



MEMO

Dean of
Graduate Studies

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TO: Senate

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FROM Wade Parkhouse, Dean, Graduate Studies

RE General Graduate Regulation 1.3.4

[GS2011.22]

CC

DATE December 8, 2011

Motion: That Senate approve the revision of GGR 1.3.4 which outlines the criteria for admission to a doctoral program **[GS2011.22]**

Effective Date is September 2012

Senators wishing to consult a more detailed report of curriculum revisions may do so by going to Docushare:

<https://docushare.sfu.ca/dsweb/View/Collection-12682>

If you are unable to access the information, please call [778-782-3168](tel:778-782-3168) or email shelley_gair@sfu.ca.

GS2011.22

Revision of GGR 1.3.4

Motion

That SGSC recommend to Senate the revision of GGR 1.3.4 which outlines the criteria for admission to a doctoral program.

Rationale

SGSC wanted to clarify and broaden the admission requirements for entry to a doctoral program to reflect the proposed changes at the master's level in terms of using the last 60 credits for determining GPA admissibility. SGSC also wanted to clarify that there is an expectation that admission directly from a bachelor's program into a doctoral program still required the completion of some course work. Further, SGSC wished to clarify that transfers from a master's program to a doctoral program should be initiated early in the masters program.

Existing language:

1.3.4 Admission to a Doctoral Program

The minimum University requirements for admission to a doctoral program are as follows.

a) either

i) a master's degree from a recognized university, or the equivalent, or

ii) a bachelor's degree, with a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.5, from a recognized university, or the equivalent, or

iii) completion of at least 75% of the course work units required for the relevant department's master's program, with a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.5. All graduate courses, whether completed at this University or another university, shall be considered in the calculation.

and

b) submitted evidence that the applicant is capable of undertaking substantial original research. Normally, such capability will be judged from letters of reference from qualified referees, and the completion of a master's thesis or other scholarly work.

Students must satisfy any further requirements set by the graduate program committee. Students whose native language is not English may be required to satisfy the University and the graduate program committee as to their capability in English. (See also 1.3.12 English Language Competence.)

Revised language

1.3.4 Admission to a Doctoral Program (calendar changes in bold with deletions struck through)

The minimum University requirements for admission to a doctoral program are as follows.

a) either

i) a master's degree from Simon Fraser University or its equivalent from a recognized institution

ii) a bachelor's degree, with a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.5/4.33 or **a grade point average of at least 3.67/4.33(A-) based on the last 60 credits of undergraduate courses, provided minimally**. All graduate work is also considered. Individual graduate programs may set a higher admission grade point average. Students admitted directly from a bachelor's degree must complete at least 50% of the course work units required for the relevant department's master's program **if no course work is required as part of the doctoral degree**.

iii) completion of at least 75% of the course work units required for the relevant department's master's program, with a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.5. All graduate courses, whether completed at this University or ~~another university~~ **at an equivalent post-secondary institution**, shall be considered in the calculation. A student wishing to be admitted under this category (transferred to PhD) must have completed all of these requirements and initiated the transfer request within the first 6 semesters at SFU. **As per GGR 1.12.3, initial enrolment in the doctoral program will be the initial enrolment as a master's student.**

and

b) submitted evidence that the applicant is capable of undertaking substantial original research. Normally, such capability will be judged from letters of reference from qualified referees, and the completion of a master's thesis or other scholarly work.

Students must satisfy any further requirements set by the graduate program committee. Students whose native language is not English may be required to satisfy the University and the graduate program committee as to their capability in English. (See also 1.3.12 English Language Competence.)

Final Calendar Language

1.3.4 Admission to a Doctoral Program

The minimum University requirements for admission to a doctoral program are as follows.

a) either

i) a master's degree from Simon Fraser University or its equivalent from a recognized institution,

ii) a bachelor's degree, with a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.5/4.33 or a grade point average of at least 3.67/4.33(A-) based on the last 60 credits of undergraduate courses, provided minimally. All

graduate work is also considered. Individual graduate programs may set a higher admission grade point average. Students admitted directly from a bachelor's degree must complete at least 50% of the course work units required for the relevant department's master's program if no course work is required as part of the doctoral degree.

iii) completion of at least 75% of the course work units required for the relevant department's master's program, with a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.5. All graduate courses, whether completed at this University or at an equivalent post-secondary institution, shall be considered in the calculation. A student wishing to be admitted under this category (transferred to PhD) must have completed all of these requirements and initiated the transfer request within the first 6 semesters at SFU. As per GGR 1.12.3, initial enrolment in the doctoral program will be the initial enrolment as a master's student.

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