attached proposal from the University of Toronto Scarborough dated October 10, 2013, be approved, with an effective date of April 1, 2014 for the closure of admissions, and an anticipated program closure date of June 1, 2016.

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**DOCUMENTATION PROVIDED:**

Proposal: Program Closure for the Minor in French for Francophones, dated October 10, 2013



## University of Toronto Proposal for the Closure of an Existing Program (Graduate or Undergraduate)

<b>Closure Proposed:</b>	Minor in French for Francophones (B.A.)
<b>Department / Unit (if applicable):</b>	Centre for French and Linguistics
<b>Faculty / Academic Division:</b>	University of Toronto Scarborough
<b>Faculty / Academic Division contact:</b>	Annette Knott, Academic Programs Officer aknott@utsc.utoronto.ca
<b>Department / Unit contact:</b>	Sean Ramrattan
<b>Effective date program will be closed to new admissions:</b>	April 1 2014
<b>Effective date of full closure of program:</b>	June 1 2016
<b>Date of this version of the proposal:</b>	October 10, 2013 (Version 3)

## 1 Brief Summary

This is a proposal to close the Minor program in French for Francophones (B.A.) housed in the Centre for French and Linguistics.

The Centre does not offer any other programs in French for Francophones, however, it will continue to offer Specialist, Major, and Minor programs in French (B.A.). The existing Specialist and Major programs in French can, without changing their requirements accommodate students with varying levels of French proficiency including native French speakers. This is done in consultation with the Associate Director in French who can develop a sequence of courses based on the student's proficiency in French.

Francophone students who wish to complete a Minor program, and who might have been interested in the Minor in French for Francophones (B.A.), can pursue a very similar program by enrolling in the Minor Program in French (B.A.). These students will be permitted to replace French Language Practice courses with French literature, linguistics or culture courses. Each student's level of French proficiency will be assessed through meetings with the Associate Chair, or a faculty member within the department, and based on the results recommendations will be made for a sequence of courses to complete a Minor (B.A.) program.

## 2 Rationale

The Minor program in French for Francophones was originally established in 1997, through the Department of Humanities, in expectation of meeting the needs and interests of an increased number of francophone students on the UTSC campus. Unfortunately, interest in the program was lower than anticipated, and enrolment in the program has remained relatively low (there are currently 6 students enrolled in the program).

A more general Minor program in French (B.A.) is also offered at UTSC and enrolment here is very healthy, with 110 students enrolled. There is considerable overlap between the Minor in French and Minor in French for Francophones, and we see this, combined with the lower than anticipated number of francophone students on campus, as the primary reason for low enrolment in the French for Francophones Minor program.

This proposal to close the Minor in French for Francophones reflects the Centre's desire to offer fewer but stronger programs. The existing Specialist, Major, and Minor programs in French can, without changing their requirements, accommodate students with varying levels of French proficiency including native French speakers. This is done in consultation with the Associate Director in French.

Francophone students who wish to complete a Minor program, and who might have been interested in the Minor in French for Francophones (B.A.), can pursue a very similar program by enrolling in the Minor Program in French (B.A.). These students will be permitted to replace French Language Practice courses with French literature, linguistics or culture courses. Each student's level of French proficiency will be assessed through meetings with the Associate Chair, or a faculty member within the department, and

based on the results recommendations will be made for a sequence of courses to complete a Minor (B.A.) program, (i.e., FREC01H3 and FREC02H3 (the third year language practice courses) + 3.0 additional credits in French at the B-, C-, or D- level, with at least 1.0 credit at the C or D-level).

All courses currently forming the program requirements for this program will continue to be offered.

### 3 Impact on other programs/units of the proposed closure

There has been extensive discussion within the Centre for French and Linguistics regarding the place of this Minor program within the unit, and the consensus among faculty members and the Director is that the program should be closed.

We do not anticipate or foresee any negative impacts for the closure of this program on other programs or units. We do anticipate slightly higher enrolments in the Minor program in French (B.A.), but the Centre can accommodate this slight increase, without any undue impact on resources.

### 4 Student Accommodation

*Current enrolment showing breakdown by year in the program / option being closed*

**Table 1: Undergraduate**

STREAM	Session	Year of study			
		1	2	3	4
French for Francophones - Minor	As of Nov 1, 2010		2 <sup>1</sup>		1
French for Francophones - Minor	As of Nov 1, 2011			2	
French for Francophones - Minor	As of Nov 1, 2013	2	1		2
French for Francophones - Minor	As of Oct 11, 2013			2	

Students currently enrolled in the program can meet with the Undergraduate Assistant or the Associate Director (French) to discuss alternative program requirements if they wish. However, courses associated with the program will still continue to be offered and students currently enrolled in the program will be able to complete it with no disruption.

<sup>1</sup> Indicates number of students

Going forward, students interested in this area of study can meet with the Associate Chair (French) to discuss modifications to program requirements that will better suit their proficiency in French.

No new students will be admitted into the program once it is closed, effective April 1, 2014.

Students currently enrolled in this program will be notified of closure via email and an announcement will be made on our website.

## 5 Faculty / Staff Accommodation

The closure of this program will not have any negative impacts on faculty or staff as they will continue to support the remaining programs in French and Linguistics.

## 6 Governance Process

Levels of Approval Required	Date
Department/Unit Curriculum Committee	May 27, 2013
Decanal Sign-Off	October 14, 2013
Provostial Sign-Off	September 3, 2013
UTSC Academic Affairs Committee	
Submission to Provost's Office	
<b>AP&amp;P</b> (approval of program closures: undergrad specialists/majors; minors where there is no specialist of major; graduate fields or diploma, and collaborative programs)	
Inclusion in Annual report to Quality Council	