May 29, 2003

Professor Carolyn Tuohy
Vice-President, Policy Development
and Associate Provost
Room 206, Simcoe Hall
27 King's College Circle
University of Toronto

Dear Professor Tuohy:

At its meeting of May 27, 2003, the Council of the School of Graduate Studies approved the following motion:

> **THAT** SGS Council approve the proposal of the program requirement change to the Master of Spatial Analysis (M.S.A.) Program of the Department of Geography, as attached, effective September 2003.

The motion sheet, proposal and rationale are attached. The Division II Executive Committee approved this proposal at its meeting of May 8, 2003.

On behalf of the Council of the School of Graduate Studies, I am presenting this item to Governing Council committees, for information.

Yours sincerely,

Jane Alderdice
Secretary to SGS Council
and Coordinator of Policy, Program and Liaison

Encl.
/smr

c.c. J. Cherry J. Desloges C. Johnston V. Makarovska
S. Rosatone L. Yee

H:Council/FollowUp/2002-2003/May 27/Spatial Analysis Program Requirement Change.

# Motion

# School of Graduate Studies Council
# Tuesday, May 27, 2003

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Item 11.

**Proposals to change program requirements:**

11.4: **Spatial Analysis**
**MOTION** (  /  ) **THAT** SGS Council approve the proposal of the program requirement change to the Master of Spatial Analysis (M.S.A.) Program of the Department of Geography, as attached, effective September 2003.

*See attached.*

**NOTE:**
Division II Executive Committee at its meeting of May 8, 2003, approved this proposal. With SGS Council approval, this item will go to Governing Council committees for information.

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Programme in Planning

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Professor Joan Cherry
Associate Dean, Division II
School of Graduate Studies
University of Toronto

Re: Changes to Master of Spatial Analysis Program

Dear Joan:

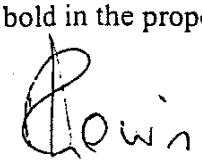
We seek permission to make a change in the joint University of Toronto/Ryerson University Master of Spatial Analysis (MSA) program. We would like to remove MSA 9010H Accuracy of Spatial Databases from the compulsory core of the program and give it the status of an elective course. The result would be that the core of the program would be reduced from five half-courses to four and the program as a whole from seven half-courses to six (not including three half-course credits for Practicum and Research Papers).

The proposed change deals with the very heavy workload that plagues students in the first or fall term. There simply is not enough time to carry five courses effectively in the Fall term and to provide for some reasonable intellectual reflection concerning the material covered. We believe we "overdesigned" the core when we started the program three years ago. Leaving MSA 9010H out of the core and offering it as an elective in the Spring would not jeopardize the integrity of the MSA program. Also, the proposed program change brings the MSA program more in line with other masters programs in terms of workload. Geography masters programs with a Research Paper require only six half-courses; those with a Thesis require only three half-courses. The MSA Research Paper is more like a Thesis, since it involves not only a literature review but also considerable data collection and analysis stage. A reduced core load will allow us to guide the students through a more carefully structured Research Paper preparation.

The proposed changes were discussed and approved by the joint University of Toronto/Ryerson University MSA Program Committee and the Board of Directors.

Attached are the current and proposed SGS calendar program descriptions. Changes are marked in bold in the proposed program description.

Sincerely,



Robert Lewis
Graduate Coordinator

## Revised MSA Program (Proposal)

### Degree of Master of Spatial Analysis

The Master of Spatial Analysis (M.S.A.) degree program is offered jointly by the Department of Geography at the University of Toronto and the School of Applied Geography and the Centre for the Study of Commercial Activity at Ryerson [Polytechnic] University. The minimum requirement for admission is a B average in a four-year undergraduate degree or its equivalent. In addition, applicants must have achieved a minimum B+ average in their last four semesters of undergraduate study. Also applicants should have at least either a one-semester credit in GIS or a one-semester credit in applied statistics or quantitative methods, in their undergraduate program.

The study program emphasizes knowledge of GIS, spatial statistics, and inferential modeling. The program requires that the student complete **six** half courses (**four** core and two electives), a practicum (for full-time students only), and a research paper. The **four** core courses are common to all students; the elective courses are chosen from two streams: physical/landscape and business/commercial. The research paper must be presented and defended in an oral examination before a committee of faculty members. This is a 12-month full-time program or 24-month part-time program.

### Master of Spatial Analysis

**Students must take MSA 9020H, 9030H, 9040H, 9050H, 1100H, 4444H.**

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|---|---|
| MSA 9010H | Accuracy of Spatial Databases/*F. Csillag* |
| MSA 9020H | Geographic Spatial Database Management and Spatial Technologies/*Staff* |
| MSA 9030H | Analytical Methods and Spatial Data/*Staff* |
| MSA 9040H | GIS Project Management Applications/*D. Boyes, Staff* |
| MSA 9050H | **Digital Cartography/*Staff*** |
| MSA 9110H | Geodemographics/*Staff* |
| MSA 9120H | Spatial Technologies in Strategic Planning/*Staff* |
| MSA 9210H | Measurements and Modelling of Surface Environments/*S. Munro* |
| MSA 9220H | Remote Sensing/*J. Chen* |
| MSA 1100Y | Research Paper (CR/NCR) |
| MSA 4444H | Practicum (for full-time students only) |
| MSA 9230H | Land/Geographic Information Systems/*V. Robinson* |

Candidates are accepted under the provisions of the general regulations for study at the M.A., M.Sc., and Ph.D. levels. Candidates whose primary language is not English and who have graduated from a university where the language of instruction and examination was not English must have a TOEFL score of at least 580 and a TWE score of 5 or higher. For the computer-based TOEFL test, the minimum required total score is 237 with an Essay Rating score of 5.

### Degree of Master of Arts/Master of Science

#### *Admission and Program Requirements*

Normally the Department requires a minimum B+ standing in the final two years of an appropriate four-year University of Toronto bachelor's degree, or its equivalent from a recognized university, for admission to the M.A. and M.Sc. programs. Candidates are expected to have completed at least eight half-courses in geography or a related field. Candidates lacking the minimum requirements should consider doing qualifying work at the undergraduate level prior to application. Such work should be undertaken in consultation with the graduate coordinator. Candidates who hold an appropriate bachelor's degree but are changing disciplines or require further preparatory work, may be required to complete an additional year of graduate-level course work.

Two geography programs and various collaborative programs are available; selection is made with the approval of the Department. Within most of these programs, students can be awarded a Master of Science degree if their research contains a substantial physical science component and if two-thirds of their course work comprise Geography courses accepted by the Department as physical science courses. Programs are usually completed in a 12-month period, excepting the Collaborative Environmental Studies research paper program and Collaborative International Relations program.

Progress into the second term is dependent on achieving an overall B average in the first term and satisfactory progress as outlined in the *Graduate Geography Handbook.*

#### *Program I—Thesis*

Candidates will undertake research leading to the preparation of a thesis, in conjunction with at least the equivalent of 1.5 full graduate courses including any required core courses.

#### *Program II—Research Paper*

Candidates will take the equivalent of three full graduate courses and pursue a research project, normally during the summer, leading to the preparation of a research paper (GGR 1100Y).

### Collaborative Programs

#### *Environmental Studies Research Paper (Collaborative M.A./M.Sc. Program)*

Candidates will take the equivalent of seven graduate half-courses. Three of these courses must be taken in the Department of Geography (including GGR 1400H), one in a related discipline, and three at the Institute for Environmental Studies (two must be Institute core courses). This program is completed in 17 months.

Candidates are also required to undergo a three-month internship and to prepare and defend a research paper (GGR 1100Y). See the Environmental Studies (Collaborative Program) entry in this calendar.

#### *Environmental Studies Thesis (Collaborative M.A./M.Sc. Program)*

Candidates will take the equivalent of four graduate half-courses. Two of these courses must be taken in the Department of Geography and two at the Institute for Environmental Studies. Candidates are also required to prepare and defend a thesis.

#### *Other*

The Department of Geography also participates in the following collaborative programs. Please consult the separate entries in this calendar for details.

Asia-Pacific Studies
Environment and Health (*see* Environmental Studies entry)
Ethnic and Pluralism Studies
International Relations
Toxicology
Women's Studies

### Surveying Science

See courses listed below under Geographical Information Analysis.

### Degree of Master of Science in Planning

Students interested in the M.Sc.Pl. program should consult the Planning entry in this calendar.

### Degree of Master of Spatial Analysis

The Master of Spatial Analysis (M.S.A.) degree program is offered jointly by the Department of [illegible] of Toronto and the School of Applied Geography and the Centre for the Study of Commercial Activity at Ryerson Polytechnic University. The minimum requirement for admission is a B average in a four-year undergraduate degree or its equivalent. In addition, applicants must have achieved a minimum B+ average in their last four semesters of undergraduate study. Also applicants should have at least either a one-semester credit in GIS or a one-semester credit in applied statistics or quantitative methods, in their undergraduate program

The study program emphasizes knowledge of GIS, spatial statistics, and inferential modelling. The program requires that the student complete seven half-courses (five core and two electives), a practicum (for full-time students only), and a research paper. The five core courses are common to all students; the elective courses are chosen from the two streams: physical/landscape and business/commercial. The research paper must be presented and defended in an oral examination before a committee of faculty members. This is a 12-month full-time program or 24-month part-time program.

### Degree of Doctor of Philosophy

#### *Admission Requirements*

Normally the Department requires a minimum A- standing at the master's level for admission to the Ph.D. program. In exceptional cases and at the discretion of the Department, admission to the Ph.D. program may be approved for applicants with an overall A average and appropriate University of Toronto bachelor's degree, or its equivalent from a recognized university. Such students must complete three half-courses in addition to the doctoral course work requirements. Candidates who hold an appropriate master's degree but are changing disciplines or require further preparatory work, may be required to complete an additional year of graduate-level course work.

The Ph.D. is primarily a research degree. A program of study is designed for each student to ensure competence in a field of research and to facilitate the preparation of a dissertation. Unless otherwise specified, two years of residence are required during which the student is required to be on campus full-time and consequently in such geographical proximity as to be able to participate fully in the university activities associated with the program. Residence provides the student with an opportunity to become immersed in the intellectual environment of the university.

Progress into the second year is dependent on passing all courses.

Before proceeding to full-time research, candidates shall:

1 complete at least the equivalent of two full courses offered by the Department and one course outside the Department;
2 pass a comprehensive examination in the general field in which research is being undertaken by the end of the second term of the first year in residence;
3 upon recommendation of their committee, to acquire a knowledge of a [illegible] necessary for their research, submit a research proposal that is acceptable to their research committee within six months of the comprehensive examination.

Ph.D. degree program requirements are described in the *Graduate Geography Handbook* which all students receive on registration.

### Credit for M.A./M.Sc. Courses

In exceptional cases, at the discretion of the Department, graduate courses completed at master's level at the University of Toronto may be counted towards meeting some course requirements. However, all doctoral students must take a minimum of two full courses with the Department after entering the Ph.D. program.

### Courses of Instruction

The following graduate courses will be available on demand and subject to faculty resources. Not all courses are given every year, and some members of the graduate faculty are on research leave. Please consult the department graduate office. The 2000-level courses are normally open to Ph.D. students only.

GGR 1011Y Special course for Ph.D. candidates in other departments [illegible] ing Geography as a minor/*S*
GGR 1100Y° Research Paper (CR/NCR)/*S*
GGR 1101H History of Geographic Thoug *J. H. Galloway*
GGR 1102H Contemporary Issues in Geo graphic Thought/*Staff*
GGR 1149H Readings in Selected Topics
GGR 2149H Readings in Selected Topics
GGR 2150H, Y Advanced Seminar in Select Topics/*Staff*

#### *Physical Geography*

GGR 1201H Hillslope Geomorphology/*R. Bryan*

°Courses which may continue over a program. T course is graded when completed.