

MEMORANDUM

To... Senate

From Office of the Dean of Graduate Studies

Subject Graduate Curriculum Changes - Department of History

Date December 22, 1982

Action undertaken by the Senate Graduate Studies Committee at its meeting of December 20, 1982, gives rise to the following motion:-

MOTION:

"That Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors, as set forth in S.83-19, the proposed change in requirements in the M.A. programme in the Department of History"

J.M. Webster
Dean of Graduate Studies

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GRADUATE CURRICULUM

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

p. 216 M.A. PROGRAM - CHANGE OF REQUIREMENTS

FROM: Program of Study

All candidates for the M.A. degree will normally enrol in HIST 800-5 Historiography. A candidate must satisfy the following requirements:

1. 30 semester hours of work, of which 15 semester hours must be in graduate courses in the Department;
2. The M.A. thesis or three extended essays, which carry a value of 10 of the required semester hours.

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.....In place of the thesis, three extended essays in the form of research papers will be submitted to the Examining Committee. These papers will be bound and deposited in the University Library. The Committee will examine the candidate on his/her three research papers.

TO: Program of Study

All candidates for the M.A. degree must satisfy the following minimum requirements, totalling 30 semester hours:

1. At least 20 semester hours of course work of which at least 15 semester hours must be in graduate courses in the Department. Within these, the candidate will normally include one seminar course in Canadian history and one seminar course in another field designated by the Department. The remaining courses required to complete the degree will be offered, in most cases, as individual study courses;
2. A thesis of 10 semester hours.

Under certain circumstances, the Department may consent to the awarding of the M.A. degree on the basis of course work and extended essays only. In place of the thesis, the candidate must complete 2 additional courses and must submit to the Examining Committee 3 extended essays, based on course work.

**RATIONALE:**

While the three-essay option has existed in the History M.A. program for several years, most students have elected to do the thesis because they have concluded, and because they have been advised by faculty, that the M.A. with a thesis is a better degree. Because we have an option that we are advising students not to take, we wish to drop it. However, there are some students for whom an additional two courses, and an examination of three extended essays based on course work, is more appropriate as training at the M.A. level. For example, in Middle Eastern History, students frequently need more training in course work than in Canadian history. For that reason, the provision for degrees based on course work and extended essays is included.