

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

S.81.50

MEMORANDUM

To: Senate  
Subject: Graduate Curriculum Changes -  
Department of Archaeology -  
Requirements for Master's or Ph.D. Degrees

From: Office of the Dean of Graduate Studies

Date: January 30, 1981

MOTION: That Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board, as set forth in S.81-50 Graduate Curriculum Changes in the Department of Archaeology.

These changes were approved by the Senate Graduate Studies Committee on January 26, 1981.

Bryan P. Beirne  
Dean of Graduate Studies

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attachs.

# SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

## MEMORANDUM

Ms. M. McGinn, Asst. Registrar	From. Sheila Roberts', Secretary
Graduate Studies	Faculty of Arts Graduate Studies Committee
Subject Curriculum Changes	Date 1980-12-10

The Faculty of Arts Graduate Studies Committee at its meeting of November 27, 1980 passed the curriculum changes for the department of Archaeology.

Would you please place the same on the agenda of the next Executive Committee of the Senate Graduate Studies Committee.

Thank you.

  
Ms. Roberts

Attachment  
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CURRICULUM CHANGES

P. 44 M.A. PROGRAM

FROM:

**M.A. PROGRAM**

**Course Requirements**

In addition to the thesis, the normal course requirements for the M.A. degree consist of a minimum of four semester courses including at least 12 semester hours of graduate course credit. In addition students must take ARCH 872-0-873-2 each semester the course is offered. Credit for ARCH 873 does not constitute part of the normal 30 credit hours required for the M.A. degree. Grading will be restricted to satisfactory/unsatisfactory (S/U).

TO:

M.A. PROGRAM

The M.A. program consists of the following sequential steps: course requirements, comprehensive exam, thesis prospectus, colloquium presentation, advancement to candidacy and thesis completion and defence.

**Course Requirements**

In addition to the comprehensive exam and the thesis, the normal course requirements for the M.A. degree consist of a minimum of four graduate courses including Arch. 871-5. Students may be required by their committee to take additional courses. Students are also required to take Arch. 872-0/873-2 each semester the course is offered. Credit for Arch. 873 does not constitute part of the normal course requirement for the M.A. degree. Grading for these 872/873 courses will be restricted to satisfactory/unsatisfactory (S/U).

**Comprehensive Exam**

Each student will be required to write a comprehensive exam prior to advancement to candidacy, designed to test the student's general knowledge in archaeology. Grading will be on a pass/fail basis. The examination or parts thereof may be repeated once, at the discretion of the Department.

FROM:

**Advancement to Candidacy**

The requirements for advancement to candidacy are:

1. Preparation of thesis prospectus and completion of at least three courses. The purpose of the prospectus shall be to discuss the proposed research and general background relevant to the research. The prospectus is expected to be submitted to the Supervisory Committee and approved before Step 2 is undertaken.
2. After approval of the thesis prospectus, and after consultation with the Supervisory Committee, either a) or b) shall take place:
  - a) The student will present a seminar, the topic of which shall be the substance of the prospectus, or
  - b) the student may take a set of written exams on the area of proposed research and related topics

The above is not to be considered a defence of the prospectus, *per se*, but a means whereby the student may benefit from the collective expertise of the Department.

TO:

Advancement to Candidacy

The requirements for advancement to candidacy are:

1. Completion of three of the minimum four graduate courses and successful performance in the comprehensive exam.
2. Preparation of thesis prospectus. The purpose of the prospectus shall be to discuss the proposed research and general background relevant to the research. The prospectus is expected to be submitted to the Supervisory Committee and approved before step 3 is undertaken.
3. After approval of the thesis prospectus, and after consultation between the student and his supervisory committee, the student will present a colloquium, the topic of which shall be the substance of the prospectus.

The colloquium is not to be considered a defence of the prospectus, *per se*, but a means whereby the student may benefit from the collective expertise of the Department.

FROM:

TO:

Ph.D. PROGRAM

The Ph.D. program consists of the following sequential steps: course requirements, comprehensive exam, thesis prospectus, colloquium presentation, advancement to candidacy and thesis completion and defence.

### **PH.D. PROGRAM**

#### **Course Requirements**

Course requirements for the Ph.D. degree are to be determined in consultation with the student's Supervisory Committee. In addition, students must take ARCH 872-0/873-2.

#### Course requirements

In addition to the comprehensive exam and the thesis, the normal course requirements for the Ph.D. degree consist of a minimum of three graduate courses including Arch. 871-5. Students may be required by their committee to take additional courses. Students are also required to take Arch. 872-0/873-2 each semester the course is offered. Credit for Arch. 873 does not constitute part of the normal course requirements for the Ph.D. degree. Grading for these 872/873 courses will be restricted to satisfactory/unsatisfactory (S/U).

#### Comprehensive Exam

Each student will be required to write a comprehensive examination, prior to advancement to candidacy, designed to test the student's general knowledge in archaeology and in three regional or topical areas selected by the supervisory committee in consultation with the student. Grading will be on a pass/fail basis but the examination or parts thereof may be repeated once, at the discretion of the Department.

p. 45 ADVANCEMENT TO CANDIDACY

FROM:

**Advancement to Candidacy**

Formal advancement to candidacy shall take place when the following have been completed:

1. The student shall prepare a prospectus and hold a departmental colloquium on the thesis topic as described in the M.A. program above.
  2. A second colloquium shall center upon a secondary area of interest.
- Topics and scheduling of these colloquia will be determined in consultation with the student's Supervisory Committee.

TO:

**Advancement to Candidacy**

Formal advancement to candidacy shall take place when the following have been completed:

1. Completion of two of the minimum three graduate courses and successful performance in the comprehensive exam.
2. Preparation of thesis prospectus. The purpose of the prospectus shall be to discuss the proposed research and general background relevant to the research. The prospectus is expected to be submitted to the Supervisory Committee and approved before step 3 is undertaken.
3. After approval of the thesis prospectus, and after consultation between the student and his supervisory committee, the student will present a colloquium, the topic of which shall be the substance of the prospectus.

The colloquium is not to be considered a defence of the prospectus, per se, but a means whereby the student may benefit from the collective expertise of the Department.

Rationale for proposed changes to graduate program -

The proposed changes which involved course requirements for the Ph.D. and comprehensive examinations for the MA and Ph.D. will accomplish the following:

- a) They will inject a sense of direction and structure into the Archaeology Graduate Program which will enhance the students' confidence in the quality of their training.
- b) Bring the Department more in line than hitherto with the requirements of the great majority of anthropology departments in North America that offer archaeological training.
- c) Ensure at least a minimum and uniform level of broad-based knowledge in archaeology to balance the specialized thesis topic.
- d) Limit the thesis defence to the subject matter of the thesis itself and related matters, with the student's general knowledge and background preparation tested in their comprehensive examination.
- e) Enhance the suitability of students for employment by demonstrating their abilities through courses, comprehensive examination and advancement to candidacy.
- f) Provide the departmental graduate committee with data for judging the progress of a student and justification, if necessary, for a requirement to withdraw.
- g) It is anticipated that the introduction of comprehensive examinations and required courses for the M.A. and Ph.D. will induce the students to take the minimum required courses as expeditiously as possible thereby hastening their progress through the program.

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