I. EVALUATED PROGRAM

- Major in Medieval and Renaissance Studies (multidisciplinary)

II. EVALUATION PROCESS (OUTLINE OF THE VISIT)

- The Final Assessment Report on the aforementioned program was based on the following documents: (a) the self-study brief; (b) the report produced by the two evaluators following their visit to the campus; and (c) comments from the Dean of the Faculty of Arts Kevin Kee and Program Coordinator Andrew Taylor with regard to the report cited in (b).

- The external reviewers met with Vice-Provost, Academic Affairs Aline Germain-Rutherford; the Director, Office of Quality Assurance Mawy Bouchard; the Dean of the Faculty of Arts Kevin Kee; the former Vice-Dean, Programs Sylvie Lamoureux; Program Coordinator Andrew Taylor; several members of the current and past full-time teaching staff; and the administrator at the Department of History responsible for assisting with the program (Manon Bouladier). They also met with several students and received written communication from a part-time instructor.

III. SUMMARY OF REPORTS ON THE QUALITY OF PROGRAMS

This section aims to inform the unit of the strengths and challenges observed during the evaluation process so that it can better identify opportunities for program improvement.

1. EMPHASIZING STRENGTHS AND IDENTIFYING CHALLENGES

Strengths

- The program provides an important opportunity for interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary studies
- The program fosters the bilingual mission of the University and offers a unique perspective on two scholarly traditions
- The program provides students with a solid foundation to pursue graduate studies
- The program is flexible and allows students to choose the areas they wish to focus on
- The program covers a wide range of topics and issues through courses whose content is updated on an ongoing basis
- The program provides a dynamic space for interdepartmental discourse and is internationally oriented
The program boasts many highly committed professors from the Faculty of Arts whose expertise and research ensure the ongoing renewal of the program and expand its outreach.

**Challenges**

- Curriculum coherence
- Clarity and specificity of learning objectives
- Maintenance and reinforcement of culture of bilingualism
- Limited course offerings, especially in French
- Low enrolment in the French program, which compromises the bilingual culture
- Fragility of the governance structure, which relies too heavily on engagement of professors whose primary responsibilities are in their own departments
- Lack of support for students in terms of their educational experience
- Lack of a space dedicated to the program and the student association. Such a space would foster the development of identity based on interdisciplinarity and specific interests
- Limited student identification with the program and cohort

**IV. PROGRAM IMPROVEMENTS**

The program under evaluation meets the standards of the discipline. The following recommendations aim at maintaining or increasing the level of quality already achieved by the program.

**PROGRAM OBJECTIVES, LEARNING OUTCOMES, MANDATE, AND UNIVERSITY PLAN**

**Recommendation 1:** The CEUP recommends that program officials clarify the program’s learning objectives and outcomes in order to highlight the specific contribution of Medieval and Renaissance Studies to students’ general education.

**Recommendation 2:** The CEUP recommends that program officials examine the profile of prospective students for the program and consider the possibility of dividing the existing program into two sections (general and specialized).

**Recommendation 3:** The CEUP recommends that program officials consider new academic strategies to recruit Francophone students.

**CURRICULUM AND STRUCTURE**

**Recommendation 4:** The CEUP recommends that program officials analyze the curriculum and structure to make them more coherent.

**Recommendation 5:** The CEUP recommends that program officials review the description for the three MDV courses in the program to align them with the updated learning objectives and outcomes.

**Recommendation 6:** The CEUP recommends that the program committee consider making Latin language a requirement only for students looking to pursue graduate studies.

**TEACHING AND EVALUATION**

**Recommendation 7:** The CEUP recommends that program officials continue their initiatives to diversify their teaching and evaluation methods and to expose students to venues in the National
Capital Region (e.g., archives, museums, libraries) that provide access to sources and knowledge relevant to the program.

**Recommendation 8:** The CEUP recommends that instructors consider new evaluation methods, including methods that could contribute to students’ professional development.

**STUDENT EXPERIENCE AND GOVERNANCE**

**Recommendation 9:** The CEUP recommends that strategies be implemented to strengthen student identification with the program, for example by studying the possibility of designating one or more spaces for students and professors in the program.

**PHYSICAL SPACES AND RESOURCES**

**Recommendation 10:** The CEUP recommends that program officials reconsider program governance and coordination to maximize the program vision and multidisciplinary competencies.

**Recommendation 11:** The CEUP recommends that program officials and the Faculty jointly consider ways in which the Medieval and Renaissance Studies program can be linked to future initiatives promoting its inter-, trans- and multidisciplinary nature.

V. **LIST OF COURSES NOT OFFERED FOR MORE THAN THREE YEARS AND REASONS**

All of the courses have been offered at least once in the past three years.

VI. **CONCLUSION**

The Major in Medieval and Renaissance Studies is a high-quality and uniquely bilingual program that provides students with in-depth exposure to Medieval and Renaissance studies. The program also contributes to the University’s diversity and mission through its course offerings in French and its bilingualism standards. The program is faced with challenges in terms of enrolment and limited resources. Since its creation, the program has enjoyed the continuous engagement and dedication of its faculty members, who have demonstrated initiative and creativity, for example by developing international projects and by leading numerous workshops for students. The improvements proposed in this report are consistent with efforts made by program officials to increase student and faculty numbers and to maintain the distinctive qualities of the program, in conjunction with the bilingual nature of the curriculum and the access it provides to courses in English and in French.

Although the program was shown to have a number of strengths, quantifiable aspects are the main concern driving the actions to be taken before the next evaluation. Until those concerned make decisions and problems are resolved, the program will have to meet students’ immediate expectations. More effective communication and more frequent opportunities for interaction among students could enable program officials to mitigate dissatisfaction among some students by strengthening student and faculty identification with the program and by creating new opportunities for dialogue and collaboration regarding the future development of the program.

**Schedule and timelines**
A meeting will be organized with the program chair, the Faculty dean and vice-dean following the reception of the Final Assessment Report so that a plan of action can be put in place along with deadlines particular to each recommendation. A progress report that outlines the completed actions and subsequent results will be submitted to the Committee on the Evaluation of Undergraduate Programs on a date agreed upon at the time of the meeting regarding the action plan.

The next cyclical review will take place in no more than eight years, in 2025-2026. The self-study brief must be submitted no later than June 2025.
**ACTION PLAN**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculté / Faculty: Arts</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Département / Department: Études médiévales et de la Renaissance / Medieval and Renaissance Studies</td>
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<td>Programme(s) évalué(s) / Program(s) evaluated: Majeure en études médiévales et de la Renaissance (pluridisciplinaire) / Major in Medieval and Renaissance Studies (multidisciplinary)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cycle d’évaluation / Cyclical review period: 2017–2018</td>
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<td>Date: June 28, 2019</td>
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FOCUS AREA 1: OBJECTIVES

Recommendation 1: The SCEUP recommends that program officials clarify the program’s learning objectives and outcomes in order to highlight the specific contribution of Medieval and Renaissance Studies to students’ general education.

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<th>Deadline to Attain the Objective</th>
<th>Expected Results</th>
<th>Implementation Indicators</th>
<th>Progress on the actions taken: accomplished, to be sustained, to be continued, to be developed.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Promote learning objectives of the program internally (program participants) and externally (University catalogue and MDV sector webpage).</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>MDV Committee</td>
<td>Fall 2021</td>
<td>Better understanding of the specific nature of the program.</td>
<td>New description in catalogue and on program webpage</td>
<td>To be completed by the Evaluation Committee when reviewing the progress report</td>
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* PRIORITY LEVEL: 1. URGENT-IMMEDIATE ACTION REQUIRED 2. IMPORTANT-ACTION REQUIRED WITHIN 18 MONTHS MAXIMUM 3. ADVISED: DEVELOPMENT AND STRATEGY-ACTION TO BE DISCUSSED AND IMPLEMENTED BY MID-CYCLE (WITHIN FOUR YEARS)
**FOCUS AREA 1: OBJECTIVES**

Recommendation 2: The SCEUP recommends that program officials analyze the profile of prospective students interested in the program and consider the possibility of dividing the existing program into two sections (general and specialized).

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<td>Review by Coordinating Committee. Student survey</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>MDV Committee</td>
<td>Winter 2022</td>
<td>Rationale for two existing components and student responses</td>
<td>Coordinating Committee annual report</td>
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Focus Area 1: Objectives

Recommendation 3: The SCEUP recommends that program officials consider new academic strategies for recruiting Francophone students.

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<td>Develop activities for Francophone students (mini-courses, promotional videos)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>MDV Committee</td>
<td>June 2022</td>
<td>Increase number of Francophone students in the program</td>
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FOCUS AREA 2: CURRICULUM AND STRUCTURE

Recommendation 4: The SCEUP recommends that program officials analyze the curriculum and its structure to make them more coherent.

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<td>Updating and publishing curriculum and structure</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>MDV Committee</td>
<td>December 2021</td>
<td>Clarification of progress in program; post learning objectives online</td>
<td>New descriptions on program webpage</td>
<td>To be completed by the Evaluation Committee when reviewing the progress report</td>
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<td>Reform 2000-level courses</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>MDV Committee</td>
<td>June 2021</td>
<td>Standardize the courses and learning objectives around three subject areas likely to be repeated</td>
<td>Offer courses in rotation and alternate languages (cycle ending in 2024)</td>
<td>To be completed by the Evaluation Committee when reviewing the progress report</td>
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**FOCUS AREA 2: CURRICULUM AND STRUCTURE**

Recommendation 6: The SCEUP recommends that the program committee consider making the Latin language a requirement only for students looking to pursue graduate studies.

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<td>Discussion in MDV sector</td>
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<td>Rationale for keeping Latin in the curriculum</td>
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FOCUS AREA 3: TEACHING AND EVALUATION

Recommendation 7: The SCEUP recommends that program officials continue their initiatives to diversify their teaching and evaluation methods and to expose students to venues in the National Capital Region (e.g., archives, museums, libraries) that provide access to sources and knowledge relevant to the program.

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<td>Review the format of MDV2000 courses</td>
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<td>MDV Committee</td>
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<td>Create a suggested template for instructors, with each course including four to five practical workshops (e.g., paleography, virtual museum) and four to five lectures by guest professors</td>
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FOCUS AREA 3: TEACHING AND EVALUATION

Recommendation 8: The SCEUP recommends that instructors consider new evaluation methods, including methods that could contribute to students’ professional development.

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FOCUS AREA 4: STUDENT EXPERIENCE AND GOVERNANCE

Recommendation 9: The SCEUP recommends that strategies be implemented to strengthen student identification with the program, for example by studying the possibility of designating one or more spaces for students and professors in the program.

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<td>Make the program more visible and strengthen identification with the program</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>MDV Committee and Office of the Dean</td>
<td>2023</td>
<td>Designate a room for the program; host ad hoc activities for participants (e.g., lectures, meetings).</td>
<td>Room identified Activity calendar</td>
<td>To be completed by the Evaluation Committee when reviewing the progress report</td>
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**FOCUS AREA 5: SPACE AND RESOURCES**

Recommendation 10: The SCEUP recommends that program officials reconsider the governance and coordination of the program in order to capitalize on the vision and multidisciplinary competencies.

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<td>Ensure that a range of representatives of the discipline continue to sit on the Coordinating Committee; consult the Committee regularly</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>MDV Committee</td>
<td>June 2021</td>
<td>Regular meetings of Coordinating Committee; consultation at general assembly</td>
<td>Minutes of Committee and general assembly meetings</td>
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<td>Discussions with the Office of the Dean to showcase the value of multidisciplinary programs</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>MDV Committee</td>
<td>2023</td>
<td>Greater visibility for MDV program</td>
<td>Program involvement in Faculty initiatives to be specified</td>
<td>To be completed by the Evaluation Committee when reviewing the progress report</td>
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Faculté / Faculty: Arts

Programme(s) évalué(s) / Program(s) evaluated: Majeure en études médiévales et de la Renaissance (pluridisciplinaire) / Major in Medieval and Renaissance Studies (multidisciplinary)

Evaluation period: 2017–2018

Program / Department Lead: Kouky Fianu

Signature

Date: July 26, 2021

Dean of the Faculty:

Signature

Date: August 5, 2021