

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
Senate Committee on University Priorities
Memorandum

TO: Senate

FROM: John Waterhouse
Chair, SCUP
Vice President, Academic

RE: Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences:
Full Program Proposal for a B.A. in
First Nations Studies and Linguistics (Joint Major)
(SCUP 07-71)

DATE: December 4, 2007

At its November 21, 2007 meeting SCUP reviewed and approved the full program proposal for a B.A. in First Nations Studies and Linguistics (Joint Major) from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

Motion

That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors, the proposal for a B.A. in First Nations Studies and Linguistics (Joint Major), in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

encl.

c: D. Mellow



OFFICE OF THE
ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT ACADEMIC AND ASSOCIATE PROVOST

MEMO

To:	Senate Committee On University Priorities
FROM	Bill Krane, Chair Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies <i>Bill Krane</i>
RE	Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences - Department of Linguistics (07-486)
DATE	November 13, 2007

Action undertaken by the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies at its meeting of November 6, 2007 gives rise to the following recommendation:

Motion:

“that SCUP approve and recommend to Senate the Full Program Proposal for the B. A. in First Nations Studies and Linguistics (Joint Major).”

The relevant documentation for review by SCUP is attached.



FACULTY OF
ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

MEMO

TO: Jo Hinchliffe, Secretary,
Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies

FROM: Mary Ann Gillies, Chair
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Curriculum Committee

WAS

RE: FPP: B.A. in First Nations Studies and Linguistics (Joint Major)

DATE: October 29, 2007

At the meeting of October 25, 2007, the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Curriculum Committee approved the full program proposal for the B.A. in First Nations Studies and Linguistics (Joint Major), as submitted by the Department of Linguistics.

Would you please place this item on the agenda of the next SCUS meeting.

:pl
Att.

FASSCC 07-37

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
Department of Linguistics
FACULTY OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
MEMORANDUM

To: Mary Ann Gillies, Chair
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
Curriculum Committee


From: Dean Mellow
Linguistics

Subject: Full Program Proposal

Date: October 17, 2007

At its meeting of 11 October 2007, the Department of Linguistics approved the attached Full Program Proposal for the B.A. in First Nations Studies and Linguistics (Joint Major). At its meeting of 1 October 2007 and in a subsequent e-mail vote, the First Nations Studies program approved the Full Program Proposal for the B.A. in First Nations Studies and Linguistics (Joint Major). The Notice of Intent for this program was approved earlier this year by FASS-UCC and by SCUP.

Would you please place this proposal on the agenda of the next meeting of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Curriculum Committee?



Undergraduate Chair
Department of Linguistics

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

FULL PROGRAM PROPOSAL

B.A. IN FIRST NATIONS STUDIES AND LINGUISTICS (JOINT MAJOR)

Executive Summary

Rationale

An important mission of Simon Fraser University is to provide educational opportunities for First Nations peoples and to provide leadership in teaching and research related to First Nations issues. This commitment was affirmed when Senate approved the First Nations University-Wide Strategic Plan on 5 March 2007. A Joint Major in First Nations Studies and Linguistics was proposed in the Faculty of Arts 2004 Three Year Plan.

The B.A. in First Nations Studies and Linguistics is designed for students who are interested in focusing and expanding their expertise in areas where these two disciplines intersect. Students who complete the Joint Major will gain detailed insight into the languages and cultures of First Nations people in British Columbia and North America. Students will develop solid foundations in the study of language and in the study of First Nations issues, from a variety of disciplinary approaches. In particular, the program will provide students with an in-depth understanding of at least one First Nations language and with the opportunity to develop skills related to language teaching and curriculum development.

A key feature of this program is that it incorporates the faculty strengths in theoretical and applied linguistics that already exist at SFU-Kamloops and SFU-Burnaby. An applied approach to the study of language and language learning is very useful for corpus documentation of languages and for education and revitalization efforts. These objectives are of great importance because the First Nations languages of British Columbia and Canada are incredibly diverse, are essential to the culture and identity of First Nations people, and are extremely endangered, having very few fluent speakers. This Joint Major degree will prepare students to work in communities and institutions documenting and teaching First Nations languages. This degree will also prepare students for advanced study that will allow them to play leadership roles in First Nations projects and communities.

Location

The program will be located at both SFU-Burnaby and SFU-Kamloops. The curriculum of the Joint Major has been designed to be quite flexible to accommodate the needs of the students at each campus, as well as the typical course offerings at each campus.

Curriculum

1. Student outcomes

Students who complete the Joint Major will gain detailed insight into the languages and cultures of First Nations people in British Columbia and North America. Students will develop solid foundations in the study of language and in the study of First Nations issues, from a variety of disciplinary approaches. In particular, the program will provide students with an in-depth understanding of at least one First Nations language and with the opportunity to develop skills related to language teaching and curriculum development. This important combination of skills and knowledge cannot be efficiently obtained through existing major and minor programs.

2. Curriculum requirements

All of the courses for this Joint Major already exist at SFU. At the lower division level, students must complete at least 13 credit hours of First Nations Studies courses and at least 15 credit hours of Linguistics courses. These courses provide important foundations in the study of First Nations issues and in the fundamentals of linguistic analysis. Students must complete at least 21 credit hours of upper division First Nations studies. These courses provide advanced and focused study of research methodology and of contemporary and historical issues. Students must complete at least 21 credit hours of upper division Linguistics courses. These courses provide advanced study of linguistic analyses, detailed study of at least one First Nations language, and opportunities to develop applied knowledge and skills in areas such as language acquisition and teaching.

3. Course structure and class sizes

At SFU-Burnaby, the lower division courses in the program range in size from 25 to 40 students (e.g. LING 221) to tutorialized lecture classes (e.g. LING 220: Tutorial - 18; Lecture - 180). At SFU-Burnaby, upper division FNST and LING courses are generally smaller than 40 students per class. At SFU-Kamloops, class sizes tend to be smaller, especially for those classes that are in locations such as Bella Bella or Massett.

4. Research implications

The existing tenure-track faculty who will contribute to this program have a research mandate. Their continuing research activities will result in scholarly contributions to the areas of First Nations Studies and Linguistics.

Learning Methodologies

As an interdisciplinary program, the Joint Major will include the diverse learning methodologies that currently exist in the courses offered by First Nations Studies, Linguistics, and the other contributing disciplines (Archaeology, Criminology, English, History, and Sociology and Anthropology). The types of learning methodologies will include lectures, tutorials, labs, and distance education courses.

Faculty

The program is interdisciplinary and draws from the existing teaching and research of many faculty. No percentage of their current teaching will need to be devoted specifically to the new program. The core faculty will include:

John Alderete, Linguistics; Phonology: Athapaskan
 Donna Gerdts, Linguistics; MorphoSyntax: Halkomelem / Salish
 Marianne Ignace, Sociology and Anthropology; Language and Culture, Aboriginal
 Resource Management, Applied Linguistics
 Dean Mellow, Linguistics; Applied Linguistics: Algonquian, Haida
 Deanna Reder, First Nations Studies; Literature, Historical and Contemporary Issues
 Regarding Aboriginal Women in Canada
 Annie Ross, First Nations Studies; First Nations Art and History
 Susan Russell, Linguistics; Applied Linguistics: Halq'eméylem
 Eldon Yellowhorn, First Nations Studies; First Nations Issues, Archaeology

Program Consultations and Evaluation

The Notice of Intent and the Full Program Proposal have been assembled with input from faculty members of First Nations Studies and Linguistics and from SFU-Burnaby and SFU-Kamloops. A number of students at SFU Burnaby and SFU Kamloops have expressed interest in this program. Members of First Nations communities (i.e. Haida, Halq'eméylem / Sto:lo, Heiltsuk / Bella Bella) have also expressed an interest in this program.

Once implemented, the program will be reviewed and evaluated by the Department of Linguistics (Undergraduate Curriculum Committee) and by the Faculty and Advisory Committee of the First Nations Studies Program.

Admission

The admission and residency requirements will be the standard SFU requirements.

Appendix A - Proposed Calendar Entry

Description

Students should plan their program in consultation with both the First Nations Studies and Linguistics advisors.

Lower Division First Nations Studies Requirements

Students must complete at least 13 credit hours of lower division First Nations Studies courses.

Students must complete all of:

FNST 101-3 The Cultures, Languages and Origins of Canada's First Peoples

FNST 201-3 Canadian Aboriginal Peoples' Perspectives on History

SA101-4 Introduction to Anthropology

and three additional credits in a 100 or 200 division course with significant First Nations content, subject to approval by the program director. Examples of these courses include:

ARCH 273-3 Archaeology of the New World

SA 286-4 Aboriginal Peoples and British Columbia: Introduction

Lower Division Linguistics Requirements

Students must complete at least 15 credit hours of lower division Linguistics courses. Students must complete both of:

LING 220-3 Introduction to Linguistics

LING 221-3 Introduction to Phonetics and Phonology

plus nine additional credit hours in 100 or 200 division LING courses. Note that LING 222 is required for many upper division courses. The following courses are recommended.

LING 231-3 Introduction to First Nations Language I

LING 232-3 Introduction to First Nations Language II

LING 241-3 Languages of the World

Subject to approval by the program director, other lower division courses that have First Nations language content may be applied toward the program.

Upper Division First Nations Studies Requirements

Students must complete at least 21 credit hours of upper division First Nations studies. Students must complete all of:

FNST 301-3 Issues in Applied First Nations Studies Research

FNST 322-3 Special Topics First Nations Studies

FNST 401-3 Aboriginal Rights and Government Relations

FNST 402-3 The Discourse of Native Peoples

FNST 403-3 Indigenous Knowledge in the Modern World

and the remaining 6 credit hours from the following:

ARCH 360-5 Native Cultures of North America

ARCH 378-3 Pacific Northwest North America

CRIM 311-3 Minorities and the Criminal Justice System

CRIM 419-3/FNST 419-3 Aboriginal/Indigenous Justice
 CRIM 429-3/FNST 429-3 Indigenous Peoples and International Law
 ENGL 453W-4 Aboriginal Literatures
 FNST 332-3 Ethnobotany of BC First Nations
 FNST 442-3 Directed Readings in First Nations Studies
 HIST 325-4 History of Aboriginal Peoples of North America to 1850
 HIST 326-4 History of Aboriginal Peoples of North America since 1850
 HIST 427-4 Problems in the History of Aboriginal Peoples
 SA 388-4 Comparative Studies of Minority Indigenous Peoples
 SA 486-4 Aboriginal Peoples and British Columbia: Advanced Seminar

Other courses that have First Nations content may be applied toward the program, subject to approval by the program director.

Upper Division Linguistics Requirements

Students must complete at least 21 credit hours of upper division Linguistics courses. Students must complete two of:

LING 321-3 Phonology
 LING 322-3 Syntax
 LING 323-3 Morphology
 LING 324-3 Semantics
 LING 330-3 Phonetics

Students must complete two of:

LING 331-3 Description and Analysis of a First Nations Language I
 LING 332-3 Description and Analysis of a First Nations Language II
 LING 408-3 Field Linguistics
 LING 430-3 Native American Languages
 LING 431-3 Language Structures I
 LING 432-3 Language Structures II
 LING 433-3 First Nations Language Mentoring I
 LING 434-3 First Nations Language Mentoring II

Students must complete nine additional upper division LING credit hours. The following courses are recommended.

LING 309W-3 Sociolinguistics
 LING 335-3 Topics in First Nations Language I
 LING 350-3 First Language Acquisition
 LING 360-3 Linguistics and Language Teaching
 LING 362-3 English as a Second Language: Theory
 LING 407-3 Historical Linguistics
 LING 435-3 Topics in First Nations Language II
 LING 441-3 Linguistic Universals and Typology

Special topics and/or directed readings courses may be applied toward the program, subject to approval by the program director.

Appendix B - Budget

The program can be implemented with existing faculty positions, space and equipment. However, SFU Kamloops students will not have all upper division Linguistics courses available to them locally. If students from SFU Kamloops are unable to attend courses in Burnaby to complete upper division Linguistics courses, these courses could be delivered through a focused summer school. Those courses would be provided through the regular course offerings of SFU Kamloops. Alternatively, those courses could be offered as distance education courses.

Appendix C - Related programs in other British Columbia post-secondary institutions

UBC offers an interdisciplinary major in First Nations Studies within the Faculty of Arts. Students in that program may take courses in Anthropology, Art History, Creative Writing, English, First Nations Languages, History, Interprofessional Health and Human Services, Linguistics, Natural Resources Conservation, Political Science, Theatre, and Women's Studies. Within First Nations Languages, UBC students may take courses in three First Nations languages: Musqueam, Nl'kepmxcin, and Kaska. Within Linguistics, students may complete a Major in First Nations Languages and Linguistics and may take courses that focus on descriptive and theoretical aspects of First Nations languages. At UBC, courses about applied linguistics are offered by the Department of Language and Literacy Education within the Faculty of Education.

The University of Victoria offers an interdisciplinary B.A. program in Indigenous Studies. UVIC also offers a Certificate Program in Aboriginal Language Revitalization, through the partnership of the Department of Linguistics and the Division of Continuing Studies. The Department of Linguistics offers a B.A. in Linguistics and a B.A. in Applied Linguistics. In these programs, students can take courses on First Nations Languages (including Salish, Athabaskan, and Wakashan) and on both descriptive linguistics and applied linguistics, especially in relation to aboriginal languages.

Appendix D - Notice of Intent

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
 FACULTY OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
 DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS
 UNDERGRADUATE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

NOTICE OF INTENT

1. Credential to be awarded: B.A. in First Nations Studies and Linguistics (Joint Major)
2. Location: SFU Burnaby; SFU Kamloops
3. Faculty: Arts and Social Sciences
4. Anticipated program start date: September 2008
5. Description of the program

5.1 Aims, goals, and/or objectives

The B.A. in First Nations Studies and Linguistics is designed for students who are interested in focusing and expanding their expertise in areas where these two disciplines intersect. Students who complete the joint major gain detailed insight into the languages and cultures of First Nations people in British Columbia and North America. Students develop solid foundations in the study of language and in the study of First Nations issues, from a variety of disciplinary approaches. In particular, the program provides students with an in-depth understanding of at least one First Nations language and with the opportunity to develop skills related to language teaching and curriculum development.

5.2 Anticipated contribution to mandate and strategic plan of the institution

An important mission of Simon Fraser University is to provide educational opportunities for First Nations peoples and to provide leadership in teaching and research related to First Nations issues. This commitment was affirmed when Senate approved the First Nations University-Wide Strategic Plan on 5 March 2007. A Joint Major in First Nations Studies and Linguistics was proposed in the Faculty of Arts 2004 Three Year Plan.

5.3 Target Audience

The program will be offered predominantly at the Simon Fraser University Burnaby campus. In addition, students in the Simon Fraser University Kamloops program who are able to enrol in required course work may also complete this program. The program is designed to be flexible enough so that it can be completed by First Nations people, especially speakers of First Nations languages.

5.4 Content

Please see Attachment 1

5.6 Delivery Methods

The program will be taught through existing courses at the SFU Burnaby campus and through existing courses in the SFU Kamloops program. If a cohort of students from SFU Kamloops is unable to attend courses in Burnaby to complete upper division Linguistics courses, a focused summer school or field school could be a possible method of delivering those courses. Those courses would be provided through the regular course offerings of SFU Kamloops.

5.7 Linkages between learning outcomes and curriculum design

The links between learning outcomes and curriculum design will be explored as the Full Program Proposal is developed.

5.8 Distinctive characteristics

A key feature of this program is that it incorporates the faculty strengths in applied linguistics that already exist both at SFU Kamloops and SFU Burnaby. An applied approach to the study of language and language learning is very useful for corpus documentation of languages and for education and revitalization efforts (see sections 5.16, 6.5).

5.9 Anticipated completion time

Burnaby students will be able to complete the major in four years. Kamloops students may begin with the existing Certificate in First Nations Language Proficiency and then extend their studies into the B.A. These students are likely to take five or more years to complete a BA because they may not be able to take more than a few courses per semester, due to our offerings or their other obligations.

5.10 Enrolment plan for the length of the program

No maximum number of admissions per year has been set. Initially, we expect only about 5-10 new students per year.

5.11 Policies on student evaluation (degree requirements)

Evaluation will be achieved following the general regulations for the University and the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

5.12 Policies on faculty evaluation (minimum qualifications)

All continuing faculty will hold either a Ph.D. or an MA degree in conjunction with extensive field experience.

5.13 Policies on program assessment

All academic units at SFU are subject to external review every six years.

5.14 Level of support and recognition from other post-secondary institutions (including plans for admissions and transfer) and relevant regulatory or professional bodies

N/A

5.15 Evidence of student interest and labour market demand

A number of students at SFU Burnaby and SFU Kamloops have expressed interest in this program. Members of First Nations communities (i.e. Haida, Halq'eméylem / Sto:lo, Heiltsuk / Bella Bella) have also expressed an interest in this program. This degree will prepare students to work in communities and institutions documenting and teaching First Nations languages. This degree will also prepare students for advanced study that will allow them to play leadership roles in First Nations projects and communities.

5.16 Related programs in other British Columbia post-secondary institutions

UBC offers an interdisciplinary major in First Nations Studies within the Faculty of Arts. Students in that program may take courses in Anthropology, Art History, Creative Writing, English, First Nations Languages, History, Interprofessional Health and Human Services, Linguistics, Natural Resources Conservation, Political Science, Theatre, and Women's Studies. Within First Nations Languages, UBC students may take courses in three First Nations languages: Musqueam, Nle'kepmxcin, and Kaska. Within Linguistics, students may complete a Major in First Nations Languages and Linguistics and may take courses that focus on descriptive and theoretical aspects of First Nations languages. At UBC, courses about applied linguistics are offered by the Department of Language and Literacy Education within the Faculty of Education.

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6. Additional Information Required by SFU

6.1 Contact information for the faculty member responsible for program development

Inquires should be made to Dr. Dean Mellow, Department of Linguistics, Burnaby Campus. T: 604-268-6678. E: dmellow@sfu.ca

6.2 Summary of requirements for graduation

Please see Attachment 1.

6.3 Summary of resources (faculty members, space, and equipment) required to implement the program

The program can be implemented with existing faculty positions, space and equipment. However, SFU Kamloops students will not have all upper division Linguistics courses available to them locally (see section 5.6).

6.4 Brief description of any program and associated resources that will be reduced or eliminated when the new program is introduced

None.

6.5 *List of faculty members who will be teaching/supervising, what percentage of their teaching will be devoted to the program, and their areas of research specialization.*

The program is interdisciplinary and draws from the existing teaching and research of many faculty. No percentage of their current teaching will need to be devoted specifically to the new program. The core faculty are likely to include:

John Alderete, Linguistics; Phonology: Athapaskan
 Donna Gerds, Linguistics; MorphoSyntax: Halkomelem / Salish
 Marianne Ignace, Sociology and Anthropology; Language and Culture, Aboriginal
 Resource Management, Applied Linguistics
 Dean Mellow, Linguistics; Applied Linguistics: Algonquian, Haida
 Annie Ross, First Nations Studies; First Nations Art and History
 Susan Russell, Linguistics; Applied Linguistics: Halq'eméylem
 Eldon Yellowhorn, First Nations Studies; First Nations Issues, Archaeology

6.6 *For a program where the intention is to charge a premium fee, supplementary material on employability*

N/A