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.
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)
  - BA in Law & Management
  - 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@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 **8th 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.
• 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.
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.
• 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.
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.
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.

Establish endowed research chairs in priority areas.

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

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

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