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: |
| 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; and  h) 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; and  h) Ability to explore diverse worldviews, ways of knowing, abilities, and experiences, including Indigenous perspectives. |
| 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; and  d) describe limitations of methods they use, recognizing potential inequities, biases, or implicit assumptions. |
| 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; and  The 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; and  e) 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; and  The 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. |
| Communication Skills | The ability to communicate information, arguments, and analyses:  a) accurately and reliably;  b) orally and in writing; and  c) 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; and  c) to a broad range of audiences in ways that are accessible and inclusive. |
| 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; and  b) Commitment to ongoing learning by identifying gaps, setting personal learning goals, and advancing knowledge. |
| 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; and  e) 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; and  f) behaviour consistent with exercising intercultural sensitivity. |