

Divisional Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

Humanities, Sciences, Social Sciences

Terms of Reference

REVISED: February 6, 2025

PURPOSE

Divisional Undergraduate Curriculum Committees (hereafter “CC”) are advisory committees of the Vice-Principal, Academic & Dean. The function of each committee is threefold:

1. To receive and review proposals for minor modifications to existing undergraduate academic programs and courses under UTM authority;
2. To advise the CC Chair and Vice-Principal, Academic & Dean on the content, quality, and feasibility of proposed curricular changes, ensuring consistency with UTM’s mission, policies, and educational goals; and
3. To recommend proposed changes move forward for approval by the UTM Academic Affairs Committee (AAC), as appropriate.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the Humanities, Sciences, and Social Sciences CCs include:

- Divisional Undergraduate CC Chair (Vice-Dean, Undergraduate);
- Divisional Undergraduate CC Vice-Chair (Manager, Academic Programs, Reviews & Quality Assurance)
- The Chairs and Directors (or their designates) of the Departments/Institutes at UTM;
- Chief Librarian, or designate;
- Registrar, or designate;
- Curriculum Review Specialist; and
- Program & Curriculum Assistant (recording secretary; from the Office of the Dean).

RESPONSIBILITIES

- To provide recommendations on proposed undergraduate minor modifications to the CC Chair and Vice-Principal, Academic & Dean that ensure:
 - Logical sequencing and integration of content;
 - Coherence across curricular paths;
 - Currency and relevance of content;
 - Appropriate pedagogy;

- Consistent, valid, and reliable student assessment;
- Reasonable expectations of student workload;
- Feasibility of proposed changes within existing technological systems (e.g., ROSI, ACORN, Degree Explorer) and available resources;
- Appropriate reflection of current transcript notations and procedures; and
- Adherence to established UTM practice and policy.
- To provide consultative feedback on academic change and major modifications (e.g. new programs, program closures, altered program learning outcomes) at the undergraduate level.

PROCEDURE & PROCESS

I. MEETINGS

- The CC Chair will call and conduct the meetings.
- The CC will meet at least once over the academic year (approximately, November).
- Additional meetings may be called throughout the year at the discretion of the CC Chair.
- Notice of each meeting will be sent out a minimum of three weeks prior to the meeting date. Notice will also be posted on the Program & Curriculum website.
- Members may request to present *For Information* items related to undergraduate programs and curriculum at the meeting. This request must be made in writing to the CC Chair a minimum of one week in advance of the meeting date. Upon approval of the request by the CC Chair, the item will be added to the meeting agenda.
- A meeting agenda and CC Proposal Report will be prepared by the Program & Curriculum Unit in collaboration with the CC Chair and Vice-Chair. The agenda and CC Proposal Report will be posted online with notice circulated to all committee members a minimum of 2 days prior to the meeting date.
- The member or a faculty designate from each academic unit must be present at each sub-division curriculum committee meeting for which they offer program(s) and/or a significant number of courses.
- The Member or a faculty designate will present proposals for curriculum changes from their own unit, and offer feedback relevant to their area of expertise.
- Curriculum changes are to be entered into the Curriculum Management (CM) system approximately 4 weeks in advance of CC meetings, for presentation at the sub-division meeting(s).
- It is expected that wide consultation be sought by the proposing department/unit prior to submitting curriculum changes on CM. Consultations may include faculty, other academic units, divisions, and/or students.
- Proposals for major modifications that affect undergraduate programs must be brought forward for feedback to the appropriate CC as part of the consultation process.
- The financial and resource implications of curriculum changes will be reviewed separately by the Resource Implications Committee.
- Recommendations will proceed to the Vice-Principal, Academic & Dean based on a consensus of members present at the scheduled meeting.

II. ROLES

i. Chair

The Vice-Dean, Undergraduate is appointed by the Vice-Principal, Academic & Dean as the Chair and represents the Office of the Dean. The Chair ensures the management and effectiveness of the CC. The Chair reviews all curriculum change proposals and is responsible for ensuring that curriculum changes recommended for approval by the UTM AAC are satisfactory to the committee and consistent with UTM's mission, policies, and educational goals.

ii. Vice-Chair

The Manager, Academic Programs, Reviews & Quality Assurance from the Office of the Dean will serve as Vice-Chair of the CC. If the Chair is unable to attend a scheduled CC meeting, the Vice-Chair will serve as Chair. Additionally, the Vice-Chair serves as the Chair of the Undergraduate Curriculum Resource Implications Committee.

iii. Members

Department Chairs and Institute Directors are appointed to the CC within their sub-division(s) to represent their department/unit and present proposals for minor curriculum changes. Chairs/Directors can appoint a faculty member within their department/unit, normally an Associate Chair/Director, to the CC in their place. An administrative staff member may accompany the Chair or delegate to the CC meetings to provide support and assist with ensuring consistency with UTM policies and procedures. Members can request to present items *For Information* at the CC meeting. Such requests must be made in writing to the CC Chair a minimum of 48 hours before the meeting date. All CC members will offer feedback on proposals relevant to their area of expertise and recommend curriculum changes to move forward for approval by the AAC.

iv. Invited Guests

The CC Chair may invite additional faculty or staff to participate in CC meetings as guests. Guests may be invited to offer feedback in a specific area or present curriculum change proposals that lie outside the scope of the units within that sub-division. Some guests may have a standing invitation to attend all CC meetings.

III. MEETING REPORTS

- The CC Chair will review CC Proposal Report submissions to ensure they are consistent with the recommendations of the CC.
- Meeting notes will be recorded by the Program & Curriculum Assistant.

IV. GOVERNANCE & APPROVAL

- Where proposed changes are satisfactory to the CC, the Vice-Principal, Academic & Dean will submit to a future meeting of the AAC, a summary of the Divisional Reports and enter a motion for approval.