

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Academic Plan

2019–2024

UPDATED: APRIL 2020



Summary statement

Moving forward to 2024, the Sheridan learning community will invigorate our enviable organizational **character**; maintain and intensify our pursuit of **quality**; and continue to develop, implement and deploy tools that promote individual and organizational **accountability**.

Academic priorities

- » Build community by embodying Sheridan's unique character.
- » Advance quality teaching and deep learning through inclusive, learner-focused design and academic support services that embrace the diverse strengths of our students.
- » Cement our commitment to groundbreaking education by promoting and supporting scholarship, research and creative activities.
- » Fuel academic and career success by actively supporting the potential of students and pushing for unfettered access to ongoing learning.
- » Enhance the student experience through programs, services and space design.
- » Develop an operational culture of planning, accountability and continuous improvement.



Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

Message from the Dean

Born out of extensive consultation and collaboration with our faculty and staff, the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences' Academic Plan reflects our values and aspirations as a collegium committed to fostering a learning environment marked by creativity and innovation.

Our Faculty offers unique self-contained programming as well as cross-college curricula in Humanities and Creativity, Social and Life Sciences, and Communications and Literary Studies. With an approach marked by teaching excellence, curricular innovation and student focus, we offer our learners a holistic educational experience that enhances their creativity, critical thinking and problem-solving capacities, preparing them to meet the demands of a world that is ever-changing and to engage that world as active citizens and changemakers.

We believe in Humanities and Social Sciences education infused with opportunities for creative thinking and expression, community and industry engagement, and innovative experiential learning. The Faculty is comprised of passionate, highly talented and credentialed professors and staff, and our Academic Plan represents our shared commitment to building upon our tremendous accomplishments to date and to continually evolving our practices to the benefit of our students, our faculty and staff, and the community at large.

Sean McNabney

Dean, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

Land Acknowledgment Statement

Sheridan acknowledges that all of its campuses reside on land that for thousands of years before us was the traditional Territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, Anishinaabe Nation, Huron-Wendat and the Haudenosaunee Confederacy. It is our collective responsibility to honour and respect those who have gone before us, those who are here, and those who have yet to come. We are grateful for the opportunity to be working on this land.

Priority #1

Build community by embodying Sheridan's unique character.

As a reflection of our commitment to a unique character that is marked by a purposeful approach to creativity and innovation, FHASS will strive to advance creativity and creative thinking by facilitating community engagement and partnership opportunities that support innovative solutions, creative expression and knowledge mobilization.

Goals

» Advance creativity and creative thinking by facilitating community engagement and partnership opportunities that support innovative solutions, creative expression and knowledge mobilization.

Actions to achieve this initiative

- » Engage in creative facilitation for internal and external learning communities (e.g. CPS, CW, Storytelling, Facilitated Research).
- » Expand community/industry engagement efforts (e.g. OCF, City of Mississauga).
- » Build on partnerships to fuel creative exchange (e.g. CCAH, Halton Poverty Roundtable, Community Research Café).

Metrics

- » Number and scope of workshops; uptake; experience surveys.
- » Number and extent of community/industry engagements.
- » Number of partnerships, agreements, opportunities for faculty/students; impact on learning communities; geographical scope.



Priority #2

Advance quality teaching and deep learning through inclusive, learner-focused design and academic support services that embrace the diverse strengths of our students.

FHASS will strive to advance the development of intercultural competencies in the context of teaching and learning and to harmonize Indigenous ways of knowing within programming, to support Sheridan's approach to internationalization and commitment to Indigenous ways of knowing.



Goals

» Advance the development of intercultural competencies in the context of teaching and learning to support Sheridan's approach to internationalization.

» Support Sheridan's commitment to Indigenous ways of knowing.

Actions to achieve this initiative

- » Develop online internationalization modules, in partnership with CTL.
- » In collaboration with the Centre for Equity and Inclusion, support Sheridan's commitment to fostering interculturalism (e.g. workshops, cultural events, etc.).
- » Work with partners such as Student Affairs, Library Services and the International Centre to explore training opportunities for frontline staff.

- » Recruit faculty with Indigenous Studies expertise.
- » In consultation and alignment with the Centre for Indigenous Learning and Support (CILS), support Truth and Reconciliation initiatives by harmonizing Indigenous content/knowledge that focuses on Truth within existing Humanities and Social Sciences curricula.
- » Collaborate with the Centre for Indigenous Learning and Support on Indigenous initiatives.

Metrics

Goal 1

- » Internationalization: number of modules offered; number of professors who take them.
- » Intercultural: number of workshops/facilitations.
- » Impact satisfaction survey.

Goal 2

- » Successful hire(s); number of courses or curricula with harmonized Indigenous components.
- » Student/faculty surveys.
- » Number of collaborative Indigenous initiatives; attendance statistics; experience surveys.
- » Impact as determined by Indigenous knowledge keepers.

Priority #3

Cement our commitment to groundbreaking education by promoting and supporting scholarship, research and creative activities.

In support of our commitment to groundbreaking education, and to highlight our accomplishments in this context, FHASS will strive to enhance the recognition, dissemination and celebration of scholarship, research and creative activities (SRCA) within our Faculty.

Goals

» Enhance the recognition, dissemination and celebration of Scholarship, Research and Creative Activities (SRCA) within our Faculty.

Actions to achieve this initiative

- » Develop a strategic FHASS/SRCA narrative.
- » Advance the recognition and celebration of SRCA achievements in partnership with the Office of Undergraduate Research.
- » Enhance student experience through curricular and non-curricular SRCA opportunities.

Metrics

- » FHASS SRCA narrative.
- » Number of diverse mechanisms for SRCA recognition, dissemination and celebration.
- » Number/impact of opportunities for SRCA collaboration amongst professors/students.
- » Qualitative data: survey research to explore the impact of SRCA engagement on student development and overall learning experience.



Priority #4

Fuel academic and career success by actively supporting the potential of students and pushing for unfettered access to ongoing learning.

In keeping with our commitment to fuel academic and career success, FHASS will strive to cultivate, inspire and support the student experience through innovative academic advising and engagement strategies.

Goals

» Cultivate, inspire and support the student experience through innovative academic advising and engagement strategies.

Actions to achieve this initiative

- » Build on unique Faculty-led academic advising strategies and practices for self-contained programs (GAS, Pre-Health, CW&P, ESL, TESOL).
- » Enhance FHASS-led academic advising practices within the cross-college context (COMM, Degree Breadth, General Education).
- » Cultivate student appreciation for the Humanities and Social Sciences by showcasing impact of FHASS curriculum and research activities and through engagement with FHASS events (e.g. Sheridan Reads, Voices of South Asia).

Metrics

- » Usage of program virtual communities/web (number of views, duration, frequency).
- » Number of means by which cross-college information is distributed.
- » Number of mechanisms by which advising occurs within lifespan of program.
- » Satisfaction surveys.
- » Number of students attending FHASS-sponsored events; experience surveys.
- » Number of students participating in CCR/funded research projects.
- » Creativity certificate success data.



Priority #5

Enhance the student experience through programs, services and space design.

FHASS will strive to enhance the journey of our students by providing a differentiated learning experience marked by a commitment to creativity and innovation across disciplines and programs.

Goals

» Provide a differentiated learning experience, marked by a commitment to creativity and innovation across disciplines and programs.

Actions to achieve this initiative

- » Build on our strengths in creative programming.
- » Explore opportunities for distinct pathways and unique exposure to industry/community contexts.
- » Offer unique experiential learning opportunities.

Metrics

- » Number of industry/community partnerships; number of students who engage in community/industry events.
- » Experience surveys; measure the degree to which such experiences support growth for students across various domains (personal, academic and professional).
- » Research on transformation indicators for students engaged in creative programming.



Priority #6

Develop an operational culture of planning, accountability and continuous improvement.

To reflect our commitment to an operational culture of planning, accountability and continuous improvement, FHASS will strive to optimize planning processes within the Faculty and to build on and celebrate our diverse strengths and accomplishments.

Goals

- » Optimize planning processes in FHASS.
- » Build on and celebrate our diverse strengths and accomplishments.

Actions to achieve this initiative

- » Improve methods of cross-college planning to reflect the launch of new systems (e.g. SAL, DCU).
- » Streamline and standardize internal business processes with a continuous improvement mindset.
- » Enhance hiring processes for talent acquisition.
- » Recognize people's success.

Metrics

Goal 1

- » Planning efficacy; number of cross-institutional stakeholder engagements.
- » Success outcomes of communication with key stakeholders.
- » Efficiency, accuracy and timeline for standardized business processes (e.g. budgeting/forecasting, fiscal planning, variance analysis).

Goal 2

- » Diversity of stakeholder engagement in hiring processes; quality of innovative enhancements to candidate engagement; onboarding.
- » Usage statistics for online Faculty pages; number of professor citations/mentions in institutional, local and mainstream press.
- » Formal recognition mechanisms (e.g. awards, announcements).
- » Number of professors engaged in recognition events and initiatives.



GET IN TOUCH

Davis Campus

7899 McLaughlin Road
Brampton, Ontario L6Y 5H9
T 905-459-7533

Hazel McCallion Campus

4180 Duke of York Blvd.
Mississauga, Ontario L5B 0G5
T 905-845-9430

Trafalgar Road Campus

1430 Trafalgar Road
Oakville, Ontario L6H 2L1
T 905-845-9430



sheridaninstitute



sheridancollege



sheridan_college



sheridaninstitute



snapsheridan