

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY & IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Under Nipissing University’s Institutional Quality Assurance Process (IQAP) and the Ontario Universities Quality Assurance Framework (QAF), all programs are subject to a comprehensive review at least/at minimum every eight years to ensure that they continue to meet provincial quality assurance requirements and to support their ongoing rigour and coherence. This review was conducted under the terms and conditions of the IQAP approved by Senate on June 29, 2023 and ratified by the Quality Council on May 5, 2023

In academic years 2023-24 a program review was scheduled for Bachelor of Arts – Ancient Studies. This was the 3rd program review for this program. The timeline of the review was as follows.

### PROGRAM UNDER REVIEW

PROGRAM	SENATE APPROVAL DATE	PREPARED BY
Bachelor of Arts - Ancient Studies	June 14, 2024	Provost and Vice-President

### A. REVIEW TIMELINE

SELF-STUDY REVIEW TIMELINE	DATE
1. Self-Study Presented to AQAPC	June 23, 2023
2. Site Visit Conducted	October 24 –26, 2023
3. Reviewer’s Report Received	December 6, 2023
4. Department’s Response Received	January 19, 2024
5. Dean’s Response Received	March 2, 2024

### A. REVIEW SUMMARY

**Two external reviewers conducted the review. During the in-person site visit, the reviewers met with the following groups and individuals:**

Provost and Vice President, Academic

Dean and Associate Dean, Arts and Science

Internal Review Committee

Registrar and Associate Registrars

Current Students

Executive Director, Library Services and Manager, Archives and Access Services

Associate Vice President, Research, Innovation and Graduate Studies

**The academic programs offered by the Department which were examined as part of the review included**

Bachelor of Arts – Ancient Studies

**The follow program strengths were noted:**

Ancient Studies remains a vital component of the Humanities division and of Nipissing University. Because of the interdisciplinarity of the program, it links up with multiple units and enriches the experience of students. At Nipissing, Ancient Studies has adapted and adopted new approaches that strengthen these links further. These links provide potential for greater collaboration across the university community.

**Summary of review team recommendations:**

- Establish a regular position in ancient literature, performance, or reception to ensure program sustainability and broaden course offerings, potentially within the English or a related department.
- Restructure the program to be sustainable, possibly by limiting Ancient Studies to a double major or integrating it as a specialization within History or Anthropology, due to insufficient faculty for the current three-tiered structure.
- Allocate resources to allow the tenured faculty member to take sabbatical leave, with temporary replacements as needed, to maintain program quality and timely student completion.
- Consolidate upper-year language courses (Latin and Greek) to better use limited teaching resources while still preparing students for graduate studies.
- Stabilize course offerings by coordinating faculty and administration, reviewing current courses before creating new ones, removing courses not offered in five years, and considering support or reconsideration for the Digital Classics certificate.
- Provide more accessible administrative support to reduce faculty workload related to clerical and departmental tasks.
- Increase promotion of Ancient Studies, both internally and externally, including improving the website, highlighting unique program features, stressing double major/minor options, reviving the student club, and addressing communication gaps with recruitment.
- Enhance visibility of cross-listed courses in the Academic Calendar to promote interdisciplinarity and help students discover relevant electives more easily.

**Status:**

**Due date for 2 Year Follow-up Report: 2026**

**Date of next Cyclical Review: 2029**

## B. IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Below are the recommendations that require specific action as a result of the Review, along with the identification of the position or unit responsible for the action in question. Notwithstanding the position or unit identified as being responsible for specific recommendations, the Dean of the Faculty has the overall responsibility for ensuring that the recommended actions are undertaken

RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBLE MEMBER/UNIT	PROJECTED COMPLETION
Recommendation 7 - Raising the profile of Ancient Studies at Nipissing	As Ancient Studies has been enfolded into History, the Institution will need to be mindful of its marketing and communication. This will require coordination with History and with other programs who may see a value in contributing to the roster of ancient-minded curricula March 2025	March 2025
Recommendation 5 - Course offerings be stabilized	Course stabilization efforts are key and should reflect the strategic priorities of the University which include global antiquity (which is not currently a part of the program)	January 2025
Recommendation 4 - Current language offerings be restructured	Deans to undertake a review of how additional language offerings are presented and supported at Nipissing. This includes ancient languages, as well as the official languages of Canada.	April 30, 2025