

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND
Academic Council of the School of Graduate Studies
Minutes, October 21, 2013

PRESENT: Dr. Golfman, Dr. A. Bath, Dr. D. Foster, Dr. R. Hammett, Dr. D. Behm, Dr. J. Doré, Dr. B. Roebathan, Dr. D. Moralejo, Dr. M. Daneshtalab, Dr. J.C. Lored-Osti, Dr. K. Barter, Dr. B. LeFrancois, Ms. M. Fitzsimmons, Mr. Al-Habashneh, Ms. K. Lord, Ms. J. Porter, Prof. P. Coady

APOLOGIES: Dr. F. Murrin, Dr. B. Sheppard, Mr. J. Donnelly, Dr. A. Mercier, Dr. K. Vodden, Mr. A. Johnson, Ms. C. Walsh, Dr. C. Dyck, Dr. L. Lye, Dr. T. Seifert

1. MINUTES:

It was moved by Dr. Foster and seconded by Dr. Daneshtalab, that the minutes of the meeting held September 16, 2013, be approved with a minor revision: Add Dr. B. LeFrancois to the 'Apologies' section. The motion

CARRIED

2. BUSINESS ARISING

3. CORRESPONDENCE

4. DEAN'S REPORT/REPORT OF SENATE

- a) Current international enrolment is up by 15%, with an overall increase of 5%.
- b) Recent visit to Monterrey, Mexico, attending an international Education conference. Overall, MUN is in keeping with what is the global trend, i.e. partnerships, maintaining quality control while opening the doors. Mexico requiring every undergraduate and graduate student to take a course in international competencies, and it includes travel. They are providing funding for this travel as well.

MUN is doing well but it is also pushing the international agenda forward. Experiences at these conferences are worthwhile.

The next international travel will be taking place at the China Ph.D. Fair. MUN is now a member of the China Education Associate for International Exchange, which is important because it signifies to the students that MUN is recognized as an institution worthy of the best and brightest candidates.

- c) The following items of business were approved at the October 8th, 2013, meeting of Senate:
- Folklore, Calendar Revisions
 - Education, Calendar Revisions

5. REPORT OF THE GRADUATE STUDENTS' UNION

- a) Ms. Lord reported for the GSU. The GSU Vice President (Academic) has resigned, and a by-election will be called by the GSU in the very near future.

6. REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES

- a) Academic Council Executive
- i. New Course – Computer Science 6916

It was moved by Dr. Behm and seconded by Dr. Daneshtalab, that the proposed new course Computer Science 6916 titled 'Security and Privacy', be approved.

The motion

CARRIED

Calendar Entry:

Add 6916 under section 24.1.4. and section 30.7.2.

Course Description:

Privacy and Security concerns are ubiquitous in modern computing environments. This course will review various cryptography techniques to preserve data security and privacy, examine system threats and vulnerabilities from the perspectives of programs, operating systems and programming languages, discuss database security, internet security, privacy and security breaches, as well as privacy-preserving data mining and machine learning methods. It will also review security and privacy issues in some applications in health, business and government. Students will contribute to the course by doing research on related topics, and present their findings by preparing written reports and oral in-class presentations.

- ii. New Course – Engineering 9979

It was moved by Dr. Behm and seconded by Ms. Coady, that the proposed new course Engineering 9979 entitled 'Fluid Structure Interactions', be approved.

The motion

CARRIED

Calendar Entry:

Under section 12.13.3, revise as follows:

9975/99 (~~excluding 9977 and 9979~~) Special Topics in
 Mechanical Engineering (~~excluding 9977~~)
9979 Fluid Structure Interactions

Course Description:

The main topics are: unsteady flow in pipe networks; flow induced vibration of structures; water wave interactions with structures.

iii. New Course – Folklore 6380

It was moved by Dr. Behm and seconded by Ms. Lord that the proposed new course 6380 entitled ‘Perspectives on Cultural Tourism’, be approved.

The motion

CARRIED

Calendar Entry:

Under section 7.12.2. and 30.14.2, subheading ‘Public and Applied Folklore’, insert 6380 Perspectives on Cultural Tourism.

Course Description:

This course examines intersections of folklore with tourism and communities. Within the context of interdisciplinary theoretical perspectives on cultural tourism, it explores topics related to tangible and intangible cultural heritage policy, representations of folklore (as in museums or dark tourism), and cultural tourism as a site of intercultural exchange (as in festivals or culinary tourism). It considers cultural tourism’s relationship to concepts such as (post)modernity, post-colonialism, globalization, and sustainability.

iv. Calendar Revisions and New Course – Sociology

It was moved by Dr. Behm, and seconded by Dr. Foster, that the proposed revisions to the Sociology graduate program, and new course 6041, be approved.

The motion

CARRIED

The revisions include:

- Course title change for 6040
- New course 6041
- Increase course requirements for the Master’s Research Paper and the Thesis option, to include Sociology 6041

- Raise the credit hours required by students completing the Thesis MA from 12 to 15 credit hours
- Reduce the elective requirements for the Master's Research Paper MA from 3 to 2 and for the Thesis MA from 2 to 1
- Change the special topics numbers from 6041-49 to 6042-49 (6041 being proposed as a new regular course)
- Remove cross-listing with Gender Studies of 6380 (the Department has deleted this course from their options)

Calendar Revisions

Revisions to sections 7.21 and 30.33 as follows:

7.21.1 Program of Study

1. Minimum admission requirements are a B average in undergraduate studies with a good undergraduate background in Sociology.
2. The M.A. Degree with thesis requires the completion of 15 credit hours in graduate courses, normally including the Graduate Seminar (6880), ~~and Methods of Sociological Research (6040)~~ Advanced Quantitative Methods (6040), Advanced Qualitative Methods (6041), Social Theory (6150), one elective, and a thesis. In the case of full-time students, the M.A. with thesis is normally completed in two years. The first year is devoted to the completion of the required courses and the definition of the thesis research topic. The second year is devoted to the completion of the thesis and presentation of the thesis at a Department seminar.
3. The M.A. Degree by Master's Research Paper requires the completion of 24 credit hours, normally including the Graduate Seminar (6880), ~~Methods of Sociological Research (6040),~~ Advanced Quantitative Methods (6040), Advanced Qualitative Methods (6041), Social Theory (6150), Master's Research Paper (6900) and three electives ~~two electives, and the Master's Research Paper (6900).~~ The coursework should be taken during the first two semesters of full-time study. The Master's Research Paper (Sociology 6900) should be written in the third semester of full-time study. The Master's Research Paper will be supervised by a faculty member and must be presented at a Departmental seminar. The Supervisor and one other member of the Department will grade the Master's Research Paper. The research paper should be written in the third semester of full-time study.

7.21.2 Courses

A selection of the following graduate courses will be offered to meet the requirements of candidates, as far as the resources of the Department will allow:

- 6040 ~~Methods of Sociological Research~~ Advanced Quantitative Methods
- 6041 Advanced Qualitative Methods (pending approval to regularize)
- ~~6041-49 Special Topics in Advanced Sociology~~ 6042-49 Special Topics in Advanced Sociology
- 6090-94 Special Area in Sociology
- 6120 Social Organization

- 6130 Social Stratification
- 6140 The Community
- 6150 Social Theory
- 6160 Theory Construction and Explanation in Sociology
- 6240 Sociology in Medicine
- 6280 Social and Economic Development
- 6300 Maritime Sociology
- 6310 Political Sociology
- 6320 Gender and Society
- 6330 Science and Technology
- 6340 Comparative North Atlantic Societies
- 6350 Environmental Sociology
- 6360 Sociology of Work
- 6370 Feminist Theory and Methods
- 6380 Women, Nature, Science and Technology (~~cross-listed as Gender Studies 6380~~)
- 6390 Sociology of Culture
- 6610 Socialization
- 6620 Current Topics in Social Behaviour
- 6880 Sociology Graduate Seminar
- 6900 Master's Research Paper (6 credit hours)

30.33.1 Program of Study

1. The Ph.D. degree in Sociology is offered in accordance with [General Regulations](#) and current department strengths.
2. To be admitted to the program an applicant must have completed either a Master of Arts or Master of Philosophy Degree or hold an equivalent qualification.
3. All Ph.D. candidates ~~must~~ normally complete a minimum of 12 credit hours in graduate courses in sociology, including the Graduate Seminar (6880), Sociology 6150 Social Theory (6150), and Advanced Quantitative Methods (6040), and Advanced Qualitative Methods (6041). ~~Sociology 6040 Methods of Sociological Research,~~ if these or equivalent courses have not been taken previously.
The supervisory committee in consultation with the Head or Graduate Officer will determine which additional courses, if any, may be required to ensure that candidates undertake appropriate course work in their area of research.
4. Proficiency in a second language will be required when the candidate's supervisory committee determines that knowledge of this second language is necessary for the purpose of the proposed doctoral research.
5. A written comprehensive examination, ~~which may be~~ followed by a supplementary oral examination, shall normally be completed by full-time students by the end of the ~~second year~~ 5th semester of the program.

Normally, part-time students shall take the examination within one year of the completion of prescribed courses. In accordance with [General Regulations](#), candidates must demonstrate knowledge of their special areas of research within the context of the discipline of Sociology. The examination shall consist of ~~three~~ two components: a written and an oral examination. The written component shall be comprised of two essays: social theory, research methods, and a special area: one in a broad area (eg. theory, methods, social inequality etc) and a second in the candidate's area of specialization. The oral component will examine the candidate in areas covered by the written component.

6. No more than two years after having been admitted to the program the candidate must submit a thesis proposal that is considered satisfactory by the Supervisory Committee.

30.33.2 Courses

A selection of the following graduate courses will be offered to meet the requirements of candidates, as far as the resources of the Department will allow:

- ~~6040 Methods of Sociological Research~~ Advanced Quantitative Methods
- 6041 Advanced Qualitative Methods (pending approval to regularize)
- ~~6041-49 Special Topics in Advanced Sociology~~ 6042-49 Special Topics in Advanced Sociology
- 6090-94 Special Area in Sociology
- 6120 Social Organization
- 6130 Social Stratification
- 6140 The Community
- 6150 Social Theory
- 6160 Theory Construction and Explanation in Sociology
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- 6280 Social and Economic Development
- 6300 Maritime Sociology
- 6310 Political Sociology
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- 6330 Science and Technology
- 6340 Comparative North Atlantic Societies
- 6350 Environmental Sociology
- 6360 Sociology of Work
- 6370 Feminist Theory and Methods
- 6380 Women, Nature, Science and Technology (~~cross-listed as Women's Studies 6380~~)
- 6390 Sociology of Culture
- 6610 Socialization
- 6620 Current Topics in Social Behaviour
- 6880 Sociology Graduate Seminar

v. Master of Science in Management Program

It was moved by Dr. Behm and seconded by Ms. Coady, that the proposed new Master's program in the Faculty of Business Administration, be approved in principle to permit an external review.

The motion

CARRIED

vi. Calendar Revisions – General Regulations Governing the School of Graduate Studies.

The School of Graduate Studies is recommending revisions to the following:

- General Regulations 3.4.1 and 3.4.2. governing courses outside of a student's program. The suggested revisions (replace clause 1 under 3.4.1. and replace clause 3 under 3.4.2.) will ensure there is absolute clarity as to whether a course is meant to fulfill a program requirement at the time of registration.
- General Regulations 3.8.1. and 3.8.2. governing comprehensive examinations. The new clause defers the rules for advancement within a multi-part comprehensive exam to departmental regulations and practices.

The motion

CARRIED

Calendar Revisions::

Sections 3.4.1. and 3.4.2.,

- Replace clause 1 under 3.4.1 and clause 3 under 3.4.2, with the following:
"Candidates should consult the appropriate Department/Faculty/School regulations for information concerning the specific program requirements. Candidates wishing to take individual courses outside of their program of study must seek approval from the Head of their academic unit prior to registration."
- Sections 3.8.1 and 3.8.2, add as new clause 3 under 3.8.1 and as clause 4 under 3.8.2., the following:
"In cases where there are multiple parts to a comprehensive exam, including written and oral parts, a candidate must satisfy all parts of the examination to obtain a pass. The requirements to advance to a

later part of the examination are specified in the Degree and Departmental regulations or by the appropriate academic unit.”

vii. New Course – Chemistry 6156

It was moved by Dr. Behm and seconded by Dr. Loredi-Osti that the proposed new course 6156 entitled ‘Analytical Method Development and Sampling’, be approved.

Discussion:

There was discussion on the usage of undergraduate courses as graduate courses with additional work assigned. It was agreed this should be the exception, not the norm.

On the call for question, the motion

CARRIED

Calendar Entry:

Under sections 24.8.2. and 30.5.2, insert 6156 Analytical Method Development and Sampling

Course Description:

Development and crucial evaluation of analytical methods and sampling protocols for analyses in complex matrices, including those relevant to environmental, medical, food, and forensic sciences. The class will be concurrently offered with an undergraduate course, CHEM 4156. Graduate students will be expected to achieve a greater depth of understanding of the material, with additional requirements that approach double of those of undergraduate students.

8 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

9 NOTICE OF MOTION

10 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned 4:22 p.m.

Noreen Golfman, Chair

David Behm, Secretary