

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM

S.78-50

To Senate

From Senate Committee on Undergraduate
Studies

Subject Latin American Studies: Joint
Major

Date 78/04/21

Action taken by the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies at its meeting on 1978-03-21 gives rise to the following motion:

MOTION

That the proposal for a Joint Major in Latin American Studies, as set forth in S.78-50, be approved and recommended to the Board for approval.

Note - There was a great deal of support in SCUS for the concept of an Area Studies Major built upon or taken concurrently with substantial work in a discipline. Therefore, although some reservations were expressed about an Area Studies Major alone, there was little hesitation about endorsing the proposal for a Joint Major.



D.R. Birch

DRB/cg

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY SCUS 78-14

MEMORANDUM

To Mr. Harry Evans, Registrar and
Secretary of the Senate Committee
On Undergraduate Studies

From J. Blanchet, Secretary of the
Faculty of Interdisciplinary Studies
Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

Subject ISC 77-10 (revision a) updated
to March 9/78

Date March 13, 1978

PROPOSAL FOR JOINT MAJOR - LATIN
AMERICAN STUDIES

I am forwarding the proposal for a joint major in Latin American Studies to you with editorial revisions for inclusion on the agenda of the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies.

/et

J. Blanchet
J. Blanchet

Attachment

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM

To H. M. EVANS, SECRETARY
SENATE COMMITTEE ON UNDERGRADUATE
STUDIES

From J. CHASE, SECRETARY
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC PLANNING

Subject PROPOSAL FOR A JOINT MAJOR IN
LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES

Date MARCH 10, 1978

The Senate Committee on Academic Planning has approved motion as follows:

"That approval be given to the Joint Major in Latin American Studies proposal."

It was accepted that a number of minor adjustments to the paper were required before further consideration.

For general information a copy of the minutes of SCAP pertaining to this topic is attached to give some clarification on the position of Joint Majors.

encl.

J. Chase
J. Chase

6. SCAP 78-2 - PROPOSAL FOR A JOINT MAJOR IN LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES

Moved by T. Calvert, seconded by D. Foth,

"That approval be given to the Joint Major in Latin American Studies proposal."

T. Calvert stated that the proposal was similar to that in Canadian Studies for a major, but Latin American Studies could propose only a joint major and the selected joint disciplines were Archaeology, Geography, History, Political Science, Sociology/Anthropology and Spanish.

H. Evans noted that the submission fell in line with recent formal approvals for some joint majors, and gave background information. Although the Academic Planning Committee in 1971 had given formal approval to joint majors requiring at least 45 hours of upper division courses with not less than 22 hours in each of the disciplines, and joint honors requiring at least 60 hours of upper division courses with at least 30 in each discipline, these have not been finalized into complete regulations through SCUS and Senate but had been used as guidelines when specific joint majors have been discussed. As examples, the joint major in Economics and Commerce requires in upper division courses at least 25 hours in Economics and at least 26 in Commerce. The joint honors in Economics and Commerce requires at least 30 hours in Economics and at least 30 hours in Commerce. The recently approved joint major in PLP requires at least 45 upper division hours with specific discipline requirements. The joint major in S.A. has been approved with 40 upper division hours, with 20 in Sociology and 20 in Anthropology, whereas the joint honors in S.A. calls for at least 60 upper division hours with 32 in one of the disciplines and 28 in the other. The usual type of provision for preventing multiple credit count pertains in the same fashion as applies to double majors, major-minors, and similar combinations. The present paper on LAS calls for completion of the full major requirements for some of the related joint disciplines but not for each one of them. The general provision is for not less than 40 upper division hours with at least 20 in LAS and variations from 20 through 30 in the various related joint disciplines. A student who selects the joint major in LAS is entitled to have that officially recorded but the transcript will not reflect completion of a double major although the related joint discipline's full major might be completed. It was accepted that a number of minor adjustments to the paper are required from further consideration.

J. Garcia joined the group and clarified that Portuguese is recognized as a major Latin American language and is acceptable as equivalent competence to a working knowledge of Spanish. He added that a large contingent of students from the Caribbean could give rise to recognition of the languages of the West Indies.

Question was called on the motion, and a vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED

Proposal for a Joint Major in Latin American Studies

The Latin American Studies Program Steering Committee strongly recommends the introduction of a joint major program in Latin American Studies in conjunction with a selected Arts discipline. The rationale for extending the existing program to include a joint major is based on the following considerations:

1. While the minor offering makes a useful beginning in developing an area studies program, by definition it does not represent a substantive student commitment. Our enrollment figures since the inception of the program in 1972 demonstrate a level of student interest in courses with Latin American content far in excess of the limited number of graduated and declared minors. Consultation with students as to the reasons for this discrepancy suggest that declaration of an LAS. minor is not a particularly attractive option because:

- a) The language requirement is considered heavy for a minor
- b) transfer students have to pick up the compulsory course LAS. 200 as only one college offers an introductory Latin American survey
- c) students tend to become interested in Latin America through the offerings of their major department. Declaration of an LAS. minor would thus require completion of additional courses in their major discipline.

- d) those students who do declare an LAS minor
tend to graduate with many credit hours in excess
of the official requirements

Thus, a joint major offering would both provide an incentive for picking up essential lower division requirements and give appropriate recognition to student interest in Latin American Studies as well as disciplinary proficiency.

2. With recent expansion at SFU there are currently 18 faculty associated with the Latin American Studies Program offering 18 courses with full Latin American content and 13 with partial content. Consequently a joint major can be offered without immediate addition of new courses and teaching staff, although further courses will be developed as demand increases.

3. The Latin American Studies Program is running an interdisciplinary field school in Guatemala. During the summer semester 1977 the departments of Archaeology, Modern Languages, and Sociology and Anthropology participated. During the summer 1978 the field school will be offering also directed reading courses for students of associated disciplines. The field school will be offered in a Latin American location each year with participation of associated disciplines in rotation. The field school will operate as the core element of the joint major program providing a unique opportunity for language training combined with first-hand field experience.

4. A dual emphasis combining area specialization with disciplinary training is preferred by commercial and government agencies hiring area studies graduates.

5. The joint major will provide a firmer backbone for the Latin American Studies Program, acting as a cohesive force for the associated faculty.

In summary, the introduction of a joint major appears to be the logical next step to satisfy student interest in the Latin American area and incorporate a growing number of Latin American specialists into a cooperating interdisciplinary faculty. It is especially appropriate to institute the joint major at a time when SFU students are having their first direct exposure to Latin American culture in formal terms via the LAS.Guatemala field school.

LAS. Calendar Statement

Joint Major

The Latin American Studies Program offers an interdisciplinary joint major in Latin American Studies combined with selected Faculty of Arts disciplines leading to a Bachelor of Arts degree. Course work designated as counting in the credits used towards the Upper Division requirements for the LAS. component of the degree cannot be used as part of the selected joint discipline's credit requirements, or vice versa. The individual disciplines participating in the joint-major program are: Archaeology, Geography, History, Political Science, Sociology and Anthropology, and Spanish.

Joint Major in Latin American StudiesA. Language

Reading and speaking competence in Spanish or Portuguese equivalent to the successful completion of three college level courses must be demonstrated. (Other language training programs or demonstrations of competence may be accepted at the discretion of the Steering Committee.)

B. Lower Division Courses (as prerequisites)

1. Latin American Studies: Students must complete nine hours in a minimum of three courses listed with Latin American content. LAS. 200 must be included.

Nine credit hours from the following:

LAS. 200-3 (required)
 ARC. 273-3
 S.A. 280-4
 GEOG 263-3

HIST 208-3
 HIST 209-3
 SPAN 140-3
 SPAN 240-3

2. Joint Discipline: Students must satisfy the lower division requirements of the selected joint discipline.

C. Upper Division Courses-Required for the LAS. Joint Major.

A minimum of 40 upper division credit hours is required, including at least 20 credit hours in Latin American Studies, and from 20 to 30 credit hours in the joint discipline selected, as specified below.

1. Latin American Studies (20 hours)

10 credit hours from: LAS. 402-5, LAS. 403-5, LAS. 404-5

10 credit hours in recognized Latin American content courses

These requirements apply to all the joint majors described below.

2. Joint Major Disciplines (from 20 to 30 hours, as indicated for the specific disciplines)

ARC. - LAS. 20 credits in Archaeology at the 300 and 400 division

GEOG - LAS. 30 credits in Geography from specified upper division courses, including: five courses (15 hours) from Division A; two courses (10 hours) from Division B; GEOG 467-5 (5 hours), which course cannot be used for LAS. requirements.

HIST - LAS. 30 credits in upper division History, as required for History majors.

POL. - LAS. 30 credits in upper division Political Science, as required for Political Science majors. POL. 337-3 and POL. 338-3 cannot be used to satisfy LAS. requirements.

S.A. - LAS. 20 credits in upper division Sociology and Anthropology.

SPAN - LAS. 20 credits in upper division Spanish. Only one of SPAN 341-3 or SPAN 451-5 can be used for this requirement.