

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM

TO: Senate

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

SUBJECT: Graduate Curriculum Revisions
- Dept. of Sociology/Anthropology

DATE: Nov. 17, 1988

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.88-82 the following curriculum revisions:

- a) that the 'Advanced Theory Courses' in Sociology and Anthropology be made required courses for respective graduate students
- b) deletion of SA 800-5, SA 801-5, SA 820-5, SA 821-5, SA 825-5, SA 856-5, SA 858-5, SA 864-5, SA 873-5, SA 874-5, SA 882-5 and SA 884-5
- c) that Ph.D. applicants be required to submit a sample of their work from earlier or ongoing graduate studies

MEMORANDUM

TO: FACULTY OF ARTS GRADUATE STUDIES COMMITTEE

FROM: GARY TEEPLE, CHAIR
GRADUATE PROGRAM COMMITTEE
SOCIOLOGY/ANTHROPOLOGY DEPARTMENT

SUBJECT: PROPOSED CHANGES TO SOCIOLOGY/ANTHROPOLOGY
GRADUATE STUDIES PROGRAM

DATE: JANUARY 18, 1988

I INTRODUCTION

Over the past year the Department of Sociology/Anthropology has conducted a review of its graduate program with the purpose a) of discovering how to expedite the progress of students through the program, allowing course work to be completed within 3 semesters, and b) of clarifying and simplifying the existing course offerings, bringing them more into line with current practice.

The proposed substantive changes are as follows:

- A) To make the 'Advanced Theory Course' in Sociology and Anthropology required courses for the respective graduate students.
- B) To eliminate several courses from the calendar listing.
- C) To require Ph.D. applicants to submit a sample of their work from earlier or ongoing graduate studies.

We also wish to change the wording but not the substance (except for A, B and C) of our calendar entry - these are editorial changes but are listed below.

It should be noted that the minimum course requirements remain at 4 one-semester courses for both the M.A. and Ph.D. and credit hours at 20, plus the Graduate Seminar.

II RATIONALE FOR PROPOSED CHANGES

- A) The Advanced Theory courses in Sociology (SA 850) and in Anthropology (SA 870), as listed in the Calendar, are not at present required courses or regularly offered. It is felt by the Department that comprehensive theory courses such as these should constitute part of the minimum requirements for both graduate degrees to ensure that students are conversant with the prevailing theories in the disciplines at a graduate level, and that they should be offered each Fall semester for incoming graduate students.

[In the event that a doctoral student has completed an M.A. in the Department, the course requirements remain the same as for other doctoral students but special arrangements will be made by the Graduate Program Committee to ensure that SA 850 or SA 870 are not repeated. These arrangements will consist of a prescribed course of study approved by the student's committee and the Graduate Program Committee. The same student will be required to repeat SA 857 because this course is an exercise in research design focusing on each student's anticipated thesis research.]

B) We propose to eliminate the following courses from the calendar:

SA 800	Social and Cultural Processes in Canadian Society
SA 801	Comparative Ethnic Relations
SA 820	Demographic Issues
SA 821	Social Movements
SA 825	Political Sociology
SA 856	Field Work Seminar
SA 858	Philosophy of the Social Sciences
SA 864	Social Analysis of Developing Nations
SA 873	Regional Studies I
SA 874	Regional Studies II
SA 882	Selected Problems in Sociological Analysis
SA 884	Selected Problems in Anthropological Analysis

The reason is straightforward, namely, that most of the courses to be deleted have not been offered very often, if at all, in the past five years. Furthermore, should any of the deleted courses be mounted in the future, they can be done under the remaining listed courses (see below).

C) We propose to require applicants to the Ph.D. Graduate Program to submit a sample of their work in order to assist the Graduate Program Committee in assessing the ability of prospective applicants to complete the doctoral program successfully.

III PROPOSED CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

AREAS OF STUDY

SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY, ANTHROPOLOGICAL THEORY, AND THE PHILOSOPHY OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCES (European intellectual history, holistic, comparative and historical perspectives)

CANADIAN SOCIETY (ethnic relations, demographic issues, social inequality, political economy)

SOCIAL AND CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY (with emphasis upon the anthropology of modern life)

DEVELOPMENT STUDIES (especially the Third World, including studies of tourism)

POLITICS AND SOCIETY (with emphasis on political economy, ethnic relations and social movements)

RELIGION AND SOCIETY

MINORITY INDIGENOUS PEOPLES (particularly Canadian native peoples)

SOCIAL POLICY ISSUES (gender relations, aging, government administration of native peoples)

ADMISSION

The Department of Sociology and Anthropology offers programs of advanced learning and research leading to the M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in Sociology and Anthropology.

For general admission requirements applicants should refer to the General Regulations section. The Department requires the student, in addition, to produce a written statement about his/her current interests and prospective research. How well the proposed research of the applicant coincides with the research and teaching interests of the faculty in the Department is an important consideration for admission.

Ph.D. applicants must submit a sample of their work from earlier or ongoing graduate studies.

Applications for admission into the program are normally considered once each year at the end of January; the program commences in September.

Prospective applicants should contact the department's Graduate Program Chair for further information about the program.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

For both the M.A. and Ph.D. degrees, formal course work and a thesis are required. The minimum requirements are as follows:

i) 4 one-semester courses

- a) Two of these must be SA 850 or SA 870 (Advanced Sociological or Anthropological Theory), and SA 857 (Research Design Seminar).

[In the event that a doctoral student has completed an M.A. in the Department, course requirements remain the same as for other doctoral students, but special arrangements will be made by the Department Graduate Program Committee to ensure that SA 850 or SA 870 is not repeated.]

- b) The remaining two courses will be chosen from: SA 886 (Selected Problems in Social Analysis); SA 853/SA 871 (Readings Courses I); a course in another Department or University.

[The option of the Readings Courses and the extra-Departmental courses must be approved by the student's supervisory committee and the Departmental Graduate Program Committee. Any student with deficiencies may be asked to complete more courses.]

- ii) Prior to commencing work on the thesis, the student will defend a written prospectus on the thesis in an oral examination.
- iii) A thesis (see the Departmental handbook for guidelines).
- iv) For the Ph.D. only: a written qualifying examination in theory is required before the oral examination on the thesis prospectus.

In fulfilling these requirements, the normal sequence would be as follows:

a) Course Requirements

Fall Semester (I): SA 850 or SA 870

Spring Semester (I): Two of the following:

SA 853 or SA 871

SA 886

Extra-Departmental courses.

Summer Semester (I): SA 857 (Research Design Seminar)

b) Qualifying Examination Summer Semester (I)
(for the Ph.D. only) or Fall Semester (II)

c) Thesis Prospectus Fall Semester (II)

d) Thesis

The Graduate Seminar (SA 840-2, SA 841-0)

Both M.A. and Ph.D. students are expected to attend and actively participate in the Graduate Seminar each semester it is offered. Grading will be restricted to satisfactory/unsatisfactory (S/U).

Language Requirement

Although the department recognizes that a knowledge of French or foreign languages is desirable for advanced degree studies, it does not have prescribed language requirements. However, where it is evident that a language other than English is necessary for the candidate's field work or reading, the student will be required to attain the necessary proficiency.