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**MEMORANDUM**

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**ATTENTION** Senate  
**FROM** Jeff Derksen,  
Chair of Senate Graduate Studies  
Committee (SGSC)  
**RE:** Program Change

**DATE** December 8, 2021

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**For information:**

Acting under delegated authority at its meeting of December 7, 2021, SGSC approved the following curriculum item, effective **Fall 2022**:

**Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences**  
School of International Studies

- 1) Program Change: Master of Arts in International Studies

Senators wishing to consult a more detailed report of curriculum revisions may do so on the Senate DocuShare repository at <https://docushare.sfu.ca/dsweb/View/Collection-12682>



FACULTY OF  
ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

MEMO

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ATTENTION: Jeff Derksen, Dean  
Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies

FROM : Sean Zwagerman, Chair  
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences  
Graduate Studies Committee

RE: Items for SGSC

DATE: October 15, 2021

Dear Jeff,

The following were approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Graduate Studies Committee on October 14, 2021, and are forwarded to the Senate Graduate Studies Committee for approval. Please include them on the next SGSC agenda.

**1. School for International Studies**

- ~~a) Course Change  
To be effective for Fall 2022~~
- b) Program Requirement Change  
To be effective Fall 2022
- ~~c) New Course Proposals  
To be effective for Fall 2022~~

~~**2. Graduate Liberal Studies**~~

- ~~a) New course proposals  
To be effective for Fall 2022~~

~~**3. Urban Studies Program**~~

- ~~a) New Course Proposals  
To be effective Fall 2022~~

*Sean Zwagerman*

Sean Zwagerman  
Associate Dean, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

**TO** Sean Zwagerman, Chair, FASSGSC  
**FROM** Nicole Jackson, Graduate Chair, School for International Studies  
**SUBJECT** Curriculum changes to International Studies programs  
**DATE** September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021

At its meeting of June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021, the School for International Studies approved the following changes (Effective term: Fall 2022):

- ~~• Graduate Course Change: IS 886~~
- Program Requirement Change
- ~~• New Course Proposal: IS 823~~
- ~~• New Course Proposal: IS 839~~

Please place this proposal on the agenda of the next meeting of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Graduate Studies Curriculum Committee.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Nicole Jackson

## Calendar Entry Change for MA in International Studies

<p>Summary of change:</p> <p><b>Program requirement change, reorganizing calendar for clarity.</b></p>
<p>Rationale for change:</p> <p><b>To broaden the scope for elective units for extended essays track students. Also, concurrent with the unit change to IS 886, reflecting the increase from 30 to 32 units for thesis track students.</b></p>
<p>Effective term and year:</p> <p><b>Fall 2022</b></p>
<p>Will this change impact current students?</p> <p><b>This change will not impact current students.</b></p>

FROM	TO
<p>International Studies MASTER OF ARTS [...] Program Requirements <del>Extended Essays Option</del> <del>This program consists of course work and two extended essays for a minimum of 30 units.</del> Students must complete <u>IS 800 - Problems of International Policy and Practice (4)</u> <u>IS 801 - Politics, Institutions and Development (4)</u> <u>IS 806 - State Failure and Reconstruction: Comparative Perspectives (4)</u></p>	<p>International Studies MASTER OF ARTS [...] Program Requirements <b>This program consists of course work and two extended essays or a thesis for a minimum of 30 units.</b> Students must complete <u>IS 800 - Problems of International Policy and Practice (4)</u> <u>IS 801 - Politics, Institutions and Development (4)</u> <u>IS 806 - State Failure and Reconstruction: Comparative Perspectives (4)</u> <u>IS 830 - Analytic Approaches for International Studies (4)</u></p>

IS 830 - Analytic Approaches for International Studies (4)

~~and two elective graduate courses for a minimum of eight units (subject to approval of the graduate chair or director)~~

and two extended essays

IS 880 - MA Extended Essays (6)

~~Each extended essay should be approximately 8,000 words. Submission to the library is not required. The options are writing a policy briefing (or policy briefings), a review essay (or review essays), or some other type of writing focused on synthesis and analysis, rather than original research.~~

Thesis Option

~~This program consists of course work, a thesis prospectus, and a thesis for a minimum of 30 units. Students pursuing an optional regional concentration complete an additional four units of course work for a minimum of 34 units. Approved courses for each regional concentration can be found in the relevant section below.~~

~~Students must complete the following required courses:~~

~~IS 800 - Problems of International Policy and Practice (4)~~

~~IS 801 - Politics, Institutions and Development (4)~~

~~IS 806 - State Failure and Reconstruction: Comparative Perspectives (4)~~

**and one four unit elective graduate course in International Studies**

**Extended Essays Option**

**Additionally, students must complete**

one elective graduate course for a minimum of four units (subject to approval of the graduate chair or director)

and two extended essays

IS 880 - MA Extended Essays (6)

Thesis Option

**Additionally, students must complete**

IS 886 - Thesis Prospectus (4)

IS 898 - MA Thesis (8)

**Students pursuing an optional regional concentration complete an additional four units of course work for a minimum of 34 units. Approved courses for each regional concentration can be found in the relevant section below.**

Regional Concentrations

[...]

IS 830—Analytic Approaches for International Studies (4)

~~In addition, students are required to take one elective graduate course for a minimum of four units (subject to approval of the graduate chair or director) and a sign up for the thesis prospectus and MA thesis:~~

IS 886 - Thesis Prospectus (2)

IS 898 - MA Thesis (8)

~~The thesis prospectus should be comprised of 3,000 words and should lay out a research question, the relevant scholarly literature and propose a method for conducting the research. Students will then research and write a thesis of between 14,000 and 16,000 words. The thesis will be the result of original research and will be designed with the goal of producing a publishable article.~~

## Regional Concentrations

[...]