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## Thank you for submitting your ARC Final Report

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From Langara | Applied Research Center <appliedresearch@langara.ca>

Date Sat 2025-04-12 10:01 AM

To Alexander Grammatikos <agrammatikos@langara.ca>

Cc Applied Research <appliedresearch@langara.ca>

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Thank you for submitting  
**ARC Final Report**

Our team may reach out to you with follow-up requests for clarification regarding your submission.

### Review your submission responses below:

Researcher First Name: **Alexander**

Researcher Last Name: **Grammatikos**

Department: **English**

Other Department:

Project Title: **"Colonizing through the Classics: British**

Start semester: 1/6/2025

End Semester: 4/30/2025

Introduction - Please introduce yourself and include pertinent background information as it relates to your project's research area. I am a scholar of nineteenth-century literary and political culture. I have published two books (one on 19th century British-Greek relations and a second on Lord Byron and nineteenth-century translatory practices).

Please discuss your educational background and your work experience as it relates to this project. If possible, include a quote that helps define your interest in the project. I have a PhD in English Language and Literature from Carleton University (2017). This project, which draws upon Indigenous theories and methodologies to think about colonial education in Canada and Greece, is inspired by my desire to promote Indigenous knowledges and thinkers.

Please summarize your project in plain language that others not in your field could understand. My project examines the establishment of Classics departments in universities in British North America (the Dominion of Canada after 1867) and the Ionian Islands (a British protectorate from 1815-1864; united with Greece thereafter) in the early- and mid-nineteenth century. Specifically, I focus on how, in founding new universities, British authorities included the Classics (Ancient Greece and Rome) as part of post-secondary curricula to establish educational institutions that perpetuated British dominance.

Identify the project goals and objectives. Explain how the results may be used to solve a problem or inform further research in the field. The project I am proposing will be the first ever study to examine the role of Classics education in shaping the British Empire's global education systems and courses, specifically their application in (what are now) Greece and Canada, but also with an eye to other global contexts (including Australia, India, and Nigeria). The Classics are so deeply embedded in Western identity that their influence often goes unexamined when it comes to how they have structured post-secondary ways of knowing; their values are lived and perpetuated in everyday educational life and indeed part of the colonial project involved instilling and naturalizing 'classical' values in colonial populations through education. This makes it all the more vital to revisit the historical roots of these systems and see how they appeared universal but had very specific regionally dictated applications to fit the local needs of colonial authorities. I hope that the results from this study will inspire more non-Indigenous scholars to collaborate with

Indigenous thinkers in establishing their research programmes. It is also my hope that projects like mine hit at the root of colonial education and what it means to 'Indigenize' in our post-secondary institutions today.

Briefly explain the steps taken (methods used) to conduct the research, and describe the key findings. The next steps are to wait for the SSHRC results in June 2025. While waiting, though, I will begin reading the primary and secondary sources I currently have access to. I also want to develop my early ideas into a conference paper that I will present in the upcoming year. Should I receive SSHRC, I will begin my 2-year programme in September 2025.

Who was involved in this project (eg. faculty, students, community partners)? How did their involvement contribute to the project's success? Were there any challenges to overcome? I had two amazing Research Assistants: Ashley Olowojolu and Joanna Ryu. I cannot speak highly enough about their intelligence and dedication. They were professional and incredibly capable. I have consulted with my collaborators Dr. Georgina Martina (Secwépemc First Nations) and Earl Einarson (Ktunaxa First Nations) at Langara College. Georgina and I have been in contact via email and she has send me so many amazing resources. In addition, I have collaborated with collaboration with Drs. Eirini Kotsovoli and Dimitrios Krallis of Simon Fraser University (SFU). SFU has a SNF New Media Lab, which will help student researchers, collaborators, and me develop a website that allows users to visualize (through text, mapping, artwork, and oral storytelling) (i) how Classical Studies as a foundation for knowledge and learning have contributed to colonial education worldwide and (ii) how we can in the twenty-first century put the Classics and Indigenous storytelling in dialogue in ways that envision the Classics as emancipatory rather than exclusionary.

Please share any personal stories that made this research experience memorable/valuable.

I am grateful for the opportunity to work with so many people this semester, including my RAs Ashley and Joanna and my four collaborators, Georgina, Earl, Dimitrios, and Eirini. I am also incredibly grateful to ARC. Seetha Kumaran has been consistently available and supportive. Kelly Sveinson has helped me to think about the "applied" aspects of Humanities research and has provided me with as much support as he can.

What are the next steps for this project and for you as a researcher?

By examining a variety of primary and secondary source materials, including university curricula and records, as well as the personal correspondence of post-secondary administrators, the study will highlight the intersections between post-secondary education, cultural production, national identity formation, and colonial policy. Analyzing archival sources will allow me to determine how various people perceived Classical education, as well as how the

Classics influenced their ways of thinking about colonial education. At this early point (we are waiting for SSHRC results in June 2025), my Research Assistants and I have compiled research materials and created a bibliography that will inform the project. We have also researched the archives that we will need to visit to complete the project.

*Please upload any images that will help to showcase your project.*

By submitting, I consent to uploading my ARC Fund final report to the Langara Institutional Repository (The LaIR). **True**

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