

# History and Latin

## Program Overview

[The Department of History, Latin, and Political Science](#) brings together three disciplines dedicated to understanding the diverse character and dynamics of our world, past and present. In written assignments and discussions students will be introduced to and build confidence in the use of key critical skills and concepts that will make them more attentive to the ways in which context shapes events and attitudes and determines 'who gets what, how, and when.'

While students can choose from a wide range of [history](#) courses, they will develop a common core of essential skills. Students will learn to read with understanding so they can critically evaluate conflicting evidence. In an increasingly complex world it is imperative that students/citizens know how to evaluate data, to understand the importance of context in shaping events and attitudes, and to think and reason in a logical manner. Through regular written assignments and discussion students will refine their communication skills as they learn about other worlds.

Langara College offers courses in [Latin](#) at the first and second year level. These courses introduce students to the basic structure of the language, and enable them to read selections from Latin prose and poetry. In addition, students can learn about the way Latin has affected the English language.

## Self-Study

History and Latin launched its program review in academic year 2022/23 with a Self-Study. The primary Self-Study writer was Niall Christie, Department Chair of History, Latin and Political Science. Additional support was provided by:

- Elizabeth Barbeau (Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences & Community Programs)
- Sandra Enns (Division Chair, Social Sciences, Faculty of Social Sciences & Community Programs)
- Sunita Wiebe (Director, Office of Academic Quality Assurance)
- Roshni Riar (Department Assistant, Office of Academic Quality Assurance)
- Pennie Poon (Manager, Office of Academic Quality Assurance)
- Institutional Research analysts

Data sources for the Self-Study included:

- Institutional Research-compiled student administrative data (e.g., headcounts, retention, satisfaction)
- Student survey
- Alumni survey
- Faculty survey

The Self-Study was completed in April 2023.

## External Review

History and Latin's external review took place on May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023. The External Review Team consisted of:

- Bryan Breguet, Department Chair, Department of Economics, Langara college (External Review Chair)
- Paige Raibmon, Ph.D, Professor, Department of History, University of British Columbia

- Tracey J. Kinney, Ph.D, Teaching Professor, Department of History, Kwantlen Polytechnic University

### Action Plan Goals

In response to the Self-Study and External Review, History, Latin and Political Science created a combined Action Plan with these goals:

- Goal 1: Ensure that supply of courses, at both the first and second-year level, meets student demand and needs regarding credential completion and transfer to optimise student pathways and retention.
- Goal 2: Expand the department's History offerings to meet student demand and needs, and thus ensure greater student retention and smoother pathways to transfer.
- Goal 3: Ensure that courses are offered in delivery modes that suit student and departmental needs and the College's mandate.
- Goal 4: Recruit more students into the department's programs, including through raising the profile of the department through public outreach activities.
- Goal 5: Explore the possibility of hiring in Indigenous History.
- Goal 6: Review Political Science program's goals and learning outcomes, in order to update them in alignment with the college's Strategic Plan and have them approved by EdCo.
- Goal 7: Ensure that faculty have the resources that they need to support teaching and learning.

### Examples of Post-Review Successes

Forthcoming.