FOR APPROVAL **PUBLIC** **OPEN SESSION**

TO:	UTSC Academic Affairs Committee
SPONSOR: **CONTACT INFO:**	Prof. William A. Gough, Vice-Principal Academic and Dean 416-208-7027, vpdean.utsc@utoronto.ca
PRESENTER: **CONTACT INFO:**	Prof. Rene Harrison: Vice Dean, Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies (416) 287-7377, vdgraduate.utsc@utoronto.ca
DATE:	February 1, 2024 for February 8, 2024
AGENDA ITEM:	2

ITEM IDENTIFICATION:

Minor Modifications: Graduate Curriculum (program requirement (PhD, DPES) and course modifications), UTSC (for approval)*

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

The UTSC Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) "is concerned with matters affecting the teaching, learning and research functions of the Campus (AAC Terms of Reference, 2021, Section 4)." Under section 5.6 of its *terms of reference*, the Committee is responsible for approval of "Major and minor modifications to existing degree programs." The AAC has responsibility for the approval of Major and Minor modifications to existing programs as defined by the *University of Toronto Quality Assurance Process* (UTQAP, Section 3.1).

GOVERNANCE PATH:

1. UTSC Academic Affairs Committee [For Approval] (February 8, 2024)

HIGHLIGHTS:

This package includes minor modifications to graduate curriculum, submitted by the UTSC graduate academic units identified below, which require governance approval. Minor modifications to curriculum are understood as those that do not have a significant impact on program or course learning outcomes. They require governance approval when they modestly change the nature of a program or course.

- The Graduate Department of Physical and Environmental Sciences (Report: Department of Physical and Environmental Sciences)
    - 1 program modification (reduction in required FCEs (3.0 to 2.5)
        - PESSC-ES-PHD: Environmental Science PhD

- 3 course modifications
  - EES1113H: Groundwater Contamination
  - EES1117H: Climate Change Impact Assessment
  - EES2200H: Advanced Seminar in Environmental Science

PhD FCE Reduction Rationale:
The primary purpose of a PhD program is to enable students to conduct original and significant research in their chosen field. By reducing the mandatory coursework (3.0 to 2.5 FCE), we aim to allow students to dedicate more time and focus to their thesis, promoting a deeper engagement with their research. A more flexible course structure enables students to tailor their academic paths to better align with their individual research interests and career goals. This adaptability is crucial in ensuring that the academic program remains responsive to the diverse and evolving needs of our PhD candidates.

- The Graduate Department of Psychological Clinical Science (Report: Psychological Clinical Science)
  - 3 Course Modifications
    - CPS1201H: Human Neuropsychology
    - CPS1701H: Psychological Assessment I: Psychometric Theory and Psychodiagnostics
    - CPS1702H: Psychological Assessment II: Neuropsychological and Intellectual Assessment

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

There are no significant financial implications to the campus operating budget.

RECOMMENDATION:

Be It Resolved:

THAT the proposed graduate curriculum changes for the 2024-25 academic year, as detailed in the respective curriculum reports, be approved.

DOCUMENTATION PROVIDED:

1. 2024-25 Curriculum Cycle Graduate Minor Curriculum Modifications for Approval, Report: Physical & Environmental Sciences, dated February 8, 2024.
2. 2024-25 Curriculum Cycle Graduate Minor Curriculum Modifications for Approval, Report: Psychological Clinical Science, dated February 8, 2024.

University of Toronto Scarborough

2024-25 Curriculum Cycle
Graduate Minor Curriculum Modifications for Approval
February 8, 2024

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University of Toronto Scarborough

2024-25 Curriculum Cycle
Graduate Minor Curriculum Modifications for Approval
Graduate Department of Physical & Environmental Sciences
February 8, 2024

Report: Physical & Environmental Sciences

1 Program Modification

PESSC-ES-PHD: Environmental Science PhD

Description:

Research and teaching are focused on the interfaces between traditional disciplines in dealing with fundamental scientific issues. Faculty members are cross-appointed from several departments including: chemistry, earth sciences, geography, ecology and evolutionary biology, cell and systems biology, engineering, forestry, physics, and social sciences. Research is clustered into six major concentrations:

- Climate Change and the Environment
- Contaminant Flux
- Environmental Science in Transitional Economies
- Great Lakes Ecosystems
- Remediation and Restoration of Degraded Environmental Systems
- Urban Geoscience

Applicants may be accepted into the ~~Doctor of Philosophy (~~PhD~~)~~ program via one of three routes: 1) following completion of an appropriate master's degree; 2) transfer from an appropriate master's program; or 3) direct entry following completion of an appropriate BSc degree.

Pathway Type: Conventional; Pathway Title: PhD Program

Completion Requirements:

- **Coursework**. Students must successfully complete a total of ~~2.0~~1.5 full-course equivalents (FCEs) as follows:
  - A mandatory 0.5 FCE (EES2200H Advanced Seminar in Environmental Science) plus ~~1.5~~1.0 FCEs to provide background for the student's research. Courses selected must be approved by the student's supervisor and the Graduate Chair. In some cases, additional courses may be required if a student's preparedness is assessed as being insufficient.
  - Students may apply to take a number of PhD-level courses taught by the core faculty within the Graduate Department of Physical and Environmental Sciences. Courses taught by faculty outside the Graduate Department of Physical and Environmental Sciences can be considered for the PhD degree as part (0.5 FCE) of their ~~1.5~~1.0 FCEs for the degree. However, all courses for the PhD degree must be approved by the student's supervisor and the Graduate Chair.
- **Thesis**. The execution of an original piece of research in environmental science carried out under faculty supervision and presented in thesis form. The program requires the development and submission of a thesis proposal, and its examination in an oral thesis proposal appraisal (before the end of Year 2), a departmental oral examination of the completed thesis, and a Doctoral Final Oral Examination (FOE) carried out under the auspices of the School of Graduate Studies (SGS) involving examination by an appropriate at-arms-length external examiner.
  - The PhD proposal appraisal consists of a 20-minute presentation given by the student on the proposed thesis work followed by a question period where the student is examined on their proposal and their mastery of concepts in environmental science. The emphasis will be on the theory and proposed approach, rather than on progress to date. A negative outcome requires that the student retake the exam within four months after incorporating recommendations from the committee for improving the thesis research proposal. The outcome of the second exam will be either a pass or withdrawal from the program.
  - The Graduate Department of Physical and Environmental Sciences' PhD program requires that all PhD candidates complete two thesis defences: a Departmental Thesis Defence and an FOE with SGS. Normally, the Departmental Thesis Defence will be held at least eight weeks prior to the FOE. The committee will notify the Graduate Chair that the thesis is ready to be forwarded to SGS for the FOE. If the PhD candidate does not pass the Departmental Thesis Defence, the committee may recommend that the PhD candidate postpone their FOE.

Pathway Type: Transfer; Title: Transfer from Master's

Completion Requirements:

- **Coursework**. Students must successfully complete a total of ~~2.0~~1.5 full-course equivalents (FCEs) as follows:

- A mandatory 0.5 FCE (EES2200H Advanced Seminar in Environmental Science) plus ~~1.5~~1.0 FCEs to provide background for the student's research. Courses selected must be approved by the student's supervisor and the Graduate Chair. In some cases, additional courses may be required if a student's preparedness is assessed as being insufficient.
- Students may apply to take a number of PhD-level courses taught by the core faculty within the Graduate Department of Physical and Environmental Sciences. Courses taught by faculty outside the Graduate Department of Physical and Environmental Sciences can be considered for the PhD degree as part (0.5 FCE) of their ~~1.5~~1.0 FCEs for the degree. However, all courses for the PhD degree must be approved by the student's supervisor and the Graduate Chair.

- **Thesis**. The execution of an original piece of research in environmental science carried out under faculty supervision and presented in thesis form. The program requires the development and submission of a thesis proposal, and its examination in an oral thesis proposal appraisal (before the end of Year 2), a departmental oral examination of the completed thesis, and a Doctoral Final Oral Examination (FOE) carried out under the auspices of the School of Graduate Studies (SGS) involving examination by an appropriate at-arms-length external examiner.
  - The PhD proposal appraisal consists of a 20-minute presentation given by the student on the proposed thesis work followed by a question period where the student is examined on their proposal and their mastery of concepts in environmental science. The emphasis will be on the theory and proposed approach, rather than on progress to date. A negative outcome requires that the student retake the exam within four months after incorporating recommendations from the committee for improving the thesis research proposal. The outcome of the second exam will be either a pass or withdrawal from the program.
  - The Graduate Department of Physical and Environmental Sciences' PhD program requires that all PhD candidates complete two thesis defences: a Departmental Thesis Defence and an FOE with SGS. Normally, the Departmental Thesis Defence will be held at least eight weeks prior to the FOE. The committee will notify the Graduate Chair that the thesis is ready to be forwarded to SGS for the FOE. If the PhD candidate does not pass the Departmental Thesis Defence, the committee may recommend that the PhD candidate postpone their FOE.

Pathway Type: Direct Entry (doctoral only); Pathway Title: PhD Program (Direct-Entry)

Completion Requirements:

- **Coursework**. Students must successfully complete a total of ~~3.0~~2.5 full-course equivalents (FCEs) as follows:
  - A mandatory 0.5 FCE (EES2200H Advanced Seminar in Environmental Science) plus ~~2.5~~2.0 FCEs to provide background for the student's research. Courses selected must be approved by the student's supervisor and the Graduate Chair. In some cases, additional courses may be required if a student's preparedness is assessed as being insufficient.
  - Students may apply to take a number of PhD-level courses taught by the core faculty within the Graduate Department of Physical and Environmental Sciences. Courses taught by faculty outside the Graduate Department of Physical and Environmental Sciences can be considered as part (up to 1.0 FCE) of their ~~2.5~~2.0FCEs for the degree. However, all courses for the PhD degree must be approved by the student's supervisor and the Graduate Chair.
- **Thesis**. The execution of an original piece of research in environmental science carried out under faculty supervision and presented in thesis form. The program requires the development and submission of a thesis proposal, and its examination in an oral thesis proposal appraisal (before the end of Year 2), a departmental oral examination of the completed thesis, and a Doctoral Final Oral Examination (FOE) carried out under the auspices of the School of Graduate Studies (SGS) involving examination by an appropriate at-arms-length external examiner.
  - The PhD proposal appraisal consists of a 20-minute presentation given by the student on the proposed thesis work followed by a question period where the student is examined on their proposal and their mastery of concepts in environmental science. The emphasis will be on the theory and proposed approach, rather than on progress to date. A negative outcome requires that the student retake the exam within four months after incorporating recommendations from the committee for improving the thesis research proposal. The outcome of the second exam will be either a pass or withdrawal from the program.
  - The Graduate Department of Physical and Environmental Sciences' PhD program requires that all PhD candidates complete two thesis defences: a Departmental Thesis Defence and an FOE with SGS. Normally, the Departmental Thesis Defence will be held at least eight weeks prior to the FOE. The committee will notify the Graduate Chair that the thesis is ready to be forwarded to SGS for the FOE. If the PhD candidate does not pass the Departmental Thesis Defence, the committee may recommend that the PhD candidate postpone their FOE.

Brief Description of the Proposed Changes

Reduction in the mandatory coursework for all incoming PhD students by 0.5 FCE.

Rationale:

The primary purpose of a PhD program is to enable students to conduct original and significant research in their chosen field. By reducing the mandatory coursework, we aim to allow students to dedicate more time and focus to their thesis, promoting a deeper engagement with their research.

A more flexible course structure enables students to tailor their academic paths to better align with their individual research interests and career goals. This adaptability is crucial in ensuring that the academic program remains responsive to the diverse and evolving needs of our PhD candidates.

The decision to modify the coursework requirements is based on feedback received from students and supervisors. Acknowledging the time delays and potential challenges posed by the existing course load, we seek to enhance the overall academic experience by addressing these concerns.

Impact:

Students will experience a smoother transition into their PhD research, with a reduced emphasis on mandatory coursework. This adjustment ensures that they can immerse themselves in their chosen field of Environmental Science more quickly and begin their original research endeavors.

Consultation:

May 2023: Conducted a focused group discussion with PhD students to gather insight into their requirements and obtain feedback.

June 2023: Administered a survey to 65 DPES PhD Alumni, obtaining valuable data on their experiences.

July 2023 - November 2023: Held meetings with 22 Principal Investigators (PIs), including DPES Chair George Arhonditsis, Associate Graduate Chair Carl Mitchell, Professors Mandrak N., Isaac M., Klenk N., Tozer L., Caron-Beaudoin E., Wells M., Sullan R., Bell T., Kerman K., Voznyy O., Wania F., Peng H., Daxberger H., Murphy J., Phil Heron, Cadotte M., Simpson A.,

Martin A., and Simpson M. During the meetings, concerns were raised of the course load for DPES PhD students and recommendations were given to reduce the course load so students can enter their labs earlier.

September 2023: Presented the proposed work term to PhD students, receiving feedback to ensure their perspectives were considered in the final design.

November 2023: Conducted follow-up conversations with faculty members and students to incorporate any additional changes and address concerns raised during the presentation. The proposed modifications have been presented at the DPES Council (November 23, 2023) and subsequently received approval from the departmental graduate curriculum committee.

Resource Implications:

Does not require any additional infrastructure, TA support and/or equipment.

3 Course Modifications

EES1113H: Groundwater Contamination

Title:

Groundwater ~~Hydrochemistry and Contaminant Transport~~Contamination

Description:

~~This course focuses on groundwater contamination and the various methods used to investigate, assess and evaluate the movement and behavior of contaminants in the subsurface. Emphasis will be on urban groundwater issues with case study examples taken from North America, Europe, central Asia and Africa.~~

This course focuses on groundwater contamination and the various methods used to investigate and assess the movement and behavior of contaminants in the subsurface. Topics include groundwater quality, contaminant sources, and the processes governing mass transport. Topics will be explored through case studies, hands-on activities about assessing groundwater quality, and introductory contaminant transport modeling.

Rationale:

This course is being updated with a new course title and a slightly modified course description given there will be a new professor teaching this course.

Consultation:

Departmental curriculum committee approved Nov 21, 2023

Resources Required:

None

EES1117H: Climate Change Impact Assessment

Description:

~~The study and consideration of climate change is of increasing significance to society. This course will review the evidence for climate change over the past 150 years using both direct measurements and proxy data. Projection of future climate change will also be considered by modeling. Students will complete a major case study and research paper.~~

Although climate change is a global phenomenon, the varying impacts of climate change are experienced at regional scales. Because many long-term planning decisions - decisions that often rely on climate information - are made locally, we are entering an era when the availability of future projections of regional climate information at appropriate spatial scales, and in accessible forms, is critical. Thus, this course describes how climate information can and is being used to assess the impacts of climate change, and ultimately, inform decision-making and adaptation strategies. The course begins by reviewing global climate change over the last 150 years and the projections of future climate change using Global Climate Models (GCMs)/Earth System Models (ESMs). The climate change impact assessment (CCIA) framework is then introduced and applied to several case studies. Downscaling of GCM/ESM data is a key component of CCIA; both statistical and dynamical downscaling techniques will be discussed in class and explored in the computer labs. Finally, students will gain practical experience in CCIA by applying the techniques discussed in class to a final project.

Jointly Offered with Course(s)

~~EES D06H3 - Climate Change Impact Assessment~~

Rationale:

The landscape of climate change impact assessment is rapidly evolving and the course has evolved accordingly. The proposed changes to the course description better reflect the current focus of the course and provide a more detailed description of what students can expect to learn in the course. This course is no longer jointly offered with EESD06H3, as different instructors teach each course.

Consultation:

Departmental curriculum committee approved Nov 21, 2023

Resources:

None

EES2200H: Advanced Seminar in Environmental Science

Description:

~~This course is designed to introduce doctoral students to the major issues in research in environmental science. It will also expose students to the diverse fields of research expertise within the UTSC Group. Students will be expected to contribute one seminar paper in their own field of interest. The class will meet weekly throughout the fall and winter and will act as a focus group for the PhD program. The course is restricted to those students enrolled in the PhD in Environmental Science program.~~

This course is designed for new DPES PhD students to develop core Graduate level competencies for the successful navigation of their doctoral work. These competencies include oral and written communication, project management, an understanding of ethics in research, scholarship and teaching, professional development, and research methods. Students will learn from core Graduate

faculty and gain exposure to the breadth of research and career paths in environmental science. In the winter semester of this fall/winter course, students will be expected to contribute a draft PhD proposal document for their own topic of interest and present a mock PhD proposal to the class. The class will meet bi-weekly throughout the fall and winter. The course is restricted to those students enrolled in the PhD in Environmental Science program.

Rationale:

EES2200H is to be modified from its current form to include lectures/workshops in the fall semester focused on core Graduate-level competencies related to science communication, professional development, and networking (as indicated above). This is a modification from the current structure of the fall semester, which consists of guest lectures from Faculty about their respective research programs. This minor modification is being proposed to better align EES2200H with other proposed changes to the PhD program. The structure of the winter semester will remain as is, with the students presenting "mock" PhD proposals to the class and submitting draft PhD proposal documents.

Consultation:

Departmental curriculum committee approved Nov 21, 2023

Resources:

None

University of Toronto Scarborough

2024-25 Curriculum Cycle
Graduate Minor Curriculum Modifications for Approval
Graduate Department of Psychological Clinical Science
February 8, 2024

Report: Psychological Clinical Science

3 Course Modifications

CPS1201H: Human Neuropsychology

Title:

~~Neurobiological Bases of Behaviour~~Human Neuropsychology

Description:

This course will provide students with an introduction to ~~themes in clinical neuropsychology and neuropsychopharmacology~~ the principles of human neuropsychology . This includes ~~a broad~~ an overview of brain-behaviour relationships ~~extending from basic sensation and perception to higher-level cognitive functions, emotions, and social behaviors. This course will also cover the effects that various psychotropic drugs have on sensation, cognition, affect, and behaviour, and their specific uses in clinical field~~ and neuroanatomy, the effects of psychotropic drugs on the brain and cognition, neurological and neurobehavioural disorders, and the assessment and treatment of classic neuropsychological syndromes.

Topics Covered:

- Pharmacokinetics: How Drugs Are Handled by the Body
- The Neuron, Synaptic Transmission, and Neurotransmitters
- Pharmacodynamics: How Drugs Act
- Pharmacology of Drugs of Abuse
- Psychotherapeutic Drugs
- Biological basis of neuropsychological presentations

Methods of Assessment:

- Reflection Papers
- Presentations
- Final Exam or Comprehensive Paper

Rationale:

We propose to change the course title to Human Neuropsychology and make minor changes to the course description. Successful completion of a predoctoral clinical residency is a requirement for our PhD degree program. Due to the competitive nature of securing a residency, careful attention is paid to supporting students as they document their training, and prepare and submit a formal residency application. Some residency sites in Canada require students to have completed courses in neuropsychology, which is expected to be reflected in the titles and descriptions of courses. The rationale for changing the course title is to clarify the contents of the course, thereby making it clearer to potential sites that our students have indeed taken the required neuropsychology content courses during their studies with our program. We propose only minimal changes to the actual course content but instead changes in how we communicate the course topics so that more accurate terminology is applied.

Consultation:

On November 2, 2023, the proposal to change the title and description to this course was presented to the MA/PhD Program/Training Committee Meeting of the Graduate Department Psychological Clinical Science by the Graduate Chair, Professor Anthony Ruocco. The meeting was attended by the core program faculty, as well as program staff and a student representative. The Program Committee was supportive of the proposal. The proposed changes were also sent to the student body for feedback and the feedback received was supportive. On November 23, 2023, consultation was undertaken with Dr. J. Roy Gillis, Program Chair for OISE's Field in Counselling and Clinical Psychology. No concerns were raised and Dr. Gillis provided his support.

Resources:

None

CPS1701H: Psychological Assessment I: Psychometric Theory and Psychodiagnostics

Title:

Psychological Assessment I: Psychometric Theory and Psychodiagnostics

Description (no change):

This course is intended to introduce students to the adult assessment of personality and psychopathology. Topics to be covered include structured clinical interviewing, multi-scale self-report inventories, and performance-based (i.e., projective) measures. Students will become familiar with the administration, scoring, and interpretation of the measures that are commonly used in these domains and will practice integrating test results and writing assessment reports.

Topics Covered:

- Validity and Reliability • Standardization and Prediction
- Test Bias and Diversity-Sensitive Personality Assessment
- MMPI-3 • Personality Assessment Inventory (PAI)
- The MCMI-IV
- The Personality Inventory for DSM-5 (PID-5)
- Structured Clinical Interview for DSM-5®

Methods of Assessment:

- Class Participation
- Discussion Questions
- Class Presentation
- Term Paper
- SCID-5 Interview, Differential Diagnosis and Report

Rationale:

We propose to change the course title to Psychological Assessment I: Psychometric Theory and Psychodiagnostics. Successful completion of a predoctoral clinical residency is a requirement for our PhD degree program. Due to the competitive nature of securing a residency, careful attention is paid to supporting students as they document their training, and prepare and submit a formal residency application. Some residency sites in Canada require students to have completed courses in psychodiagnostics, which is expected to be reflected in the titles and descriptions of courses. The rationale for changing the course title is to clarify the contents of the course, thereby making it clearer to potential sites that our students have indeed taken the required content courses during their studies with our program. We propose only minimal changes to the actual course content but instead changes in how we communicate the course topics so that more accurate terminology is applied.

Consultation:

On November 2, 2023, the proposal to change the title to this course was presented to the MA/PhD Program/Training Committee Meeting of the Graduate Department Psychological Clinical Science by the Graduate Chair, Professor Anthony Ruocco. The meeting was attended by the core program faculty, as well as program staff and a student representative. The Program Committee was supportive of the proposal. The proposed changes were also sent to the student body for feedback and the feedback received was supportive. On November 23, 2023, consultation was undertaken with Dr. J. Roy Gillis, Program Chair for OISE's Field in Counselling and Clinical Psychology. No concerns were raised and Dr. Gillis provided his support.

Resources:

None

CPS1702H: Psychological Assessment II: Neuropsychological and Intellectual Assessment

Title:

Psychological Assessment II: Neuropsychological and Intellectual Assessment

Description:

This course covers theoretical and applied topics in intelligence and cognitive assessment. Students will learn the history and theory underlying modern intelligence testing, acquire skills to administer and score intelligence tests, and be taught how to interpret the results of these test measures. The relationship of intelligence testing to the assessment of cognitive functioning will be discussed in the context of modern approaches to neuropsychological assessment. Students will also be trained in the administration of standardized cognitive test measures and learn how to interpret the results of these tests on the basis of neuropsychological theory and normative data in the context of various in class, in-vivo examinations that will require students to produce assessment reports.

Topics Covered:

- History, Theory and Practice of Neuropsychological Assessment and Intelligence Testing
- Basic Concepts in Neuropsychological Assessment
- The Behavioural Geography of the Brain
- The Rationale of Deficit Management
- The Neuropsychological Examination: Interpretation
- Neuropathology for Neuropsychologists
- Neurobehavioral Variables and Diagnostic Issues (e.g., cultural, racial, gender, sexuality, class, religion, other aspects of identity and the intersections)

Methods of Assessment:

- Seminars
- Assessment Reports
- WAIS-IV Intelligence Testing Practical
- Participation

Rationale:

We propose to change the course title to Psychological Assessment II: Neuropsychological and Intellectual Assessment. Successful completion of a predoctoral clinical residency is a requirement for our PhD degree program. Due to the competitive nature of securing a residency, careful attention is paid to supporting students as they document their training, and prepare and submit a formal residency application. Some residency sites in Canada require students to have completed courses in neuropsychology, which is expected to be reflected in the titles of courses. The rationale for changing the course title is to clarify the contents of the course, thereby making it clearer to potential sites that our students have indeed taken the required neuropsychology content courses during their studies with our program. We are not changing the content of the course, simply making the title more descriptive to accurately reflect the existing course contents.

Consultation:

On November 2, 2023, the proposal to change the title to this course was presented to the MA/PhD Program/Training Committee Meeting of the Graduate Department Psychological Clinical Science by the Graduate Chair, Professor Anthony Ruocco. The meeting was attended by the core program faculty, as well as program staff and a student representative. The Program Committee was supportive of the proposal. The proposed changes were also sent to the student body for feedback and the feedback received was supportive. On November 23, 2023, consultation was undertaken with Dr. J. Roy Gillis, Program Chair for OISE's Field in Counselling and Clinical Psychology. No concerns were raised and Dr. Gillis provided his support.

Resources:

None