FOR INFORMATION

TO: Arts & Science Council

SPONSOR: Sandy Welsh, Vice-Dean, Graduate Education and Program Reviews

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DATE: January 23, 2015 for February 2, 2015

AGENDA ITEM: 7

ITEM OF BUSINESS: Report from the Graduate Curriculum Committee

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:
The Graduate Curriculum Committee (GCC) reviews and approves, on behalf of Council, proposals for minor modifications to existing St. George-based tri-campus doctoral-stream and St. George-based professional and non-doctoral-stream graduate programs. All such approvals are subsequently reported for information to Arts & Science Council.

PREVIOUS ACTION:
n/a

GOVERNANCE PATH:
No further approvals are required and the report will be provided to the Office of the Vice-President and Provost.

HIGHLIGHTS:
At its meeting on November 20, 2014, the Graduate Curriculum Committee reviewed and approved minor course changes (new courses), and minor program changes to programs (program requirements, program name changes). A full listing of the changes is presented in the attached summaries.

RECOMMENDATION: For Information
Minor Course and Program Changes
Approved by the Graduate Curriculum Committee November 20, 2014

Minor Course Changes – New Courses

Department of Computer Science
• CSC2506H - Probabilistic Learning and Reasoning

Department of English
• ENG1582H – Piers Plowman
• ENG2008H – The Early Modern in the History of Science and Literature
• ENG2054H - John Donne: Theory and Context
• ENG2222H - The Renaissance of Art
• ENG2510H - Shakespeare and the Renaissance Schoolroom
• ENG3255H - Fielding's Tom Jones
• ENG3301H - The Social Life of Feeling in Eighteenth-Century Literature
• ENG3332H - Eighteenth-Century Tragedy and Its Discontents
• ENG4222H - Romanticism and Mobility
• ENG4741H - Victorian Lyric
• ENG4801H - Aging and Older Age in the Nineteenth-Century British Novel
• ENG4884H - Nineteenth-Century Fiction & the Discovery of Everyday Life
• ENG5051H - Energy and Economy in the American Renaissance
• ENG5200H - Woolf/Beckett/Coetzee
• ENG5279H - Class and Community in Postwar American Literature
• ENG5731H - Transitional Justice and Indigenous Writing in Canada
• ENG5744H - 1967: A Year in Canadian Letters
• ENG5746H - Urban Canadian Literature and Aesthetics of Spatial Justice
• ENG5784H - Modernizing Poetry
• ENG5801H - Kinship in Indigenous and Asian Canadian Literatures
• ENG5808H - Zones of Contact and South Asian Writing in English
• ENG5854H - The Global South
• ENG5991H - Postcolonial Tragedies: Theory, Literature, Criticism
• ENG6006H - The Age of Anxiety: Theory, Affect, Politics
• ENG6066H - Style: Authorial Signature in the Age of Cyber Technology
• ENG6068H - Embodiment in a Virtual Age
• ENG6067H - Making Faces: Identity, Performance, and the Face on Film
• ENG6152H - Drama After Performance

Department of French
• FRE1141H - Experimental and corpus linguistics for the study of French
• FRE1906H - Theories of Laughter and the Study of Comic Texts

Master of Global Affairs
• GLA2022H - Global Institutions and Diplomacy
**Department of History**
- HIS1001H – Topics in History

**Centre for Industrial Relations and Human Resources**
- IRE1655 – Health and Safety
- IRE1730H – Contemporary Challenges Facing Today’s Organizations

**Department of Political Science**
- POL2519H - Quantitative Methods and Data Analysis

**Department of Spanish and Portuguese**
- SPA2424H - Spanish American Poetry and Poetics

**Minor Program Changes**

**Changing Program Requirements**

**Department of Classics, MA:**
Brief Summary of Change:

*Changing Program Length or Requirements:*
- Change to required courses (in place of both GRK 1000H and LAT1000H, new requirement of one course selected from among GRK 1000H, LAT 1000H, or a course from the CLA 1300H series)
- Changes to Qualifying Exam (alternative option for History students) and Sight Exam requirements.

*Renaming Field, Concentration or Emphasis:*
Current Field is Ancient (Greek & Roman) Philosophy; Renaming Field to Greek and Roman Philosophy

Rationale:
The applicant pool in Classics continues to change; entering students have less training in the ancient languages than could once be expected of them, and their interests extend ever further beyond the traditional (literary) confines of the discipline. To better meet the needs and interests of such students, we propose to introduce greater flexibility in our MA requirements (including especially the opportunity to take non-linguistically focused seminars) and to provide more opportunities for individual research within the MA program.

**Department of Classics, PhD:**
Brief Summary of Change:

*Changing Admission Requirements:*
- Accepting students with less preparation in Greek or Latin; removing modern language requirement from advanced-standing PhD admission

*Changing Program Length or Requirements:*
- Changing proseminar (CLA 3000H) requirement to participation in departmental seminar series (SRD4444Y)
- Changes to required courses (eleven to ten seminars; institution of extra-departmental breadth requirement)

*Changing Timing of Program Requirements:*
- Change to timing of required Qualifying, Sight, and Modern Language Examinations; changes to Sight Exam standards for History students
Renaming Field, Concentration or Emphasis:
- Current Field is Ancient (Greek & Roman) Philosophy; Renaming Field to Greek and Roman Philosophy

Rationale:
The applicant pool in Classics continues to change; entering students have less training in the ancient languages than could once be expected of them, and their interests extend ever further beyond the traditional (literary) confines of the discipline. To improve our ability to meet the needs and interests of such students, we propose (1) to alter our admissions requirements in recognition of the fact that many excellent applicants may not possess four full years of training in both languages; (2) to delay the timing of Qualifying, Sight, and Modern Language Examination requirements, to allow students more time to develop necessary skills; (3) to change our required courses to give greater emphasis to research seminars and to individual research (in CLA 2000Y, now a year-long, 1.0 FCE course); and (4) to convert our existing Research Methods requirement (CLA 3000Y) to a Field-specific, multi-year seminar requirement (AMP 2000Y, already in existence, for Philosophy, and SRD 4444Y for History and Literature).

Centre for Comparative Literature, PhD:
Brief Summary of Change:
The 8-hour written Field Exam is to be replaced by a 30-page Field Paper that discusses the texts on the reading list and their relation to the research questions to be pursued in the dissertation. A 2-hour oral Field Exam on the Paper and the reading list will take place 2-3 weeks after submission of the Field Paper.

Rationale:
The writing of a substantive critical Field Paper will enable students to delineate major themes and issues that have emerged from the readings of their list, and to relate the texts on the reading list to those themes. The result should present the current state of research and the student’s critical assessment of it, including the still-open questions that emerge from current research and that the thesis proposes to address. The Field Paper and subsequent Oral Exam should provide a stronger foundation for dissertation research than the older exam process in which students were required to provide written answers to questions submitted by their committee, questions that were not always the ones most important or relevant to the student’s subsequent dissertation research. This revised Field Exam process should enable the student to proceed in a more timely fashion to the writing of the dissertation proposal, and should provide a more seamless transition to the writing of the dissertation itself. The Field Paper can, in some cases, even function as a draft of an introductory chapter to the dissertation.

Department of Computer Science, PhD, PhD-M and PhD-U:
Brief Summary of Change:
Changing the current system of named PhD checkpoints for all three of our PhD programs to more closely match SGS’s requirements. Specifically, a meeting of the PhD supervisory committee meeting must be held by the 16th month of the PhD program. This is typically the initial meeting with the supervisory committee and is referred to as the qualifying oral examination. After the qualifying oral, the student’s PhD supervisory committee must meet at least once annually. The student must have their thesis topic approved at a PhD supervisory committee meeting within the time frame for achieving candidacy. The Departmental Thesis Defense must be passed before the SGS Final Oral Examination can be scheduled.

Rationale:
Our current system of named checkpoints encourages supervisors and students to wait to schedule PhD supervisory committees meeting until the students have the particular type of document ready for the next checkpoint. As a result we find, for example, that the median time to the first PhD supervisory committee
meeting is significantly delayed. Moreover, students who spend more time to complete their degree than is provided in the prescribed schedule are waiting significantly more than one year between PhD supervisory committee meetings. The new system is expected to make the timing of PhD supervisory committees more appropriate, beginning earlier in the student’s program and occurring more frequently.

Department of East Asian Studies, PhD:
Brief Summary of Change:
This change formalises the timing of the dissertation prospectus. The timing of the prospectus is not listed in our current calendar listing and this change will clarify the timing for our students. We’ve also made some minor changes to the component of the comprehensive exams. The other changes are stylistic rather than substantial and, we hope, make the section easier to read.

Rationale:
To ensure that all students have an approved dissertation prospectus by the end of their third year.

Centre for European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies, MA:
Brief Summary of Change:
1. This change is made in conjunction with a change in the weight of the required core gateway course ERE2001H will be changed to ERE2001Y. Additionally, the free choice distribution will be changed from 1.0FCE to .5FCE so that the total required FCEs remains at 6.0.
2. The degree currently known as “Master of Arts in European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies” will be renamed “Master of Arts in European and Russian Affairs”

Rationale:
1. The proposed reduction in weight of the “free” distribution course from 1.0 FCE to .5 FCE, while not in any way diminishing the overall credit requirements for the degree, will allow for a lengthening of the core gateway course (from .5 FCE to 1.0 FCE). The academic rationale for this change is based on the need to extend coverage in the core gateway course, which cannot be done with diminishing the weight of the “free” distribution course from 1.0 FCE to .5 FCE. This change thus maintains the overall academic demands of the program.
2. Changing the name of the degree to “Master of Arts in European and Russian Affairs” involves no change to the academic program, which will continue to be multi-disciplinary and provide students with exposure to a range of fields, but will make the program more identifiable for future applicants and future employers of our graduates. The name change also brings the program more in line with the flagship degree offered by the Munk School – Master of Global Affairs – and will complement the global affairs course offerings. It will reinforce the current arrangement of mutual access to courses. The name of the graduate unit (Centre for European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies) will remain unchanged.

Department of French, MA and PhD in French Linguistics:
Brief Summary of Change:
The addition of FRE1141H Séminaire de linguistique III : Linguistique expérimentale et linguistique de corpus seeks to complete the training offered by the Séminaires de linguistique I and II (FRE1103, FRE1104) by providing an introduction to core concepts and methodologies of experimental and corpus linguistics. This required course will replace FRE1125H Séminaire de linguistique III : Morphologie et sémantique, as it is better geared to our graduate students’ research interests and will better prepare them for their thesis projects.
We will begin by discussing the principles of the scientific method (formulation of a research problem; elaboration of data collection methods and techniques; data collection, analysis and interpretation). We will then turn to the specifics of its application in experimental and corpus linguistics using examples drawn from a
variety of sub-disciplines (lexicology, experimental phonology and morphosyntax, first and second language acquisition, sociolinguistics, among others).

Rationale:
Our graduate program currently has three required seminars (FRE1103, 1004, 1125), all of which focus primarily on theoretical linguistics. Over the last five years in particular, there has been a growing interest in experimental and corpus-data-based research among our students. The new course proposed here is designed to replace FRE1125 as a required course for students doing an MA or PhD in French linguistics.

Master of Global Affairs:
Brief Summary of Change:
Students enrolled in the combined MGA/MBA program will not be required to take GLA1009H Financial Management as part of their required courses for the MGA portion of their degree.

Rationale:
Waiving GLA1009H Financial Management for MGA/MBA combined students: As of 2013, MGA students are required to take GLA1009H. This was a new change to the program and reduced the number of elective FCEs available to MGA students. Yet students in the combined MGA/MBA program already take similar courses which overlap with material covered in GLA1009H (Finance I: Capital Markets and Valuation, Accounting, and Operations Management) as part of their MBA required courses. We will not be requiring MGA/MBA students to take this additional required course, and as a result, their elective FCE requirements in the MGA portion of their degree will remain as they currently are, at 1.5 FCE.

Women and Gender Studies Institute, PhD:
Brief Summary of Change:
1. extension of time for completion of comprehensive exams
2. extension of time for submission of dissertation proposal
3. clarification of requirements concerning WGSI Research Seminar

Rationale:
1. Extension of Comprehensive Exam deadline:
Exams currently must be completed by February 1 of the second year, November of the third year for direct entry students. Setting the date at June 1\textsuperscript{st} (December 1\textsuperscript{st} for direct-entry) will grant time that is needed for faculty as well as students to complete the exams after the end of classes. The date for direct entry students is ambiguous and needs to be clarified without being substantially changed.

2. Submission of dissertation proposal:
The current requirement is May 1 of the second year. We propose to set the dissertation proposal date to match the comprehensive exam date at June 1\textsuperscript{st} of the second year. The submission date for direct entry students remains unchanged.

3. Participation in Research Seminar – clarification:
The calendar entry is ambiguous about what satisfies this course requirement; the proposed change clarifies it. In addition, the calendar should include the requirement that Ph.D students, as is the case with collaborative students, present their research prior to graduation.