

S. 80-9  
SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM

Members of Senate

From Office of the Dean of Graduate Studies

Subject Proposed Graduate Calendar Changes -  
Department of Communication

Date November 20, 1979

Curriculum Changes.

MOTION: That Senate approve the attached proposed  
Graduate Calendar changes in the Department  
of Communication.

These changes were approved by the Senate Graduate Studies  
Committee on November 19, 1979.



Bryan P. Beirne  
Dean of Graduate Studies.

mm/  
attach.

## MEMORANDUM

To: Dr. Roger Blackman, Associate Dean,  
Faculty of Graduate Studies

From: Robert S. Anderson, Chairman of Graduate  
Studies,  
Department of Communication

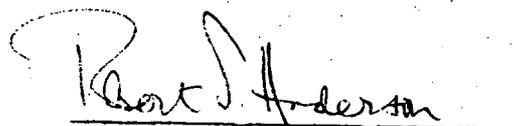
Subject:

Date: November 13, 1979

Here is the revised Graduate Calendar entry for this Department, as requested by the Executive Committee on November 5, 1979.

Note that reference to Co-operative Education has been deleted, and that the phrase "five courses totalling at least 20 credit hours at the graduate level" clarifies a query raised in Committee.

Thank you.



Robert S. Anderson

RSA:lch

cc M. McGinn, Registrar's Office

*These changes were approved by the Executive Committee, Senate Graduate Studies Committee at its meeting on November 5, 1979.*

# SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

## MEMORANDUM

To M. McGinn, Assistant Registrar,

Graduate Studies

Subject Communications Changes

From T. W. Calvert, Dean,

Faculty of Interdisciplinary Studies

Date October 12, 1979

At its meeting on October 11, 1979, the Faculty of Interdisciplinary Studies Graduate Studies Committee approved the following items from the Department of Communication:

- (1) M.A. degree requirements changed to 5 courses from 20 hours.
- (2) Two or more extended essays can be substituted for a thesis.
- (3) Change in timing of establishment of supervisory committee.

The other changes in calendar material were deemed to be editorial.



T. W. Calvert

TWC:lch

cc R. Anderson

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION

The study of communication has recently emerged as an identified academic discipline. At the same time, a number of the traditional disciplines in the social sciences, the humanities, and the natural sciences employ communicational approaches in various areas. Communicational perspectives are also becoming prominent in the professions, notably in law, community medicine, counselling, and mental health, as well as in business administration and labour education. As a social science, communication is distinctively trans-disciplinary.

The Department has drawn on a number of perspectives, but is most readily distinguished by the fact that it treats communication as a humanistic social science, and is concerned with the contexts within which information - in all its diverse forms - is created, coded, communicated, and controlled. This approach is designed to provide students with wide opportunities to explore both communication theory and communication practice, as well as the relationship between the two. It encourages the concrete application of theory and research to modern society - its historical origins, its dominant values, its institutions and policies, its present structure, its current problems and its potential for change.

### A. AREAS OF STUDY AND RESEARCH

Present faculty resources provide for graduate studies in the following general areas of interest. Students may wish to specialize in one or more of these general areas, or to select related aspects from two or more:

1. Theoretical and Methodological Foundations in Communication.
2. Interpersonal and Organizational Communication.
3. Communication Media and Telecommunication.
4. Policy Studies in Communication.
5. Critical Analysis of the Media.
6. Sound and Video.
7. Communication and Development.
8. Communication, History, Social Change and Community.

B. RESEARCH AND TRAINING FACILITIES

1. Telecommunications Research Group.
2. Sonic Research Studio.
3. Communication Laboratory.
4. Video, Audio and Other Facilities.
5. Documentation Centre.

THE DEGREE PROGRAM

A. ADMISSION

Admission requirements for the M.A. program will ordinarily include holding a Bachelor's degree in Communication (with at least a good second-class standing); or an equivalent degree in an interdisciplinary or humanities program, in one of the social sciences, or in a socially-oriented information, systems, or biological science. However, qualified students will only be accepted into the Departmental degree

programs if the Departmental Graduate Studies Committee finds that a suitable thesis supervisor is available. Besides applications from students in communication, the Department also encourages applications from students with experience in the humanities, in the social or biological sciences, and in interdisciplinary studies.

1. Admission to the M.A. Program:

All applicants should be directed to the Graduate Studies Committee and, in addition to general University requirements, should include:

- a. A succinct statement of interests and goals, together with an account of relevant academic and personal background.
- b. Two samples of scholarly and/or other written work relevant to the applicant's objectives, and in addition, any tapes, films, etc. the applicant considers relevant.

Applicants may arrange for an interview with the Graduate Studies Committee. Travel expenses will not be reimbursed.

2. Exceptions and Deadlines:

Applicants are directed to descriptions of "Special Arrangements" (3.4), "Qualifying" (3.5), and "Special" (3.6) admissions in the Graduate Calendar. Students will normally be expected to enter the Program in the Fall Semester. Under normal circumstances, the deadline for applications for the Fall Semester is February 15. The Committee will announce its decisions to applicants in the first week of April. Under special circumstances, applications will be considered for the Spring Semester, in which case the deadline is September 15.

B. ADVISING AND SUPERVISION

Students are advised to read Section 6 of the University general regulations and the Departmental terms of reference for supervisory committees.

C. DEGREE REQUIREMENTS FOR AN M.A.

Candidates for the Master's degree normally satisfy the following requirements:

1. Course work consisting of five courses totalling at least 20 credit hours at the graduate level (normally completed before beginning a thesis, a project or extended essays) which must include the following:
  - a. One of CMNS 800-5, 801-5 or 802-5.
  - b. Four additional courses, at least two of which are to be selected within the Department and may include courses designated in (a) above. A maximum of two courses may be Directed Studies. No more than one course of Directed Studies or Special Topics may be completed with the same instructor except by permission of the Chairperson of the Department.
2.
  - a. An original thesis; or
  - b. An original project, which because of content or method, does not conform to the usual definition of a thesis; or
  - c. Extended essays: at least two extended essays in the form of research papers to be submitted and defended orally. These

Papers will be bound and deposited in the University Library. Procedures used in the supervision and examination of extended essays are the same as those used for theses.

3. Supervision:

- a. A Supervisory Committee should normally be approved by the Graduate Studies Committee before the end of the second semester.
- b. Formal Review: No later than the semester in which course work is completed, candidates for the Master's degree will have their thesis/project/essay proposals formally reviewed, and the Departmental Graduate Studies Committee will be advised of the outcome of the review.