

Item	8.9
Approved by	UOIT Academic Council
Date approved	October 2011, revised January 2014

PROGRAM NOMENCLATURE PROTOCOL

1. PREAMBLE

UOIT is committed to ensuring the highest quality of learning for students while maintaining the highest integrity of academic programs. To this end, the university offers an array of programs to meet the academic and professional needs of the local, national and international communities consistent with its mission and mandate. This protocol defines the nomenclature that is used for programs and primary areas of study at the university. It also defines the way in which these terms are reported on the academic transcript and degree parchments. Regulations for new programs will be described using the nomenclature set out in this policy. All program names and degree designations must be reviewed by Academic Council to ensure that they are appropriate to the program content and congruent with current usage in the discipline.

2. GENERAL PROGRAM NOMENCLATURE

Program	A complete set and sequence of courses, combination of courses, and/or other units of study, research and practice, the successful completion of which qualifies the candidate for a formal credential, provided all other academic and financial requirements are met.
Degree	An academic credential awarded upon successful completion of a prescribed set and sequence of requirements as specified by a program that meet a standard of performance consistent with university and provincial degree level expectations. The name of the degree must signify the broad area of study to which the program belongs, and be unambiguous in terms of level, nature and discipline or subject of study. The degree name appears on the degree parchment and on the academic transcript. UOIT degrees are classified as undergraduate, honours undergraduate, second entry undergraduate, master's and doctoral.
Diploma	An academic credential awarded upon the successful completion of a prescribed set of degree credit courses as specified by a program. UOIT diplomas are classified as undergraduate, concurrent graduate, and direct-entry graduate.
Certificate	A credential awarded on the successful completion of a prescribed set of non-degree credit courses as specified by a program. UOIT certificates are classified as general and advanced.

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Bridge	<p>A prescribed set of courses, and/or other units of study, research and practice that leads to qualification for entry into a degree program. It is comprised of a maximum of 72 credit hours, including up to 15 credit hours of bridging courses that may be credited toward the completion of a particular degree program.</p> <p>The bridge option does not appear on the academic transcript or on the degree parchment.</p>
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3. UNDERGRADUATE ACADEMIC PROGRAMS OF STUDY

Undergraduate Degree	A degree that can be completed as a first degree. It must contain a minimum of 90 credit hours, including at least 30 credit hours in a particular area of study (see below).
Honours Undergraduate Degree	An undergraduate degree with increased depth in a particular area of study. It can be completed as a first degree containing a minimum of 120 credit hours, including at least 36 credit hours constituting a major (see below).
Second-entry Undergraduate Degree	A second undergraduate degree in a professional field that can be awarded upon the completion of at least 30 credit hours beyond those required for the first degree.
Diploma	A prescribed set of courses and/or other forms of learning to develop specialized knowledge and skills that can be undertaken either in conjunction with or subsequent to an undergraduate degree. It is comprised of 18-30 credit hours, and may include non-degree credit courses and/or other forms of learning to a maximum of 30% of the total program credit hours or equivalent.
Major	<p>A prescribed set of courses, and/or other units of study, research and practice in an area of disciplinary or interdisciplinary study within an undergraduate program, normally requiring at least 30 credit hours of study.</p> <p>The major appears on the academic transcript and on the degree parchment.</p>
Minor	<p>A prescribed set of courses within an undergraduate program, normally requiring at least 18 credit hours in a particular area of study.</p> <p>The minor appears on the academic transcript, but does not appear on the degree parchment.</p>
Specialization	<p>A focus in a particular area within a major undergraduate program.</p> <p>A specialization appears on the academic transcript, but does not appear on the degree parchment.</p>
Cooperative Education	<p>A program option of three or more alternating work term periods that is integrated with an undergraduate degree program. It is comprised of at least nine credit hours of work placement that are each at least four months in duration and must meet the requirements of the Canadian Association for Cooperative Education Accreditation Council.</p> <p>The cooperative education option appears on the academic transcript and on the degree parchment.</p>

Work Term Option	<p>A program option of one or more work term periods that may be credited toward an undergraduate degree program. It is comprised of at least three credit hours of work placement of at least four months in duration.</p> <p>The work term option appears on the academic transcript, but not on the degree parchment.</p>
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4. GRADUATE ACADEMIC PROGRAMS OF STUDY

Master's Degree	<p>An advanced degree that is normally completed after receiving a first degree in a related subject area. It contains a prescribed set of courses, and/or other units of study, research or practice within an area of disciplinary or interdisciplinary study, normally requiring at least 30 credit hours of study.</p> <p>Master's degrees may comprise a thesis component, a project or major paper, or be primarily comprised of coursework:</p> <p>A master's degree with thesis is a research oriented program comprised of advanced courses and intensive research culminating in a thesis. The thesis constitutes at least nine credit hours and involves an oral examination with assessment by an external examiner.</p> <p>A master's degree with a project or major paper is a research oriented program comprised of advanced courses and intensive research culminating in a project or major paper. The project or major paper constitutes at least six credit hours of supervised research and assessment by a research supervisor and a second reader.</p> <p>A master's degree by coursework is comprised primarily of course work, and may also include other units of study, research and practice.</p>
Doctoral Degree	<p>An advanced degree in a specific area of disciplinary or interdisciplinary study that includes coursework and a candidacy exam and that is normally completed after receiving a master's degree in a related subject area. Some doctoral programs may include a practicum or internship requirement. A doctoral degree requires intensive research and the creation and defense before an examining committee of a thesis that constitutes an original contribution to a field of study.</p>
Field	<p>An area of study within a graduate program related to its demonstrable and collective strengths.</p> <p>A field appears on the academic transcript, but does not appear on the degree parchment.</p>
Graduate Diploma	<p>A prescribed set of degree credit courses and/or other forms of study that can be undertaken as a stand-alone program or to complement a graduate degree program, and to provide specialization, sub-specialization or inter- or multi-disciplinary qualification. A graduate diploma is comprised of at least 12 credit hours of graduate level study.</p> <p>Graduate diplomas are classified as concurrent graduate diplomas (type 2) and direct-entry (type 3) graduate diplomas, consistent with the requirements as set out by the Council of Ontario Universities:</p> <p>A concurrent graduate diploma is offered in conjunction with a specified master's or doctoral degree, the admission to which requires that the candidate be already</p>

	<p>admitted to the master's or doctoral degree. It requires advanced level, usually interdisciplinary, study, at least 50% of which is in addition to the general requirements for the degree.</p> <p>A direct-entry graduate diploma is a stand-alone, direct-entry program, developed by a unit already offering a related masters (and sometimes doctoral) degree, and designed to meet the needs of a particular clientele or market. UOIT type 3 graduate diplomas may include non-degree credit courses to a maximum of 30% of the total program credit hours.</p>
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Note: A portion of the credit hours defined in this protocol may be earned through advanced standing or block equivalencies, subject to residency requirements.