



TO: Committee on Academic Policy and Programs

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AGENDA ITEM: 5

ITEM IDENTIFICATION:

Faculty of Arts and Science, St. George: Major Calendar Changes 2009-2010

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

The Committee has authority for approval of changes to curriculum within established degree programs that can be accomplished with existing resources and are not major, as in specialist, major and minor programs.

PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:

HIGHLIGHTS:

The Faculty of Arts and Science is proposing new undergraduate programs and program deletions for the calendar year 2009-10. The proposed changes are presented in the attached summary, along with the associated academic rationale, program descriptions and requirements, and learning outcomes. The proposals are aligned with the Faculty's degree learning expectations.¹

New programs of study:

Anthropology (Social/Cultural), BA: Major

Immunology, BSc: Major

Latin American Studies, BA: Minor

Molecular Genetics & Microbiology, BSc: Major

These programs complement existing specialist and/or major programs in the Faculty. The Department of Anthropology developed its major program proposal at the same time as reviewing and revising its specialist program. The Immunology and Molecular Genetics & Microbiology programs are offered in co-ordination with the Faculty of Medicine.

Asian Geographies, BA: Minor

Asian Literatures and Cultures, BA: Minor

The proposed minors will be jointly offered with the National University of Singapore (NUS). Faculty of Arts and Science students attend NUS for one semester and take courses towards a minor program, and vice versa. The joint minors are consistent with the Faculty's Stepping UP plan in terms of linking academic programs to research experiences and providing a forum for significant international experience. The Faculty currently offers two minor programs with NUS: Nanoscience and Environmental Biology.

¹ <http://www.provost.utoronto.ca/policy/academic/DLE.htm>

Human Biology Programs, BSc: Majors

Environment and Health
Genes, Genetics and Biotechnology
Global Health
Health and Disease
Health Care Ethics
Neuroscience

The major programs will provide students in the very large Human Biology program (2,400 students) the opportunity to belong to a smaller learning community of like-interested students. The increased Major options will be particularly important to the approximately 1,000 students who enter the Human Biology program in 2nd year. The options are a top priority request from students. The Health and Disease and Neuroscience majors complement existing specialist programs.

Human Geography, BA: Specialist, Major, Minor

The Department of Geography is in the process of re-structuring its programs, and proposing to merge its Historical and Cultural Geography BA, and Urban, Economic and Social Geography BA, into a new Human Geography BA program. Areas of concentration are identified as possible (and flexible) streams within the program.

Synthetic and Catalytic Chemistry, BSc: Specialist

This new program focuses on the fundamentals and practical aspects of modern synthetic organic and inorganic chemistry, and the understanding and applications of catalytic reactions. The proposed program builds on the substantial existing expertise in the Chemistry Department.

Deleted Programs

The Faculty proposes deletion of the following programs, as outlined in the attachment:.

Quantitative Methods BScC Specialist, Department of Economics

Applied Physics BSc Specialist, Department of Physics

“General” Physics Major, Department of Physics

Historical and Cultural Geography BA Specialist and Major, Department of Geography

Urban Economic and Social Geography BA Specialist and Major, Department of Geography

The program additions and deletions were approved by the Faculty’s Humanities, Social Sciences, and Sciences Curriculum Committees on November 11, 12, and 13, 2008 respectively and by the Arts and Science Council on December 1, 2008. The programs have been developed in consultation with appropriate partners and cognate departments in the University and have been reviewed by the tri-campus decanal curriculum committee.

(Course descriptions for existing courses that are part of the above programs can be found on the Faculty of Arts & Science calendar, located online at <http://www.artsandscience.utoronto.ca/ofr/calendar/crsindex.htm>)

FINANCIAL AND/OR PLANNING IMPLICATIONS:

There are no new/additional financial resources required to implement the proposed programs. There are no students currently registered in the Quantitative Methods program. Students currently enrolled in the Physics and Geography courses will be allowed to complete their existing programs or have the option to complete another program.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs approve:

The proposed major calendar changes, as described in the submission from the Faculty of Arts and Science, St. George Campus, effective for the academic year 2009-2010.