

S.72-135

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM

To SENATE

From SENATE COMMITTEE ON UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

Subject FACULTY OF ARTS - CHANGES -
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

Date NOVEMBER 15, 1972

MOTION: "That Senate approve, as set forth in S.72-135, changes in requirements in the Department of English, as follows:

1. Majors in English

Normally a Simon Fraser University English Major shall obtain credit or standing in five lower division

English courses as follows:

- (a) Any two of English 101, 102 and 103;
- (b) Both of English 202 and 203 (or 111 or 201 in place of either)
- (c) Any one of English 101, 102, 103, 212, and 225 - or transfer credit for some English course which has no direct equivalent at Simon Fraser University. Composition courses of a purely remedial nature are not accepted for credit and therefore do not satisfy this category.

A student with 15 transfer credits in English will be deemed to have met the department's prerequisites for a major in English provided some of those credits represent studies in both category (a) and category (b) above. Students deficient by not more than 3 credits in the department's prerequisites by reason of inadequate transfer

credits or for other reasons may be accepted as English Majors but must make up the deficiency. Such make-up shall normally be attempted at the first opportunity, but the department may permit its deferment to avoid timetable conflicts or for other good cause. Students deficient in more than 3 credits in the department's prerequisites will not be accepted as English Majors until the entire deficiency has been made up.

2. Decrease the present credit values of English 202 and English 203 each from 4 credits to 3."

Note: Recommendations for changes in English Department requirements were earlier submitted to Senate under S.72-101, but were referred back for further consideration. The above includes changes made following discussions within the Department of English and with SCUS.

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Subject FACULTY OF ARTS - CHANGES -
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Date NOVEMBER 15, 1972

On recommendation of the Faculty of Arts, the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies approved changes in requirements of that Department for entry to majors in English and for change in credit hours for English 202 and English 203 from 4 to 3, and recommends approval to Senate.

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM

To..... H. Evans	From..... G. Newman, Chairman
..... Registrar Department of English
Subject..... 1973-74 Calendar	Date..... November 17, 1972
..... S.72-101 & SCUS 72-74	

CHANGES - DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH.

Following the SCUS meeting of September 21st, proposals were put to this department and to the Faculty of Arts, and accepted by both, the purpose of which was to meet the objections of Senate to 1973-74 calendar changes submitted by the department. Senate had objected to that part of the department's proposed general regulations which concerned pre-requisites for English majors who entered this university with substantial transfer credits, the objection being that in certain cases those students' English pre-requisites would total only 12 credits, against 17 for students who did all or most of their lower level work here. Two changes were therefore proposed, and accepted; as follows:

Majors in English

- (1) First to change the second paragraph under

Majors in English from

"English majors with 60 transfer credits, including 12 in English satisfying all or part of both category (a) and category (b) above, will be given an automatic waiver of lower division English requirements, and may immediately enter the majors program. Students with 57 transfer credits may be given the same waiver on application to the department, at its discretion. Applications must be made before registration if practicable; otherwise at least one day before the end of the course-change period."

to

"A student with 15 transfer credits in English will be deemed to have met the department's requirements for a major in English provided some of those credits represent studies in both category (a) and category (b) above. Students deficient by not more than 3 credits in the department's pre-requisites by reason of inadequate transfer credits or for other reasons may be accepted as English Majors but must make up the deficiency. Such make-up shall normally be attempted at the first opportunity, but the department may permit its deferment to avoid time-table conflicts

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To.....

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or for other good cause. Students deficient in more than 3 credits in the department's pre-requisites will not be accepted as English majors until the entire deficiency has been made up."

(2) Second, to decrease the present credit values of English 202 and English 203 each from 4 credits to 3.

The effect of the first of these changes is to increase the English pre-requisites for English Majors transferring from other institutions to a minimum of 15. The effect of the second is to reduce them for other students from 17 to 15. Thus parity is attained for both groups.

Justification

No justification for increasing the minimum pre-requisites for transfer students appears necessary. Indeed they are not increased by this proposal; they are merely restored to what they currently are. The department recognizes the cogency of Senate's objection to its earlier plan to reduce them, and has modified its plan accordingly.

The reduction in credits assigned to English 202 and 203 is now proposed not only to achieve parity between regular students and transfer students, but also to recognize the results of over two years of experience with these courses. They were first offered in 70-2, each with 4 credits, each with the vector (2-1 1/2-0). The half hour of tutorial time beyond normal has indeed proved academically valuable, to such an extent that the department wishes to retain it, but not to such an extent that the extra hour of credit now ascribed to it can be readily justified. That the students benefit from it there is no question; but there is serious question whether it causes them to do sufficient additional work to earn a full hour of additional credit. Administratively, also, the existence of two 4-credit courses in lower levels, where 3-credit courses are standard and the normal semester load-limit is 16, causes complications, making difficulties for a student who wishes to take both in the same semester, as he may otherwise find it advantageous to do. The 4 credits now given these courses also create apparent anomalies in transfer of 200-range 3-credit courses taken elsewhere. For all these reasons the department sees benefits for faculty, for students, and for administration, in reducing their credit-values from 4 to 3.

D. G. Neuman,
per H. Chamberlain