

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

S76-12
(adjusted)

MEMORANDUM

SENATE

From GRADUATE STUDIES

Subject GRADUATE PROGRAM CHANGES -
ECONOMICS AND COMMERCE

Date DECEMBER 18, 1975

MOTION:

"That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the proposed Graduate program changes, as set forth in S.76-12, in Economics and Commerce, including description changes, prerequisite changes, title changes, new course 893-5."

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

S76-12

MEMORANDUM

To Members of Senate

From Jon Wheatley

Dean of Graduate Studies

Subject Graduate Calendar Changes -
Department of Economics & Commerce

Date December 9, 1975

MOTION: That Senate approve the attached Graduate Calendar Changes in the Department of Economics and Commerce.

These changes were approved by the Senate Graduate Studies Committee on December 8, 1975.


Jon Wheatley
Dean of Graduate Studies.

mm/
attach.

FACULTY OF ARTS

GRADUATE CALENDAR SUBMISSION

ECONOMICS AND COMMERCE

p. 47-48

Change in Description OMIT

"The Graduate economics program at Simon Fraser University reflects recognition of the increased application of mathematical concepts and quantitative techniques to economics. Accordingly, the program includes a special set of courses designed to ensure that, as a minimum, all graduate students acquire the reading knowledge of basic mathematical economics and econometrics which will enable them to keep abreast of current developments in the discipline. These courses also provide the basis for specialized work in the applied areas of economics, economic theory and econometrics."

Rationale:

This paragraph gives the impression that our graduate program is particularly unique with respect to required preparation in mathematics or quantitative methods. Our current Graduate Studies Committee members felt that this was misleading at best and false at worst. They felt that a more accurate representation of our requirements was given in a following paragraph and that this would provide a sufficient indication by itself. In essence, they felt that this would be a more honest, and less promotionally oriented, approach.

p. 48 M.A. PROGRAM

Change in Description

From: "analytical economics, microeconomic theory, macroeconomic theory and quantitative methods."

to: "microeconomic theory, macroeconomic theory, quantitative methods and mathematical economics."

Rationale:

The Committee decided that the term "analytical economics" was not a particularly accurate term (since most of economics can be described as analytical) and that the term "mathematical economics" was more descriptive of the actual requirement.

p. 48

Change in Description

From "or 810-5; the requirement regarding analytical economics will be met by completing either the graduate course ECON 830-5 or the undergraduate course ECON 331-5; and the requirement regarding quantitative methods will be met by completing either the graduate course ECON 835-5 or the undergraduate course ECON 435-5. Only one of the two courses ECON 830-5 and 835-5 may be counted toward the total number of graduate course required."

to: "the requirement regarding quantitative methods will be met by completing the graduate course ECON 835-5 and the requirement regarding Mathematical Economics will be met by completing the undergraduate course ECON 331-5. Since this course is a prerequisite to all required graduate courses, all incoming students are required to enroll in it in their first term or to pass a pre-announced screening examination on the material covered in it. (Information on the material currently covered in this course/exam may be obtained directly from the Department.)

Rationale:

The Committee decided that Ec. 810 was not a proper substitute for Ec. 805 since it requires Ec. 805 as a prerequisite as it is currently taught. Further, it was decided that Ec. 435 (as currently taught) was no longer a completely adequate substitute for Ec. 835 (as currently taught) and that it wanted to require the higher level of instruction in quantitative methods. It decided that the current Ec. 331 was simply a duplicate of the current Ec. 830, that the current Ec. 331 provided the minimum required standard and that Ec. 830 should be changed to provide a higher (albeit non-required) level of instruction than Ec. 331. Compulsory enrollment in or a screening examination for Ec. 331 was required to insure that beginning candidates had a uniform minimum level of preparation in mathematical techniques as applied in economics.

Change in Requirements OMIT

p. 49 Qualification
in supporting
subject

"In addition to the 60 credit requirement under 1 above a student may be required to qualify in a supporting subject. The supporting subject may, for example, be a language other than English, Mathematics, Computing Science, or a Social Science other than economics, depending upon the requirements of the student's proposed thesis. The student's Supervisory Committee, in consultation with the student, shall make a recommendation on the requirements, if any, for qualification in a supporting subject for final approval by the Graduate Program Committee."

Rationale:

The Committee felt that this was a redundant requirement which was frequently abused in practice and that its existence created considerable uncertainty and harassment for Ph.D. students. It was argued that if a subject really was required for a particular area of research, that subject would have to be studied by the student before he could do a dissertation in that area regardless of whether there was a formal supporting subject requirement. Also, it was argued that in practice the existing requirement was being misused to require students to do studies or examinations that turned out to be irrelevant to students' areas of research interest.

Change in Prerequisites

From: "ECON 830-5, ECON 800-5 and 805-5
to: "ECON 331-5"

The following courses will be affected:

ECON 800-5 Microeconomic Theory
ECON 805-5 Macroeconomic Theory
ECON 815-5 Portfolio Theory
ECON 817-5 Theory of Capital Markets
ECON 831-5 Mathematical Economics II
ECON 832-5 Activity Analysis
ECON 835-5 Quantitative Methods
ECON 865-5 Regional Economic Theory
ECON 869-5 Transportation Economics
ECON 881-5 Labor Economics

Additon of Prerequisites

ECON 830-5 Mathematical Economics

Add: "ECON 331-5"

Rationale:

ECON 331-5 is the relevant prerequisite given that it, rather than ECON 830-5, provides the required level of introduction to mathematical economics.

p. DESCRIPTION OF
ECONOMICS
GRADUATE
COURSES (ECON)

p. 50 ECON 810-5

Change in Prerequisites

From: "ECON 410-3"
to : "ECON 805-5"

Rationale:

This course is a more relevant prerequisite given the way Ec. 810 is currently taught.

p. 51 ECON 811-5

Additon of Prerequisites

Add: "ECON 810-5"

Rationale:

This course is a more relevant prerequisite given the way Ec. 810 is currently taught.

p. 51 ECON 830-5

Change of Title

From: "Analytical Economics"
to : "Mathematical Economics I"

p. 51 ECON 831-5

Change of Title

From: "Mathematical Economics"
to : "Mathematical Economics II"

Rationale:

These titles were considered to be more meaningful and descriptive than the previous titles.

Change in Description

From: "An examination of the economic characteristics of natural resources. Economic criteria for efficient management of resources with emphasis on problems of social choice. Conservation. Analysis of the structure of principal natural resource industries in Canada and questions of non-market regulation."

to: "The course is primarily one of applied economics dealing with topics of natural resources and environmental quality. This involves the application of economic theory to natural resource management problems with a view of assessing existing and alteranative resource management policies with emphasis on problems of social choice. Topics will include benefit-cost analysis, economics and preservation, pricing of natural resource service and ^{economics of} alternative pollution control strategies."

Rationale:

The original course description was given by a professor who is no longer on our staff. The current professor in the resource area considers the new description to be a better description of the course as it is currently taught.

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM

Office of

DEC 17 1975

Faculty of Arts

To: W.A.S. Smith,
Dean of Arts

Subject: Graduate Calendar Changes

From: Bertram Schoner
Chairman, D.E.C.

Date: December 17, 1975

We request that the following changes be made to the 1976-77 graduate calendar.

Page 49.

From: Adequate course preparation for the qualifying exam in the combined micro- and macroeconomic theory field will be successful completion of ECON 800-5 and 805-5.

To: Preparation for the qualifying exams in economic theory should include successful completion of ECON 801-5 and 806-5. Preparation for qualifying exams in other fields should include successful completion of the main courses in those field.

The statement relating to preparation for the qualifying exams in economic theory reflects the feeling that all theory comprehensives should have the same minimum suggested prerequisites. Of course, the depth pursued in questions in the combined examination is less than in the individual microeconomics and macroeconomics qualifying examinations.

Page 51.

The change in prerequisite for ECON 812-5 (Stabilization Policy) from ECON 304 to ECON 805-5 is for the following reason. A course on stabilization policy requires a moderately thorough preparation in macroeconomics and ECON 304 is really insufficient. All graduate students are required to have a background in macroeconomics beyond the level of ECON 805 in any event, so it is natural to make this course the pre-requisite.

B Schoner

BS:la

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
New Graduate Course Proposal Form

CALENDAR INFORMATION:

Department: Dept. of Econ. and Comm. Course Number: 810-5

Title: Monetary Theory

Description: see attached

Credit Hours: 5 Vector: _____ Prerequisite(s) if any: ECON 805-5

ENROLLMENT AND SCHEDULING:

Estimated Enrollment: _____ When will the course first be offered: _____

How often will the course be offered: _____

JUSTIFICATION:

Change in Prerequisites: This course is a more relevant prerequisite
given the way ECON 810 is currently taught.

RESOURCES:

Which Faculty member will normally teach the course: _____

What are the budgetary implications of mounting the course: _____

Are there sufficient Library resources (append details): _____

- Appended:
- a) Outline of the Course
 - b) An indication of the competence of the Faculty member to give the course.
 - c) Library resources

Approved: Departmental Graduate Studies Committee: _____ Date: Nov 7 1975

Faculty Graduate Studies Committee: [Signature] Date: 19 Nov 75

Faculty: _____ Date: _____

Senate Graduate Studies Committee: _____ Date: _____

Senate: _____ Date: _____

ECON 810-5

Description:

An examination of theories of the supply and demand for money in micro- and macro-contexts, from the "classical" analysis to the most recent developments. Emphasis will be placed upon the role of money in economic activity, the precise nature of its demand and supply conditions, and policy-implications of theoretical conclusions with regard to money.

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
New Graduate Course Proposal Form

CALENDAR INFORMATION:

Department: Dept. of Econ. and Comm. Course Number: 811-5

Title: Advanced Monetary Theory

Description: Selected topics in monetary theory and policy.

Credit Hours: 5 Vector: _____ Prerequisite(s) if anv: ECON 810-5

ENROLLMENT AND SCHEDULING:

Estimated Enrollment: _____ When will the course first be offered: _____

How often will the course be offered: _____

JUSTIFICATION:

Addition of Prerequisites: This course is a more relevant prerequisite given the way Ec. 810 is currently taught.

RESOURCES:

Which Faculty member will normally teach the course: _____

What are the budgetary implications of mounting the course: _____

Are there sufficient Library resources (append details): _____

- Appended: a) Outline of the Course
b) An indication of the competence of the Faculty member to give the course.
c) Library resources

Approved: Departmental Graduate Studies Committee: [Signature] Date: Nov 7 1975
Faculty Graduate Studies Committee: [Signature] Date: 17 Nov 75
Faculty: _____ Date: _____
Senate Graduate Studies Committee: _____ Date: _____
Senate: _____ Date: _____

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
New Graduate Course Proposal Form

CALENDAR INFORMATION:

Department: Dept. of Econ. and Comm. Course Number: ECON 830-5

Title: Mathematical Economics I

Description: see attached

Credit Hours: 5 Vector: _____ Prerequisite(s) if any: ECON 331-5

ENROLLMENT AND SCHEDULING:

Estimated Enrollment: _____ When will the course first be offered: _____

How often will the course be offered: _____

JUSTIFICATION:

Change of Title: From "Analytical Economics" to "Mathematical Economics I"

This title was considered to be more meaningful and descriptive than the previous title.

RESOURCES:

Which Faculty member will normally teach the course: _____

What are the budgetary implications of mounting the course: _____

Are there sufficient Library resources (append details): _____

- Appended:
- a) Outline of the Course
 - b) An indication of the competence of the Faculty member to give the course.
 - c) Library resources

Approved: Departmental Graduate Studies Committee: [Signature] Date: Nov 2, 1975

Faculty Graduate Studies Committee: [Signature] Date: 19 Nov 75

Faculty: _____ Date: _____

Senate Graduate Studies Committee: _____ Date: _____

Senate: _____ Date: _____

ECON 830-5

Description:

This course is concerned with the mathematical formulation of basic economic concepts. Applications include use of the calculus in demand and production theory, the theory of the firm, and distribution theory. Also the application of difference equation techniques in economic growth and cycle models, and input-output and linear programming formulations of transportation and production models.

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
New Graduate Course Proposal Form

CALENDAR INFORMATION:

Department: Econ. and Comm. Course Number: 831-5
Title: Mathematical Economics II
Description: Various equilibrium models of micro- and macro-theory will be examined with emphasis on their solution, stability conditions and the uniqueness of solutions.
Credit Hours: 5 Vector: _____ Prerequisite(s) if anv: ECON 331-5

ENROLLMENT AND SCHEDULING:

Estimated Enrollment: _____ When will the course first be offered: _____
How often will the course be offered: _____

JUSTIFICATION:

Change of Title: This title was considered to be more meaningful and descriptive than the previous title.

RESOURCES:

Which Faculty member will normally teach the course: _____
What are the budgetary implications of mounting the course: _____

Are there sufficient Library resources (append details): _____

- Appended: a) Outline of the Course
b) An indication of the competence of the Faculty member to give the course.
c) Library resources

Approved: Departmental Graduate Studies Committee: [Signature] Date: Nov 7, 1975
Faculty Graduate Studies Committee: [Signature] Date: 19 Nov 75
Faculty: _____ Date: _____
Senate Graduate Studies Committee: _____ Date: _____
Senate: _____ Date: _____

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
New Graduate Course Proposal Form

CALENDAR INFORMATION:

Department: Dept. of Econ. and Comm. Course Number: 861-5

Title: Resource Development and Conservation

Description: see attached

Credit Hours: 5 Vector: _____ Prerequisite(s) if any: _____

ENROLLMENT AND SCHEDULING:

Estimated Enrollment: _____ When will the course first be offered: _____

How often will the course be offered: _____

JUSTIFICATION:

Change in Description: The original course description was given by
a professor who is no longer on our staff. The current professor in
the resource area considers the new description to be a better description

RESOURCES: of the course as it is currently taught.

Which Faculty member will normally teach the course: _____

What are the budgetary implications of mounting the course: _____

Are there sufficient Library resources (append details): _____

- Appended: a) Outline of the Course
b) An indication of the competence of the Faculty member to give the course.
c) Library resources

Approved: Departmental Graduate Studies Committee: [Signature] Date: Nov 7 1975

Faculty Graduate Studies Committee: [Signature] Date: 19 Nov 75

Faculty: _____ Date: _____

Senate Graduate Studies Committee: _____ Date: _____

Senate: _____ Date: _____

ECON 861-5

Description:

The course is primarily one of applied economics dealing with topics of natural resources and environmental quality. This involves the application of economic theory to natural resource management problems with a view of assessing existing and alternative resource management policies with emphasis on problems of social choice. Topics will include benefit-cost analysis, economics and preservation, pricing of natural resource services and alternative pollution control strategies.

1. CALENDAR INFORMATION:

Department: Economics and Commerce Course Number: 893-5
 Title: Introduction to Marxian Economics
 Description: Examination of Marx's economic theory, with particular emphasis on
Capital, Theories of Surplus Value and the Grundrisse
 Credit Hours: 5 Vector: _____ Prerequisite(s) if any: _____

2. ENROLLMENT AND SCHEDULING:

Estimated Enrollment: 10 When will the course first be offered: 77-2
 How often will the course be offered: Once every four semesters

3. JUSTIFICATION:

The course has been taken by (and is currently available to)
 graduates on a Selected Topics basis in conjunction with, first,
 an undergraduate Selected Topics course and, now, Econ 309-5, At
 the time of introduction of Econ 309-5, it was an oversight not to set
 simultaneously a graduate number.

4. RESOURCES:

Which Faculty member will normally teach the course: M. Lebowitz
 What are the budgetary implications of mounting the course: None. No new offerings are
proposed. The change would have the effect of indicating to graduates the
availability of a course regularly offered and also would free the selected
topics number for other courses.
 Are there sufficient Library resources (append details): Yes

- Appended: a) Outline of the Course
 b) An indication of the competence of the Faculty member to give the course
 c) Library resources

Approved: Departmental Graduate Studies Committee: [Signature] Date: Oct 16 75
 Faculty Graduate Studies Committee: [Signature] Date: 19 Nov 75
 Faculty: _____ Date: _____
 Senate Graduate Studies Committee: _____ Date: _____
 Senate: _____ Date: 15

Qualifications of Faculty (M. Lebowitz)

Several articles published in Marxist economics. Recent papers include "Human Needs, Immigration and Alienation" presented to Canadian Economics Association in June 1975 and "Marx's Falling Rate of Profit: A Dialectical View" presented to History of Economics Society in May 1975. Referee in Marxist economics for Canadian Journal of Economics, History of Political Economy and Science and Society.

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

Department of Economics and Commerce

COURSE OUTLINE

Course: Economics 893-5

Instructor: M. Lebowitz

Title: Introduction to Marxian Economics

Despite having been ignored, written off, ridiculed, definitively refuted, and excluded as relevant subject matter from university economics curricula, Marxian economics is the 'mainstream' economics of a substantial portion of the world and at the same time has become the alternate 'paradigm' for dissident economists in North America and elsewhere.

This is an introduction. It is not an attempt to judge whether history has proved/ disproved Marx; nor is it an examination of what later writers have done with/to Marxian economic theory.

It is simply an introduction - a reading of Marx. The emphasis is on his main economic writing - on Capital (and on the immediately preceding works, Theories of Surplus Value and the Grundrisse). In particular, the three volumes of Capital will take up a major portion of the reading for the semester.

But to know how to read Marx requires an examination of his intellectual development and of his methodology. And this means the need to consider what Marx extracted from Hegel and also his relation to classical political economy - which will be the subject of the early part of the course. (Time permitting, there will also be a consideration of recent neo-Marxist extensions and the relationship of Marxian economics to current controversies in 'mainstream' economic theory.)

Among questions which may be touched upon in the course of the semester are:

Capital and dialectics
The critique of political economy
The unfinished works
The significance of the Grundrisse
The labour theory of value as a 'detour'?
Marx as a minor post-Ricardian?
What falling rate of profit?
The capitalist mode of production and capitalist society.

Books:

Required:

Karl Marx, Capital, Vol. I, II, III

L. Easton, K. Guddat, Writings of the Young Marx on Philosophy and Society.

Books (cont/)

Optional:

- K. Marx, Economic and Philosophical Manuscripts of 1844
Marx and Engels, German Ideology
Marx, The Grundrisse
Marx, Theories of Surplus Value, Vol. I, II, III
Marx and Engels, Collected Works
Mao Tse-Tung, On Contradiction

Separate graduate tutorial will emphasize questions of the relationship between Marxist methodology and 'mainstream' methodology, Marxist models, etc.

Graduate students will be expected to write a paper in Marxist economics in addition to taking examinations on the course material.