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SFU.CA/GRADUATE-STUDIES

MEMORANDUM

ATTENTION Senate DATE October 16, 2025
FROM Mary O'Brien,
Chair of Senate Graduate
Studies Committee (SGSC)
RE: Program Change



For information:

Acting under delegated authority at its meeting of **October 7, 2025**, SGSC approved the following curriculum item, effective **Summer 2026**:

Faculty of Applied Sciences

School of Sustainable Energy Engineering

- 1) Program Change: Sustainable Energy Engineering MEng (Fall 2026)

Faculty of Environment

School of Environmental Science

- 2) Program Change: Environmental Science PhD

MEMORANDUM

Attention: Dr. Mary O'Brien
Dean, Graduate Studies

Date: Sep 09, 2025

From: Dr. Colin Copeland, fas_ad_research_grad@sfu.ca
Faculty of Applied Science, Graduate Studies Committee

Re: FAS-SEE new course: SEE 777

The faculty of Applied Sciences Graduate Studies Committee is seeking approval for changes to the SEE MEng program requirements by replacing BUS790(2) and BUS791(2) with a new, 4-unit SEE course (SEE777).

The proposed course focuses on the foundational business practices in keeping with the two courses BUS790/791 it replaces but with a focus on sustainable energy engineering in keeping with the degree.

The change is anticipated for the 2026 cohort, with entry into the SFU calendar effective for the summer 2026 semester. The new course, SEE777, will be offered for the first time in fall 2026.

Regards,
Colin Copeland





MEMORANDUM

ATTENTION Associate Dean Research and Grad Studies, Faculty of Applied Sciences DATE 20-Aug-2025

FROM Dr. Vahid Hosseini, Graduate Program Chair, School of Sustainable Energy Engineering PAGES 1

RE: New course proposal for SEE777

As described in the attached documents, the SEE graduate program committee is updating the MEng program requirements by replacing BUS790(2) and BUS791(2) with a new, 4-unit SEE course (SEE777). The change is to be implemented for the 2026 cohort, with entry into the SFU calendar effective for the fall 2026 semester. The new course, SEE777, will be offered for the first time in fall 2026. The documents were approved by SEE GPC on July 17, 2025 and by SEE School Council on August 20, 2025.

The proposed course addresses the learning outcomes for the SEE MEng students by focusing on the foundational business practices central to assessing and interpreting sustainable energy engineering, from new technologies to infrastructure and policy implications. Particular consideration is given to the pricing of energy and the use of economic tools to reduce carbon dioxide emissions.

The course can be delivered by SEE instructors within the current SEE faculty complement. SEE777 can be accommodated within the current per-term fee structure of the SEE MEng as approved by the BC Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills, unlike BUS790/791, which would require additional student fees to be fiscally viable.

Attachments: SEE 777 new course approval form; SEE 777 course outline; SEE MEng degree program calendar language change

cc. SEE Director (Dr. Zafar Adeel)

Regards
Vahid Hosseini
Graduate Program Chair

Calendar Entry Change for Masters of Engineering in Sustainable Energy Engineering

Summary of change:
Replace BUS 790 (2) and BUS 791 (2) with SEE 777(4)
<p>Rationale for change:</p> <p>One of the objectives of the SEE MEng program is to provide students with “... <i>understanding of the financial and economic landscape ...</i>” related to sustainable energy engineering [SEE MEng FPP, S7, page 3]. To meet this aim, SEE MEng students need a strong foundation in business and economic skills targeted specifically to energy engineering projects. The current SEE MEng program has two business courses from Beedie’s highly successful i2I program (BUS790 and BUS791). The focus of these two courses is on developing the skills to commercialize scientific innovation. While these skills are relevant and important across engineering domains, they are not part of the core aims of the SEE MEng program. SEE MEng students will not be conducting in-depth research that is expected to lead to innovative products or services. Understanding concepts such as the cost and time-value of energy, life-cycle costs, and the role of carbon pricing are more critical to the MEng students’ long-term success. To meet this need, SEE has developed a new course (SEE777) to focus on the techno-economic analysis of sustainable energy engineering projects. This course aligns with the program learning outcomes of the MEng. It is not intended to replace a dedicated program of study in business or economic analysis: rather, the intent is to ensure MEng graduates have the foundational knowledge to participate in economic analyses as part of a multi-disciplinary team. SEE777 will also prepare MEng students for success in the i2I program if they choose to enroll as an additional learning opportunity.</p>
Effective term and year: Fall 2026
<p>Will this change impact current students? If yes, what is the plan for current students?</p> <p>No</p>

Calendar Change: All deletions should be crossed out as follows: All additions should be marked in **bold font**. Do not use “to” and “from” sections.

Program Requirements

This program consists of course work (25 units) and a capstone project (six units) for a minimum of 31 units. Students who lack the necessary background knowledge may, at the discretion of the program chair, be asked to complete additional courses to ensure an adequate breadth of knowledge to successfully complete the full program requirements.

Students must complete

~~BUS 790 – Lab to Market (2)~~

~~BUS 791 – Opportunity Identification and Assessment (2)~~

SEE 770 - Water, Energy and Food Nexus (3)

SEE 771 - Sustainable Energy Systems I (4)

SEE 772 - Sustainable Energy Systems II (4)

SEE 773 - Sustainable Energy Policy (4)

SEE 777 – Business Foundations for Sustainable Energy Engineering(4)

and an additional three units of SEE graduate course work (excluding SEE 810, SEE 811)

and one of

REM 650 - Energy Management for a Sustainable Climate and Society (5)

REM 658 - Research Methods and Models for Sustainability (5)

or another graduate elective course chosen in consultation with the graduate program chair

and a major two-term integrated project

SEE 799 - Capstone Project (6)



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To: Senate Graduate Studies Committee (SGSC)

From: Christina Giovas, Associate Dean Research and Graduate Studies, Faculty of Environment

Re: New Course Proposal for EVSC 808

Date: August 28, 2025

The following new course proposal is submitted for SGSC approval by the Faculty of Environment Graduate Studies Committee on behalf of the School of Environmental Science.

- EVSC 808: Environmental Science Seminar

The course will allow PhD students to enrol for the graduate seminar when they have previously taken the Master's counterpart, EVSC 608. We request this course be implemented for Summer 2026. Additional details may be found in the attached memo from EVSC Director, Karen Kohfeld.

Please include these materials on the next SGSC agenda.

Thank you for the committee's consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christina Giovas".

Christina Giovas
Associate Dean, Research and Graduate Studies
Faculty of Environment
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SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

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Director, Karen Kohfeld
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SES_Director @sfu.ca

MEMORANDUM

ATTENTION	Dr. Christina Giovas, Dean Pro Tem and Associate Dean, Research and Graduate Studies, Faculty of Environment	DATE	August 19, 2025
FROM	Dr. Karen Kohfeld, Director, School of Environmental Science	PAGES	1
RE:	New Course Request: EVSC 808 – Environmental Science Seminar		

Dear Christina,

The School of Environmental Science would like to request the creation of a new course (EVSC 808: Environmental Science Seminar) for our incoming PhD students. EVSC 608 does not allow repeats for this required course; if any student transfers from our MSc to our PhD or stays at SFU to complete their doctorate degree after completing their MSc degree, the GoSFU system may not allow them to retake EVSC 608. Graduate Studies has advised us that the best course of action to avoid any potential registration errors in the future is to create a new course. The Graduate Program Development Committee (GPDC) affirmed this motion on July 30, 2025. Please see the attached documents.

Regards,

Karen Kohfeld

Director & Professor
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Faculty of Environment
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www.sfu.ca/evsc.html

Professor
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Calendar Entry Change for [Environmental Science PhD]

<p>Summary of change: Changing the required course of EVSC 608 to EVSC 808 for PhD students in the Doctor of Philosophy in Environmental Science program.</p>
<p>Rationale for change: Students cannot take EVSC 608 as a repeat; therefore, if MSc students transfer into the PhD program or if a student enrolls in the EVSC MSc program and then the PhD program, they will not be able to take EVSC 608 again which is a mandatory course in their degree. Introducing EVSC 808 will avoid this issue. All doctoral students can now enrol in this instead of EVSC 608.</p>
<p>Effective term and year: Summer 2026</p>
<p>Will this change impact current students? If yes, what is the plan for current students? No. There are no current PhD students in the program yet.</p>

Calendar Change: All deletions should be crossed out as follows: All additions should be marked in **bold font**. Do not use “to” and “from” sections.

<p>Program Requirements</p> <p>The program consists of minimum seven units of coursework and a thesis (18 units). Students may be required to complete additional coursework at the discretion of the supervisory committee.</p> <p>Students must complete</p> <p>EVSC 608 – Environmental Science Seminar (1) EVSC 808 – Environmental Science Seminar (1) EVSC 801 - Advanced Research Methods in Environmental Science (3) EVSC 896 - PhD Candidacy Exam (0)</p> <p>and one graduate elective course (three units minimum, chosen in consultation with student's supervisor)</p> <p>and a thesis</p> <p>EVSC 898 - PhD Thesis (18)</p>
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