

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM

S. 336

To.....SENATE

From.....H.M. EVANS,

SECRETARY

Subject.....SENATE COMMITTEE ON GRADUATE STUDIES
GRADUATE PROGRAMS IN THE DEPARTMENT
OF ECONOMICS AND COMMERCE

Date.....FEBRUARY 16, 1970

At its meeting of February 4th, 1970, the Executive Committee of the Senate Committee on Graduate Studies approved Paper EGS.64, a submission from the Department of Economics and Commerce embodying changes in requirements at the graduate level, and recommends that Senate approve the submission.

HME:sjk

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM

To MR. H. EVANS, REGISTRAR

From D. H. SULLIVAN, DEAN

FACULTY OF ARTS

Subject CALENDAR CHANGES - GRADUATE PROGRAMS
IN FACULTY OF ARTS

Date NOVEMBER 13, 1969

The Faculty of Arts Graduate Studies Committee has approved the attached submissions from the following Departments in the Faculty of Arts:

History

Philosophy

PSA

English

Economics and Commerce

The Faculty is approving the submissions by referendum ballot now in progress.

It would be appreciated if these can be included in the 1970-71 Calendar. Thank you.

DHS:els

encl.

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM

TO: D. Sullivan, Dean FROM: D. Maki, Chairman
Faculty of Arts Graduate Program in Economics

SUBJECT: Changes to Graduate Program DATE: September 15, 1969
in Economics

The Economics Graduate Studies Committee has approved the attached changes to the Calendar entries regarding the graduate program in economics. I request that these changes be placed on the agenda of a forthcoming meeting of the Faculty of Arts Graduate Studies Committee, the impending university-wide review of all graduate programs notwithstanding.

Two changes are desired; one in the M.A. program and one in the Ph.D. program. The substantive change in the M.A. program is to make Ec. 800, Microeconomic Theory, a required course where it previously was not.

The change in the Ph.D. program consists of splitting economics theory into two fields, for qualifying examination purposes. The current regulations require a total of four qualifying examinations, i.e. one in economic theory and three others selected from the list of fields contained in the calendar. The proposed revised regulations require the same total number of qualifying examinations, four, including one in microeconomic theory, one in macroeconomic theory, and two others selected from the list of fields contained in the calendar. Since preparation for qualifying examinations is normally accomplished through completion of specific course work, this change means that Ph.D. students will normally enroll in Ec. 801-5 and Ec. 806-5, which was not true in the past.

No new courses will be mounted as a result of these changes. Although there will be some restructuring of the content of the courses in the theory sequence, this can be done within the existing calendar descriptions.

Both changes (to the M.A. and Ph.D. programs) have the effect of giving more emphasis to economic theory. Under current regulations we have given students less preparation in economic theory than most North American Universities. The changes attached are an attempt to remedy this.

DRM/cmt

- I. That section 1 under "M.A. Program" in the calendar (page 38 in 1969-1970 calendar) be changed to read:

"Successful completion of at least 30 approved semester hour credits beyond the level of a bachelor's degree with honors in economics.

This work will usually consist either of six graduate courses (30 credits) or of four graduate courses (20 credits) and a thesis (10 credits). Students must satisfy the Department that they have achieved a satisfactory level of competence in analytical economics, micro-economic theory, macroeconomic theory and quantitative methods. Except where students have successfully undertaken equivalent work at the undergraduate level or in graduate work at another university, the requirements regarding microeconomic and macroeconomic theory will be met by completing the graduate courses 800-5 and 805-5, respectively; the requirement regarding analytical economics will be met by completing either the graduate course 830-5 or the undergraduate course 331-5; and the requirement regarding quantitative methods will be met by completing either the graduate course 835-5 or the undergraduate course 435-5. Only one of the two courses 830-5 and 835-5 may be counted toward the total number of graduate courses required.

- II. a. That regulation 1. of the Ph.D. Program (page 39 in 1969-70 Calendar) be amended to read:

Successful performance in approved courses amounting to a total of 60 semester hour credits beyond the level of a bachelor's degree with honors in economics. A student who has the M.A. degree in economics from Simon Fraser University (or equivalent qualification) will be required to take 30 semester hours of approved course work in his Ph.D. program.

Unless they have satisfactorily undertaken equivalent course work previously, students must include in their program of work: Analytical Economics (830-5) and Quantitative methods (835-5).

- b. That regulation 2. of the Ph.D. Program (pages 39 & 40 in 1969-1970 calendar) be amended to read:

Written qualifying examinations in micro and macro economic theory and two other fields selected from the following: monetary economics, quantitative methods, mathematical economics, international economics, public finance, economic history, development economics, regional economics, resource economics and labor economics.

Adequate preparation for the qualifying exam in economic theory will be successful completion of the Microeconomic Theory sequence (800-5 and 801-5) and of the Macroeconomic Theory sequence (805-5 and 806-5). Students who have successfully completed work equivalent to 800 and 805 may omit course work in those parts of the sequences. Students are encouraged to complete the above sequences early in order to have the appropriate prerequisites for other likely courses in their programs.

The field in which a student is writing his dissertation will normally be one of those in which he is examined. With the approval of the Department, a student may substitute for one of the fields listed above, a field from a related discipline that is relevant to the economics research interest of the student.

Examinations will usually be taken after completion of appropriate course work and/or other preparation, but a student may sit for an examination at any time after the first semester following his formal admission to the Ph.D. program. This may be done whether or not he has taken the specific courses recommended by the department as partial preparation for the examination. A candidate may be permitted to take a qualifying examination a second time; he will not be permitted to take it a third time.