

**ASSOCIATED STUDIES POLICY**

<b>Policy Name:</b> Associated Studies	<b>Responsible Owner:</b> Vice President, Academic and Provost	<b>Created:</b> 2006 Dec
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**A. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that Douglas College maintains disciplinary integrity and distinction and to establish principles to facilitate cross-departmental development and delivery of curriculum, including within, across, and beyond traditional program/discipline boundaries. Cross-disciplinary and interdisciplinary teaching and learning will be designed and delivered in an atmosphere of co-operation, consultation, and mutual respect for the integrity and expertise of disciplines.

**B. SCOPE**

- **ACADEMIC STUDENTS**
- **FACULTY**
- **DEANS**
- **DIRECTORS**
- **EDUCATION COUNCIL**

**C. DEFINITIONS**

1. Associated Studies are curriculum supplied by one area in the College at the request of another area to achieve specific learning outcomes. Associated Studies may be one of three types:
  - a. **Open courses:** Existing courses that meet the educational needs of the requesting area.
  - b. **Adapted courses:** Sections of existing courses (where the course number remains unchanged) with some curriculum modifications to make readings, assignments, and, if applicable, modes of delivery relevant to the requesting area’s learning outcomes and other educational requirements.



- c. **Exclusive courses:** Courses designed specifically for a requesting area to meet an identified need for new curriculum.
- d. **DDP:** This initialism stands for “Department, Discipline, or Program.”

#### D. POLICY STATEMENTS

##### 1. Disciplinary Integrity

Douglas College recognizes the disciplinary expertise of its faculty and the disciplinary integrity of DDPs. Curriculum development and delivery in a defined disciplinary area will be led by faculty in the corresponding DDP. Areas wishing to motivate or incorporate curriculum within another discipline’s boundaries will rely on this policy and the Associated Studies (Implementation of) SOP to ensure that the disciplinary integrity of each DDP is ensured. Authority for offering an Associated Studies course will rest with the supplying DDP.

##### 2. Duty to Consult

As part of any curriculum development or delivery that occurs outside, across, or beyond traditional disciplinary boundaries, any area initiating or modifying such curriculum has a duty to consult with any DDP whose expertise is foremost in the relevant discipline. In most cases, that consultation will lead to the application of this policy and SOP or an acknowledgment that the academic activity does not cross into the disciplinary boundary of another DDP. Following initial consultation, the Dean(s)/Director(s) for the two areas concerned will need to agree to the establishment of an Associated Studies course.

In the case of adapted and exclusive courses, all Departments and FECs/DACs involved in this collaboration should have an opportunity to provide input into the curriculum guidelines which must be approved by all relevant FECs/DACs.

##### 3. Funding and Timetabling

Through the Deans(s)/Director(s) for the two areas, issues of funding approval and timetabling must be accounted for prior to establishing an Associated Studies course. (Please see the Associated Studies (Implementation of) SOP for additional information.)

#### E. PROCEDURES

See [Standard Operating Procedures](#) (for internal users)

- Associated Studies (Application of)

#### F. SUPPORTING FORMS, DOCUMENTS, WEBSITES, RELATED POLICIES

[Educational Policies](#)

- Curriculum Development and Approval Policy



**G. RELATED ACTS AND REGULATIONS**

N/A

**H. RELATED COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT CLAUSES**

N/A