



MEMO

Dean of  
Graduate Studies

STREET ADDRESS

Maggie Benston Student Services  
Centre 1100  
Burnaby BC V5A 1S6  
Canada

MAILING ADDRESS

8888 University Drive  
Burnaby BC V5A 1S6  
Canada

TO: Senate

TEL

FROM Wade Parkhouse, Dean, Graduate Studies

RE General Graduate Regulation 1.3.3

[GS2011.21]

CC

DATE December 8, 2011

Motion: That Senate approve the revision of GGR 1.3.3 which outlines the criteria for admission to a master's program [GS2011.21]

**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](mailto:shelley_gair@sfu.ca).

**GS2011.21**

## **Revision of GGR 1.3.3**

### **Motion**

That SGSC recommend to Senate the revision of GGR 1.3.3 which outlines the criteria for admission to a master's program.

### **Rationale**

SGSC wants to clarify and broaden the admission requirements for entry into a master's program as many institutions currently either use only the last 60 UD (credits) GPA. Given that many students struggle in their first year at university, it seemed reasonable to add an option of admission based on UD GPA while retaining our current CGPA admission option. The B+ (3.33/4.33) requirement for an entry CGPA based on the last 60 credits reflects the practice across a number of institutions including UBC. Additional language is included to ensure that all applicants are well informed of the fact that some programs have additional requirements prior to applying.

### **Existing Language:**

#### **1.3.3 Admission to a Master's Program**

The minimum University requirements for admission to a master's program are as follows.

- a) a bachelor's degree with a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 from a recognized university, or the equivalent;
- b) submitted evidence, usually references from qualified referees, of the student's ability to undertake advanced work in the area of interest.

In exceptional circumstances, a student may be admitted with lower formal qualification than in (a) when there is significant professional experience relevant to the proposed area of scholarship.

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).

### **Revised Language:**

#### **1.3.3 Admission to a Master's Program** (changes noted in bold or struck if to be deleted)

The minimum University requirements for admission to a master's program are as follows.

- a) a bachelor's degree from Simon Fraser University or **or its equivalent from a recognized institution;**

**b) a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0/4.33, or a grade point average of at least 3.33/4.33 based on the last 60 credits of undergraduate courses.** All graduate work is also considered. Individual graduate programs may set a higher admission grade point average;

bc) submitted evidence, usually references from qualified referees, of the student's ability to undertake advanced work in the area of interest. In addition, some programs also require completion of entrance examinations such as the GMAT and GRE, and/or the submission of other material.

In exceptional circumstances, a student may be admitted with lower formal qualifications than in (a) or (b) when there is significant professional experience relevant to the proposed area of scholarship.

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).

## **Final Calendar Language:**

### 1.3.3 Admission to a Master's Program

The minimum University requirements for admission to a master's program are as follows.

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

b) a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0/4.33 (B), or a grade point average of at least 3.33/4.33 (B+) based on the last 60 credits of undergraduate courses. All graduate work is also considered. Individual graduate programs may set higher admission grade point average;

c) submitted evidence, usually references from qualified referees, of the student's ability to undertake advanced work in the area of interest. In addition, some programs also require completion of entrance examinations such as the GMAT and GRE, and/or the submission of other material.

In exceptional circumstances, a student may be admitted with lower formal qualifications than in (a) or (b) when there is significant professional experience relevant to the proposed area of scholarship.

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).