SFU GRADUATE AND
POSTDOCTORAL STUDIES

MEMORANDUM ————————————————————————

ATTENTION   Senate   **DATE**   February 16, 2023

FROM   Jeff Derksen,
Chair of Senate Graduate Studies
Committee (SGSC)

RE: Program Changes

For information:
Acting under delegated authority at its meeting of February 7, 2023, SGSC approved the
following curriculum changes, effective **Fall 2023**:

Beedie School of Business
Program Change: Finance MSc

Faculty of Applied Science
Department of Computing Science
Program Change: Computing Science MSc
Program Change: Computing Science PhD
Program Change: Professional Computer Science MSc

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
Department of Political Science
Program Change: Political Science MA

Memo to SGSC

To: **Senate Graduate Studies Committee**
From: **Andrew Gemino, Associate Dean, Graduate Programs**
Re: **MSc Calendar Changes for Fall 2023**
Date: **January 10, 2022**

The following curriculum revisions have been approved by the Beedie School of Business and are forwarded to the Senate Graduate Studies Committee for approval. These curriculum items should be effective for **Fall 2023.**

Please include them on the next SGSC agenda.

- **Calendar description Change for MSc Finance: Course title/ language updates and changes to required credits. Elective language moved to within streams.**
- ~~**New course proposals and minor course changes**~~
- ~~**Course outlines to accompany proposals**~~

Thank you for your attention herein. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

_____

Andrew Gemino
Associate Dean, Graduate Programs, Beedie School of Business

Calendar Entry Change for MSc in Finance

Summary of change: 1. Minor Course Changes such as title changes 2. Reorganize courses in core to offer more cohesive collections of materials
Rationale for change: Reorganization of the courses to offer more cohesive collections of materials. The purpose of this change is to redistribute the materials in such a fashion that the program contents are properly sequenced, and that the overall learning experience is improved. In short, the proposal brings the curriculum into the year 2022 but it should be stressed that the learning outcomes as such remain the same.
Effective term and year: Fall 2023
Will this change impact current students? If yes, what is the plan for current students? No

FROM	TO
Finance MASTER OF SCIENCE […] Program Requirements This program consists of course requirements for a minimum of ~~51 units~~. Students complete the core courses and choose either the investment management stream or the risk management stream, ~~and additional electives~~. Other graduate courses may be substituted for the courses listed at the discretion of the academic director. Students must complete all of BUS 579 - Professional Development (0) BUS 700 - Orientation (0) * BUS 733 - Negotiations (2)	Finance MASTER OF SCIENCE […] Program Requirements This program consists of course requirements for a minimum of **48 units**. Students complete the core courses, and choose either the investment management stream, the risk management stream, **or the research stream requirements**. Other graduate courses may be substituted for the courses listed at the discretion of the academic director. Students must complete all of BUS 579 - Professional Development (0) BUS 700 - Orientation (0) * BUS 733 - Negotiations (2)

~~BUS 798 - Accounting Foundations (0)~~ ~~BUS 801 - Financial Modeling Tools (3)~~ BUS 802 - Corporate Finance (3) BUS 803 - ~~Financial Econometrics (3)~~ BUS 810 - ~~Advanced~~ Fixed Income Analysis (3) ~~BUS 823 - Advanced Equity Analysis (3)~~ ~~BUS 825 - Financial Statement Analysis (3)~~ BUS 827 - Principles of Investments (3) BUS 828 - Business Strategy, Ethics and The Regulatory Environment (2) BUS 861 - Managerial Communication (2) ~~BUS 877 - Mathematics for Finance (3)~~ ~~BUS 878 - Statistics for Financial Economics (3)~~ ~~and nine units of electives from the list of electives or another graduate business course with program director approval~~ ELECTIVES BUS 870 - Research Project (3) BUS 876 - Special Topics (3) BUS 888 - Special Topics (3) BUS 889 - Special Topics (3) ~~and the requirements from investment management, risk management or research stream~~ INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT STREAM BUS 816 - Strategic Asset Allocation (3) BUS 826 - Portfolio Theory and Asset Pricing (3) BUS 829 - Investment Banking and Private Equity (3) RISK MANAGEMENT STREAM BUS 818- Advanced Derivatives (3) BUS 864 - Credit Risk Management (3) BUS 865 - Market Risk Management (3)	**BUS 800 – Finance Foundations (3) *** **BUS 806 – Principles of Finance (3)** BUS 802 - Corporate Finance (3) **BUS 803 - Financial Data Analytics (3)** **BUS 810 - Fixed Income Analysis (3)** **BUS 814 – Derivative Securities I (3)** BUS 827 - Principles of Investments (3) BUS 828 - Business Strategy, Ethics and The Regulatory Environment (2) BUS 861 - Managerial Communication (2) **BUS 881 – Principles of Fund Management (3)** **and the requirements from one of the below streams** INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT STREAM BUS 816 - Strategic Asset Allocation (3) BUS 826 - Portfolio Theory and Asset Pricing (3) BUS 829 - Investment Banking and Private Equity (3) **And 9 units from the list of electives** ELECTIVES BUS 870 - Research Project (3) BUS 876 - Special Topics (3) BUS 888 - Special Topics (3) BUS 889- Special Topics (3) **BUS 801 – Financial Modeling (3)** RISK MANAGEMENT STREAM BUS 864 - Credit Risk Management (3) BUS 865 - Market Risk Management (3) BUS 818- Advanced Derivatives (3) **And 9 units from the list of electives** ELECTIVES BUS 870 - Research Project (3) BUS 876 - Special Topics (3) BUS 888 - Special Topics (3)

RESEARCH STREAM

BUS 870 - Research Project (3)
BUS 890 - Research Methods I (3)
BUS 891 - Theory of Financial Markets (3)

* BUS 700 is a prerequisite for all courses in this program

[…]

Other Information

Student Investment Advisory Service (SIAS)

Students have the opportunity to acquire real world investment, risk management and compliance experience through an optional course called the Student Investment Advisory Service. Students must be enrolled in BUS 880 no later than the second term of enrollment and throughout the program in order to complete the course.

BUS 880 - Student Investment Advisory Service Practicum (0)

[…]

BUS 889- Special Topics (3)
BUS 801 – Financial Modeling (3)

RESEARCH STREAM

BUS 890 – Business Econometrics I (3)
BUS 965 – Business Econometrics II (4)
BUS 968 – Corporate Finance Theory and Methods (4)
BUS 891 - Theory of Financial Markets (3)
BUS 967 – Asset Pricing (4)

* BUS 700 **and BUS 800 are** prerequisites for all courses in this program

[…]

Other Information

Student Investment Advisory Service (SIAS)

The MSc in Finance program provides an optional opportunity for students to practice the foundations of fund management and to acquire real world investment, compliance and risk experience through the Student Investment Advisory Service (SIAS). Participating students will manage the real-money SIAS fund professionally according to accepted industry standards. They are responsible for identifying which assets should be traded and to comply with all aspects of the Investment Policy Statement to the satisfaction of the client (SFU). Students must be enrolled in BUS 880 no later than the second term and have completed BUS 881 satisfactorily in order to enroll.

BUS 880 – Student Investment Advisory Service Practicum

[…]

MEMORANDUM

Attention	Dr. Jeff Derksen	Date: Dec 15, 2022
	Dean, Graduate Studies	
From	Dr. Parvaneh Saeedi psaeedi@sfu.ca	
	Faculty of Applied Science, Graduate Studies Committee	

Re: Program Change for MSc and PhD Thesis-Based Programs- CMPT 700

The faculty of Applied Sciences Graduate Studies Committee would request for the removal of CMPT 700 - Technical Writing and Research Communication, from the list of mandatory courses for both MSc and PhD thesis-based programs. We request the change to become effective starting Fall 2023.

Both programs number of required courses will be then reduced by 1 to the followings:

     o MSc thesis-based: 5 courses
     o PhD thesis-based with a prior MSc degree: 4 courses
     o PhD thesis-based without a prior MSc degree: 8 courses

The first offering of this course was in the Spring of 2021. While some students found it helpful, many with good writing skills did not feel the same.   Therefore, it was decided to change the course to non-required, and allow the students and their advisors to determine which courses would be most suited for their progress.

CS will continue to offer this course regularly, and students can take it if they need it.

Please note that we are unaware of any top-tier CS department in Canada or the US with a mandatory technical writing course.

 Regards,
Parvaneh Saeedi

MEMO

BURNABY
9971 Applied Sciences Building
8888 University Drive
Burnaby BC V5A 1S6
Canada

SURREY
250-13450 102 Avenue
Surrey, BC V3T 0A3
Canada

Tel: 778-782-4277
Fax: 778-782-3045
Web: www.cs.sfu.ca

ATTENTION	**Parvaneh Saeedi, Associate Director**
FROM	Igor Shinkar, Graduate Program Director
RE	Program changes to MSc Thesis and PhD programs
DATE	November 30, 2022

Proposed Program Changes to MSc Thesis and PhD Programs

The following program changes have been approved by the Graduate Program Committee in the School of Computing Science, and are forwarded to the Faculty Graduate Studies Committee for approval. These curriculum items should be effective for Fall 2023. Please include them on the next FGSC agenda.

- Removing CMPT 700 - Technical Writing and Research Communication as a mandatory course for both MSc Thesis and PhD programs.
- Reducing number of required courses by 1. The new required number of courses are:
  - MSc Thesis: 5 courses
  - PhD with MSc: 4 courses
  - PhD without MSc: 8 courses

Rationale:

The course was first taught in Spring 2021. While some students found the course quite useful, many students have excellent writing skills, and do not benefit from this course. Following a school vote it was decided to change the course to non-required, thus be more inclusive, and allow the students and their advisors to decide which courses will be the most beneficial for their progress.

The course will continue to be offered regularly, and the students who need the course, will be able to take it.

We remark that we are not aware of any top tier CS department in Canada and US, which has a mandatory technical writing course.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Igor Shinkar,
Graduate Chair, School of Computing Science

Calendar Entry Change for Computing Science Master of Science

Summary of changes: - Removal of CMPT 700 - Technical Writing and Research Communication as a mandatory course in the program. - Reducing number of required courses by 1. - Increase expected program completion length from 5 to 6 semesters.
Rationale for change: - To allow the students and their advisors to decide what is best for their needs. - To emphasize the importance of research, and reduce the emphasis from the course requirements.
Effective term and year: Fall 2023
Will this change impact current students? If yes, what is the plan for current students? - Yes, current students will have the opportunity to opt in to the new requirements so they would not be required to complete CMPT 700

FROM	TO
MASTER OF SCIENCE […] Program Requirements This program consists of course work and the requirements from either a thesis, project or course option for a minimum of 30 units. Course work must be selected in consultation with the supervisor or graduate program chair. Students must complete five graduate courses in Computing Science for a minimum of 15 units and requirements from one of the options below	MASTER OF SCIENCE […] Program Requirements This program consists of course work and the requirements from either a thesis, project or course option for a minimum of 30 units. Course work must be selected in consultation with the supervisor or graduate program chair. Students must complete five graduate courses in Computing Science for a minimum of 15 units and requirements from one of the options below

Thesis Option	Thesis Option
students must complete	students must complete
~~CMPT 700 - Technical Writing and Research Communication (3)~~	
and a thesis	a thesis
CMPT 898 - MSc Thesis (18)	CMPT 898 - MSc Thesis (18)
[…]	[…]
Program Length	Program Length
Students are expected to complete the program requirements in ~~five~~ terms.	Students are expected to complete the program requirements in **six** terms.
[…]	[…]

Calendar Entry Change for Computing Science Doctor of Philosophy

Summary of change:
- Removal of CMPT 700 - Technical Writing and Research Communication as a mandatory course in PhD program. - Reducing number of required courses by 1. The new required number of courses is: • PhD with MSc: 4 courses • PhD without MSc: 8 courses
Rationale for change: - To allow the students and their advisors to decide what is best for their needs. - To emphasize the importance of research, and reduce the emphasis from the course requirements.
Effective term and year: Fall 2023
Will this change impact current students? If yes, what is the plan for current students? Yes, current students will have the opportunity to opt in to the new requirements so they would not be required to complete CMPT 700

FROM	TO
DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY	DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY
[…]	[…]
Program Requirements	Program Requirements
This program consists of course work and a thesis for a minimum of ~~33 units~~ selected in consultation with the Graduate Chair or supervisor.	This program consists of course work and a thesis for a minimum of **30 units** selected in consultation with the Graduate Chair or supervisor.
Students will demonstrate breadth of knowledge, and the capacity to conduct original research through completion and defence of an original thesis.	Students will demonstrate breadth of knowledge, and the capacity to conduct original research through completion and defence of an original thesis.
Students must complete	Students must complete
~~CMPT 700 - Technical Writing and Research Communication (3) *~~ ~~And~~	
four graduate courses in Computing Science for a minimum of 12 units	four graduate courses in Computing Science for a minimum of 12 units

and a thesis CMPT 899 - PhD Thesis (18) Students without an MSc or equivalent complete additional ~~five~~ graduate courses in Computing Science for a minimum of ~~15~~ units selected in consultation with the Graduate Chair or supervisor. ~~* Students may not be required to repeat this course if they received a credit for it during the master's program.~~ Program Length Students are expected to complete the program requirements in 12 to 15 terms (4 to 5 years). Other Information Course Work Students are required to complete breadth requirements selected from five different areas. This is to be done in consultation with the supervisor or graduate program chair if the supervisor has not been appointed yet. For more information on breadth requirements and restrictions, see program website. […]	and a thesis CMPT 899 - PhD Thesis (18) Students without an MSc or equivalent complete additional **four** graduate courses in Computing Science for a minimum of **12** units selected in consultation with the Graduate Chair or supervisor. Program Length Students are expected to complete the program requirements in 12 to 15 terms (4 to 5 years). Other Information Course Work Students are required to complete breadth requirements selected from five different areas. This is to be done in consultation with the supervisor or graduate program chair if the supervisor has not been appointed yet. For more information on breadth requirements and restrictions, see program website. **Supervisory Committee** **A supervisory committee consists of the student's supervisor, at least one other computing science faculty member, and others (typically faculty) as appropriate. The choice of supervisor should be made by mutual consent of the graduate student and faculty member based on commonality of research interests. The student and supervisor should consult on the remainder of the committee members**. […]

MEMORANDUM

Attention	Dr. Jeff Derksen Dean, Graduate Studies	Date: Dec 1, 2022
From	Dr. Parvaneh Saeed, psaeedi@sfu.ca Faculty of Applied Science, Graduate Studies Committee	

Re: Program name change ~~+ Two course name changes~~

1. The faculty of Applied Sciences Graduate Studies Committee would like to request the following program name change: **Master of Science in Computer Science** to **Master of Science in Big Data**.

2. ~~To align with the program name change we request to change the name of the following two courses:~~
   - ~~CMPT 732: from **Professional Master's Program Lab I** to **Big Data Lab I**, and~~
   - ~~CMPT 733: from **Professional Master's Program Lab II** to **Big Data Lab II**.~~

The rationale for these changes is to correspond to the ministry-approved Master of Visual Computing and Master of Cybersecurity programs. The new programs will have their own specific lab courses. Both programs will be offered starting in the fall of 2023.

Regards,
Parvaneh Saeedi

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SFU

COMPUTING SCIENCE

MEMO

BURNABY
10700 Applied Sciences Building
8888 University Drive
Burnaby BC V5A 1S6
Canada

SURREY
250-13450 102 Avenue
Surrey, BC V3T 0A3
Canada

Tel: 778-782-4277
Fax: 778-782-3045
Web: www.cs.sfu.ca

| ATTENTION | Dr. Parvaneh Saeedi
Associate Dean, Research & Graduate Studies, FAS |
| --- | --- |
| FROM | Dr. Igor Shinkar
School of Computing Science GPC Chair |
| RE | MPCS Program Calendar and Name Change Request |
| | |
| DATE | November 22, 2022 |

This memo is to accompany the program calendar and name change request. The program name change request is from Master of Science in Professional Computer Science to Master of Science in Big Data.

~~Also, requests to change the course names of GMPT 732 and GMPT 733 have been submitted to coincide with the Program name change.~~

This is anticipated to appear in the Master of Science in Big Data program calendar for Fall 2023.

The rationale for the calendar change is to correspond to the two new related programs recently approved by the Ministry of Advanced Education. They are Master of Visual Computing and Master of Cybersecurity. Both programs are to be offered in Fall 2023.

_____
Dr. Igor Shinkar
Graduate Chair, School of Computing Science

Calendar Entry Change for Master of Science in Professional Computer Science

Summary of change: - Changed program name to Master of Science in Big Data - Changed CMPT 732 course name from "Professional Master's Program Lab I (6)" to "Big Data Lab I (6)" (course name change request has been submitted) - Changed CMPT 733 course name from "Professional Master's Program Lab II (6)" to "Big Data Lab II (6)" (course name change request has been submitted) - Replaced the "at least two of" and "at least one of" lists with "an additional nine units of graduate courses in Computing Science" - Replaced "and a minimum of one co-op or graduate project" with "and one of CMPT 626 – Graduate Co-op I (3) or CMPT 629 – Graduate Project (3)"
Rationale for change: - The new Master of Visual Computing and Master of Cybersecurity programs were approved by the Ministry, therefore the name and course content of this program should correspond with the proposed Program Calendars of the new programs.
Effective term and year: Fall 2023
Will this change impact current students? If yes, what is the plan for current students? No

FROM	TO
~~Professional Computer Science~~	**Big Data**
MASTER OF SCIENCE	MASTER OF SCIENCE
The master of science in ~~professional computer science~~ program engages students in developing deep knowledge and practical skills in specialized areas of computer science. The program trains computational specialists who can construct models, develop algorithms, and write software using state-of-the-art graduate-level knowledge and techniques. Students take instructional and lab courses, in a cohort, and complete a co-op through SFU's co-op program, allowing them to tackle real-world scientific, engineering, and socioeconomic problems and gain valuable project management experiences while expanding their network of industrial contacts. This full-time master's program is	The master of science in **big data** program engages students in developing deep knowledge and practical skills in specialized areas of computer science. The program trains computational specialists who can construct models, develop algorithms, and write software using state-of-the-art graduate-level knowledge and techniques. Students take instructional and lab courses, in a cohort, and complete a co-op through SFU's co-op program, allowing them to tackle real-world scientific, engineering, and socioeconomic problems and gain valuable project management experiences while expanding their network

suitable for students with a strong aptitude for computer science, or other quantitative fields, such as engineering and mathematics.

[…]

Program Requirements
This program consists of course work, co-op, or graduate project for a minimum of 30 units.

The program requires students to maintain a minimum 3.0 CGPA throughout their graduate career.

Students complete all of

CMPT 726 - Machine Learning (3)
CMPT 732 - ~~Professional Master's Program Lab I~~ (6)
CMPT 733 - ~~Professional Master's Program Lab II~~ (6)
CMPT 756 - Distributed and Cloud Systems (3)

~~and at least two of~~

~~CMPT 713 - Natural Language Processing (3)~~
~~CMPT 741 - Data Mining (3)~~
~~CMPT 757 - Frontiers of Visual Computing (3)~~
~~CMPT 762 - Computer Vision (3)~~
~~CMPT 764 - Geometric Modelling in Computer Graphics (3)~~
~~CMPT 766 - Computer Animation and Simulation (3)~~
~~CMPT 767 - Visualization (3)~~
~~CMPT 770 - Parallel and Distributed Computing (3)~~
~~CMPT 780 - Computer Security and Ethics (3)~~
~~CMPT 784 - Cyber Risk Assessment and Management (3)~~
~~CMPT 785 - Secure Software Design (3)~~
~~CMPT 786 - Cloud and Network Security (3)~~
~~CMPT 787 - Ethical Hacking (3)~~
~~CMPT 788 - Information Privacy (3)~~
~~CMPT 789 - Applied Cryptography (3)~~

of industrial contacts. This full-time master's program is suitable for students with a strong aptitude for computer science, or other quantitative fields, such as engineering and mathematics.

[…]

Program Requirements
This program consists of course work, and co-op or graduate project for a minimum of 30 **graduate** units.

The program requires students to maintain a minimum 3.0 CGPA throughout their graduate career.

Students complete all of

CMPT 726 - Machine Learning (3)
CMPT 732 – **Big Data Lab I (6)**
CMPT 733 – **Big Data Lab II (6)**
CMPT 756 - Distributed and Cloud Systems (3)

and an additional nine units of graduate courses in Computing Science

and one of

CMPT 626 - Graduate Co-op I (3)
or
CMPT 629 - Graduate Project (3)

[…]

CMPT 820 - Multimedia Systems (3) CMPT 822 - Computational Vision (3) IAT 814 - Visualization and Visual Analytics (3) STAT 852 - Modern Methods in Applied Statistics (4) and one of CMPT 727 - Mathematical and Probabilistic Foundations of Machine Learning (3) CMPT 728 - Deep Learning (3) CMPT 729 - Reinforcement Learning (3) CMPT 763 - Biomedical Computer Vision (3) CMNS 815 - Social Construction of Communication Technologies (5) CMPT 829 - Special Topics in Bioinformatics (3) CMPT 886 - Special Topics in Operating Systems (3) CMPT 889 - Special Topics in Interdisciplinary Computing (3) CMPT 980 - Special Topics in Computing Science (3) CMPT 981 - Special Topics in Theoretical Computing Science (3) CMPT 982 - Special Topics in Networks and Systems (3) CMPT 983 - Special Topics in Artificial Intelligence (3) CMPT 984 - Special Topics in Databases, Data Mining, Computational Biology (3) CMPT 985 - Special Topics in Graphics, HCI, Visualization, Vision, Multimedia (3) and a minimum of one co-op or graduate project CMPT 626 - Graduate Co-op I (3) CMPT 629 - Graduate Project (3) […]	

MEMO

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
+1 778 782 4967
fassadgs@sfu.ca
sfu.ca/fass

Academic Quadrangle 6164
8888 University Drive
Burnaby, BC
Canada V5A 1S6

ATTENTION Jeff Derksen	
FROM Kate Slaney, Associate Dean, Graduate Studies	
RE POLS Calendar Changes	
DATE January 3, 2023	**PAGES** 13

Dear Jeff,

By request of the Political Science Graduate Chair, I have approved the attached calendar changes for the Department of Political Science by delegated authority. This involves changing the number of units assigned to the final exam/project for the course-intensive and project options, deleting the extended essays option entirely and changing the number of required course credits for the thesis option.

Kind regards,

Kate Slaney

KSlaney

Kate Slaney
Associate Dean, Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies,
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
Professor, Department of Psychology

KS/hm

Cover Memo to SGSC

To: Senate Graduate Studies Committee
From: Eline de Rooij, Graduate Program Chair, Political Science
Re: Political Science MA Program changes ~~and course changes~~
Date: 22 Dec 2022

The following program changes ~~and course changes~~ have been approved by the Department of Political Science and the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences and are forwarded to the Senate Graduate Studies Committee for approval. These curriculum items should be effective for Fall 2023. Please include them on the next SGSC agenda.

Department of Political Science

The following changes are being proposed to better align the different MA Program Options in Political Science with the Program Requirements as specified in GGR 1.7.2, and to provide three clearly distinct options to our students, while ensuring that overall workload (total units) remains similar across all three options.

Program changes to MA in Political Science:
1. Eliminate the Extended Essays Option.
2. Change the capstone course (POL 892) units for the Project Option from 10 units to 6 units with a maximum word count of 10,000 for the project paper, and to be examined as per GGR 1.7.2c.
3. Change the field exam (POL 897) units for the Course-intensive Option from 6 units to 2 units.
4. Change the number of required courses for the Thesis Option from five courses to four courses, with POL898 (MA Thesis) to be examined as per GGR 1.7.2a.
5. Add statement regarding the already existing B minimum requirement for required courses to the Calendar.

~~*Course changes: POL 892, 897, 898*~~
- ~~Change the number of units for POL 892 (Research Project) and POL 897 (Field Exam in Major Areas of MA Concentration) from 10 to 6, and from 6 to 2, respectively.~~
- ~~Add a prerequisite to POL898 (MA Thesis) stipulating that to enroll in POL898, students must have completed a minimum of four courses while in the MA Program, one of which must be POL800, and must have a minimum CGPA of 3.67.~~

Faculty Graduate Chair

Calendar Entry Change for Political Science MA

Summary of change:
1. Eliminate the Extended Essays Option from the Calendar.
2. Change the capstone course (POL 892) units for the Project Option from 10 units to 6 units with a maximum word count of 10,000 for the project paper.
3. Change the field exam (POL 897) units for the Course-intensive Option from 6 units to 2 units.
4. Change the number of required courses for the Thesis Option from five courses to four courses.
5. Add statement regarding the already existing B minimum requirement for required courses
Rationale for change:
1. Streamlining MA options by removing one of the least popular options (Extended Essays);
2. Reducing the number of units for POL892 from 10 to 6 to bring the Project Option in line with GGR 1.7.2c. In line with this change in units, the maximum word count for the project paper will be reduced from 12,500 to 10,000. Although under GGR 1.7.2 oral examinations and submission to the library are optional, our graduate students have expressed a strong preference to maintaining both for the Project Option;
3. Reducing the number of units for POL897 from 6 to 2 to better reflect the workload involved in the final examination for the course intensive MA, which is only an add-on to a course a student is already taking, and to reflect differences in workload between a Project Paper (POL892) and a Field Exam (POL897);
4. Reducing the number of required courses for the Thesis Option from five courses to four courses to ensure similar workloads (units) across the MA options;
5. The Department already requires a B minimum for the required courses (POL800 and one of POL802 or POL803). A statement to this extent is now added to the Calendar for more clarity.
Effective term and year: Fall 2023
Will this change impact current students? If yes, what is the plan for current students? The change will come into effect for graduate students starting in Fall term 2023. There will be little to no impact for current students in the MA Thesis and Course-Intensive Options. Current students in the MA Extended Essays/Project Option, will have the choice to finish their MA Program under either the old Calendar (Spring/Summer 2023) or the revised Calendar (Fall 2023). Specifically:
1. Current students who are registered for the MA Extended Essays Option will be allowed to complete under that option (to be examined as per GGR 1.7.2b); however, there are likely to be very few, if any, as Faculty has not been promoting this option among current students.
2. Current students in the MA Project Option will have the option to finish their MA Program under either the old Calendar (Spring/Summer 2023, to be examined as per GGR 1.7.2b) or the revised Calendar (Fall 2023, to be examined as per GGR 1.7.2c).
3. Current students in the Course-intensive Option will not experience any real impact – the proposed lower course units for POL897 reflects actual current workload.
4. Current students in the MA Thesis Option will be required to take fewer courses (four) than before the proposed change, but can always choose to do more; as such the proposed reduction in the number of required courses will have no real impact.

5. The Department already requires a B minimum for the required courses (POL800 and one of POL802 or POL803), so adding a statement to this effect to the Calendar will not impact current students.

FROM	TO
[…] Program Requirements The MA program may be completed through either ~~an extended essays or~~ project option, a course-intensive option or thesis option. Students wishing to pursue the thesis option must receive approval from their supervisor. Except in extenuating circumstances, students may only transfer once. In accordance with <u>Graduate General Regulation 1.6.4</u>, each student will be assigned a supervisory committee. […] ~~Extended Essays or~~ Project Option This program option consists of six courses, a proposal, and a research project ~~or extended essays~~ for a minimum of ~~40 units.~~ Students must complete […] and ~~either~~ a research project ~~or extended essays~~ POL 892 - Research Project ~~(10)~~ The ~~extended essays~~ or project option requires completion of ~~either extended essays in two department fields of study or one~~ research project. ~~Students who choose the~~	[…] Program Requirements The MA program may be completed through either **a** project option, a course-intensive option or **a** thesis option. Students wishing to pursue the thesis option must receive approval from their supervisor. Except in extenuating circumstances, students may only transfer once. In accordance with <u>Graduate General Regulation 1.6.4</u>, each student will be assigned a supervisory committee. **Students must complete POL 800 and one of POL 802 or POL 803. Students must receive a grade of B or higher in each required course.** […] Project Option This program option consists of six courses, a proposal, and a research project **examined as per Graduate General Regulation 1.7.2c,** for a minimum of -**36 units**. Students must complete […] and -a research project POL 892 - Research Project **(6)** The project option requires completion of **a** research project **of a maximum of 10,000 words in length** with substantial original content.·

~~research project normally will submit a work with a maximum of 12,500 words~~, with substantial original content. ~~If the extended essays option is chosen instead of a project, each extended essay will elaborate upon course work research and normally will not exceed 7,500 words. Both extended essays and~~ ~~research~~ projects are defended in an oral defence and upon completion are submitted to the library.	**Research** projects are defended in an oral defence and upon completion are submitted to the library.
[…]	[…]
Thesis Option	Thesis Option
This program option consists of ~~five~~ courses, a proposal, and a thesis for a minimum of ~~43 units.~~	This program option consists of **four** courses, a proposal, and a thesis **examined as per Graduate General Regulation 1.7.2a,** for a minimum of **38 units**.
Students must complete […]	Students must complete […]
and ~~three~~ additional elective courses from at least two of the department's five fields of study	and **two** additional elective courses from at least two of the department's five fields of study
[...]	[...]
Course-intensive Option	Course-intensive Option
This program option consists of seven courses and an examination for a minimum of ~~41~~ units.	This program option consists of seven courses and an examination for a minimum of **37 units**.
Students must complete	Students must complete
[…]	[…]
POL 897 - Field Exam in Major Areas of MA Concentration ~~(6)~~	POL 897 - Field Exam in Major Areas of MA Concentration **(2)**
[…]	[…]