

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

2 a)

MEMORANDUM

SM 6/16/66

Spencer

Senate

From Registrar

Subject: Recommendation regarding the Evaluation of Semester Grades

Date: May 19, 1966

Grades must be submitted, according to a Senate approved regulation, within 96 hours of the examination having been written. This gives the Registrar approximately 24 hours to process the results, present them to the Senate Undergraduate Admissions and Standings Committee, and mail the grades and any decision of the Committee to the student in time for him to register for the next semester. The timing leaves no room for a consideration of the results in any one course as they relate to those in other courses, or in a department as they relate to those in another department. At the moment, the sole evaluation that is done on the grades is individual student oriented and results only in a decision as to the disposition of the student given the grades he obtained, with no consideration as to whether the grades are fair and reasonable.

I can see no way in which there would be time on the semester system to carry out the evaluative task customary at conventional universities where the results are not sent to the student until they have been through departmental review committees, faculty committees, university revisions committees and the like, all of which takes 6 weeks or longer. However, I am not sure that such a lengthy review is necessary on the semester system where we are attempting to downgrade the importance of formal "final" examinations.

I would recommend the following:

- a) The individual student statement of marks be reviewed as it is now, by the Senate Undergraduate Admissions and Standings Committee.
- b) A summary of the grades as attached be sent to each member of the faculty. Where this has been done at other Universities it has had a salutary effect upon those markers or departments far out of line. Granted, it has no effect upon the students represented on the summary statements, but after a semester or two gross discrepancies would be unlikely.
- c) The Committee of Heads review each semester the summary sheets as attached and comment on gross anomalies.
- d) The Registrar present to Senate a report as attached for each semester along with comments from the Committee of Heads. Senate should make recommendations to the Heads for any changes thought necessary in the way in which the Grading Scale is being used, or may ask for specific comments from the Head on any apparent anomalies in his department.

This publication of the summary results will undoubtedly have a centralizing effect, although I suggest the Senate would want to make it clear that a review of the overall pattern of grading is necessary, if only to provide an informal benchmark for the individual marker, but that Senate has no intention of forcing any rigid "scaling" system on the University.

D. P. Robertson

SM 6/6/66

REGISTRAR'S REPORT

Grading

SPRING SEMESTER GRADES

MAY 1966

NOTES:

1. The grades shown are before any alterations as a result of re-reads requested by the students or reviews as carried out by the faculty independently. Alterations to the grades as a result of these would not have a marked effect on the distributions.

2. The "N" grades have not been shown in the distribution. "N" grades should mean that the student did not write for fear of failure and could therefore be treated as a failure. Unfortunately, the registration at the beginning of January was imperfect and, in the Spring semester at least, an "N" grade could just as validly mean that the Registrar's records were in error and the student was never registered in the courses and should not have been expected to write the examination. The "N" grades have been included here as an auxiliary bit of information, but no conclusions can be drawn at this time from the size of the group.

D. P. Robertson
Registrar

May 19, 1966.

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REGISTRAR'S REPORT

May 1966.

SPRING SEMESTER GRADES

Grading

	TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS	PERCENTAGE SCORING					NUMBER OF "N" GRADES
		A	B	C	D	F	
Economics 100-3	350	11	20	23	19	27	31
Economics 152-3	283	4	20	43	18	15	18
Economics 200-3	224	5	27	35	15	18	13
Economics 253-3	98	4	13	19	26	38	29
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS TOTAL	955	7	21	31	19	22	91
English 101-3	476	8	33	44	11	4	84
English 102-3	307	6	38	40	7	9	43
English 103-3	647	8	43	38	7	4	52
English 111-3	277	10	35	34	11	10	36
English 201-3	336	9	47	35	4	5	42
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH TOTAL	2,043	8	40	38	8	6	257
Geography 161-3	681	4	23	56	6	11	40
Geography 211-3	100	1	42	37	9	11	4
Geography 221-3	88	8	48	37	6	1	9
DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY TOTAL	869	4	28	52	6	10	53
History 101-3	32	--	--	34	41	25	2
History 102-3	408	3	35	48	9	5	41
History 103-3	101	3	28	43	10	16	13
History 104-3	279	2	24	52	19	3	15
History 201-3	114	7	24	42	--	27	5
History 202-3	124	2	26	46	8	18	1
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY TOTAL	1,058	3	28	47	12	10	77

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REGISTRAR'S REPORT

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Grading

	TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS	PERCENTAGE SCORING					NUMBER OF "N" GRADES
		A	B	C	D	F	
<u>MODERN LANGUAGES</u>							
French 100-3	102	3	25	58	11	3	26
French 101-3	165	1	19	30	28	22	14
French 201-3	194	7	41	33	11	8	10
French 202-3	40	25	42	23	5	5	1
French 203-3	10	60	40	--	--	--	--
FRENCH TOTAL	511	7	31	35	16	11	51
German 100-3	72	19	42	29	10	--	16
German 101-3	48	10	38	33	13	6	8
German 201-3	11	27	55	9	9	--	1
German 202-3	8	13	50	25	12	--	--
GERMAN TOTAL	139	16	42	29	11	2	25
Russian 100-3	15	13	20	27	13	27	--
Russian 101-3	54	19	28	35	18	--	--
RUSSIAN TOTAL	69	18	26	33	17	6	--
Spanish 100-3	56	11	38	38	10	3	15
Spanish 101-3	55	15	35	34	11	5	4
Spanish 201-3	6	33	33	17	17	--	--
SPANISH TOTAL	117	14	36	35	11	4	19
Linguistics 220-3	81	19	48	17	9	7	7
LINGUISTICS TOTAL	81	19	48	17	9	7	7
DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES TOTAL	917	11	34	33	14	8	102

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REGISTRAR'S REPORT

Grading

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	TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS	PERCENTAGE SCORING					NUMBER OF "N" GRADES
		A	B	C	D	F	
Philosophy 100-4	91	5	19	45	20	11	22
Philosophy 202-3	98	7	33	46	12	2	19
Philosophy 205-3	65	16	23	43	15	3	16
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DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY TOTAL	254	9	25	45	16	5	57
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<u>POLITICAL SCIENCE, SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY</u>							
Pol.Sc. 111-3	219	7	51	30	1	11	1
Pol.Sc. 211-3	119	9	59	19	2	11	13
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POL.SC. TOTAL	338	8	54	26	1	11	14
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Sociology 121-3	380	7	62	21	3	7	7
Sociology 231-3	57	21	27	26	5	21	2
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SOCIOLOGY TOTAL	437	9	57	22	4	8	9
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DEPARTMENT OF POL.SC., SOC. AND ANTHRO. TOTAL	775	8	56	24	3	9	23
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Psychology 101-3	306	4	25	39	25	7	36
Psychology 102-3	294	12	19	46	13	10	7
Psychology 201-3	32	9	28	34	16	13	1
Psychology 203-3	14	7	14	65	7	7	2
Psychology 204-3	62	11	20	26	19	24	14
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DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY TOTAL	708	8	22	41	19	10	60

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REGISTRAR'S REPORT

Grading

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	TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS	PERCENTAGE SCORING					NUMBER OF "N" GRADES
		A	B	C	D	F	
BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES							
BiSc. 102-3	270	24	38	26	8	4	3
BiSc. 203-3	189	5	38	27	20	10	5
BiSc. 204-3	53	13	36	41	6	4	1
BiSc. 305-3	36	8	22	56	14	--	3
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DEPARTMENT OF BIOL.SC. TOTAL	548	15	37	30	12	6	12
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Chemistry 101-3	159	2	10	63	14	11	28
Chemistry 102-3	271	12	14	42	20	12	14
Chemistry 111-2	82	11	19	56	10	4	7
Chemistry 112-2	207	15	34	28	11	12	--
Chemistry 222-2	26	19	31	35	11	4	--
Chemistry 261-3	36	22	14	31	19	14	--
Chemistry 271-2	29	10	17	31	42	--	3
Chemistry 281-3	29	21	27	24	21	7	2
Chemistry 471-3	4	50	25	25	--	--	--
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DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY TOTAL	843	12	20	42	16	10	54
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Mathematics 101-3	128	18	31	28	9	14	29
Mathematics 111-3	280	12	22	27	19	20	50
Mathematics 112-3	457	10	16	56	11	7	18
Mathematics 213-3	53	15	34	24	2	25	17
Mathematics 214-3	50	12	22	40	10	16	4
Mathematics 221-2	60	13	27	48	5	7	7
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DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS TOTAL	1,028	12	21	42	12	13	125

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Grading

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	TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS	PERCENTAGE SCORING					NUMBER OF "N" GRADES
		A	B	C	D	F	
Physics 101-3	168	8	13	28	16	35	39
Physics 102-3	239	8	19	23	36	14	11
Physics 221-4	59	12	31	20	15	22	4
Physics 231-2	15	13	46	27	7	7	--
Physics 232-2	21	19	29	52	--	--	--
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DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS TOTAL	502	9	20	26	24	21	54
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Education 201-3	491	11	35	45	6	3	35
Education 202-3	209	15	61	23	1	--	3
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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TOTAL	700	12	43	38	5	2	38
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UNIVERSITY TOTAL	11,355	9	32	38	11	10	1003