Ontario Council of Academic Vice-Presidents’ Undergraduate Degree Level Expectations

*With Revisions specific to Queen’s University*

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|  | Baccalaureate/bachelor’s degree This degree is awarded to students who have demonstrated/are able to: | Baccalaureate/bachelor’s degree: honours This degree is awarded to students who have demonstrated the following: |
| 1. Depth and Breadth of Knowledge | a) General knowledge and understanding of many key concepts, methodologies, theoretical approaches and assumptions in a discipline;b) Broad understanding of some of the major fields in a discipline, including, where appropriate, from an interdisciplinary perspective, and how the fields may intersect with fields in related disciplines;c) Ability to gather, review, evaluate and interpret information relevant to one or more of the major fields in a discipline;d) Some detailed knowledge in an area of the discipline;e) Critical thinking and analytical skills inside and outside the discipline; f) Ability to apply learning from one or more areas outside the discipline;g) Ability to identify the potential for inequities in the production and dissemination of knowledge; andh) Ability to recognize diverse worldviews, ways of knowing, abilities, and experiences, including Indigenous perspectives. | a) Developed knowledge and critical understanding of the key concepts, methodologies, current advances, theoretical approaches and assumptions in a discipline overall, as well as in a specialized area of a discipline;b) Developed understanding of many of the major fields in a discipline, including, where appropriate, from an interdisciplinary perspective, and how the fields may intersect with fields in related disciplines;c) Developed ability to: i) gather, review, evaluate and interpret information, and ii) compare the merits of alternate hypotheses or creative options, relevant to one or more of the major fields in a discipline;d) Developed, detailed knowledge of and experience in research in an area of the discipline;e) Developed critical thinking and analytical skills inside and outside the discipline;f) Ability to apply learning from one or more areas outside the discipline. g) Ability to examine the potential for inequities in the production and dissemination of knowledge; andh) Ability to explore diverse worldviews, ways of knowing, abilities, and experiences, including Indigenous perspectives. |
| 2. Knowledge of Methodologies | An understanding of methods of enquiry or creative activity, or both, in their primary area of study that enables the student to: a) evaluate the appropriateness of different approaches to solving problems using well established ideas and techniques; b) devise and sustain arguments or solve problems using these methods; and c) describe limitations of methods they use, recognizing potential inequities, biases, or implicit assumptions.  | An understanding of methods of enquiry or creative activity, or both, in their primary area of study that enables the student to: a) evaluate the appropriateness of different approaches to solving problems using well established ideas and techniques; b) devise and sustain arguments or solve problems using these methods; c) describe and comment upon particular aspects of current research or equivalent advanced scholarship; andd) describe limitations of methods they use, recognizing potential inequities, biases, or implicit assumptions.  |
| 3. Application of Knowledge | The ability to review, present, and interpret quantitative and qualitative information to:a) develop lines of argument; b) make sound judgments in accordance with the major theories, concepts and methods of the subject(s) of study; andThe ability to use a basic range of established techniques to: a) analyze information;b) evaluate the appropriateness of different approaches to solving problems related to their area(s) of study; c) propose solutions; d) make use of scholarly reviews and primary sources; ande) explore problems from local and global perspectives. | The ability to review, present and critically evaluate quantitative and qualitative information to:a) develop lines of argument;b) make sound judgements in accordance with the major theories, concepts and methods of the subject(s) of study; c) apply underlying concepts, principles, and techniques of analysis, both within and outside the discipline; d) where appropriate use this knowledge in the creative process; e) explore the complex interactions between individual, society, economy, environment, and/or technology; andThe ability to use a range of established techniques to: a) initiate and undertake critical evaluation of arguments, assumptions, abstract concepts and information;b) propose solutions;c) frame appropriate questions for the purpose of solving a problem;d) solve a problem or create a new work;e) make critical use of scholarly reviews and primary sources; and f) explore problems from local and global perspectives. |
| 4. Communication Skills | The ability to communicate information, arguments, and analyses: a) accurately and reliably; b) orally and in writing; andc) to a broad range of audiences in ways that are accessible and inclusive.  | The ability to communicate information, arguments, and analyses: a) accurately and reliably; b) orally and in writing; andc) to a broad range of audiences in ways that are accessible and inclusive. |
| 5. Awareness of Limits of Knowledge | An understanding of the limits to their own knowledge and how this might influence their analyses and interpretations. | a) An understanding of the limits to their own knowledge and ability, and an appreciation of the uncertainty, ambiguity and limits to knowledge and how this might influence analyses and interpretations; andb) Commitment to ongoing learning by identifying gaps, setting personal learning goals, and advancing knowledge. |
| 6. Autonomy and Professional Capacity | Qualities and transferable skills necessary for further study, employment, community involvement and other activities requiring:a) the exercise of personal responsibility and decision-making;b) working effectively with others;c) the ability to identify and address their own learning needs in changing circumstances and to select an appropriate program of further study;  d) behaviour consistent with academic integrity and social responsibility; ande) behaviour consistent with exercising intercultural sensitivity. | Qualities and transferable skills necessary for further study, employment, community involvement and other activities requiring:a) the exercise of initiative, personal responsibility and accountability in both personal and group contexts;b) working effectively with others;c) decision-making in complex contexts;d) ability to manage their own learning in changing circumstances, both within and outside the discipline and to select an appropriate program of further study;e) behaviour consistent with academic integrity and social responsibility; andf) behaviour consistent with exercising intercultural sensitivity. |