SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES

REPORT TO SENATE, MAY 4, 2010

- 1. Complex Program Changes *Psychology* (for information)
- 2. Complex Program Changes *Communication and Culture* (for information)
- 3. Complex Program Changes *Spatial Analysis* (for information)

Submitted by:

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1. Complex Course Changes – *Psychology*

Summary:

The proposed complex change to the Psychology PhD program is a change to the mix of required courses and elective courses. Note that this complex change does not alter the total number of courses that students must take to complete the Psychology PhD. The course *History of Psychology* becomes an elective.

Current PhD Degree Requirements:

- Psychological Science (PhD): Currently, students must take <u>three required</u> courses and <u>two</u> <u>elective</u> courses (a total of five courses)
- Clinical Psychology (PhD): Currently, students must take <u>five required</u> courses and <u>three</u> <u>elective</u> courses (a total of eight courses)

Proposed PhD Degree Requirements:

- Psychological Science (PhD): It is proposed that students must take <u>two required</u> courses and <u>three elective</u> courses (a total of five courses)
- Clinical Psychology (PhD): It is proposed that students must take <u>four required</u> courses and <u>four elective</u> courses (a total of eight courses)

2. Complex Course Changes – *Communication and Culture*

The proposed change is a change to the Doctoral program requiring a separate research methods course for doctoral students. This proposed change to the structure of the doctoral program is similar other universities doctoral programs where knowledge of qualitative and quantitative research is required. This change would be effective September 1, 2010 for the PhD cohort of fall 2010.

Current PhD Degree Requirements:

- Comprehensive Examination
- PhD Dissertation Research
- Research Methods Workshop

Proposed PhD Degree Requirements:

- Comprehensive Examination
- PhD Dissertation Research
- Advanced Research Methods

3. Complex Course Changes – *Spatial Analysis*

The Master of Spatial Analysis graduate program is currently offered with a defined curriculum requiring the completion of four core courses in the fall term, two electives and a practicum placement in the winter term, and a major research paper. It is usually completed within three terms (12 months). The practicum is waived for part-time students, who complete the program in six terms (24 months).

The program proposes to add a thesis option would include the same four core courses in the fall term, either two electives, or one elective and the practicum in the winter term, and the thesis. The thesis option will only be available to selected fulltime students, and will be completed in 4-5 terms (16-20 months).