

UWinnipeg Indigenous Course Requirement (ICR) Course Registration and Capacity Analysis: End of Year 5

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Introduction

Academic year 2020-21 was the fifth year of the Indigenous Course Requirement (ICR) for undergraduate students at UWinnipeg. As described in the UWinnipeg academic calendar: “Students first enrolling in Fall Term 2016 or later must take at least 3 credit hours from a list of courses approved by Senate. They may choose from a number of courses in which the greater part of the content is local Indigenous material — derived from or based on an analysis of the cultures, languages, history, ways of knowing or contemporary reality of the Indigenous peoples of North America”.

This document provides a summary of the analysis on ICR course registrations for the 2020-21 academic year with comparisons to prior academic years.

Method

Course registrations from the 2020-21 academic year (September 1, 2020 – August 31, 2021) were analyzed. The data was pulled as of August 31, 2021. Courses were excluded from the analysis if they were cancelled or if they were cross-listed with graduate courses and no undergraduate students were registered. Also, Faculty of Education courses and undergraduate students enrolled in the Faculty of Education were excluded, as the Faculty of Education offers a mandatory course for their students that fulfills the ICR requirement.

Several ICR-approved courses are cross-listed between departments. Cross-listing is typically done to expand the reach of a course (e.g., by cross-listing a course in both History and Women’s & Gender Studies, the course description may be viewed in either department listing and students can register through either listing). However, the total number of registrations are typically allocated to the primary course owner (usually the department the course instructor is housed) to accurately count course registrations.

Please note the information in this report from academic years 2016-17 to 2019-20 was obtained from previous ICR reports.

Definitions

Course: A course is the unit of instruction recorded on the student transcript with a final letter grade. Courses can have different credit hours. At UWinnipeg, a course is typically either 3-credit hours (offered over the course of one term; 3 hours of instruction per week) or 6-credit hours (offered over the course of two terms; 3 hours of instruction per week).

Section: Multiple offerings of a course in a given term are referred to as sections. Sections of a course may be taught by the same instructor or by different instructors.

Registration: Registration is the process that reserves seats in particular classes for eligible students. A student who officially enrolls in a course section is one registration for that section. A student typically registers in multiple courses per term.

Capacity: Capacity refers to the maximum number of registrations available for a section of a course. The capacity of a course section is set either by the room capacity (e.g., the number of seats available in a given classroom) or for pedagogical reasons (e.g., an honours level seminar course that requires extensive student participation may have a lower capacity than a first-year level introductory course).

ICR Cohort: Each year, a cohort of students who are required to fulfill the ICR is created. Each cohort consists of first admission undergraduate students who began their studies at any time during that academic year. As noted earlier, undergraduate students from the Faculty of Education are excluded from the analysis. Each cohort is tracked year over year.

Results

Number of ICR Courses and Sections

As of September 2021, there were 70 courses approved by the Senate as fulfilling the ICR; 59 in the Faculty of Arts, nine in the Faculty of Science, one in the Faculty of Business and Economics, and one in the Faculty of Education. Six additional courses in the Faculty of Arts are in the process of being approved.

In the 2020-21 academic year, 80 sections¹ from 39 ICR-approved courses ran, which is an increase of 14 sections and two courses from the 2019-20 academic year. Twenty-seven (27) courses were cross-listed in one or more departments; in total, there were 107 listings of ICR sections in the 2020-21 Timetable. Eight sections (or 6 courses) required a pre-requisite course. Table 1 shows the number of ICR sections offered by term over time.

¹ There were 81 sections; however, practically, there were 80 sections. HIST-2510-758 was originally scheduled to be taught in the 1L10 studio. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, an operational decision was made to not allow students into 1L10. The Scheduling Office timetabled these sections with an n = 0 capacity (as they normally would) to ensure the studio times for each class appeared in their room booking software (25Live). A comment was placed on all 758 sections directing students to register for the companion section. Thus, although HIST-2510-758 was listed in the Timetable, no one was registered in it; students were directed to register in HIST-2510-001 instead. This information was obtained from Shauna L. Mackinnon in Scheduling.

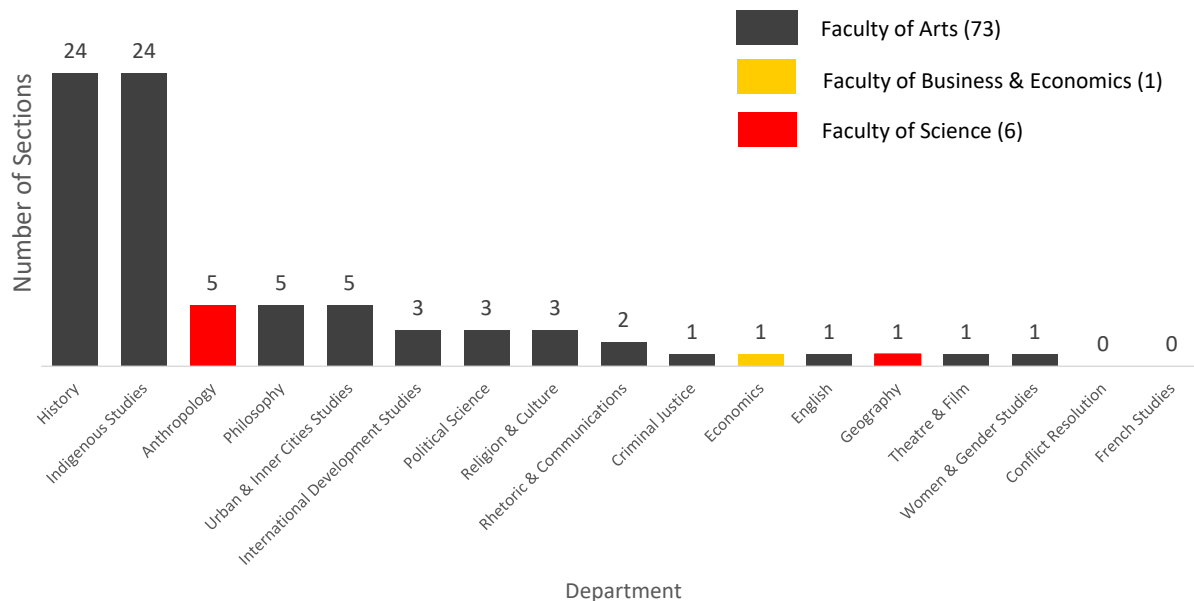
Table 1. Number of ICR Sections Offered.

Term	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Fall	21	26	31	28	33
Fall-Winter	0	0	2	2	3
Winter	20	28	29	26	28
Spring	5	6	9	10	16
Total Sections	46	60	71	66	80
Total Courses	27	31	42	37	39

Sections by Department

Figure 1 presents the number of ICR sections by department in the 2020-21 academic year. The majority of ICR sections were offered through the History (30%) and Indigenous Studies (30%) departments. As noted above, there was an increase in the overall number of courses and sections offered in 2020-21 compared to the previous year. This is due to more sections in 2020-21 by Criminal Justice (1), History (6), Indigenous Studies (5), International Development Studies (2), Philosophy (3), and Rhetoric & Communications (2). However, there were fewer sections offered by English (2), French Studies (1), Religion & Culture (1), and Urban & Inner Cities Studies (1).

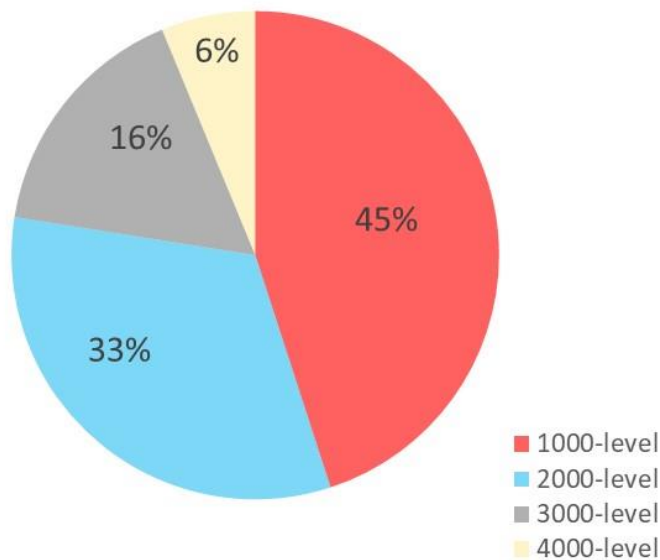
Figure 1. Number of ICR Sections by Department in the 2020-2021 Academic Year.



**Cross-listed courses are not represented in this graph.*

As shown in Figure 2, 45% of the ICR sections (36) were first-year courses; more than half (53%) were offered by Indigenous studies (19 sections) and more than one-third 36% (13 sections) were offered by History. There were 26 sections of ICR courses offered at the second-year level; History and Philosophy offered the most (5 sections). Thirteen sections of ICR courses were offered at the third-year level; again, History offered the most (5 sections). There were five sections of fourth-year level courses; two in Indigenous Studies and one in Criminal Justice, English, and History.

Figure 2. Percentage of ICR Sections by Course Level.



Instructors

Forty-one instructors taught ICR courses in the 2019-20 academic year (compared to 37 in 2019-20, 39 in 2018-19, and 37 instructors in 2017-18). Table 2 shows that the same number of ICR sections in 2020-21 were taught by Regular Faculty (48.1%) as by Contract Academic Staff (48.1%). The percentage of sections taught by Contract Academic Staff is higher than previous years (33.3% in 2019-20, 28.2% in 2018-19, 46.7% in 2017-18, and 35.1% in 2016-17).

Table 2. Status of Faculty who Taught Sections of ICR Courses in the 2020-21 Academic Year.

Status	Frequency	Percent
Regular Faculty*	39	48.1
Contract Academic Staff*	39	48.1
Term Faculty	0	0
CMU/Menno Simons	2	2.5

*One 6-credit hour course was co-taught by a RAS and a CAS. This course was allocated to the Regular Faculty category.

The percentage of Contract Academic Staff who taught ICR sections varied by department. The following departments had 100% of their ICR sections taught by Contract Academic Staff: Philosophy (5 sections), Urban and Inner City Studies (5 sections), Political Science (3 sections), and Theatre and Film (1 section). Two thirds (66.7%) of the sections of ICR courses in the Indigenous Studies department (16 sections) were taught by Contract Academic Staff. One third or less of the sections in International Development Studies (1 section), Religion & Culture (1 section), and History (7 sections) were taught by Contract Academic Staff.

Section Capacity, Registrations, and Registrations by ICR Cohorts

In 2020-21, the total capacity for the 80 sections that ran was 3234. There were 2537 students registered in these sections (78% full). This was an increase in the total capacity and number of registrants from all the prior years (see Figure 3). If it were not for decreases in academic year 2019-20, the trend would be that both the capacity and number of registrants was increasing. Interesting, for the last three academic years, 79% of the spots overall in ICR sections have been filled.

Figure 3. Number of Registrants in and Global Capacity of ICR Courses over Time.

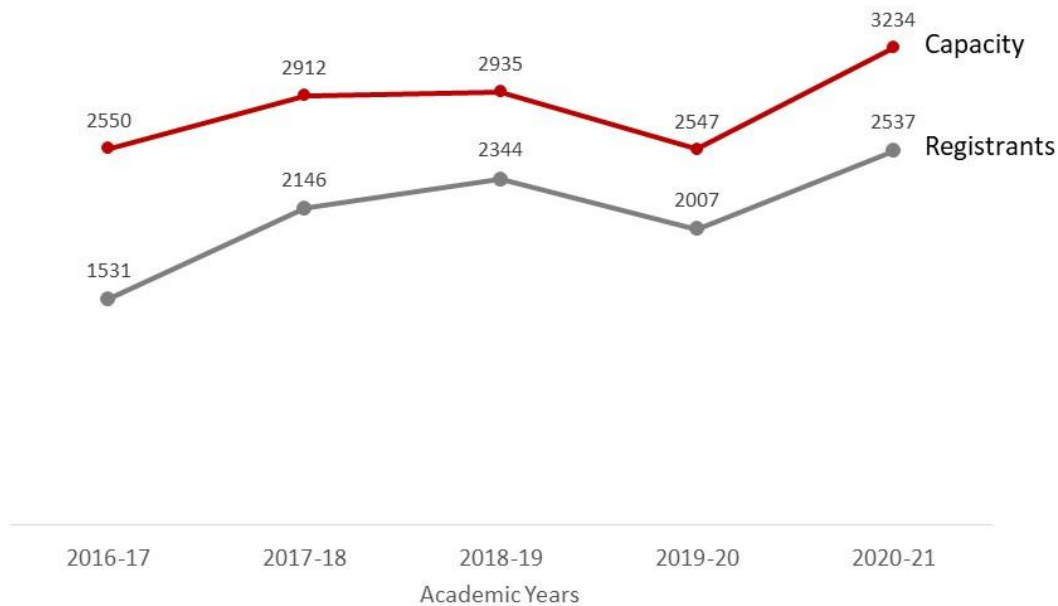


Figure 4 shows the breakdown of capacity, registrations, and number of students by department for ICR courses. History had the largest capacity (1053 seats; 33% of the total ICR capacity) and Indigenous Studies offered the second most seats (1008 seats; 31% of the total ICR capacity). Indigenous Studies and History filled 79% of their seats, and had approximately one-third of all the registrations in ICR courses.

Registrations in ICR-approved courses includes both students who needed to fulfill the ICR requirement and students who did not need to fulfill the ICR (due to beginning their studies at UWinnipeg prior to the 2016-17 academic year or students who have already completed the ICR). In Figure 4, the difference between the grey bars (total registrations) and red bars (registrations by ICR cohorts) represents the number of students who took an ICR course, but did not have to for the ICR credit.

Figure 4. Total Course Capacity, Number of Registrations, and Number of ICR Cohort Students by Department in the 2020-21 Academic Year.

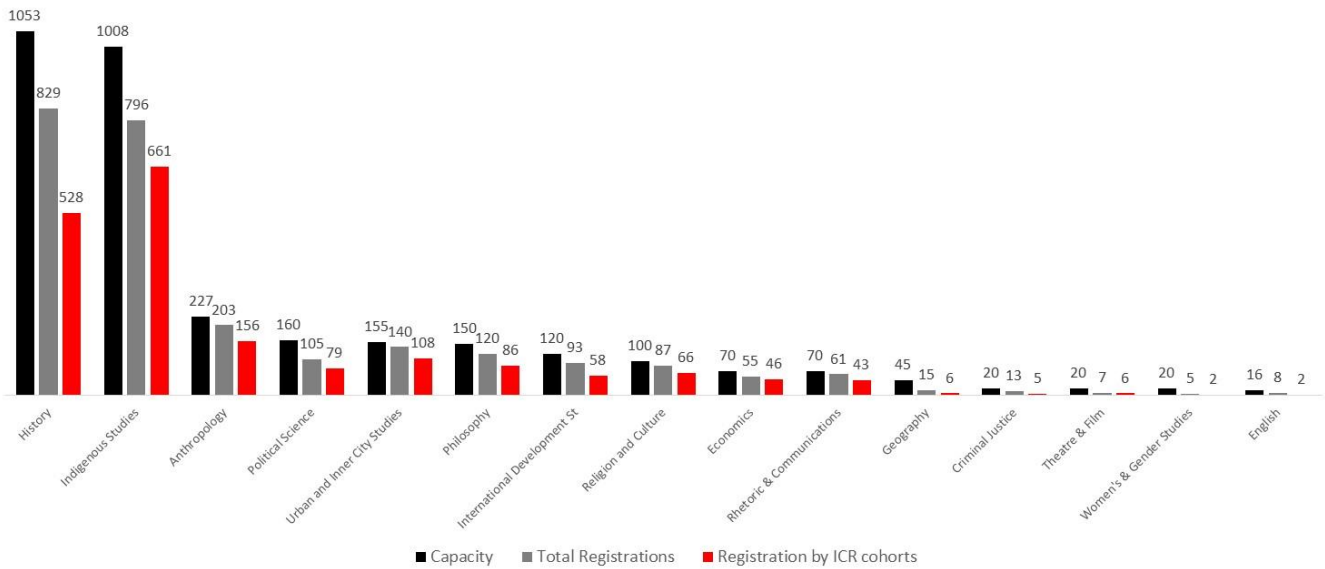
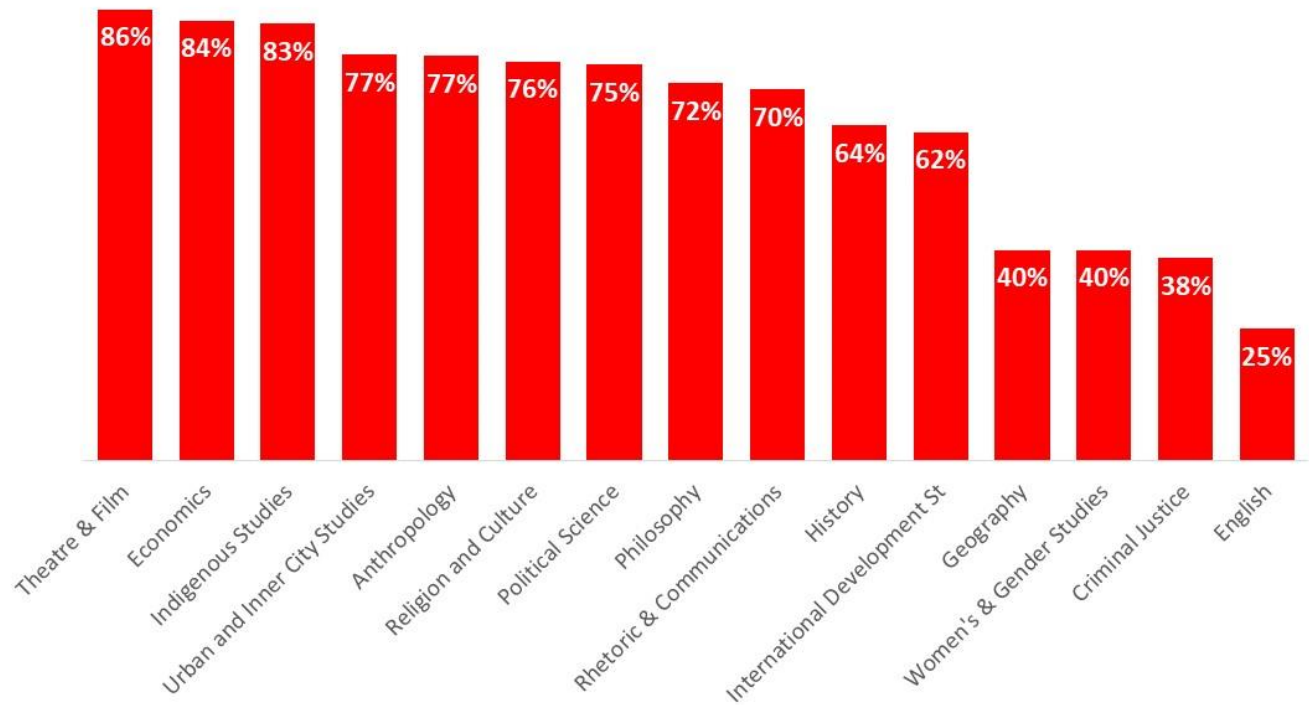


Figure 5 converts the information from Figure 4 into percentages, representing the proportion of total registrations in ICR sections filled by students needing to complete the ICR. ICR students comprised between 25% and 86% of the registrants in ICR-sections. In all departments, except Geography, Women’s & Gender Studies, Criminal Justice, and English, more than half of the registrants were students needing the ICR.

Figure 5. Percentage of ICR Cohort Students among all Registrants by Department in the 2020-21 Academic Year.



Number of Unique Students Fulfilling the ICR in 2020-21

Analyzing course registrations allows us to obtain an accurate picture of course capacity. The analysis above suggests that in 2020-21 UWinnipeg had adequate capacity overall in ICR sections to fill the demand². However, it is important to note that a single student may register in more than one course that fulfills the ICR. Thus, it is important to examine the unique number of students from the 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20, and 2020-21 ICR cohorts who fulfilled the ICR requirement.

Table 3 shows that a total of 1388 unique students completed the ICR during the 2020-21 academic year. This table only considers registrations during the 2020-21 academic year. Although the 2016-17 cohort has the highest percentage of students who completed the ICR

² During a presentation of the 2019-20 ICR report, we heard from instructors that they often have long waitlists. When the data is pulled for this report, all of the waitlists have been cleared. To respond to the instructors' comments, Institutional Analysis tracked waitlists in during the registration period for the 2021-22 academic year. A summary of our observations will be included in next year's ICR report.

(42.9%), students from this cohort make up the smallest percentage of students who took an ICR course in 2020-21 (4.3%).

Table 3. Number (%) of Students who Needed and Completed the ICR in 2020-21.

Cohort Year	Number of Students who Registered in 2020-21 who Needed the ICR	Number of Students who Completed the ICR in 2020-21	Percentage of Students from each Cohort who completed the ICR ^a	Percentage of Students who Completed the ICR from each Cohort ^b
2016-17	140	60	42.9	4.3
2017-18	315	122	38.7	8.8
2018-19	787	317	40.3	22.8
2019-20	1311	425	42.4	30.6
2020-21	2526	464	18.4	33.4
Total	5079	1388		

Note.

^a% = (number of students who completed the ICR in 2020-21) / (number of students who registered in 2020-21 who needed the ICR) * 100

^b% = (number of students who completed the ICR in 2020-21) / 1388 * 100

As mentioned above, some students may register in multiple ICR courses. In total, there were 1852 instances of the 1388 unique students completing ICR courses in 2020-21.³ For example, there were 464 unique students in the 2020-21 cohort who completed an ICR course, but there were 653 instances of this cohort completing an ICR course.

As of August 31, 2021, 4984 students have completed the ICR at UWinnipeg. Of the students who have completed the ICR, 941 have graduated (as of August 31, 2021); these are students who needed the ICR as they first enrolled at UWinnipeg in 2016-17 or later.

Estimated Number of Students Registering in ICR courses

For planning purposes, table 4 shows the actual registration numbers for the 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20, and 2020-21 academic years by ICR cohort, along with estimated registrations for 2021-22 and 2022-23. The estimated number of students completing the ICR in future years were revised based on predicted values from a linear regression model⁴. This table

³ 69 instances for the 2016-17 cohort, 185 for the 2017-18 cohort, 371 for the 2018-19 cohort, 574 for the 2019-20 cohort, and 653 for the 2020-21 cohort

⁴ The estimated numbers of students expected to complete the ICR in future years are close to the values predicted by a linear regression model with enrollment year (i.e., 1st year, 2nd year, 3rd year, etc.) (x_1) and the number of students who registered who needed the ICR (x_2) as predictors. The regression equation is $y' = 339.46 - 62.83x_1 + 0.10x_2$. This model accounted for 91.4% of the variation in the number of students who completed the ICR in years 2016-17 to 2020-21 (y).

suggests there will be a point of stability (around 2020-21) where approximately 1300 students register for an ICR course in order to fulfil their ICR requirement.

Table 4. Actual and Estimated Number of Students Completing the ICR over Time.

Cohort Year	Academic Year						
	2016-17 (actual)	2017-18 (actual)	2018-19 (actual)	2019-20 (actual)	2020-21 (actual)	2021-22 (estimated)	2022-23 (estimated)
2016-17	434	313	162	89	60	25	25
2017-18		628	413	156	122	50	25
2018-19			588	344	317	115	50
2019-20				484	425	225	115
2020-21					464	350	225
2021-22						525	350
2022-23							525
Total	434	941	1163	1073	1388	1290	1315

Summary

In the 2020-21 academic year, 15 departments offered ICR courses; Indigenous Studies and History offered the most sections. In most departments, more than 50% of the students registered in ICR sections were ICR students (i.e., they needed the ICR credit). It is expected that around 1300 students will complete their ICR credit in the 2021-22 academic year and in future academic years. One issue that may be of concern is the high percentage of sections (48%) taught by Contract Academic Staff; this is a substantial increase from the previous year (33%). In summary, the current ICR course offerings are sufficient to meet the need/demand based on the snapshot at the end of the year. This analysis does not account for waitlists during the registration period or additions of sections to address long waitlists.