



FOR RECOMMENDATION

PUBLIC

OPEN SESSION

TO: UTSC Academic Affairs Committee

SPONSOR: William Gough, Vice-Principal Academic and Dean
CONTACT INFO: 416-208-7027, vpdean@utsc.utoronto.ca

PRESENTER: Mark Schmuckler, Vice-Dean Undergraduate
CONTACT INFO: 416-208-2978, vdundergrad@utsc.utoronto.ca

DATE: April 27, 2018 for May 3, 2018

AGENDA ITEM: 2

ITEM IDENTIFICATION:

Amendments to the UTSC Second Degree Policy

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

The University of Toronto Scarborough Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) “is concerned with matters affecting the teaching, learning and research functions of the Campus”. Under section 5.1 of its terms of reference, the Committee has responsibility for “Academic regulations and admissions.”

Under section 5.4 of its terms of reference, new Campus policies addressing purely academic matters and major amendments to such policies require approval by the Academic Board following consideration by UTSC Campus Council and Committee on Academic Policy and Programs.

GOVERNANCE PATH:

1. **UTSC Academic Affairs Committee [For recommendation] (May 3, 2018)**
2. Committee on Academic Policy and Programs [For recommendation] (May 10, 2018)
3. UTSC Campus Council [for recommendation] (May 28, 2018)
4. Academic Board [For approval] (May 31, 2018)

PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:

No previous action in governance has been taken on this item.

HIGHLIGHTS:

Under the current Second Degree Policy, UTSC students wanting to complete a second undergraduate degree from UTSC may not obtain a second degree of the same type. The policy does not recognize that highly distinct degree programs can be obtained under the rubric of an Arts or a Science degree; for example, a student who graduates with a degree in the biological sciences being unable to pursue a second degree in the computer sciences, does not make sense. Moreover, the policy disadvantages our own graduates since any student from another university, with an undergraduate degree, may apply to be admitted to pursue either an Honours BA or BSc, regardless of the first degree type; however, they may not pursue the same program(s) of study.

We are proposing amendments to the UTSC Second Degree Policy as follows:

1. Students with any completed undergraduate degree from the University of Toronto may apply for, and obtain, an Honours Bachelor of Arts or an Honours Bachelor of Science from UTSC as a second degree.
2. No student may apply for, or obtain, a Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) as a second degree.
3. Students wanting to pursue a second degree in a limited enrolment program may need to complete prerequisite courses as a non-degree student prior to entering the second degree.
4. Students will be evaluated for credits towards their second degree according to the current practice, and credits taken as a UTSC non-degree student since graduation will be retained as credits towards the second degree.
5. In the second degree, students will be restricted from repeating program(s) in the same discipline(s) as completed in the first degree; for example, a student whose first degree includes a program in English will not be permitted to use a program in English towards a second degree. Similarly, a student whose first degree includes a program in Psychology will not be permitted to use a program in Psychology towards a second degree.

There has been extensive consultation on the proposed changes. The proposal was shared with the academic Chairs and Directors, the Scarborough Campus Students' Union, and the Academic Advising & Career Centre. Feedback has been supportive and has not resulted in any revisions to the proposed amendments.

If approved, these changes would come into effect for the 2018-19 academic year.

There has been extensive consultation on the proposed change. The proposal was shared with the academic Chairs and Directors, the Scarborough Campus Students' Union, and the Academic Advising & Career Centre. Feedback has been supportive, and has not resulted in any revisions to the proposed amendments.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Not applicable.

RECOMMENDATION:

Be It Recommended,

THAT the proposal to amend the UTSC Second Degree Policy, described in the proposal dated April 12, 2018, and recommended by the Vice-Principal Academic and Dean, William Gough, be approved effective for the 2018-19 academic year.

DOCUMENTATION PROVIDED:

1. 2018-19 Curriculum Cycle, Changes to Academic Regulations: Second Degree Policy dated April 12, 2018.

2018-19 Curriculum Cycle Changes to Academic Regulations: Second Degree Policy

April 12, 2018

[For Recommendation]

Type of Change Being Proposed	Amendments to an existing academic regulation
Division	University of Toronto Scarborough (UTSC)
Proponent	UTSC Office of the Vice-Principal Academic and Dean; UTSC Office of the Registrar
Contact	Annette Knott, Academic Programs Officer; aknott@utsc.utoronto.ca
Effective Date	2018-19 Academic Year

Proposed Change:

This is a proposal to amend the Second Degree policy for University of Toronto Scarborough graduates.

Background:

Under the current Second Degree policy, UTSC students wanting to complete a second undergraduate degree from UTSC many not obtain a second degree of the same type; for example, a student that has earned an Honours Bachelor of Arts (Honours BA) degree would not be permitted to obtain a second Honours BA degree but would be permitted to obtain an Honours Bachelor of Science (Honours BSc) degree, or a student that has earned an Honours BSc degree would not be permitted to obtain a second Honours BSc degree, but would be permitted to obtain an Honours BA degree.

Rationale:

The current policy perhaps made sense at a time when degree requirements for an Honours BA or BSc did not include the ability to choose from a wide range of specific programs of study, and could, instead, involve a majority of courses from broad categories. However:

- The policy does not recognize that highly distinct degree programs can be obtained under the rubric of an Arts or a Science degree; for example, a student who graduates with an Honours Bachelor of Science degree with a program in the biological sciences being unable to pursue a second BSc with a program in computer science does not make sense.
- The policy disadvantages our own graduates. Any student from another university, with an undergraduate degree, may apply to be admitted to pursue either an Honours BA or BSc, regardless of the first degree type; however, they may not pursue the same program(s) of study.

We are proposing amendments to the UTSC Second Degree Policy as follows:

1. Students with any completed undergraduate degree from the University of Toronto may apply for, and obtain, an Honours Bachelor of Arts or an Honours Bachelor of Science from UTSC as a second degree.
2. No student may apply for, or obtain, a Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) as a second degree.
3. Students wanting to pursue a second degree in a limited enrolment program may need to complete prerequisite courses as a non-degree student prior to entering the second degree.
4. Students will be evaluated for credits towards their second degree according to the current practice, and credits taken as a UTSC non-degree student since graduation will be retained as credits towards the second degree.
5. In the second degree, students will be restricted from repeating program(s) in the same discipline(s) as completed in the first degree; for example, a student whose first degree includes a program in English will not be permitted to use a program in English towards a second degree. Similarly a student whose first degree includes a program in Psychology will not be use a program in Psychology towards a second degree.

These changes would come into effect for the 2018-19 academic year.

Current Calendar Description:

6A.3 Additional Information About Degrees

Second Degrees:

Students beginning a second degree are normally exempted from first year of the degree requirements by being granted 5.0 credits required to complete the second degree. Students completing one of the Double Degree programs described above should consult the [Double Degree Programs](#) section of the Calendar since the requirements for Double Degree programs are different from the requirements for a Second Degree.

Students who hold a BA, BSc or BBA from the University of Toronto will be considered for admission to a second degree program only of a different type (e.g. students with a BA degree may only complete a BSc or BBA degree). Application for admission to a second degree program is made through the Manager of Admissions. Before applying, students are urged to consider if a second degree is actually required for their purposes, for example, a make-up year as a non-degree student may satisfy admission requirements for graduate school.

Revised Calendar Description:

6A.3 Additional Information About Degrees

Second Degrees:

Students who have graduated with a degree from the University of Toronto, or another accredited university, may apply in accordance with posted deadlines to begin a second degree. Application for admission to a second degree is made through the Office of Admissions & Student Recruitment at UTSC. Before applying, students are urged to consider if a second degree is actually required for their purposes, for example, a make-up year as a non-degree student may satisfy admission requirements for

graduate school. Students are governed by the rules in place at UTSC at the time they commence their second degree.

Students who successfully apply for a second degree may pursue either an Honours Bachelor of Arts (Honours BA) or an Honours Bachelor of Science (Honours BSc) degree. A Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) may not be pursued as a second degree; however, students that have completed a BBA as a first degree may pursue an Honours BA or BSc as a second degree. The second degree may not include a program(s) in any of the same discipline(s) as the first degree (e.g., a student awarded a first Honours BA including a program in English may not pursue a second Honours BA including a program in English, or a student awarded a first Honours BSc including a program in Psychology may not pursue a second Honours BSc including a program in Psychology).

Students wanting to pursue a second degree in a limited enrolment program may need to complete prerequisite courses as a non-degree student prior to entering the second degree. These students should consult with the Office of the Registrar for limited enrolment program requirements.

Students beginning a second degree are normally exempted from first year of the degree requirements by being granted 5.0 credits towards the completion of the degree (4.0 credits at the A-level and 1.0 credits at the B-level), regardless of the number of previous degrees held; to earn the second degree, students must complete a minimum further 15.0 credits as UTSC students. Second degree candidates may not repeat courses taken in a previous degree; however, they may count such courses towards satisfying prerequisite and program requirements with the approval of the department offering the program. Candidacy in a new degree program of study will be established, and a new grade point average will commence with the second degree courses.

Students completing a Double Degree program should consult the [Double Degree Programs](#) section of the Calendar since the requirements for Double Degree programs are different from the requirements for a Second Degree.

Consultation:

There has been extensive consultation on the proposed changes. The proposal was shared with the academic Chairs and Directors, the Scarborough Campus Students' Union, and the Academic Advising & Career Centre. Feedback has been supportive and has not resulted in any revisions to the proposed amendments.