



8888 University Drive, Burnaby, BC  
Canada V5A 1S6

TEL: 778.782.3925  
FAX: 778.782.5876

vpacad@sfu.ca  
www.sfu.ca/vpacademic

**MEMORANDUM**

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**ATTENTION** Senate **DATE** October 19, 2011  
**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 an Honours Program in Humanities (SCUP 11-43)

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At its October 12, 2011 meeting SCUP reviewed and approved the Full Program Proposal for an Honours Program in Humanities in the Department of Humanities within the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

**Motion**

That Senate approve the Full Program Proposal for an Honours Program in Humanities in the Department of Humanities within the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

encl.

c: P. Budra  
P. Dutton



OFFICE OF THE ASSOCIATE VICE-PRESIDENT, ACADEMIC AND ASSOCIATE PROVOST

8888 University Drive,  
Burnaby, BC  
Canada V5A 1S6

TEL: 778.782.4636  
FAX: 778.782.5876

avpcio@sfu.ca  
www.sfu.ca/vpacademic

MEMORANDUM

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<b>ATTENTION</b>	Senate Committee on University Priorities	<b>DATE</b>	September 15, 2011
<b>FROM</b>	Bill Krane, Chair	<b>PAGES</b>	1/1
<b>RE:</b>	Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (SCUS 11-42a)(b)		

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Action undertaken by the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies at its meeting of September 15, 2011, gives rise to the following recommendation:

Motion:

That SCUP approve and recommend to Senate the Full Program Proposal for the Honours Program in Humanities in the Department of Humanities within the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences,

**The relevant documentation for review by SCUP is attached.**



FACULTY OF  
ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

MEMO

Office of the Dean

STREET ADDRESS  
Academic Quadrangle  
Room 6168

MAILING ADDRESS  
8888 University Drive  
Burnaby BC Canada  
V5A 1S6

604-291-4414 (Tel)  
604-291-3033 (Fax)  
www.sfu.ca/arts (Web)

ATTENTION **Bill Krane, Chair of SCUS**

FROM **Paul Budra, Assoc. Dean FASS**

CC. **Jo Hinchliffe**

RE **Humanities Honours FPP**

DATE **AUG. 26<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

The Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Curriculum Committee has approved the attached FPP for the Humanities Honours Program as well as the minor changes to the curriculum that it necessitates. Would you please put these items on the agenda of the next SCUS meeting? The department would like to see these changes in the spring 2012 calendar.

Many thanks.

PB

**Simon Fraser University  
Department of Humanities  
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences**

## **Full Program Proposal for Honours Program in Humanities**

### **A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

#### **1. Purpose**

Honours programs are a common feature of departments in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS) and serve a set of recognized needs for advanced study within an undergraduate degree.

Since the inception of our Major program in 1998 many students and faculty in Humanities have asked for an advanced program to satisfy their interests in Humanities beyond the Major program. The creation of an Honours Program in Humanities will address this call from current and future students for advanced work in Humanities.

#### **2. Key objectives and outcomes**

The Honours program is meant for those students with a special interest in the Humanities who wish to pursue advanced studies beyond the Humanities Major with the benefit of faculty guidance. With the recent addition of the Master's program it is expected that the creation of an Honours program will be of particular benefit to students wishing to proceed to graduate studies in humanities at Simon Fraser University and elsewhere. The creation of the Honours program will also reinforce the unique and important role that Humanities courses provide in the University's curriculum.

### **B. CURRICULUM**

#### **What will the Student Gain?**

Upon completion of the Honours Program, students will have acquired a thorough and integrated foundation in humanities and have developed skills in research, writing, textual interpretation, and critical thinking and analysis.

#### **2. Honours Program Requirements**

*Program Courses:* The program will consist of existing and newly approved courses, which already have sufficient relevant content, within the Humanities Department for a minimum of 18 lower-division (LD) Humanities units and 52 upper-division (UD) Humanities units. The courses have a range of topics which are congruent with the Humanities interdisciplinary curriculum as a whole.

#### **Program Requirements**

##### *Lower-Division Requirements:*

Entering students must first complete 65 credit hours in the Arts and Social Sciences, including the lower division Humanities major requirements and normally have a GPA of 3.33 or higher in lower-division Humanities courses. Students must submit an application for entrance into the program and consult the Humanities advisor.

##### *Upper-Division Requirements:*

Humanities majors will complete 32 upper-division units. Honours students must obtain an additional 20 units.

Students must successfully complete the following:

- HUM 401-4: Pre-Modern Studies
- HUM 422-4 The Humanities and the Critique of Culture
- HUM 480-4: Advanced Topics in the Humanities
- HUM 490-4: The Humanities Graduating Seminar
- HUM 495-4 Honours Essay

The *lower-division core courses* (18 units) were chosen to provide students with a foundational understanding of the Humanities discipline while the *upper-division core courses* (20 units) focus on advanced studies in Humanities with the benefit of faculty guidance.

Please see [Appendix A](#) for the full calendar entry for the Humanities Honours Program.

*Other Relevant courses:* Courses that, in a given semester, have relevant content may be applied to the Honours Program with prior approval from the department.

### 3. Course Descriptions

Please see [Appendix B](#) for a full description of courses applicable to the Honours Program.

### 4. Program Structure

Courses are taught as a lecture/tutorial or seminar. The courses will normally be offered on the Burnaby campus, with infrequent offerings according to need at Surrey or Harbour Centre. Class sizes range from 15-120 students on average.

Please see the chart below for past enrollments and frequency of offerings of the core courses. The lower-division core courses are offered frequently with the upper-division courses offered at least once a year. Given the breadth of Humanities core and elective courses offered, students should have no difficulty completing program requirements. No excessive impact is expected on the core/elective courses from Humanities given the number of choices and varied interest of students.

Core Courses	1091	1094	1097	1101	1104	1107	1111	1114	1117 (Anticipated)
HUM 101W	126	48	101	111		133	175	59	142
<i>Plus two of:</i>									
HUM 102W	188	81	183	213	81	153	209	137	230
HUM 105				40		143			150
HUM 130	154	88	122	202	90	133	226	123	162
<i>Plus one of:</i>									
HUM 201			48			18			20
HUM 202	26		16	13			27		28
HUM 203	15			17				30	

HUM 401									28
HUM 422									
HUM 480									28
HUM 490									
HUM 495	9		2	20		5	11		2

*Prerequisites:*

None of the upper-division courses in the program are restricted to Honours students with the exception of HUM 495-4.

**C. LEARNING METHODOLOGIES**

**1. Learning Environment and Methodologies**

In the Honours Program, students are encouraged to examine the knowledge and ideas central to the humanities and to integrate these concerns in original and critical ways. It is this focus on the integrative process – the purposeful bringing together of historical, literary, philosophical, religious and aesthetic perspectives in the analysis of human cultures and contemporary society – that gives courses in Humanities their unique and important role in the University’s curriculum. Upon completion of the Honours Program, student will have acquired a through foundation in the study of humanities and have developed skills in research, writing, textual interpretation, and critical thinking and analysis.

Courses applicable to the Honours Program already exist and will achieve the intended outcomes for the program.

**2. Other Learning Possibilities**

HUM 102W-3 and HUM 130-3 are available by distance education.

**D. FACULTY**

No additional funding for faculty, staff, or instructors will be required as the courses are currently being taught with existing resources. The following continuing faculty members will contribute to the program:

- Dr. Ian Angus (Modern European thought, Canadian intellectual history)
- Dr. Paul Crowe (Philosophy and religion of the Song & Yuan dynasties, Daoism)
- Dr. Stephen Duguid (Enlightenment studies, Culture and Ecology)
- Dr. Paul Edward Dutton (Carolingian civilization, 12<sup>th</sup>-century Renaissance)
- Dr. Anne-Marie Feenberg-Dibon (Enlightenment, 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>-century European Fiction)
- Dr. Samir Gandesha (Modern European Thought and Culture)
- Dr. Christine Jones (Religion and Culture, Philosophy of Literature)
- Dr. Tsuyoshi Kawasaki (Japanese Culture, Asia-Canada Interaction)
- Dr. Shuyu Kong (Chinese Literature, Film and Popular Culture, Diaspora Culture)
- Dr. David Mirhady (Ancient Greek Rhetoric and Law)
- Dr. Emily O'Brien (Renaissance Italy)
- Dr. Eleanor Stebner (Religion, Culture, and Ideas)

The present number of faculty associated with the Honours Program gives it a certain durability during study leaves and other leaves of absences. As such, students should not be affected by inconsistent or limited course offerings due to faculty leaves. No new faculty positions are required for the proposed Honours Program.

## **PROGRAM CONSULTATIONS AND EVALUATION**

The Humanities Honours program at SFU would be comparable to programs presently offered at SFU and at the University of Victoria and the University of British Columbia. The SFU Humanities Honours Program is consistent with the structure of Honours programs in other departments within FASS with some small differences both because of our own unique contribution to the field and available resources.

Two of the province's four research universities presently offer a variant of the Humanities Honours Program. The University of Victoria offers a BA (Honours) in Greek and Roman Studies or Medieval Studies. The University of British Columbia offers a BA (Honours) in Classical Studies; Myth and Literature in Greece, Rome, and Near East; Classics; and Religious Studies. SFU's Humanities Honours Program will be in keeping with the recognition of the importance of the humanities subject fields at other major institutions and will address a persistent student interest.

### **3. Ongoing Review and Evaluation**

Once implemented, the Honours Program will be reviewed and evaluated by the Department of Humanities' Undergraduate Curriculum Committee. In addition, the Honours Program will be part of the Department of Humanities external review which occurs every six years.

## **F. ADMISSION**

### **Admission Requirements**

Prospective students must apply to Simon Fraser University for admission and meet the normal Simon Fraser University admission requirements. Honours Program admission must be obtained from the department advisor.

An annual cohort of 15-18 students is anticipated in this program.

## **G. OTHER**

No additional funds, lab space, or equipment will be required

## **APPENDIX A: Calendar Description Honours in Humanities**

This program is meant for those with a special interest in the humanities who wish to pursue advanced studies beyond the Humanities Major with the benefit of faculty guidance.

### **Lower-Division Requirements:**

Entering students must first complete the lower-division Humanities major requirements and normally have a GPA of 3.33 or higher in lower-division Humanities courses. Students must submit an application for entrance into the program and consult the Humanities advisor.

### **Upper-Division Requirements:**

Humanities majors complete 32 upper-division units. Honours students must obtain an additional 20 units for a total of 52 upper division Humanities units.

Required:

HUM 401-4: Pre-Modern Studies  
HUM 422-4 The Humanities and the Critique of Culture  
HUM 480-4: Advanced Topics in the Humanities  
HUM 490-4: The Humanities Graduating Seminar  
HUM 495-4 Honours Essay



## **APPENDIX B: Calendar Descriptions of Courses Honours in Humanities**

### **REQUIRED COURSES:**

In addition to completion of the Humanities Major requirements, students wishing to pursue Honours in Humanities must also complete all of the following:

#### **HUM 401-4 Pre-Modern Studies**

A detailed interdisciplinary analysis of a selected topic, issue, or personality in the pre-modern world. Prerequisite: 45 units, including HUM 101. Students who have completed this topic in HUM 301, 382, or 383 may not take this course for further credit.

#### **HUM 422-4 The Humanities and the Critique of Culture**

Focuses on the role and practice of cultural critique in the humanities based upon a selection of materials and analytical texts across disciplines. Prerequisite: 45 units, including HUM 101. Students who have taken Hum 322 may not take this course for further credit.

#### **HUM 480-4 Advanced Topics in the Humanities**

Prerequisite: 45 units, including HUM 101.

#### **HUM 490-4 Humanities Seminar**

A graduating course required for students in the Honours program. The seminar focuses on issues and texts in the humanities. Topics to be addressed vary according to faculty interest and student need. Prerequisite: Students should have completed all of their lower-division requirements, and at least two 300-division humanities courses. Restricted to Honours students, majors and joint majors in humanities.

#### **HUM 495-4 Honours Essay**

A research and writing project culminating in the completion of a substantial essay on a humanities topic. Students are required to make a formal presentation and defence of their essay. Prerequisite: This course is restricted to students in the Honours program. Students should have completed all of the lower division requirements for the Honours program, and at least two 300-division humanities courses. Before registering for the course, students should have the signature of a faculty member who is willing to supervise their project. Approval of the humanities chair is also required. Students may complete this course concurrently with HUM 490 or upon completion of HUM 490.