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www.sfu.ca/vpacademic**MEMORANDUM**

ATTENTION Senate **DATE** May 20, 2014
FROM Jon Driver, Vice-President, Academic and Provost, and Chair, SCUP **PAGES** 1/1
RE: Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences: Full Program Proposal for a Certificate in Performance Studies in the Department of English (SCUP 14-16)

By a vote conducted by email, SCUP reviewed and approved the Full Program Proposal for a Certificate in Performance Studies in the Department of English within the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, effective Spring 2015.

Motion:

That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the Full Program Proposal for a Certificate in Performance Studies in the Department of English within the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, effective Spring 2015.

c: S. Zwagerman
P. Dickinson

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Jon Driver', written in a cursive style.



OFFICE OF THE ASSOCIATE VICE-PRESIDENT, ACADEMIC

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MEMORANDUM

ATTENTION	Senate Committee on University Priorities	DATE	April 4, 2014
FROM	Gordon Myers, Chair Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies	PAGES	1/1
RE:	Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (SCUS 14-10b) 		

Action undertaken by the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies at its meeting of April 3, 2014, gives rise to the following recommendation:

Motion

That SCUP approve and recommend to Senate the Full Program Proposal for the Undergraduate Certificate in Performance Studies in the Department of English within the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

The relevant documentation for review by SCUP is attached.



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20 March 2014

Dear Jane;

As requested by SCUS, I am hereby submitting a revised version of the full program proposal for the Certificate in Performance Studies. In order to clarify that FCAT is simply allowing their courses to be used as part of the certificate and is not an alternate host for the certificate, I have deleted FCAT from the first page of the FPP and amended section 5.xv to read: "The Certificate is composed of courses from participating units in both FASS and FCAT; a coordinator from one of the participating FASS units will direct the program."

Also as requested, I have forwarded to you:

1. An email from Dr. Dany Lacombe, Chair of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, stating "Since the content of the proposal has not changed, I do not need to bring it back to SA faculty members. SA approves the Full Program Proposal of the Performance Studies Certificate."

2. Minutes from the Wednesday, September 18, 2013 department meeting of GSWS which state: "Modified Performance Studies Certificate: Helen Leung proposed that the department support the modified Performance Studies Certificate. The courses from the School of Communication have been removed, but our commitment remains the same. Jen Marchbank seconded the proposal; approved."

I thank you, as always, for your attention.

Sincerely,

Sean Zwagerman
Associate Professor and Undergraduate Chair
Department of English
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778-782-4831

SFU Connect**szwagerm@sfu.ca**

Re: Performance Studies Certificate

From : Dany Lacombe <lacombe@sfu.ca>

Tue, Mar 11, 2014 01:02 PM

Subject : Re: Performance Studies Certificate**To :** Peter Dickinson <peter_dickinson@sfu.ca>**Cc :** Sean Zwagerman <sean_zwagerman@sfu.ca>, Dara Culhane <daraculhane@gmail.com>

Dear Peter,

Since the content of the proposal has not changed, I do not need to bring it back to SA faculty members. SA approves the Full Program Proposal of the Performance Studies Certificate.

Best wishes,

dany

Dr Dany Lacombe
Professor of Sociology
Chair, Department of Sociology and Anthropology
Simon Fraser University
8888 University Drive,
Burnaby, BC, Canada, V5A 1S6
Phone: 778-782-5478

----- Original Message -----

From: "Peter Dickinson" <peter_dickinson@sfu.ca>**To:** "Dany Lacombe" <lacombe@sfu.ca>**Cc:** "Sean Zwagerman" <sean_zwagerman@sfu.ca>, "Dara Culhane" <daraculhane@gmail.com>**Sent:** Tuesday, 11 March, 2014 12:34:49**Subject:** Re: Performance Studies Certificate

Dear Dany,

We learned from Jane Pulkingham in the Dean's office yesterday that SCUP needs confirmation from participating units in the Performance

Studies Certificate that they approve of the Full Program Proposal (FPP), as it has been filled out according to the university's guidelines, etc. Nothing has really changed between the program description I sent you last fall--just the template of the form.

Nevertheless, I would be grateful if you could officially reiterate your support of the proposal, copying my Undergraduate Chair, Sean Zwagerman, whom I've cc'd on this message, and who will be writing up the response memo summarizing all units' agreement. (I've also cc'd Dara Culhane, as she has been S&A's rep on the committee that put the program proposal together.) I understand that this may require taking things back to the department as a whole; I'd be grateful, once again, if that could be done quickly, so that we can make the next SCUP meeting in May.

Assuming all goes well from there, the program will be up and running in Spring 2015.

I attach a copy of the FPP for your reference, as well as the original program description.

Supreme thanks for your patience and support,

Peter

Dr. Peter Dickinson
Professor
Department of English
Simon Fraser University
8888 University Drive
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Simon Fraser University

Full Program Proposal

Undergraduate Certificate in Performance Studies

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

March 2014

Executive Summary

- A Certificate in Performance Studies is proposed by the Department of English, the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, the Department of Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies, and School for the Contemporary Arts.
- The academic field of Performance Studies is an interdisciplinary method of inquiry that understands all human action—from how we talk to our friends to deciding what to wear to school—as implicitly theatrical, and that considers any social or ceremonial ritual—from sharing a meal with family to genuflecting before a religious or royal figure—to be worthy of analysis as a performance. The point of comparison for each of these performances is not their vastly different content, but rather the shared aspects of their structure: how they are composed, prepared and presented, and, most importantly, what this might tell us about the individual, group or culture that enacts them.
- The Certificate is designed for students interested in focusing on, and expanding their expertise in, these areas of study and their intersections through the interdisciplinary practices and the interpretive lens of performance. Students will have the opportunity to take courses in all of the participating fields, and will also take at least two required courses that engage more directly with the common theoretical and methodological foundations of performance as an analytical paradigm (See 5.iv).
- The proposed Certificate addresses SFU's stated goals of "increas[ing] the diversification of our programmes," and "creating new interdisciplinary specializations."
- Based upon existing courses, this program can be mounted immediately with a negligible requirement of new resources (see 5.xv).
- The Certificate is composed of courses from participating units in both FASS and FCAT; a coordinator from one of the participating FASS units will direct the program.
- Students will be enrolled from existing students in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences and the Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology. We are confident the program will attract students (see 5.xiv).

1. Credential to be Awarded

Certificate in Performance Studies

2. Location

SFU: Burnaby, Surrey, and Vancouver Campuses

3. Faculty/Department/School offering the new program

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS):

Department of English

Department of Sociology and Anthropology

Department of Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies

Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology

School for the Contemporary Arts

4. Anticipated Program Start Date

Fall 2014

5. Description of the Program**5.i. Aims, goals, and/or objectives**

The Certificate in Performance Studies will provide students an opportunity to complement their B.A. and focus their interdisciplinary work via the methods and perspectives of performance studies, through the critical analysis of the intrinsically scripted and performed character of much human action. This unifying thematic encompasses a diversity of courses across disciplines, providing students with a broad yet coherent course of study, one with ample opportunity for program customization.

5.ii. Anticipated contribution to the mandate and strategic plan of the institution

With its focus on writing and performance arts as community activities, its emphasis on individual and collective action, and its opportunities for written, performed, and multimedia student productions, the proposed Certificate is by nature interdisciplinary, experiential, and engaged. Instructors in this Certificate program are involved in the "interdisciplinary research" identified as central to SFU's Strategic Vision, and students in the Certificate program will themselves "participate in advanced research" in performance studies and in performance practices (see 5.vi and 5.vii). Students who complete the Certificate will be recognized as critically engaged thinkers, creators, and citizens.

5.iii. Target audience

The Certificate will be open to all registered SFU undergraduates. It is directed toward students with interdisciplinary interest in the history, politics, range, and production of performance and performance studies, as described in the Executive Summary.

5.iv. Content and summary of requirements for graduation

Normal requirements for admission to Simon Fraser University apply. Students are required to satisfy the prerequisites of all courses (upper and lower division) taken toward the Certificate, and should consult regularly with departmental advisors regarding course selection.

Prior to formal program admission, students must complete two of*

- ENGL 103W-3 Introduction to Drama
- FPA 168-3 Visual Art and Culture II
- GSWS 100-3 Sex Talk: Introduction to Contemporary Issues in Sexuality Studies
- GSWS 101-3 Gender Talk
- SA 101-4 Introduction to Anthropology (A)

Program Requirements

Students successfully complete a minimum total of 26 units, including three of

- ENGL 214-3 History and Principles of Rhetoric
- ENGL 216-3 History and Principles of Literary Criticism
- FPA 210-3 Artworks, Theories and Contexts
- FPA 257W-3 Context of Theatre I
- FPA 289-3 Selected Topics in the Fine and Performing Arts
- GSWS 204-3 Sex and the City
- GSWS 205-3 Women and Popular Culture
- SA 201W-4 Anthropology and Contemporary Life (A)
- SA 218-4 Illness, Culture and Society (SA)
- SA 245-4 Cultures and Images (A)

and two of **

- ENGL 380-4 Text and Performance
- FPA 317-4 Introduction to Performance Studies
- GSWS 331-4 Queer Genders
- SA 474-4 Cultures, Politics, Performance: Conversations with Performance Studies (A)

and three of**

- ENGL 311-4 Early Shakespeare
- ENGL 313-4 Late Shakespeare
- ENGL 407W-4 Topics in Early English Drama
- ENGL 468W-4 Topics in Drama
- ENGL 484W-4 Topics in Literature and Media
- ENGL 486W-4 Topics in Gender, Sexuality and Literature
- FPA 312-3 Selected Topics in Art and Culture Studies
- FPA 313-5 Arts, Audience, Patronage, Institutions
- FPA 319W-3 Critical Writing in the Arts
- FPA 357-3 Context of Theatre II

FPA 389-3 Selected Topics in the Fine and Performing Arts II
 FPA 457-4 Context of Theatre III
 GSWS 306-4 Women's Autobiographies, Memoirs, Journals
 GSWS 330-4 Masculinities
 GSWS 398W-4 Feminist Currents
 GSWS 431-4 Local Sex on Global Screen
 GSWS 432-4 Sex in the Sixties
 SA 301-4 Contemporary Ethnography (A)
 SA 318-4 The Anthropology of Medicine (A)
 SA 352-4 Games, Sports and Cultures (A)
 SA 364-4 Urban Communities and Cultures (SA)
 SA 368-4 Language, Ideology, and Power (A)
 SA 371-4 The Environment and Society (SA)
 SA 402-4 The Practice of Anthropology (A)

In meeting these requirements, no more than four courses may be in any one department. Substitutions may be approved on a case-by-case basis by the program coordinator. A cumulative grade point average of 2.5 is required in the courses used for the certificate.

* The Certificate is composed of courses from participating units in both FASS and FCAT; however, it will be housed in and overseen by the English Department, and is thus being brought before FASS's Undergraduate Curriculum Committee for approval. It is possible, with approval from the program coordinator, to count courses with related content from cognate units towards completion of the Certificate: e.g., in Fall 2013, EXPL 340/WL 320: Culture, Memory, Writing, and Performance.

** Additional core and upper-level elective courses may be developed and/or substituted following the Certificate program's formal approval and launch.

5.v. Delivery Methods

The certificate features two new core courses, already approved: ENGL 380: Text and Performance, and SA 474: Cultures, Politics, Performance. Otherwise, the Certificate will be taught entirely through existing courses at SFU campuses. Coursework will incorporate lectures, tutorials, peer group discussions and exercises, creative projects, guest performances and speakers.

5.vi. Linkages between learning outcomes and curriculum design

Students receiving the Certificate in Performance Studies will be able to:

- Understand the history, discourses, methodologies, controversies, and present state of the interdisciplinary field of Performance Studies.

- Identify and evaluate the performative dimensions, functions, and consequences of literary, theatrical, political, professional, gendered, and other performances, and recognize the role of performers, scripts, and audiences throughout our lived experience.
- Communicate clearly and expressively in a range of oral performance contexts.
- Develop thoughtful, sustained, and well-supported arguments, incorporating relevant primary and secondary research materials and ethnographic research.
- Compare and contrast audience receptions of performances over time and between locations.
- Formulate appropriate research questions to critique performances in specific social and political contexts and communicate a critical review of the performance(s) to diverse audiences.
- Transfer a concept or idea to practical realization, i.e., from the “page” to the “stage.”

To fulfill these learning outcomes, the Certificate courses will:

- Introduce the terminology and methodologies required for the sorts of analyses and creative works required.
- Afford students the opportunity to analyze works in a range of textual and performance media.
- Introduce students to examples of the sorts of works they themselves will have the opportunity to create.
- Arrange and facilitate collaborative interactions among students within and across units, and between students and performing artists where relevant.
- Incorporate opportunities for students to reflect upon their own learning processes and productive practices.

5.vii. Distinctive characteristics

- The Certificate program is distinguished by its focus upon not only the students' critical analysis of performance, but the opportunities to create their own purposeful textual, theatrical, visual, and technological productions.
- The Certificate program is distinguished as well by its interdisciplinarity. While interdisciplinarity may at times be more evident in the promise than the realization, the field of Performance Studies brings to this Certificate a preexisting and well-established interdisciplinarity, making salient the intersections among the fields, courses, and topics.
- Finally, the Certificate program is distinguished by its relevance not only to academic inquiry, but to future careers and to everyday life—from urban living to health education and promotion (see 5xiv).

5.viii. Anticipated completion time

The Certificate is designed to be completed concurrent with a B.A. in four years.

5.ix. Enrolment plan for the length of the program

No maximum number of admissions per year has been set, and enrolment is difficult to predict in advance. In time, the Certificate would hope to attract perhaps 10 to 15 students yearly.

5.x. Policies on student evaluation (degree requirements)

Students will be evaluated according to the general regulations of the University, FASS, and SCA. Objects of evaluation will include critical writings, creative works, and participation in seminars, collaborative projects, and performances.

5.xi. Policies on faculty appointments (minimum qualifications)

All continuing faculty will hold a Ph.D. with expertise in one of the related fields.

5.xii. Policies on program assessment

In common with the participating schools and departments, the Certificate in Performance Studies will be subject to external review every seven years.

5.xiii. Level of support and recognition (including plans for admissions and transfer within the British Columbia post-secondary education system) and relevant regulatory or professional bodies, where applicable

Not applicable. Program will have no effect on existing or future transfer agreements.

5.xiv. Evidence of student interest and labour market demand

Established Performance Studies programs flourish at York, University of Toronto, NYU, Berkeley, and Manchester, to name but a few. The courses listed herein as part of the Certificate are consistently popular with students, as are English courses with a Performance Studies focus. Of the four proposed core courses for the program, the two more established of these—FPA 317 and GSWS 331—are consistently overenrolled. The two newer core courses—ENGL 380 and SA 474—have attracted strong interest in their initial offerings; a survey of students at the conclusion of the former course indicated an overwhelming aggregate interest in the program and its proposed offerings, as well as for the potential employment opportunities afforded with the credential. This holds true, as well, for graduate students currently working in the area of performance studies at SFU, many of whom indicated they would have appreciated being able to enroll in such a program as undergraduates had it existed. As one student put it, “this certificate is precisely what I was searching for

during my undergraduate degree. Without the infrastructure of a certificate program and the official agreement across disciplines, I had to cobble together a lesser version of the program piecemeal, and do so without the certificate credential to back up my studies. Were this certificate program in place during my time as an undergrad, I would have enrolled without question, and the credential would have set me in stronger stead with my graduate school applications in the field. Not only will this certificate program afford decisive advantage to those seeking to carry on to advanced research on issues of performance—a steadily growing group—but this program also promises to advance knowledge in related fields.”

As for the labour market, students at other institutions who have majored in, or focused on, Performance Studies have obtained careers in arts creation, advocacy, and management; community leadership and social development; law and politics; multicultural education and public relations; health care, health education, and public health administration; international development and research. Graduates are sought after to apply their intercultural knowledge and skills in fields such as transnational corporate communication; market research among multi-cultural consumers; and architecture, housing and urban planning. An emerging growth area in employment for those with performance studies training is as researchers and designers of educational and cultural experience projects for transnational cultural tourism initiatives. Those with performance studies training are in demand for jobs for health promotion, including modeling simulated scenarios relating to mock health crises and evacuation procedures for regional municipalities.

As noted, performance studies is about grasping and assessing both the temporal transience and deeper social structures of actions and events, and expressing this understanding to larger audiences. As such, performance studies students have valuable market skills as cultural interpreters and public communicators in government, education, and the private sector. Students who graduate with a Performance Studies Certificate will learn flexibility, creativity and innovation, and thus will be well prepared to meet the challenges of rapidly changing and shifting global labour markets.

Finally, students will also be well placed to continue on to advanced interdisciplinary graduate study in the humanities and social sciences, including within several existing Canadian and international MA and PhD programs in Performance Studies.

5.xv. Summary of resources required and available to implement the program

None required beyond those currently being allocated to the respective departments. The Certificate is composed of courses from participating

units in both FASS and FCAT; a coordinator from one of the participating FASS units will direct the program, advise students, check requirements, approve course substitutions, and liaise with participating units to ensure that core and elective courses are being offered regularly. Department staff foresee little or no additional administrative burden.

5.xvi. Brief description of any program and associated resources that will be reduced or eliminated when the new program is introduced

None.

5.xvii. List of faculty members teaching/supervising, what percentage of their teaching will be devoted to the program, and their areas of specialization

Faculty currently teaching in the area of performance studies at SFU who were involved in the design of this program include Sasha Colby (World Literature and Explorations Program), Dara Culhane (Sociology and Anthropology), Henry Daniel (Contemporary Arts), Peter Dickinson (English), and Helen Leung (GSWS). Since the proposed Certificate draws from a wide range of courses across several academic units, most faculty members in said units may find themselves teaching students enrolled in the Certificate. However, this will be part of regular teaching load, and will make no new demands on any faculty member.

5.xviii. For a program where the intention is to charge a premium fee, a budget developed in collaboration with the dean of the faculty

Not applicable.

5.xix. Related programs in British Columbia post-secondary institutions

There appears to be no program directly comparable to the proposed Certificate offered at any BC post-secondary institution.

6. Contact information for faculty member(s) responsible for program development

Sean Zwagerman
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