# SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY 

mamorameva

To $\qquad$ SENATE
Subiect_GRADUATE STUDIES - PSA CALENDAR

From SENATE GRADUATE STUDIES COMMITTEE

Date DECEMBER 7, 1973

MOTION: $\quad$ That Senate approve, as set forth in S.74-5, the following change in degree requirements for the PSA Department:

Delete: $\quad$ 'A graduate student's main concentration will be on a thesis and not on formal course work. For the M.A. degree, minimum requirements are four one semester courses and a thesis. For the Ph.D. degree, requirements are one course and a thesis, excluding seminars. This course may extend beyond one semester's duration and is designed particularly to equip the candidate for his research and thesis.'

Add: 'A graduate student's concentration will be both on a thesis and formal course work. For the M.A. degree, minimum requirements are five one semester courses and a thesis. The requirements for the Ph.D. degree for students with a Master's degree are three courses and a thesis.'"
To: Members of Senate From: Office of the Dean of Graduate Studies
Subject: PSA Calendar Changes
Date: December 7, 1973

The following motion was approved by the Executive
Committee of the Senate Graduate Studies Committee
at their meeting on December 3, 1973, and is now
being forwarded to Senate for approval:
MOTION: That Senate approve the following change in degree requirements for the PSA Department:

Delete: "A graduate student's main concentration will be on a thesis and not on formal course work. For the M. A. degree, minimum requirements are four one semester courses and a thesis. For the Ph.D. degree, requirements are one course and a thesis, excluding seminars. This course may extend beyond one semester's duration and is designed particularly to equip the candidate for his research and thesis."

Add: "A graduate student's concentration will be both on a thesis and formal course work. For the M.A. degree, minimum requirements are five one semester courses and a thesis. The requirements for the $\mathrm{Ph} . \mathrm{D}$. degree for students with a Master's degree are three courses and a thesis.

## SMMON TRASER UNIVERSTTY

## AEAORARDUM



From. Karl Peter
Chaiman Graduate Studier Conmittee
Date.... 30th November, 1973.

The P.S.A. Department passed a motion on the 13th July 1971 to the effect that the minimum degree requirements for the M.A. degree will be five courses, two of which could be reading courses, plus a thesis for a total of 35 credit hours; and for the Fh.D. a total of three courses, one of which could be a reading course, plus a dissertation for a total of 25 credit hours.

This decision by the department is more stringent than the calendar entry which requires only four courses plus a thesis for an M.A. and one course and a thesis for the Ph.D. degree.

The department was under the impression that since these requirements are more stringent than the general University requirements, no Senate approval was necessary. Huwever, since the department wishes to have the requirements included in the calendar and since it has been informed by the Dean that Senate approval is necessary, I would Like to request the Executive Committee of the Senate Graduate Studies Committee gives approval to this change in requirements for graduate degrees in the P.S.A. department.

The reasons for stiffening the requirements in 1971, reasons by the way which we still find to be valid today, were that the department systematized its areas in 1971 such as to include:

Theory<br>Methodology<br>Social Cultural and Political Organizations<br>Social Psychology (with an emphasis on the social.) Area Status

The Department felt that in order to give students an adequate opportunity to cover these areas at least five courses were necessary. Today the Department feels more strongly than ever that five courses constitute the minimum for a mell prepaned B.A. student to attain the level of competence which we feel is essential for the M.A. level. The same applies to the Ph.D. level. I sincerely hope that the fuculty of Arts Graduate Studies Committee and the Executive Committee of the Senate Graduate Studies Conmittee will agree with this.



