

S.88-80

As amended by  
Senate Dec 5/88

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM

TO: Senate

FROM: J.W.G. Ivany  
Chair, SCAP

SUBJECT: Graduate Curriculum Revisions  
- Department of History

DATE: Nov. 15, 1988

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Action undertaken by the Senate Committee on Academic Planning/Senate Graduate Studies Committee gives rise to the following motion:

Motion: that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors as set forth in S.88-80 the proposed changes to the requirements of the Program of Study - M.A. Program, <sup>in History</sup> and the requirements of the Program of Study - Ph.D. Program <sup>in History</sup>

FROM: Ph.D. Program of Study

Upon admission into the graduate program, each student will be assigned a faculty supervisor. For information of the Supervisory Committee see graduate general regulations. The Supervisory Committee and the student shall determine three fields of study, at least two of which will be chosen from the list printed below. A third field may be chosen within or outside the Department of History with permission of the Graduate Studies Committee. The student and each field supervisor will agree as soon as possible upon a general list of readings upon which the field examination will be based. No formal course work is required but students are expected to participate in the relevant graduate seminar. The written examinations in the three fields will be taken in one two-week period and an oral comprehensive exam will follow within one month. Each written examination will be three hours in length, and will consist of two or three questions to be chosen from a broader list. The oral examination will normally last one hour. Students will be asked to expand upon their written answers in order to clarify their answers and to demonstrate a broader knowledge of their fields. A "fail", "pass", or "pass with distinction" will be assigned to each field by the field supervisor after the completion of the oral examination. A student who fails one of the fields, and one only, will be permitted to sit that examination once again. This second examination will be in written form only, with a second reader chosen from the Supervisory Committee. The field examinations will normally be taken during the student's fourth semester of enrollment in the Ph.D. program. 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.

TO: Ph.D. Program of Study

Upon admission into the graduate program/<sup>in History</sup> each student will be assigned a faculty supervisor. For information on Supervisory Committees see graduate general regulations. The Supervisory Committee and the student shall determine three fields of study, at least two of which will be chosen from the list printed below. A third field may be chosen within or outside the Department of History with permission of the Graduate Program Committee. The student and each field supervisor will agree as soon as possible upon a general list of readings of approximately forty to forty-five books (or the equivalent) in each field. Copies of these reading lists must be submitted to the Chair of the Graduate Program Committee by the beginning of the second semester. The Graduate Program Committee will approve these lists and place them in the student's files. Students are expected to cover the material on these lists, preferably by means of a structured reading and writing program with their supervisors. The comprehensive examinations will be based on the reading lists. Comprehensive examinations will be offered twice a year, in the latter half of the autumn and spring semesters. Written examinations will be administered in weeks seven and eight of the semester; oral examinations will be scheduled in weeks nine

through twelve of the same semester. Students who miss the first round in their fourth semester due to extenuating circumstances, must take the examinations the following semester.

Each written examination will be three hours in length, and will consist of two or three questions to be chosen from a broader list. During the oral examination, students will be asked to expand upon their written answers in order to clarify their answers and to demonstrate a broader knowledge of their fields. No written examination will be marked until ALL field examinations have been completed. Every written examination will have a second reader and each will evaluate without reference to the other. A "fail", or "pass", or "pass with distinction" will be assigned to each field by the field supervisors after the completion of the oral examination. A student who fails one of the fields, and one only, will be permitted to sit that examination once again. This second examination will be in written form only, with a second reader chosen from the Supervisory Committee."



B.P. Clayman  
Dean of Graduate Studies.

The following is to replace section 2 in the MA Program, Program of Study

MA PROGRAM  
PROGRAM OF STUDY

2. A thesis of 10 semester hours/<sup>normally</sup> with a maximum length of 100 pages. 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. Before the beginning of the research semester, the student must prepare a thesis prospectus to be submitted to and approved by an Examining Committee made up of the Supervisory Committee and the Chair of the Graduate Studies Committee. The thesis prospectus should present a coherent thesis topic and place such a topic within the framework of existing work in this area.

The following paragraphs will replace the existing paragraph under the Ph. D. Program.

PROGRAM OF STUDY

Upon admission into the graduate program/<sup>in History</sup> each student will be assigned a faculty supervisor. For information on Supervisory Committees see graduate general regulations. The Supervisory Committee and the student shall determine three fields of study, at least two of which will be chosen from the list printed below. A third field may be chosen within or outside the Department of History with permission of the Graduate Program Committee. The student and each field supervisor will agree as soon as possible upon a general list of readings of approximately forty to forty-five books (or the equivalent) in each field. Copies of these reading lists must be submitted to the Chair of the Graduate program Committee by the beginning of the second semester. The Graduate Program Committee will approve these lists and place them in the students' files. Students are expected to cover the material on these lists, preferably by means of a structured reading and writing program with their supervisors. The comprehensive examinations will be based on the reading lists. Comprehensive examinations will be offered twice a year, in the latter half of the autumn and spring semesters. Written examinations will be administered in weeks seven and eight of the semester; oral examinations will be scheduled in weeks nine through twelve of the same semester. Students who miss the first round in their fourth semester due to extenuating circumstances, must take the examinations the following semester.

Each written examination will be three hours in length, and will consist of two or three questions to be chosen from a broader list. During the oral examination, students will be asked to expand upon their written answers in order to clarify their answers and to demonstrate a broader knowledge of their fields. No written examination will be marked until ALL field examinations have been completed. Every written examination will have a second reader and each will evaluate without reference to the other. A "fail", "pass", or "pass with distinction" will be assigned to each field by the field supervisors after the completion of the oral examination. A student who fails one of the fields, and only one, will be permitted to sit that examination once again. This second examination will be in written form only, with a second reader chosen from the Supervisory Committee.