



Western  
SocialScience

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**Forward Together**

2015 - 2020



## Western SocialScience

The Faculty of Social Science is experiencing an exciting period of **faculty renewal** and is engaged in a more **research-focused strategy**.

In the last five years, by reducing the number of unnecessary and under-subscribed course offerings by nearly 300, and through more than 40 retirements of distinguished faculty, we have opened resources for exciting developments in our departments.



### The Faculty of Social Science includes:

- Anthropology
- DAN Department of Management & Organizational Studies
- Economics
- Geography
- History
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Sociology

Through retirements and course reductions, more than \$7.5 million in base budget has been reallocated to tenure-track positions, allowing for substantial faculty renewal.

We have recently hired nearly **50 tenure or tenure-track professors** and anticipate adding up to 20 more over the next two years.



Social Science at Western is **ranked number 84 in the 2019 QS University Rankings**, surpassing 64 other institutions since 2015.

We have created a better learning environment!

The percentage of courses taught by full-time faculty has increased from 45 per cent to 70 per cent.

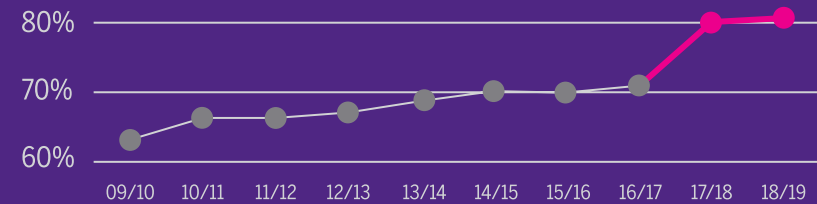
More Western students are **ranking their Social Science education as outstanding or very good**, increasing from 65 per cent to 80 per cent\*, in the rankings of 'effectiveness of instructor', and from 60 per cent to 75 per cent\* for 'courses as a learning experience.'

*\*Based on average of past two years, compared to average over previous eight years; data taken from student satisfaction surveys.*

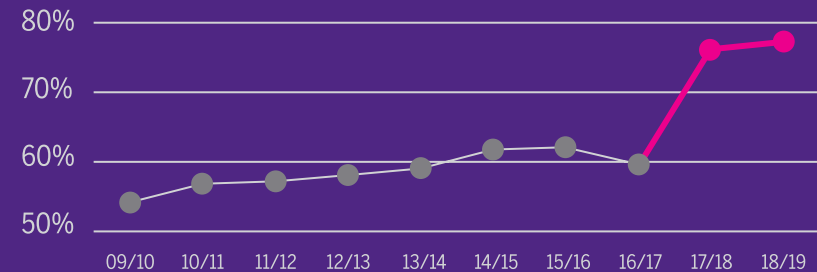
## Student Questionnaires on Courses and Teaching

### % OF RESPONDENTS RANKING COURSE/INSTRUCTOR AS A 6 OR 7

Effectiveness of Instructor



Course as a Learning Experience



The Faculty of Social Science has built **interdisciplinary strength** through the development of **new research areas** and **new programs**.

- The launch of NEST
- Interdisciplinary programs:
  - Undergraduate degree in Politics, Philosophy and Economics (PPE)
  - BMOS degree in Management & Legal Studies
  - MA in Research for Policy and Evaluation
  - Master of Financial Economics

The Network for Social and Economic Trends (NEST) was launched in 2018. NEST brings together six research centres from the Faculty of Social Science, to encourage **innovative interdisciplinary and policy-relevant social science research**, employing advanced data creation and analytic techniques.

Social Science at Western has a renewed commitment to building strengths within departments, with an effort to establish a **Distinguished Lecture Series** and **Endowed Research Chair** position in each department.

## ANTHROPOLOGY

Anthropology@Western is Canada's **most balanced four-field Anthropology department** (Archaeology, Biological Anthropology, Linguistic Anthropology, and Sociocultural Anthropology), producing **boundary-crossing faculty and graduate student research** and offering undergraduates opportunities to explore the connections between our cultural and biological dimensions, in the past and present, at home and around the world.

Five tenured-track/tenured hires have been made in the department in the past five years.



## DAN DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT & ORGANIZATIONAL STUDIES

- DAN Management is named in honour of Aubrey Dan, who has provided \$10-million in support for the department.
- Through these donations, the department has added four Research Chair positions and four distinguished lecture series.
- Provides a **unique interdisciplinary approach to management study, emphasizing social science** and evidence-based foundation of management education.
- Moving toward a more research intensive department, having appointed five tenured-track/tenure faculty in the past three years, with plans for at least five more in the near future.



- Ranked among the **top 30 Economics departments** in the world, and **8<sup>th</sup> in North America**, based on RePEc ranking.
- Specific areas of research strength in Labour Economics including Human Capital and Productivity.
- Through a \$2-million gift from the Jarislowsky Foundation (matched by the University), created the Stephen A. Jarislowsky Chair in Central Banking.





## GEOGRAPHY

- A growing strength in **Geographic Information Science**, supported by the creation of the Big Data Computing lab.
- Canada's most established **urban development program**.
- One of the strongest groups of **health geographers** in Canada.



## HISTORY

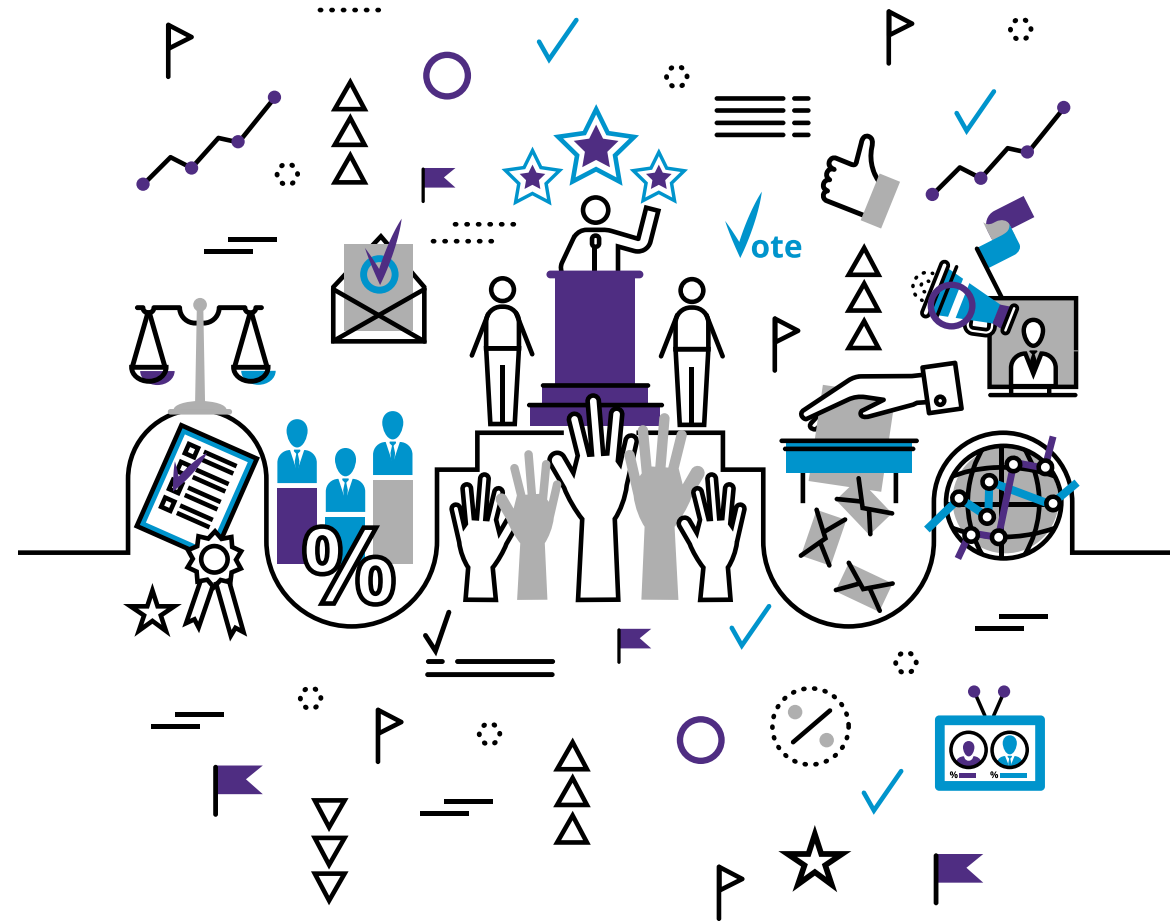
The Department of History at Western is making History matter:

- Applying digital tools to the study of history.
- Putting the public in history, including being home to the most established public history program in Canada.
- Home to the Joanne Goodman Lecture, delivered since 1976, widely recognized as the most important history lecture series in Canada.
- Committed to the teaching mission, within the university and for the general public, including hosting an annual High School History Day.



## POLITICAL SCIENCE

- Canada's best **Quantitative Political Science Department**
- The Political Science department is making its mark in quantitative methods with:
  - The appointment of Canada Research Chair in Political Methodology.
  - Offering Canada's most comprehensive set of graduate courses in quantitative methodology.
  - The strategic hiring of six new tenured-track/tenure faculty members in the past five years.



## PSYCHOLOGY

Among the **most influential departments in the world**; ranked **number #2 globally** based on citations per paper.

Main areas of research include:

- Psychopathology and Clinical Science
- Cognitive, Developmental, and Brain Sciences
- Industrial/Organizational Psychology
- Social, Personality and Development Psychology

Many faculty members are also associated with the Brain and Mind Institute.



- Canada's best **Quantitative Sociology Department**.
- The department has recently established a defined research focus on **Population Dynamics** and **Inequality**.
- Eight new tenured-track/tenured hires in these general areas in the past five years.



## RESEARCH CHAIRS

With a focus on endowment and fundraising efforts, we are working to ensure excellence for future generations.

We have created five endowed research chairs:

- The Stephen A. Jarislowsky Chair in Central Banking
- Dancap Private Equity Chair in Consumer Behaviour
- Dancap Private Equity Chair in Corporate Governance
- Dancap Private Equity Chair in Change and Innovation
- Dancap Private Equity Chair in Human Organization

We have established six endowed distinguished lecture series, with plans to establish one for each department.

## As we look to the future, we aim to:

Further propel a culture of research excellence and continue to advance the Faculty's research profile globally.

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Establish endowed research chairs in priority areas.

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Promote excellence and innovation in teaching and learning by bringing research excellence into the classroom.

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Increase financial aid, bursaries and scholarships, crucial to developing a more diverse student body.

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Improve facilities to address the pressing need for students' social, study and relaxing space contributing to a thriving student experience.



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