

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

S.87-10

MEMORANDUM

To.....Senate.....

From.....Office of the Dean of Graduate Studies.....

Subject.....Curriculum Changes - Department of
History

Date.....March 30, 1987.....

Action undertaken by the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, at its Meeting on March 23, 1987, gives rise to the following motion:

MOTION:

"That Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors, as set forth in S.87-10, the proposed change to the History Graduate Program:

~~Add: Page 248, Programs of Study~~

Defeated

S.M. May 11/87

A thesis of 10 semester hours. The thesis should not be more than 100 pages in length.

Rationale: One hundred pages is more than adequate to present an example of original scholarship, and the department is attempting to speed the progress of its graduate students. One hundred pages is the limit fixed in History Departments at other universities such as UBC and McGill, and in the Political Science Department at SFU.

Delete: Page 248, Programs of Study

Under certain circumstances, the Department may consent to the awarding of the M.A. degree on the basis of course work and extended essays only. In place of the thesis, the candidate must complete an additional ten semester hours in course work and must submit to the Examining Committee three extended essays, based on course work."

Rationale: The extended essay option, in its current form of two extra courses plus three extended essays, demands much more work than the thesis option. The Department has decided to eliminate the extended essay option rather than reduce its scope because it feels that those whom it was largely designed to serve, the part-time students, should be quite capable of producing a thesis of fifty to sixty pages. Research is an important component of the History discipline, and the Department feels that the work required of a Master's degree should demonstrate the ability to exercise a higher degree of conceptualization and originality than would be required

in extended essays. Finally, it might be noted that very few History M.A. students have expressed interest in the extended essay option.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B.P. Clayman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and prominent.

B.P. Clayman
Dean of Graduate Studies.

mm/
attach.

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

G.S. 87.4

MEMORANDUM

To..... Dr. B. Clayman, Dean

..... Graduate Studies

Subject..... Calendar Change: History

From..... Dr. M.C. Roberts, Chairman

..... Faculty of Arts

..... Graduate Studies Committee

Date..... February 23, 1987

FEB 25 1987

DEAN OF GRADUATE
STUDIES OFFICE

The Faculty of Arts Graduate Studies Committee at its meeting of 11 February, 1987 approved the calendar changes to the Department of History as outlined in the attached.

/sjc
encl.

Michael C Roberts

M.C. Roberts



SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

FEB 1987

MEMORANDUM

FACULTY OF ARTS

To.....	Professor Mike Roberts	From.....	J. I. Little
.....	Dean of Arts		History - GSC
Subject.....	Changes to History Graduate Programme	Date.....	11 February 1987

In its meeting of 22 January 1987 the History Department moved that changes be made in the M.A. program, recorded in the calendar as follows:

1. P. 248, Programs of Study

2. A thesis of 10 semester hours.

Add to this sent.: "The thesis should not be more than 100 pages in length."

Rationale: One hundred pages is more than adequate to present an example of original scholarship, and the department is attempting to speed the progress of its graduate students. One hundred pages is the limit fixed in History Departments at other universities such as U.B.C. and McGill, and in the Political Science Department at S.F.U.

2. P. 248, Programs of Study

Eliminate the following sentences: "Under certain circumstances, the department may consent to the awarding of the M.A. degree on the basis of course work and extended essays only. In place of the thesis, the candidate must complete an additional ten semester hours in course work and must submit to the Examining Committee three extended essays, based on course work."

Rationale: The extended essay option, in its current form of two extra courses plus three extended essays, demands much more work than the thesis option. The department has decided to eliminate the extended essay option rather than reduce its scope because it feels that those whom it was largely designed to serve, the part-time students, should be quite capable of producing a thesis of fifty to sixty pages. Research is an important component of the History discipline, and the Department feels that the work required of a Master's degree should demonstrate the ability to exercise a higher degree of conceptualization and originality than would be required in extended essays. Finally, it might be noted that very few History M.A. students have expressed interest in the extended essay option.

JIL:ml


J. I. Little

M.A. PROGRAM

CONDITIONS OF ADMISSION

Candidates for the M.A. degree must satisfy the minimum entrance requirements set by the university: namely, at least a 3.0 average or its equivalent. In addition, the department requires a 3.25 average or its equivalent in the major subject over the last two years of the undergraduate program. A degree in a discipline related to History may be accepted in some cases.

Programs of Study

Upon admission into the Graduate program, each student will be assigned a supervisor. For information of the supervisory committee see *General Regulations*, page 211. All candidates for the M.A. degree must satisfy the following minimum requirements, totalling 30 semester hours:

1. 20 semester hours of course work of which at least 15 semester hours must be in graduate courses in the department. Each year at least two seminars of two-semester length (ten semester hours) will be offered, one in Canadian History, the other in European History. A third two-semester seminar may be offered in another field when student numbers warrant. All students will be required to take at least one of these two part sequences of courses, HIST 806 and 807, or HIST 808 and 809, or HIST 810 and 811, which will be available in the Fall and Spring semesters. The remaining courses required to complete the degree will be offered, in most cases (with the exception of History 800-5), as individual single-semester study courses (five semester hours each). Students with significant financial support from fellowships or scholarships will be expected to take a full course load each semester; those with T.A.ships or R.A.ships may extend their course load over a maximum of three semesters, but will be expected to begin thesis research in the third semester.

2. A thesis of 10 semester hours. Before beginning the research semester, the student must prepare a thesis prospectus which indicates the nature of the problem, the availability and accessibility of the relevant materials, etc. After consultation with the senior supervisor, the prospectus must be submitted to a meeting of the supervisory committee for its suggestions and approval.

→ ADD

The thesis should not be more than 100 pages in length.

~~Under certain circumstances, the department may consent to the awarding of the M.A. degree on the basis of course work and extended essays only. In place of the thesis, the candidate must complete an additional ten semester hours in course work and must submit to the Examining Committee three extended essays, based on course work.~~

→ ELIMINATE

Language Requirements

The department will require a reading knowledge of any language relevant to the student's research. Students proposing to study Canadian History must demonstrate an ability to read French.

The Department of Languages, Literatures and Linguistics offers courses to help Graduate students to meet language requirements.

PH.D. PROGRAM

General

Prospective candidates for the Ph.D. degree should be advised that the degree is granted in recognition of the student's general grasp of the subject matter of a broad area of study; for his/her ability to think critically; and for his/her power to analyse and coordinate problems and data from allied fields of study. Through his/her thesis the student must demonstrate his/her ability to make an original contribution to knowledge, either through the discovery and analysis of new information or through the exercise of independent critical power.

A student ordinarily will be admitted to the Ph.D. program after completion of an M.A. or its equivalent. Applicants with a B.A. applying directly to the Ph.D. program must have at least a 3.5 GPA or its equivalent. Candidates for the M.A. degree at SFU, after successful completion of two semesters and a GPA of 3.5 in 10 semester hours of course work in the Master's program, may apply for admission into the Ph.D. program. Admission from the M.A. program will be contingent upon a distinguished level of performance, recommendation of directing faculty, scholarly potential, and the available resources of the Department.