

MINUTES
Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies
Graduate Curriculum Committee Meeting
November 1, 2019

Present: Kirsten Cameron, Kin Lo, Karin Mickelson, Sarah Park, Anne Phelan, Catherine Rawn, Andrew Riseman, Warren Williams, Jenn Fletcher (minutes)

Regrets: Edmond Cretu, Norm Hutchinson

1. Adoption of Agenda: Adopted

2. Minutes of October 18, 2019 Meeting: Approved

3. Business Arising

- BMEG 581 (3) has been approved by the Chair and submitted for review by SCC.

4. Resubmitted Proposals

Faculty of Medicine / Applied Science Submitted by Carol Jaeger
<p>BMEG 580 (3) – Create new course</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Members expressed appreciation for the work the proponents put into addressing the concerns that were raised.• Friendly notes:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Syllabus Course Description section has the old course title.○ A couple of the learning objectives seem at a relatively low level (e.g. appreciate, understand) and may prove difficult to assess. Proponents should consider rewriting those objectives to reflect the higher order learning expected of students at the graduate level.○ Assessment Policies section notes deadline extensions must be approved at least 24 hours prior to the deadline, which may not be in alignment with the new Academic Concession policy. Circumstances may arise where an exception is required. <p>Action: Approved</p>

5. New Proposals – Category 1

Faculty of Medicine Submitted by Lena Kang
<p>SURG 517 (3) – Create new course</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sample syllabus provided does not comply with the new policy on Content and Distribution of Course Syllabi. Proponent will need to address this. A majority of members felt the Faculty of Medicine Curriculum Committee should be advised that this Committee expects future submissions to address this as well.• Committee members had questions regarding the GCC's role in enforcing this policy. This is something that will be taken up with the SCC Chair, in consultation with the Chairs of the Faculty Curriculum Committees.• Proposed Calendar course description exceeds the 40 word maximum and must be

pared down.

- Level of learning described (“learn”, “understand”) seems lower than would typically be expected in a graduate course. Learning objectives should be rewritten to reflect the higher order learning expected of students at the graduate level. More detailed and robust learning objectives are presented for the individual modules later in the syllabus and proponents may want to draw on that language to strengthen the overall course learning objectives.
- Additional information about the criteria used for grading assignments is required. It would also be helpful to see these mapped onto the learning objectives for the course.
- 30% for participation is higher than would typically be seen for a graduate course. Additional information about expectations for participation and criteria for grading are required.
 - Friendly recommendation: Assessing students’ ability to incorporate ideas from the readings into the discussions may offer one way to link the readings into this assessment of participation.
- List of readings is quite long, although the Committee recognizes that some are rather short papers.
- Consider changing “Essential Readings” to “Required Readings”.
- Can students receive credit for both SURG 517 and SPPH 517? If not, a credit exclusion statement should be added to the proposed Calendar entry.

Action: Held

Faculty of Arts

Submitted by Heidi May / Catherine Rawn

European Studies – Delete program

Action: Approved

Public Policy and Global Affairs – Create MPPGA accelerated option, add exchange agreement transfer credit information, change program requirements

- Remove the word “agreements” from the statement on approved exchanges.
- Transfer credits from exchange must also meet the G+PS Transfer Credit Requirements.

Action: Approved with revisions

PPGA – Create new course code

Action: Approved

PPGA 500 (6) – Create new course

- Committee appreciated the proponents’ attention to the new policy on Content and Distribution of Course Syllabi.
- Friendly enquiries:
 - Might there be a way to split the content into two 3-credit courses without splitting content into microeconomics and macroeconomics?
 - Is there any opportunity to use open source texts to help reduce the overall cost of required texts for students?

Action: Approved

PPGA 510 (1.5) – Create new course

- “Pass/Fail” must be added to the course description.

Action: Approved

PPGA 511 (1.5) – Create new course

- Several members of the committee expressed interest in hearing how this new course worked out.

Action: Approved

PPGA 514 (2) – Create new course

Action: Approved

PPGA 593 (1-6) d – Create new course

- Consultation with the Departments of Statistics and Computer Science are requested.
- Prerequisite should probably have the new PPGA course code.
- While the committee appreciated the spirit of the learning activity involving hugging, smiling at, or fist bumping classmates, several found it problematic since not all students in the classroom might be comfortable with that. Recommendation to add something like “according to your mutual comfort level.”

Action: Approved pending positive consultation from Faculty of Science

6. New Proposals – Category 2

Faculty of Arts
Submitted by Tim Flanagan / Catherine Rawn

GPP Course Code – Change all GPP courses to the new PPGA course code

Action: Approved

GPP 501 (3) – Add credit exclusion

Action: Approved

GPP 502 (3) – Add credit exclusion

Action: Approved

GPP 509 (3) – Change course code, credit value and description

- It is unclear whether/how the workload for students will be changing. An explanation of how assignments are changing was requested. This will be reviewed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Action: Approved pending clarification

Faculty of Medicine
Submitted by Lena Kang

Global Surgical Care – Update MGSC program requirements

Action: Held pending approval of SURG 517

SURG 560 (6) – Add prerequisite

Action: Held pending approval of SURG 517

SURG 542 (3) – Add prerequisite

Action: Held pending approval of SURG 517

Next Meeting: Friday, November 15, 2019