

S.73-142

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM

To SENATE

From SENATE COMMITTEE ON UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

Subject FACULTY OF ARTS - DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY - CHANGES IN REQUIREMENTS AND NEW COURSE PROPOSAL - PSYC 499-10 - HONORS THESIS

Date NOVEMBER 15, 1973

MOTION 1: "That Senate approve, as set forth in S.73-142, the new course proposal for PSYC 499-10 - Honors Thesis."

MOTION 2: "That Senate approve, as set forth in S.73-142, changes in requirements for a major

From: '....For a major at least 30 credits in upper division Psychology courses must be taken during the last 4 levels.'

To: '....For a major at least 30 credits in upper division Psychology courses, including no more than 8 credits in directed studies, must be taken during the upper levels.'"

MOTION 3: "That Senate approve, as set forth in S.73-142, change in requirements for Honors in Psychology

From: '....To qualify for the Honors degree in Psychology the student must have completed 50 credits in upper division Psychology or approved related courses during the last four levels.'

To: '....To qualify for the Honors degree in Psychology the student must have completed 50 credits in upper division Psychology or approved related courses during the upper levels. No more than eight of these may be directed studies courses in Psychology.'"

MOTION 4: "That Senate approve as set forth in S.73-142, the addition of a section in Directed Studies as follows:

'Students taking the Majors or Honors in Psychology may count no more than 8 hours of Directed Studies towards the required number of upper division Psychology credits.'

(Note: If Senate does not approve Psychology 499-10 for the above, substitute the following:

'Students majoring in Psychology may count no more than 8 hours of Directed Studies towards upper division required credits in Psychology. Students taking Honors in Psychology may count no more than 11 hours of Directed Studies towards upper division required credits in Psychology.'

MOTION 5: "That Senate approve, as set forth in S.73-142, a correction in course requirements for honors in Psychology

From: 'Specific courses in Psychology must include 101-3, 201-3, 401-5'

To: 'Specific courses in Psychology must include 101-3, 201-3, 210-3, 401-5 ...'

MOTION 6: "That Senate approve, as set forth in S.73-142, for PSYC 106-3 the change in description

From: 'Relates contemporary knowledge from psychology to current social problems. The course provides relevant information from studies pertaining to problems of attitude development, prejudice, race relations, and cultural differences.'

To: 'Relates contemporary knowledge from psychology to current social problems. The course provides relevant information from studies pertaining to problems such as attitude development, prejudice, race relations, cultural differences, behavior technology, and family pathology.'

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MEMORANDUM

To SENATE

From SENATE COMMITTEE ON
UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

Subject FACULTY OF ARTS - DEPARTMENT OF
PSYCHOLOGY - CHANGES IN REQUIREMENTS,
NEW COURSE PROPOSAL

Date NOVEMBER 14, 1973.

On the recommendation of the Faculty of Arts, the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies has approved changes, - as set forth in SCUS 73-37VIII - for the Department of Psychology in specifying the use of directed studies courses in fulfilling requirements for a major or honors, in a course description, and a new course proposal, and recommends approval to Senate.



I. Mugridge

HME:jb

PSYCHOLOGY

- p. 169 Course Requirements for a Major Change in Requirements: From " For a major at least 30 credits in upper division Psychology courses must be taken during the last 4 levels." to "For a major at least 30 credits in upper division Psychology courses, including no more than 8 credits in directed studies, must be taken during the upper levels".
- p. 169 Course Requirements for Honors in Psychology Change in Requirements: From "To qualify for the Honors degree in Psychology the student must have completed 50 credits in upper division Psychology or approved related courses during the last four levels". to "To qualify for the Honors degree in Psychology the student must have completed 50 credits in upper division Psychology or approved related courses during the upper levels. No more than eight ~~of these~~ of these may be directed studies courses in Psychology".
- p. 176 New Section Add Directed Studies
 "Students majoring in Psychology may count no more than eight hours of Directed Studies toward upper division required credits in Psychology. Students taking Honors in Psychology may count no more than eleven hours of Directed Studies toward upper division required credits in Psychology".
Note: In the above form if Senate does not approve addition of Psychology 499-10.

 "Students taking Majors or Honors in Psychology may count no more than eight hours of Directed Studies towards the required number of upper division Psychology credits."
Note: In the above form if Senate approves Psychology 499-10.

Rationale:
 Because Psychology is an increasingly diversified discipline, it is essential that undergraduates not overspecialize at the expense of a broad exposure to the field. Eight hours of directed studies allow the student a reasonable amount of specialized reading and research, while avoiding the danger of overspecialization. In the case of honors students, where the number of hours taken is greater and more specialization is appropriate, the department wishes to introduce the student to the more

PSYCHOLOGY (cont.)

disciplined approach of a formal thesis project.

Note: Eight hours if senate approves the addition of Psychology 499-10. If not, eleven.

- p. 169 Course Requirements for Honors in Psychology Calendar Omission.
"Specific courses in Psychology must include 101-3, 201-3, 401-5 . . . "
should read "Specific courses in Psychology must include 101-3, 201-3, 210-3, 401-5 . . . "
- p. 171 Psychology 106-3 Change in Description: From "Relates contemporary knowledge from psychology to current social problems. The course provides relevant information from studies pertaining to problems of attitude development, prejudice, race relations, and cultural differences."

to "Relates contemporary knowledge from psychology to current social problems. The course provides relevant information from studies pertaining to problems such as attitude development, prejudice, race relations, cultural differences, behavior technology, and family pathology."

- p. 177 New Course Add: Psychology 499-10. Honors Thesis.

The student will plan and conduct an original research project. A written thesis will be submitted and orally defended.

Prerequisite: Open by special arrangement only to Psychology Honors students who have completed at least 90 ^{3 semesters} credits of university work, with at least 20 credits in upper-division Psychology courses. For detailed information, contact the Chairman of the Undergraduate Studies Committee.

See Appendix A.

FACULTY OF ARTS

September 1973

NEW COURSE PROPOSAL

1. CALENDAR INFORMATION

Department: PSYCHOLOGY Course Number: 499-10 Title: Honors Thesis
Sub-title or Description: The student will plan and conduct an original research project. A written thesis will be submitted and orally defended.

Credit Hours: 10 Vector Description: NONE

Pre-requisite(s):

Open by special arrangement only to Psychology Honors students who have completed at least 90 ^{semester hours} credits of university work, with at least 20 credits in upper-division Psychology courses. For detailed information, contact the

2. ENROLMENT AND SCHEDULING chairman of the Undergraduate Studies Committee.

Estimated Enrolment: 3/semester ^{Psychology}

Semester Offered (e.g. yearly, every Spring; twice yearly, Fall and Spring):
every semester

When will course first be offered?

74-3

3. JUSTIFICATION

A. What is the detailed description of the course including differentiation from lower level courses, from similar courses in the same department, and from courses in other departments in the University?

Course will provide intensive research training to a few honors students. Students will be expected to complete and write up a project of real scientific value.

There is no similar course in the Psychology Dept. at S.F.U. Undergraduate thesis programmes do exist at other universities.

B. What is the range of topics that may be dealt with in the course?

Any psychological topic is suitable which can be investigated in a relatively short period and which is consonant with the ethical code of the Canadian Psychological Association.

- C. How does this course fit the goals of the department?

This course provides an opportunity for honors students to receive genuine research experience with supervision by a committee of critical scholars.

- D. How does this course affect degree requirements?

Addition of the course will not affect degree requirements.

- E. What are the calendar changes necessary to reflect the addition of this course?

Course description

- F. What course, if any, is being dropped from the calendar if this course is approved?

None

- G. What is the nature of student demand for this course?

There has been consistent pressure, over the years, from a small number of students, for this kind of addition to the honours programme.

- H. Other reasons for introducing the course.

3.

4. BUDGETARY AND SPACE FACTORS

A. Which faculty will be available to teach this course?

The entire faculty may be involved.

B. What are the special space and/or equipment requirements for this course?

There will be small equipment expenditures and space allocations necessary for some projects.

C. Any other budgetary implications of mounting this course:

No

Approval:

Curriculum Committee:

Dean of Faculty:

Senate Undergraduate
Studies Committee:

Senate:

Psych 499-10 Honours Thesis
Information Sheet

General Eligibility

In exceptional circumstances only, the Undergraduate Studies Committee may waive the prerequisite of 90 credits with at least 20 upper-division Psychology credits.

Thesis Committee

Prior to the semester in which the student intends to register in 499, he must obtain the consent of a member of the department who will act as the thesis supervisor and chairman of the thesis committee. Together, they will select and obtain the consent of at least one other member of the department to act as members of the thesis committee. (Committee members may be from other than the Psychology Department. However, at least one member, in addition to the supervisor, must be from the Psychology Department.) The student, in consultation with his committee, will select a thesis topic. (It is the responsibility of the committee, inter alia, to ensure the propriety of the topic, its commensurability with both the student's background and available resources, and that its scope is such that the thesis may reasonably be expected to be completed in one semester.) When a topic has been agreed upon, the supervisor will submit the student's name, the composition of the committee, and the topic to the Undergraduate Studies Committee for approval. Such approval must be obtained before the student may register in 499. Any subsequent changes in the composition of the thesis committee must be approved by the Undergraduate Studies Committee.

Grading Procedure

The thesis will be assigned a grade according to current University regulations regarding undergraduate grading. The written thesis will be submitted to the supervisor on or before the final day of classes for the semester. On or before the final day of the examination period, the student will orally defend the thesis before the committee. The thesis defense will be open for observation and questioning by faculty, and for observation by all members of the University community. The supervisor, in consultation with the committee, will assign a grade based on the written thesis and its defense.