Definitions

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences: as defined in the Memorial University calendar. Notwithstanding, the ‘Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences’ as here construed includes disciplines or programs in the Humanities (English Language and Literature, French and Spanish, German and Russian Language and Literature, MPhil Humanities,) and Social Sciences (Anthropology, Archaeology, Classics, Economics, Folklore, Gender Studies, Geography, History, Linguistics, Philosophy, Political Science, Religious Studies, Sociology), as well as interdisciplinary programs not solely or strictly within the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences (Master of Employment Relations, Interdisciplinary PhD, Ethnomusicology).

Humanities and Social Sciences: an abbreviation for the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences.

The Council: an abbreviation for the Humanities and Social Sciences Graduate Student Council.

Functions

The functions of the Council shall be:

- To represent Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences graduate students’ interests to the University administration and other organizations, particularly the GSU, both on and off campus;
- To represent the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences graduate students’ interests to the Humanities and Social Sciences Grad Coordinators;
- To provide Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences graduate students with an educational, social and cultural organization;
- To foster contact and communication among Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences graduate and undergraduate students;
- To generate positive exposure for Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences graduate students within and outside the university community;
- To create a positive image of Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences and showcase the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences’ research on campus.

Democratic principles

The Council recognizes the following democratic principles:
Humanities and Social Sciences Graduate Student Council Constitution

• The right of each member to participate equally and fully in orderly meetings;
• The right for each member to be equally and fully informed of Council business, whether the member is present or not.

The above principles entail the following obligations:

• The obligation for each member to ensure that other members are able to participate fully and equally in meetings (for example, through following the meeting rules of order).
• The obligation for the Council as a whole to communicate its business in a transparent manner.

Membership

The membership of the Council shall be as stated in the by-laws.

Committees

The Council shall have the power to establish committees, as stated in the by-laws.

Officers

The officers of the Council are the Chair, an Alternate Chair, and a Secretary.

Meetings

Meetings of the Council shall be held as stated in the by-laws. Quorum shall be 8 members in the Fall and Winter semesters, and 5 members in the Spring and Summer semesters. Members may participate remotely (via teleconference, videoconference, etc.), and if so, they are counted towards quorum.

Special meetings may be scheduled by majority vote of the Council representatives.

By-Laws

By-Laws may be drawn up and amended by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting providing that the proposed by-law or amendment has been submitted in writing and circulated to all members not less than fourteen days prior to the meeting of the Council.
Amendments to the Constitution

Recommendations for amendments to the Constitution shall be by two-thirds majority of those present and voting providing that notice of the proposed amendment has been given at the previous meeting of the Council and that the proposed amendment has been submitted in writing and circulated to all members not less than 21 days prior to the meeting of the Council.