

UNIVERSITY COUNCIL  
**ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE**  
**REQUEST FOR DECISION**

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**PRESENTED BY:** Gordon Hill, Chair, Academic Programs Committee

**DATE OF MEETING:** February 26, 2009

**SUBJECT:** **Arts & Science: Changes to Bachelor of Science degree requirements and termination of the Advanced Certificate and Honours Certificate in Science**

**DECISION REQUESTED:**

*It is recommended:*

That Council approve changes to the Bachelor of Science degree requirements so that students may receive a Bachelor of Science Four year or Honours as a second degree and as a second BSc degree, effective for the Fall, 2009 Convocation.

That Council approve termination of the Advanced Certificate and Honours Certificate in Science, effective on completion of existing Certificate programs.

**PURPOSE:**

The Bachelor of Science and the Advanced and Honours Certificates in Science are academic programs at the University of Saskatchewan. It is desired that students can receive this degree as a second degree with a minimum of 30 extra credit units. Program terminations are approved by Council. Because in this case the terminations are related to the revisions proposed for the total number of credit units required in these BSc programs, Council approval is also being requested for these changes.

**SUMMARY**

The Academic Programs Committee of Council received the attached proposal documents in January, 2009.

The proposal revises the number of credit units required for Bachelor of Science degrees in two circumstances: when a student already has a Bachelor's degree of a different type and wishes to complete a program in a science major (obtaining a B.Sc. as a second

degree), and when a student already has a Bachelor of Science degree and wishes to complete a program in a different science major (obtaining a second B.Sc. degree). In the latter case, because these students will be permitted now to receive two Bachelor of Science degrees; the existing Advanced and Honours Certificate programs are no longer needed and can be terminated.

At its January 27 meeting, the Academic Programs Committee discussed these changes with Associate Dean Tom Steele. The committee agreed to recommend approval of these changes and the related program terminations.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Proposal documents

## Changing BSc. degree requirements to encourage multi-disciplinary study

It is proposed to make two changes in the B.Sc. offered by the College of Arts and Science. The thrust for these changes comes from the realization that many students need a multi-disciplinary background. One way to obtain such a background is via a multi-disciplinary program. However, such a program does not provide the full depth in any of the constituent disciplines. Another route to a multi-disciplinary background is by completing the requirements of more than one discipline. The objective of this proposal is to make it easier for students to study more than one discipline. In particular, this proposal is to make it possible or easier to obtain a second degree that is a B.Sc.

The two changes are

1. Presently a student, who has a degree other than a B.Sc. degree and wishes to obtain a 4-year or Honours B.Sc., must complete all the requirements for that degree and must take a minimum of 60 credit units towards this additional degree. The proposal is to reduce the minimum number of credit units to 30. Of course, the student must still complete all the requirements for the degree. This type of degree will be called a B.Sc. as a Second Degree.
2. Presently a student who already has a B.Sc. degree with a certain major cannot obtain a second major or a second B.Sc. degree. Instead, they can be awarded an Advanced Certificate or an Honours Certificate. The word certificate tends to be associated with a Certificate of Successful Completion or a Certificate of Attendance, both of which have much lower status than a degree. The proposal is to allow a student to obtain an additional B.Sc. degree. The student must complete a minimum of 30 credit units so as to satisfy all the requirements for a different major, and such that the 30 credit units includes a minimum of 12 credit units of relevant courses as approved by the department of the new major. This type of degree will be called a Second B.Sc. Degree.

This submission includes

- This cover letter
- The proposal for a B.Sc. as a Second Degree
- The proposal for a Second B.Sc. Degree
- A document with partial minutes of Division of Faculty meetings where the proposals were discussed
- A document with a suggested wording of the section of the Calendar dealing with second degrees in the College of Arts and Science. This document is relevant to the College, but may not be of interest to the APC.
- Additional background information about Arts & Science BSc degrees

Tom Steele, Associate Dean, College of Arts & Science

# Proposal for Curriculum Change

to be approved by Council or by Academic Programs Committee

## 1. PROPOSAL IDENTIFICATION

**Title of proposal:** Credit Units for a B.Sc. as a Second Degree

Degree(s):	B.Sc.	Field(s) of Specialization:	
Level(s) of Concentration:		Option(s):	
Degree College:	Arts and Science	Department:	Home College: Arts and Science
Contact person(s) (name, telephone, fax, e-mail):			

Tom Steele, Associate Dean, College of Arts & Science

Grant Cheston  
Department of Computer Science  
Tel: 4892  
Fax: 4884  
Email: cheston@cs.usask.ca

Dirk de Boer  
Department of Geography  
email: dirk.deboer@usask.ca

Rainer Dick  
Department of Physics and Engineering Physics  
email: rainer.dick@usask.ca

Date:

Approved by the degree college and/or home college: May 26, 2008

Proposed date of implementation: September 2008

## 2. Type of change

XX A change in the total number of credit units required for an approved degree program.

Presently, a student who holds a bachelor's degree from the Univ. of Sask., other than a B.Sc. degree from the College of Arts and Science, and who wishes to obtain a 4-year or Honours B.Sc. must complete all the requirements for that degree and must take a minimum of 60 credit units towards this additional degree. This minimum applies regardless of the number of courses that may be needed to complete the requirements for the degree. In order to complete a 3-year B.Sc., a student in the same situation is required to complete a minimum of only 30 credit units. Thus, students are strongly

discouraged from pursuit of a 4-Year or Honours B.Sc. It is proposed that the minimum number of credit units that must be completed for 3-year, 4-year, or Honours B.Sc. as a second degree be set uniformly at 30 credit units. Of course, the student must still complete all the requirements for the degree. For purposes of terminology, the situation where a student completes a degree other than a B.Sc. from the College of Arts and Science, and then completes a B.Sc. degree from the College of Arts and Science will be described as a **B.Sc. as a Second Degree**.

### 3. RATIONALE

This statement should include information about program objectives, need for the program, demand, uniqueness and the expertise of the sponsoring unit. Please specify how this proposal relates to department/college plans and to Systematic Program Review or other review recommendations.

In recent years, the University, College and faculty members have come to realize that many students desire and need a multi-disciplinary background. One way to obtain such a background is via a multi-disciplinary program. However, such a program does not provide the full depth in any of the constituent disciplines, and may not in fact exist. Another route to a multi-disciplinary background is by completing the requirements of more than one program. The objective of this proposal is to make it possible for students to more efficiently complete requirements of a B.Sc. degree following completion of a previous bachelor's degree at the University of Saskatchewan. For purposes of terminology, the situation where a student completes a degree other than a B.Sc. from the College of Arts and Science, and then completes a B.Sc. degree from the College of Arts and Science will be described as a **B.Sc. as a Second Degree**.

Presently, students pursuing a B.Sc. as a Second Degree are required to complete all requirements for the second degree. They are also required to complete a minimum of 60 credit units for a 4-year or Honours B.Sc., or 30 credit units for a 3-year B.Sc.

The requirement for a minimum of 60 credit units for a 4-year or Honours B.Sc. as a Second Degree (fully two years of study) is a serious impediment for students. Students who may require fewer than 60 credit units to meet the program requirements for the second degree are, nevertheless, discouraged from doing so, and most, it would seem, opt for the less-desirable 3-year degree. Moreover, students view it as unfair to be denied a credential when they have completed all the requirements for a program. The minimum of 60 credit units is also perceived as financially punitive.

It should be noted that the 60 credit unit minimum is the same as is required for students transferring from another institution. It is considered reasonable that a student who has completed a previous degree at the University of Saskatchewan should not be subject to the same demands on finances and time as applied to a student from another institution.

It is proposed that the minimum number of credit units required for a 3-year, 4-year, or Honours B.Sc. as a Second Degree be set uniformly at 30 credit units for all students holding a bachelors degree from the University of Saskatchewan, other than a B.Sc. from the College of Arts and Science. All other requirements of the program must be met.

Several different types of situations can be envisaged whereby students would benefit from this change in requirements:

- Currently, students may pursue concurrently a B.Sc. and another degree at the U of S. An example would be concurrent Bachelor of Engineering and Bachelor of Science (typically Computer Science, Chemistry, or Physics), or concurrent degrees in Education and Science. A reduction from 60 to 30 credit units for the 4-year and Honours B.Sc. degree as second degree would encourage more students to pursue this higher credential, rather than the more expedient route to the less valuable 3-year B.Sc.
- Students who complete a degree program, then have a change of heart and desire to pursue a different career, may need to complete a B.Sc. as a Second Degree in order to gain credentials necessary to their new career path. This is particularly important where professional registration or admission to a graduate program is required. We should ensure that such students have few impediments to their new career goals.
- A desire for life-long learning leads us to challenge existence of impediments to award of earned credentials. Those who pursue new courses and programs for the joy of learning should be recognized for having accomplished goals, and should receive credentials for which they have demonstrated competence.

A degree is a universally recognized standard, and is an acknowledgment of achievement of a level of competence in a field or fields as defined by program requirements and approved by the College and Council. Barriers to recognition of such achievement should be minimized.

#### **4. DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAM CHARACTERISTICS**

Please include a complete draft Calendar entry.

In particular, please indicate if a template is already in place for such a program (for example, if it follows the general requirements and standards of B.Sc. programs) or if new standards are being introduced for this program.

Starting on the next page is a minimal set of corrections to incorporate the change. A separate document gives another version of the calendar after the changes. This second version separates the requirements for a second degree when it is a B.Sc. from those for a second B.A., and simplifies the description for a B.Sc.

##### ***Current Calendar:***

([www.usask.ca/calendar/arts&science/degrees/seconddegree/](http://www.usask.ca/calendar/arts&science/degrees/seconddegree/)):

Note: language to be deleted is underlined.

##### **Second Degree Programs**

... (introduction and point 1)

2. *Additional credit requirements:* Students pursuing a B.A. or B.Sc. Three-year in addition to another degree must complete at least 30 Arts & Science credit units not used for the other degree. Similarly, for all Four-year and Honours Arts & Science degree programs, at least 60 additional Arts & Science credit units, not used for any other degree or certificate, are required. These additional Arts & Science credits are required regardless of the number of Arts & Science courses included in the program leading to the first degree. These courses must be allowable for credit in the College of Arts & Science.

... (points 3 through 8)

## Arts and Science

### **B.A. and B.Sc., or B.Sc. and B.A.**

The following regulations apply to students who have a B.A. and wish to complete a B.Sc. or who have a B.Sc. and wish to complete a B.A.:

1. Students may not receive two Three-year degrees.
2. To receive a Four-year or Honours degree, students must complete a minimum of 60 additional credit units and fulfill all program requirements. The 60 additional credit units are required regardless of whether the first degree was a Three-year, Four-year or Honours degree. Students must complete at least 150 to 180 credit units.
3. To receive a Three-year degree, students must complete a minimum of 30 additional credit units and fulfill all program requirements. Only students who have completed a Four-year or Honours degree may subsequently complete a Three-year degree. Students must complete at least 150 credit units.

### ***Revised Calendar entry:***

Note: new language is in **bold**.

### **Second Degree Programs**

... (introduction and point 1 as before)

2.
  - a. *Additional credit requirements **for B.A. degree:*** Students pursuing a B.A. Three-year **degree** in addition to another degree must complete at least 30 Arts & Science credit units not used for the other degree. Similarly, for all four-year and Honours **B.A.** programs, at least 60 additional Arts & Science

credit units, not used for any other degree or certificate, are required. These additional Arts & Science credits are required regardless of the number of Arts & Science courses included in the program leading to the first degree. These courses must be allowable for credit in the College of Arts & Science.

*(new)*

- b. Additional credit requirements for B.Sc. degree: Students pursuing any B.Sc. degree in addition to another degree, must complete at least 30 Arts & Science credit units not used for the other degree. These additional Arts & Science credits are required regardless of the number of Arts & Science courses included in the program leading to the first degree. These courses must be allowable for credit in the College of Arts & Science.**

(points 3 through 8 as before)

## Arts and Science

### **B.A. and B.Sc., or B.Sc. and B.A.**

The following regulations apply to students who have a B.A. and wish to complete a B.Sc. or who have a B.Sc. and wish to complete a B.A.:

1. Students may not receive two Three-year degrees.
2.
  - a. To receive a Four-year or Honours **B.A. after a B.Sc.** degree, students must complete a minimum of 60 additional credit units and fulfill all program requirements. The 60 additional credit units are required regardless of whether the first degree was a Three-year, Four-year or Honours degree. Students must complete at least 150 to 180 credit units.

*(new)*

- b. To receive a Four-year or Honours B.Sc. after a B.A. degree, students must complete a minimum of 30 additional credit units and fulfill all program requirements. The 30 additional credit units are required regardless of whether the first degree was a Three-year, Four-year or Honours degree. Students must complete at least 120 to 150 credit units.**
3. To receive a Three-year degree, students must complete a minimum of 30 additional credit units and fulfill all program requirements. Only students who have completed a Four-year or

Honours degree may subsequently complete a Three-year degree.  
Students must complete at least 150 credit units.

A substantial number of small changes are required in the descriptions of specific second degree opportunities explicitly mentioned in the calendar. The simplest approach is removal of the mention of the B.Sc. from the many descriptions, and their rewording to explicitly apply to only B.A. degrees. The simplification of the requirements for the B.Sc. as a Second Degree makes inclusion of the B.Sc. here unnecessary.

## 5. RESOURCES

Please describe what resources will be required by the new or revised program. Include information about the impact this proposal will have on resources used by existing programs. Please indicate whether the program be handled within the existing resources of the department or college (eg, faculty, secretarial support, equipment, information technology, laboratories, library resources, space, etc). If new resources will be needed, please describe how these will be found. Include any required memos from the Dean or department heads regarding resources.

No new resources are needed for this change.

Although it is anticipated that this will increase the number of students pursuing 4-year and Honours B.Sc. degrees, the numbers are not expected to be large. Also, most of the courses taken will be senior courses where in most cases capacity exists for increased enrolment. Hence, no new resources are needed.

It is possible that some students who would choose to complete a 4-year or Honours B.Sc. as a Second Degree will be required to take fewer credit units to complete their program. However, it is anticipated that more students will desire to pursue a 4-year or Honours B.Sc. as a Second Degree, so that the total number of courses taken by students at the University as a result of this change will likely increase.

## 6. RELATIONSHIPS AND IMPACT OF IMPLEMENTATION

Please describe the impact this program will have on department activities and on students, and on other departments or colleges. Describe the consultation process followed for this program, including any memos received.

This change is expected to have a small and manageable impact on the science departments, and to have no impact on any other unit.

This proposal has been discussed at a number of meetings of **the Division of Science Department Heads**, and at two **Division of Science Faculty** meetings. Relevant parts of the minutes of these meetings are included in an appendix document. A synopsis of these meetings follows:

There was general agreement among the Science Heads that second degrees need to be more accessible (October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2006). The Division of Science Faculty was apprised of a number of concepts for program changes on October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2006. Science

Department Heads were asked to discuss these initiatives with their faculty (November 15, 2006) and feedback from those discussions were brought to the November 29<sup>th</sup> meeting of Science Heads. Discussion at subsequent meetings involved the nature of these changes and how they would be implemented. Most recently, the second degree ideas were presented to the Nov. 7, 2007 Division of Science meeting. Thus, although the science departments have been aware of this proposal for some time, no major concerns have been raised.

## **7. BUDGET**

Please indicate if budget allocations within the department or the college will change due to this program. Consult with the College's Financial Analyst (Financial Services Division) and submit the Budget Consultation form if allocations are required.

No changes in the budget of any college or department will be affected by this change.

There is enough capacity in senior science courses to handle the increase in enrollment that is anticipated as a result of this change.

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## College Statement

Attached to the proposal document should be a statement from the College which contains the following:

1. Recommendation from the College regarding the program
2. Description of the College process used to arrive at that recommendation
3. Summary of issues that the College discussed and how they were resolved

From Ton Steele, Associate Dean, College of Arts & Science

The College of Arts and Science sees enormous benefit to University of Saskatchewan graduates with a non-B.Sc. degree who return for further education due to the changing work force and dynamic professions. By lowering the overall number of required credit units, it will make returning to the University of Saskatchewan and completion of another degree more realistic in terms of finances and time. The College supports this initiative as part of its role in supporting the Integrated Plan for encouraging interdisciplinarity interests of students by enhancing opportunities for students to pursue multiple academic goals and supporting retention efforts.

The B.Sc. as a Second Degree proposal was developed by a committee formed by the Associate Dean of the Division of Science, and was circulated in the January 2008 College Challenge to all Arts and Science faculty for comment and feedback. No challenges to the proposal were received. After much discussion amongst the Academic Programs and Standards for the Sciences Committee, the Division of Science, and the proposal proponents, the proposal was approved by the Academic Programs and Standards for the Sciences Committee on March 5, 2008. It was later approved by the Division of Science on May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

# Degree Requirements

## Bachelor of Arts & Bachelor of Science

Three-year degree (90 credit units) • Four-year degree (120 credit units) • Honours degree (120 credit units)

### PROGRAM TYPES A, B, C & D

#### TYPE A

##### B.A. – Humanities – Majoring in:

- Classical and Near Eastern Archaeology
- Classical, Mediaeval and Renaissance Studies
- Comparative Literature and Languages
- English
- French
- German
- History
- International Studies
- Linguistics
- Linguistics and Languages
- Philosophy
- Religious Studies
- Russian
- Spanish
- Ukrainian
- Women's & Gender Studies

##### Humanities Requirement

- 12 credit units from the Humanities, (at most, 6 credit units in one subject)

##### Languages Requirement

- 6 credit units from the Languages

##### Natural Sciences Requirement

- 6 credit units from the Natural Sciences

##### Social Sciences Requirement

- 6 credit units from the Social Sciences

##### General Requirement

- 6 credit units from the Fine Arts, Social Sciences or Natural Sciences

##### Major Requirement

- **B.A. Four-year**—30 or more senior credit units in a subject chosen under the Humanities or Languages requirement, above. These must be selected to complete the department's requirements of a 36 or more credit unit major.
- **B.A. Three-year**—24 or more senior credit units in a subject chosen under the Humanities or Languages requirement, above. These must be selected to complete the department's requirements of a 30 or more credit unit major.
- **B.A. Honours**—Usually 42 to 54 credit units in a subject chosen under the Humanities or Languages requirement above. See department requirements.

##### Electives Requirement

- **B.A. Four-year & Honours**—Electives as required, subject to the condition that of the 120 credit units required for the degree, not more than 60 may be in any one subject and not more than 54 may be at the junior level, at least 66 credit units must be at the senior level
- **B.A. Three-year**—Electives as required, subject to the condition that of the 90 credit units required for the degree not more than 42 may be in any one subject and not more than 48 may be at the junior level, at least 42 credit units must be at the senior level.

#### TYPE B

##### B.A. – Social Sciences – Majoring in:

- Aboriginal Public Administration
- Anthropology
- Archaeology
- Business Economics
- Economics
- Geography (Human)
- International Studies
- Land Use and Environmental Studies
- Linguistics
- Native Studies
- Northern Studies
- Political Studies
- Psychology
- Public Administration
- Regional and Urban Development
- Sociology
- Sociology of Biotechnology
- Women's & Gender Studies

##### Social Science Requirement

- 12 credit units from the Social Sciences, (at most, 6 credit units in one subject)

##### Humanities Requirement

- 6 credit units from the Humanities

##### Natural Sciences Requirement

- 6 credit units from the Natural Sciences

##### Languages Requirement

- 6 credit units from the Languages

##### General Requirement

- 6 credit units from the Fine Arts, Humanities or Natural Sciences

##### Major Requirement

- **B.A. Four-year**—30 or more senior credit units in a subject chosen under the Social Science requirement, above. These must be selected to complete the department's requirements of a 36 or more credit unit major.
- **B.A. Three-year**—24 or more senior credit units in a subject chosen under the Social Science requirement, above. These must be selected to complete the department's requirements of a 30 or more credit unit major.
- **B.A. Honours**—Usually 42 to 54 credit units in a subject chosen under the Social Science requirement above. See department requirements.

##### Electives Requirement

- **B.A. Four-year & Honours**—Electives as required, subject to the condition that of the 120 credit units required for the degree, not more than 60 may be in any one subject and not more than 54 may be at the junior level, at least 66 credit units must be at the senior level
- **B.A. Three-year**—Electives as required, subject to the condition that of the 90 credit units required for the degree not more than 42 may be in any one subject and not more than 48 may be at the junior level, at least 42 credit units must be at the senior level.

#### TYPE C

##### B.Sc. – Natural Sciences – Majoring in:

- Anatomy & Cell Biology
- Archaeology
- Biochemistry
- Biology
- Bioinformatics
- Biomolecular Structure Studies
- Biotechnology
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Computing
- Environmental Earth Science
- Food Science
- Geography (Physical)
- Geology
- Geophysics
- Land Use and Environmental Studies
- Mathematics
- Mathematical Physics
- Microbiology
- Palaeobiology
- Physics
- Physiology
- Statistics
- Toxicology

##### Natural Science Requirement

- a minimum of 15 credit units Natural Sciences chosen from lists A, B, C, D, and E collectively, with at least 3 credit units from 3 distinct lists and at most 6 credit units from any one list.

**A.** Computer Science—CMPT 111.3, 115.3

**B.** Physics & Astronomy—ASTR 101.6;

PHYS 111.6, 121.6, 128.3

**C.** Chemistry—CHEM 112.3, 115.3, 250.3

**D.** Earth Science—GEOG 120.3; GEOL 121.3, 122.3

**E.** Biological Science—BIOL 120.3, 121.3

(formerly BIOL 110.6)

### REQUIREMENT 1

### REQUIREMENT 2

##### Humanities Writing Requirement

- 6 credit units from the following: 100-level English; 100-level History, Lit 100.6, Phil 120.3, 133.3

### REQUIREMENT 3

##### Social Science Requirement

- 6 credit units from the Social Sciences

### REQUIREMENT 4

##### Mathematics/Statistics Requirement

- 6 credit units (B.Sc. 4 Yr); 3 credit units (B.Sc. 3 Yr) from List F: MATH 110.3, 112.3, 116.3, 264.3; STAT 245.3, 246.3; PLSC 314.3.

### REQUIREMENT 5

##### General Requirement

- 6 credit units from the Fine Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences or Languages

### REQUIREMENT 6

##### Major Requirement

- **B.Sc. Four-year**—36 or more senior credit units in a major chosen under the Natural Science requirement above selected to complete the department requirements of a 42 or more credit unit major.
- **B.Sc. Three-year**—24 or more senior credit units in a major chosen under the Natural Science requirement above selected to complete the department's requirements of a 30 or more credit unit major.
- **B.Sc. Honours**—48 or more senior credit units in a major chosen under the Natural Science requirement above. See department requirements.

### REQUIREMENT 7

##### Electives Requirement

- **B.Sc. Four-year & Honours**—Electives as required, subject to the condition that of the 120 credit units required for the degree, not more than 54 may be at the junior level, at least 66 credit units must be at the senior level.
- **B.Sc. Three-year**—Electives as required, subject to the condition that of the 90 credit units required for the degree not more than 48 may be at the junior level, at least 42 credit units must be at the senior level.

#### TYPE D

##### B.A. – Fine Arts – Majoring in:

- Art (Art History or Studio Art)
- Drama
- Music

##### Fine Arts Requirement

- 12 credit units which must be selected from two different subjects from the Fine Arts (at most, 6 credit units in one subject)

##### Humanities Requirement

- 6 credit units from the Humanities

##### Natural Sciences Requirement

- 6 credit units from the Natural Sciences

##### Languages Requirement

- 6 credit units from the Languages

##### Social Sciences Requirement

- 6 credit units from the Social Sciences

##### Major Requirement

- **B.A. Four-year**—30 or more credit units in a subject chosen under the Fine Arts requirement, above. These must be selected to complete the department's requirements of a 36 or more credit unit major.
- **B.A. Three-year**—24 or more credit units in a subject chosen under the Fine Arts requirement, above. These must be selected to complete the department's requirements of a 30 or more credit unit major.
- **B.A. Honours**—Usually 42 to 54 credit units in a subject chosen under the Fine Arts requirement above. See department requirements.

##### Electives Requirement

- **B.A. Four-year & Honours**—Electives as required, subject to the condition that of the 120 credit units required for the degree, not more than 60 may be in any one subject and not more than 54 may be at the junior level, at least 66 credit units must be at the senior level
- **B.A. Three-year**—Electives as required, subject to the condition that of the 90 credit units required for the degree not more than 42 may be in any one subject and not more than 48 may be at the junior level, at least 42 credit units must be at the senior level.

## Related Documentation

Include any related documentation which is relevant to this proposal, such as:

- Excerpts from the College Plan and Planning Parameters
- SPR recommendations
- Relevant sections of the College plan
- Accreditation review recommendations
- Letters of support
- Memos of consultation

It is particularly important for Council committees to know if a curriculum changes are being made in response to College Plans and Planning Parameters, SPR recommendations or accreditation recommendations.

The changes are being proposed in response to student expressions of interest in second degrees, and their perception of unfairness in being required to complete a minimum of 60 additional credit units even though they may be able to satisfy all requirements of the program with fewer additional courses.

In addition, the University has recognized the need to encourage multidisciplinary. In particular, the 2002 document “University of Saskatchewan Strategic Directions: *Renewing the Dream*” states that the University “will offer more enriching opportunities for our students: ... ; and interdisciplinary programming to broaden our students’ horizons and hone skills of synthesis and problem-solving”. It also states that “it is ... at the interfaces of traditional disciplines, where solutions will be found to our world’s most pressing challenges.” Reducing the minimum number of credit units to complete a B.Sc. as a Second degree, without altering the requirement for completion of all requirements for the program, will encourage students to pursue multidiscipline experiences. The policies of several Canadian universities were consulted, with the following results for the minimum credit units required for completion of a 4-year B.Sc. as a Second Degree:

- 60 cu: U. of Alberta; U. of British Columbia; U. of Calgary; Dalhousie U; U of Manitoba; McMaster U; Waterloo U
- 30 cu: U of Ottawa; U of Regina;

Hence, although requiring 30 cu is not common, it is the requirement for our neighbouring university, Univ. of Regina, and for Ottawa University. A minimum of 60 cu (two years) is too high a barrier for many students to even think about doing a second degree. We believe that 30 cu is sufficient to ensure that students obtain an Arts and Science background, while encouraging students to obtain a multidisciplinary background via more than one degree.

# Proposal for Curriculum Change

to be approved by Council or by Academic Programs Committee

## 1. PROPOSAL IDENTIFICATION

Title of proposal: **Permitting a Second B.Sc. Degree**

Degree(s): B.Sc.

Field(s) of Specialization:

Level(s) of Concentration:

Option(s):

Degree College:

Arts and Science

Department:

Home College:

Arts and Science

Contact person(s) (name, telephone, fax, e-mail):

Tom Steele, Associate Dean, College of Arts & Science

Grant Cheston  
Department of Computer Science  
Tel: 4892  
Fax: 4884  
email: cheston@cs.usask.ca

Dirk de Boer  
Department of Geography  
email: dirk.deboer@usask.ca

Rainer Dick  
Department of Physics and Engineering Physics  
email: rainer.dick@usask.ca

Date:

Approved by the degree college and/or home college: May 26, 2008

Proposed date of implementation: September 2008

## 2. Type of change

XX A replacement program, including program deletion

Presently a student who already has a B.Sc. degree from the Univ. of Sask. with a certain major cannot obtain a second B.Sc. degree (unless they are upgrading to a higher degree). Instead, they can be awarded an Advanced Certificate or an Honours Certificate. Unfortunately, the word "certificate" tends to be associated with **such low-status credentials as the Certificate of Successful Completion or Certificate of Attendance**. Students find that this presents obstacles in pursuit of careers and admission to graduate programs. It is proposed that a student be eligible to receive an additional B.Sc. degree on completion of a minimum of 30 credit units so as to satisfy

all the requirements for a different major, and such that the 30 credit units includes a minimum of 12 credit units of relevant courses as approved by the department of the new major. For purposes of terminology, this scenario will be referred to as a **Second B.Sc. Degree**. The present Advanced Certificate and Honours Certificate in science subjects will be eliminated, as they will be superseded by the Second B.Sc. Degree.

### 3. RATIONALE

This statement should include information about program objectives, need for the program, demand, uniqueness and the expertise of the sponsoring unit. Please specify how this proposal relates to department/college plans and to Systematic Program Review or other review recommendations.

In recent years, the University, College and faculty members have come to realize that many students desire and need a multi-disciplinary background. One way to obtain such a background is via a multi-disciplinary program. However, such a program does not provide the full depth in any of the constituent disciplines, and may not in fact exist. Another route to a multi-disciplinary background is by completing the requirements of more than one program. The objective of this proposal is to make it possible for students to obtain appropriate credentials on completion of program requirements in the same or a different science discipline. This proposal is to make it possible for a student to obtain a **Second B.Sc. Degree**.

Many students have an interest in pursuing more than one major in the sciences, or in pursuing further depth in an area in which the student has been previously awarded a lower level of concentration (for example, a 3-year degree). Currently they may do so under the requirements for Double or General Honours, Post Degree Specialization Certificate, Advanced and Honours Certificates, and Minors. The depth to which two or more fields may be covered within a 120-cu program is necessarily limited in the cases of Double or General Honors and Minors. The credential that students receive in the Certificate programs is far from satisfactory. Anecdotal evidence reveals that students frequently encounter difficulties in explaining to a potential employer or graduate school (especially foreign institutions) the meaning of the term "Certificate". The existence of credentials such as the Certificate of Successful Completion or Certificate of Attendance does not help their cause.

It is proposed that all students who have completed the same requirements for a program of study, and have achieved the same academic standing, will receive the same recognition and credential. Thus, when a student has completed all the requirements for a degree, he/she should be properly recognized with the award of that degree. In particular, when a student has completed the requirements for a second B.Sc., the student should be awarded a Second B.S.c. degree.

There may be a number of situations that may be addressed by the availability of the Second B.Sc. Degree. Some students simultaneously pursue more than one major, and, indeed, some of our best students recognize the need for depth in more than one discipline in order to pursue cross-disciplinary graduate programs. It is much better to not cloud their accomplishment with the confusion associated with a certificate. A second situation would involve students who graduated some time ago, and have pursued careers, but wish to upgrade their credentials (perhaps by upgrading a 3-year degree to a 4-year degree), to acquire background in a related science discipline to improve their career potential, or to more radically alter their career path by pursuing a

different discipline. It is important to recognize their accomplishment by the B.Sc. credential. As well, it is important that we be mindful of the University's mission as an institution dedicated to continuing and lifelong learning. As we encourage all citizens to consider enrolling in courses for both upgrading and the joy of learning, we must enable such students to be appropriately recognized for their accomplishments.

The upgrade of a Three-year B.Sc. degree to a Four-year or Honours B.Sc. will continue as present, i.e., to require a minimum of 30 credit units. Also, there will continue to be no minimum number of credit units required for the upgrade from a Four-year degree to an Honours degree in the same major. These are considered to be enhancing an existing B.Sc. degree rather than obtaining a Second B.Sc.

When a student holds a previous 4-year or Honours B.Sc. from the University of Saskatchewan, a Second B.Sc. Degree would be awarded on completion of all requirements for a second major. To ensure that the student has actually increased their knowledge, a Second B.Sc. will require a minimum of 30 credit units that include a minimum of 12 credit units of relevant courses as approved by the department of the new major.

The only exception to the award of a Second B.Sc. Degree concerns the three-year B.Sc. Students should be encouraged to build upon a three-year B.Sc., either through upgrade within their discipline or pursuit of more advanced study in a second major. Pursuit of a three-year B.Sc. as a Second Degree, following completion of a degree of a different type (e.g. after a bachelor's degree in Engineering or Education) may also serve the needs of students, as the experience may enrich the previous disciplinary strengths. Nevertheless, the award of a Second B.Sc. degree is considered an inappropriate use of a student's time. A student who holds a three-year degree should not be encouraged to obtain a similarly low level of concentration in another science discipline, as neither constitutes a recognized foundation in science. For students holding a four-year or Honours B.Sc., availability of a three-year B.Sc. as a Second B.Sc. Degree would be redundant and absurd in the same major (only upgrading of degrees in the same major is permitted). For students who hold a four-year or Honours degree in a different science major, availability of a three-year B.Sc. as a Second B.Sc. Degree would provide little added value, and would moreover encourage shingling of credentials to the extent of potential embarrassment to the College and the University. Therefore, the three-year B.Sc. would not be available as a Second B.Sc. Degree.

For students who hold a B.Sc. degree from another institution, and wish to pursue a Second B.Sc. from the University of Saskatchewan, the residency requirement specified by the College of Arts and Science for the B.Sc. Four-year or Honours degree as a first degree program applies (see [Policies and Regulations, Residency Regulations](#)).

#### **4. DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAM CHARACTERISTICS**

Please include a complete draft Calendar entry.

In particular, please indicate if a template is already in place for such a program (for example, if it follows the general requirements and standards of B.Sc. programs) or if new standards are being introduced for this program.

**The present calendar version is at:**

([www.usask.ca/calendar/arts&science/degrees/seconddegree/](http://www.usask.ca/calendar/arts&science/degrees/seconddegree/)):

**(The following new paragraphs are to be inserted as the first two paragraphs of the introduction to the section called Second Degree Programs.)**

After completion of a B.Sc. degree, it is possible to obtain a second Four-year or Honours B.Sc. degree that is in a different major. This is called a “Second B.Sc. degree”. The completion of a B.Sc. after a degree of another type is called a “B.Sc. as a Second degree”. The regulations for these two situations are somewhat different. In particular, students pursuing a Second B.Sc. degree, in addition to an existing B.Sc. degree from the University of Saskatchewan, **must complete a minimum of 30 credit units so as to satisfy all the requirements for a different major, and such that the 30 credit units includes a minimum of 12 credit units of relevant courses as approved by the department of the new major.** Those pursuing a Second B.Sc. when their previous B.Sc. was from another university must satisfy the residency requirements given below. Of course, in either case, the student must satisfy all program requirements. Note that after a Three-year B.Sc., a second Three-year B.Sc. cannot be obtained, but a Three-year B.Sc. degree can be upgraded to a Four-year or Honours B.Sc. degree (see below). Also, a Three-year B.Sc. can be obtained as a Second degree, except after a Three-year degree. A Second B.A. degree is not allowed.

The rest of this section describes the completion of a Second Degree for either a B.A. or B.Sc. after a degree of another type.

**B.A. and B.Sc., or B.Sc. and B.A.**

(unchanged)

**Upgrade of Arts & Science Three-year degree to Four-year or Honours degree**

(unchanged, but the title of this subsection should be changed as the section also discusses upgrades to Four-year and Honours degrees.)

**Degrees for students with a B.A. or B.Sc. from another university**

(unchanged)

**Advanced and Honours Certificates  
(present version)**

A student who has already completed a B.A. Four-year or Honours degree can receive an Advanced or Honours Certificate in a different B.A. major or interdisciplinary program, on completion of at least 30 additional credit units, subject to completion of Four-year or Honours program requirements in that major or interdisciplinary program. A student who has already completed a B.Sc. Four-year or Honours degree can receive an Advanced or Honours Certificate in a different B.Sc. major or interdisciplinary program, on completion of at least 30 additional credit units, subject to completion of Four-year or Honours program

requirements.

*From another university:* Students who hold a B.A. or B.Sc. Four-year or Honours degree from another university are eligible to receive the Advanced or Honours Certificate subject to the conditions listed previously. Such students must complete a minimum of 30 additional University of Saskatchewan credit units including at least 24 senior credit units and at least 18 credit units in the subject of the major.

**(revised version)**

A student who has already completed a B.A. Four-year or Honours degree can receive an Advanced or Honours Certificate in a different B.A. major or interdisciplinary program, on completion of at least 30 additional credit units, subject to completion of Four-year or Honours program requirements in that major or interdisciplinary program. A student who has already completed a B.Sc. 3-year, 4-year, or Honours degree may pursue a B.Sc. Four-year or Honours degree in a different major as a Second Degree subject to the conditions listed previously.

*From another university:* Students who hold a B.A. Four-year or Honours degree from another university are eligible to receive the Advanced or Honours Certificate subject to the conditions listed previously. Such students must complete a minimum of 30 additional University of Saskatchewan credit units including at least 24 senior credit units and at least 18 credit units in the subject of the major. Students who hold a B.Sc. Four-year or Honours degree from another university are eligible for a B.Sc. from the University of Saskatchewan subject to the residency rules for a first degree from the College.

## 5. RESOURCES

Please describe what resources will be required by the new or revised program. Include information about the impact this proposal will have on resources used by existing programs. Please indicate whether the program be handled within the existing resources of the department or college (eg, faculty, secretarial support, equipment, information technology, laboratories, library resources, space, etc). If new resources will be needed, please describe how these will be found. Include any required memos from the Dean or department heads regarding resources.

No new resources are needed for this change.

Although it is anticipated that this will increase the number of students pursuing 4-year and Honours B.Sc. degrees, the numbers are not expected to be large. Also, most of the courses taken will be senior courses where in most cases capacity exists for increased enrolment. Hence, no new resources are needed.

## 6. RELATIONSHIPS AND IMPACT OF IMPLEMENTATION

Please describe the impact this program will have on department activities and on students, and on other departments or colleges. Describe the consultation process followed for this program, including any memos received.

This change is expected to have a small but manageable impact on the science departments and to have no impact on any other unit.

This proposal has been discussed at a number of meetings of **the Division of Science Department Heads**, and at two Division of Science Faculty meetings. Relevant parts of the minutes of these meetings are included in an appendix document. A synopsis of these meetings follows:

There was general agreement among the Science Heads that second degrees need to be more accessible (October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2006). The Division of Science Faculty was apprised of a number of concepts for program changes on October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2006. Science Department Heads were asked to discuss these initiatives with their faculty (November 15, 2006) and feed back from those discussions were brought to the November 29<sup>th</sup> meeting of Science Heads. Discussion at subsequent meetings involved the nature of these changes and how they would be implemented. Most recently, the second degree ideas were presented to the Nov. 7, 2007 Division of Science meeting. Thus, although the science departments have been aware of this proposal for some time, no major concerns have been raised.

## 7. BUDGET

Please indicate if budget allocations within the department or the college will change due to this program. Consult with the College's Financial Analyst (Financial Services Division) and submit the Budget Consultation form if allocations are required.

No changes in the budget of any college or department will be affected by this change. There is enough capacity in the senior science courses to handle the increase in enrollment that is anticipated as a result of this change.

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## College Statement

Attached to the proposal document should be a statement from the College which contains the following:

1. Recommendation from the College regarding the program
2. Description of the College process used to arrive at that recommendation
3. Summary of issues that the College discussed and how they were resolved

From Tom Steele, Associate Dean, College of Arts and Science

The College of Arts and Science sees enormous benefit to students who already hold a B.Sc. degree and return for further education due to the changing work force and dynamic professions. The award of a Second B.Sc. degree is seen as more desirable than the award of a certificate and should attract students back to the College or encourage continued study. The College supports this initiative as part of its role in supporting the Integrated Plan for encouraging interdisciplinarity interests of students by enhancing opportunities for students to pursue multiple academic goals, and to strengthen recruitment and retention efforts.

The Second B.Sc. Degree proposal was developed by a committee formed by the Associate Dean of the Division of Science, and was circulated in the January 2008 College Challenge at all Arts and Science faculty for comment and feedback. No challenges to the proposal were received. After much discussion amongst the Academic Programs and Standards for the Sciences Committee, the Division of Science, and the proposal proponents, and making agreed upon amendments to the credit hour requirements for the new degree, the proposal was approved by the Academic Programs and Standards for the Sciences Committee on April 2, 2008. It was later approved by the Division of Science on May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

## Related Documentation

Include any related documentation which is relevant to this proposal, such as:

- Excerpts from the College Plan and Planning Parameters
- SPR recommendations
- Relevant sections of the College plan
- Accreditation review recommendations
- Letters of support
- Memos of consultation

It is particularly important for Council committees to know if a curriculum changes are being made in response to College Plans and Planning Parameters, SPR recommendations or accreditation recommendations.

The changes are been proposed in response to student desire to obtain a second B.Sc. degree.

In addition, the University has recognized the need to encourage multidisciplinary. In particular, the 2002 document “University of Saskatchewan Strategic Directions: *Renewing the Dream*” states that the University “will offer more enriching opportunities for our students: ... ; and interdisciplinary programming to broaden our students’ horizons and hone skills of synthesis and problem-solving”. It also states that “it is ... at the interfaces of traditional disciplines, where solutions will be found to our world’s most pressing challenges.” Students will be more likely to pursue multidisciplinary programs within the sciences if they are given full recognition for their accomplishments. Hence, when a student has completed the requirements for a second B.Sc., he/she should receive recognition for the achievement in the form of a degree rather than a certificate.

The policies of a number of Canadian universities were consulted: U. of Alberta, U of British Columbia, U of Calgary, Dalhousie U, McMaster U, U of Manitoba, Ottawa U, U of Regina and U of Waterloo. All universities surveyed, except the U of Waterloo, permit students to complete more than one B.Sc., with no limit on the number. The minimum number of credit units for an additional B.Sc. varies from 30 for Alberta, Regina, and Ottawa, to 60 cu for the others (except Waterloo that does not allow second B.Sc. degrees under any name). Therefore, we are presently unusual in not allowing second B.Sc. degrees. This proposal to allow Second B.Sc. Degrees will bring the University of Saskatchewan into alignment with most other Canadian universities. The proposal to require a minimum of 30 credit units is consistent with the universities of Regina and Alberta (two of our main alternatives). The requirement for 12 cu of related courses is somewhat different from other institutions, although some have a somewhat similar constraint.

## **Record of Consultation with Departments and Faculty Regarding Proposed Changes to the Requirements for obtaining a Second Degree within the Division of Science**

The proposed changes to the second degree program for the B.Sc. were introduced and discussed at meetings of the Division of Science Department Heads and the Division of Science Faculty. Consultation with faculty has been primarily through the Science Department Heads.

The following are excerpts from the fore-cited meeting notes/minutes as well as from subsequent meetings at which changes to the second degree program was discussed.

### **Science Heads meeting – October 4, 2006 – General Notes**

#### Agenda Items

1. Science Programs.
  - a.
  - b. Second Degrees. It was agreed that it may be desirable for the College to get away from the current rigidity in the award of second degrees. It was suggested that the program be changed such that a student need meet only the requirements for the second degree rather than fulfill a minimum required number of credit units. There seemed to be consensus on this proposal.

### **Division of Science Faculty Meeting**

*Thursday 26, October 2006*

**3:00 p.m. - 4:38 p.m.**

**120 College Building**

#### **MINUTES**

#### **1. Introductory Remarks from the Associate Dean – J. Basinger**

The Associate Dean addressed programming that can be introduced or improved to address these concerns, such as the first year experience, second degree options, and degree minors. A first-year experience would reduce impediments to entry into programs and facilitate recruitment into science majors. Degree minors and second degrees also provide cross-disciplinary options. It is anticipated that students will demand more multidisciplinary options. Providing these options requires flexibility in our programs.

#### **Second-degree options**

The current rules and policies for obtaining a second degree, an upgrade, or certificate are complex. As well, residency requirements make 4-year second degrees very unattractive, and transfer arrangements for courses from non-A & S and non-U of S is often difficult. In order to make second degrees more accessible we need to consider what requirements and standards need to be met by second-degree students. Accessibility can be markedly improved by asking a second degree-student to simply meet the requirement of the second degree. Is this enough, what restrictions should apply, and why?

### **Science Heads meeting – October 18, 2006 – General Notes**

Second Degrees. Basinger presented a proposal that the current requirements for a second degree be revised to allow students to obtain a second degree. It was generally agreed that a student should be given credit for the work they have done; hence a 30 or 60 credit unit residency requirement for a second degree is not fair. Concerns were raised about the ability of a student to obtain two B.Sc. degrees. Currently, students may obtain a Certificate in a second science discipline; however, it was generally agreed that students would prefer to obtain a second B.Sc.

degree. While it was argued that students who want further training, but cannot access graduate studies, would benefit from the second degree option, concern was raised that students would not be encouraged to waste time in a second undergraduate degree if they are capable of entering a graduate program. It was expected that demand for second degrees would come primarily from outside the college.

### **Minutes**

#### **Meeting of Division of Science Heads**

**Wednesday, November 15, 2006, Arts 298, 3:00 p.m.**

#### **2. Second Degree Program**

J. Basinger provided opening comments regarding the changes to the Second Degree program. Universities of Regina and Alberta have both moved away from onerous residency requirements. The desire is to move the U of S program away from the current 60 cu requirement to obtain a second degree to a program where the degree is awarded by meeting the requirements of the degree. However, it may be more acceptable to simply ease the residency requirements from 60 cu to 30 cu. Thus a second degree could be obtained in a year. These changes would also encourage students to obtain a second four-year degree, in favor of a three-year degree.

Information on the proposed changes that includes the original and revised wording of the program, as it would appear in the academic calendar, has been supplied to the department Heads as well as information on second degree programs at other Canadian universities. J. Basinger asked for the Heads to digest this information so that a discussion of the mechanics of the handling of the changes could occur.

Discussion on the proposed changes to the second degree program concerned reasons for the improvements and what may be gained. Easier access to a second degree may be a route for students who wish to enter graduate programs and there may be more interest from Education or Engineering students. Currently, most second degree students are from Education and Engineering and typically involve a three-year degree. The improvements to the program also ease arrangements for transfer students.

Connected to the discussion on second degree programs was also a discussion on three-year degrees and the value of the three-year disciplinary degree compared to a four-year degree. Discussion also involved the value of changing a three-year disciplinary degree to a three-year general degree. There was discussion on what changes might need to be made, and how the Division can move forward to make change. It was also noted that such changes could have impact on the other divisions.

### **Minutes**

#### **Meeting of Division of Science Heads**

**Wednesday, November 29, 2006, Geol 308, 3:00 p.m.**

#### **4) Update from Departments on Second Degree Program.**

Each department present at the meeting supplied comments regarding the proposed changes to the second degree program. Concerns were raised by Computer Science regarding the proposed changes creating loop holes for students to obtain a second degree without meeting the requirements for the first degree. Concerns were also raised regarding the relationship between three-year degrees, specializations, transfer credits and the second degree program. Three-year degrees and specializations serve a need in the Computer Science program; however, the intentions of the revised second degree program would be better realized if the three-year degree were not an option as a second degree. Increased access to a second degree would address some needs, such as Computer Engineering students who could finish the second degree within a year,

but not all students who seek the three-year or specialization in Computer Science. Some students would end up with 30 cu in Computer Science but be unable to get recognition. It was suggested that the awarding of a second degree could be done through a committee struck to adjudicate the program, thus loop holes, if they exist, could be closed and that an appropriate credential could be developed for recognition of work that falls between a minor and the second degree. Jim Basinger indicated that these issues need to be discussed with the Associate Dean of the Undergraduate Office.

Physics expressed general support for the changes to the program; however, much more discussion was needed within the department. Biology was not supportive of the initiative as it was felt this would not serve students intent on graduate programs. The response to this concern was that students who want to enter graduate school will do so and that the second degree is an option to students who cannot access graduate school, but want to specialize further or enter the workforce. Chemistry pointed out that it is necessary for a graduate student in their department to have a Chemistry or Biochemistry degree. The second degree gives a student who has a degree in another discipline the opportunity to enter graduate work in Chemistry; thus, the easier it is to obtain the second degree, the more students who can access the graduate program. Chemistry was in favor of the proposed changes because it reduced the roadblocks towards a second degree.

**Minutes**  
**Meeting of Division of Science Heads**  
Wednesday, January 24, 2007

**3. Second degree program**

Opening remarks were given by the Associate Dean. The intention is that proposed changes to this program be brought to the College Challenge. It was noted that much of the demand for second-degree programs involve three-year degrees. Demand for four-year degrees is low, likely as a result of the 60 cu residency requirements. Reducing these requirements may entice students to pursue the four-year degree. The Associate Dean then reviewed the extensive revision of Calendar entries involved in the modifications to the second degree program. These had been previously circulated.

**Meeting Notes**  
**Division of Science Heads**  
Wednesday October 1, 2007 – Arts 298, 12:00 p.m.

**Programming Initiatives**

- In regard to second degree programs, current residency requirements are too high (60 cu for a 4-yr degree). A second degree should be at most 30 cu. This change would make the 4-yr degree more appealing and remove the need to pursue a 3-yr degree.

**Division of Science Faculty Meeting**  
*Wednesday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2007*  
**3:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.**  
**241 Arts Building**  
**MINUTES**

Currently there are some on-going initiatives that need to be followed through by the next Associate Dean of Science. It is critical to be aware of these activities so that the work is not lost.

Programming Initiatives: Changes to the requirements for second degrees, future of the 3-year degree, 2+2 transfer arrangements, introduction the specialization as a lower level of concentration within the degree.

## Revised version of the section on Second Degree Programs for the College of Arts and Science

The original text can be found at

<http://www.usask.ca/calendar/arts&science/degrees/seconddegree/>

### Second Degree Programs

Programs in Arts & Science and in other colleges of this University may be combined to enable the student to obtain more than one degree in less time than if the two programs were taken separately. Students intending to complete degrees from Arts & Science and from another college should be aware that they must be admitted to the other college before they can receive the other college degree. It is possible to complete an Arts & Science degree while registered as a student in another college or as a student in Open Studies.

Students who wish to follow a Second Degree Program are advised to consult the Undergraduate Office of the College of Arts & Science to ascertain the precise course requirements. The form to request a review of outstanding second degree requirements is available online at the [website](#). The duration of the Second Degree Program and the course requirements are determined by the following regulations:

#### **B.Sc. as a Second Degree**

1. *Program requirements:* Students with a Three-year, Four-year or Honours degree, or their equivalent, in a different discipline, including degrees from other colleges or universities, who wish to pursue a B.Sc. Four-year or Honours as a second degree program must complete all requirements and meet the graduation standards for that program.
2. *Upgrades:* The following regulations apply to students who are upgrading their B.Sc. to a higher degree in the same or different major but of the same degree type. A student who has a **B.Sc.** Three-year degree must complete a minimum of 30 additional credit units and fulfill all program requirements in order to upgrade to a **B.Sc.** Four-year or Honours degree. Students with a **B.Sc.** Four-year degree may upgrade to a **B.Sc.** Honours degree provided that there are additional Honours requirements remaining and that they successfully complete these requirements. A student who has already completed all program requirements for a **B.Sc.** Honours degree, but did not achieve the C.W.A. graduation standard required for Honours, is not permitted to take or retake courses to upgrade to an Honours degree under this policy.
3. The B.Sc. Three-year degree is not available as a Second Degree to a student who holds a previous B.Sc. degree, or a previous Three-year B.A.

4. After completion of a B.Sc. degree, it is possible to obtain a second Four-year or Honours B.Sc. degree that is in a different major. This is called a "Second B.Sc. Degree". ~~For s~~Students who have completed their previous degree at the University of Saskatchewan, **must complete a minimum of 30 credit units so as to satisfy all the requirements for a different major, and such that the 30 credit units includes a minimum of 12 credit units of relevant courses as approved by the department of the new major.** ~~no minimum number of additional credit units are required for a Second B.Sc., but all program requirements must be satisfied.~~
5. *Residency requirement:* Students transferring from another institution and pursuing a B.Sc. as a second degree must meet the residency requirements of the College of Arts and Science for the B.Sc. Four-year or Honours degree as a first degree program (see [Policies](#) and Regulations, Residency Regulations). Students with a previous degree of another type (i.e., non-B.Sc.) from the University of Saskatchewan are required to complete at least 30 additional Arts & Science credit units not used for any other degree or certificate. These additional Arts & Science credits are required regardless of the number of Arts & Science courses included in the program leading to the first degree. These courses must be allowable for credit in the College of Arts & Science. The completion of a B.Sc. after a degree of another type is called a "B.Sc. as a Second degree".
6. *Date of commencement of a program:* Once a student has received a degree, any subsequent degree or certificate program commences in the first academic session in which study begins for the subsequent degree or certificate alone. Students must complete the program requirements, and meet the graduation standards, which were in place for the academic session in which they began their studies for the additional degree or certificate. If the date of program commencement is more than 10 years ago, students should contact the Undergraduate Office. Normally, such students will be required to meet the current degree requirements.
7. The overall and major Cumulative Weighted Averages (C.W.A.) for Arts & Science graduation are calculated on grades from all U of S courses taken, including any course from another college which credits toward the Arts & Science degree and any Arts & Science course taken while in another college. This means that the average will include any courses which transfer to the College of Arts & Science even if they are extra to the Second Degree program requirements. Under certain restrictions, failures and marks below 60% will be excluded from the average if these courses have been retaken in accordance with the rules of the College. See "Cumulative Weighted Average" in this section of the *Calendar*.

**Additional information about Bachelor of Science degrees:**

### **B.Sc. Program Requirements:**

- **3-Year** - 90 credit units
- **4-Year** - 120 credit units
- **Honours** - 120 credit units - minimum GPA must be attained at time of application and graduation
- **Double Honours** - 120 credit units - taken in combinations of two subjects. In this program at least 36 credit units will normally be taken in each subject. The two departments together may specify up to 84 credit units.
- **Advanced and Honours Certificates** - for students who have already received a B.A. or B.Sc. 4 -Year honours; requires a minimum of 30 additional credit units.

### **B.Sc. Programs (23 in total):**

- Anatomy & Cell Biology
- Biochemistry
- Biochemistry & Biotechnology
- Bioinformatics
- Biology
- Biology & Biotechnology
- Biomolecular Structure Studies
- Cell Biology & Biotechnology
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Environmental Earth Sciences
- Food Science
- Geography
- Geological Sciences
- Geophysics
- Land Use & Environmental Studies
- Mathematical Physics
- Mathematics and Statistics
- Microbiology & Biotechnology
- Microbiology & Immunology
- Palaeobiology
- Physics and Engineering Physics
- Toxicology

**College of Arts & Science  
2007-2008 Winter Session Enrolment by Major**

<b>Major</b>	<b>Count</b>
▪ Anatomy & Cell Biology	96
▪ Biochemistry	192
▪ Biochemistry and Biotechnology	29
▪ Bioinformatics	10
▪ Biology	293
▪ Biology and Biotechnology	11
▪ Biomolecular Structure Studies	7
▪ Cell Biology and Biotechnology	9
▪ Chemistry	103
▪ Computer Science	195
▪ Environmental Earth Sciences	28
▪ Food Science	13
▪ Geography	75
▪ Geology	179
▪ Geophysics	12
▪ Mathematical Physics	1
▪ Mathematics	59
▪ Microbiology	106
▪ Microbiology and Biotechnology	17
▪ Palaeobiology	7
▪ Physics	44
▪ Physiology	162
▪ Statistics	8
▪ Toxicology	83



**B.Sc. Program Graduates**

<b>2007 Spring Convocation</b>		<b>2007 Fall Convocation</b>	
B.Sc. 3-year	76	B.Sc. 3-year	16
B.Sc. 4-year	112	B.Sc. 4-year	27
B.Sc. Honours	122	B.Sc. Honours	14
B.Sc. Advanced Certificate	4	B.Sc. Advanced Certificate	3
B.Sc. Honours Certificate	1	B.Sc. Honours Certificate	1
	315		61
<b>2008 Spring Convocation</b>		<b>2008 Fall Convocation</b>	
B.Sc. 3-year	77	B.Sc. 3-year	25
B.Sc. 4-year	102	B.Sc. 4-year	27
B.Sc. Honours	126	B.Sc. Honours	12
B.Sc. Advanced Certificate	1	B.Sc. Advanced Certificate	0
B.Sc. Honours Certificate	1	B.Sc. Honours Certificate	0
	307		64



**Academic Services and Financial Assistance  
STUDENT AND ENROLMENT SERVICES DIVISION  
E1 Administration Building**

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Grant Cheston  
Department of Computer Science

**FROM:** Kelly McInnes, Registrar and Director of Academic Services and  
Financial Assistance

**DATE:** December 11, 2008

**RE: Proposals for Curriculum Changes:**

- 1. Credit Units for a 4-year or Honours Bachelor of Science when pursued as a second degree**
- 2. Permitting holders of a Bachelor Science to obtain a second Bachelor of Science**

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I have reviewed the two proposals for curriculum change. My understanding is that the Division of Science is proposing the following:

**1. Credit units for a 4-year or Honours Bachelor of Science when pursued as a second degree**

The Division is requesting that the credit units for a 4-year or Honours Bachelor of Science in combination with any degree, except another Bachelor of Science, be reduced from 60 credit units to 30 credit units. The outcome of this change will be a consistent minimum number of credit units that a student who currently holds another Bachelor's degree, other than a B.Sc., must complete in order to obtain a 3-year, 4-year or Honours Bachelor of Science.

During our discussion, we agreed that this was not a new degree as the documents might have suggested. That is, students who meet the requirements will be awarded a Bachelor of Science.

In terms of implementing this change, if approved, I do not foresee any difficulties.

**2. Permitting holders of a Bachelor of Science to obtain a second Bachelor of Science**

The Division is requesting that students who already have a 4-year or Honours Bachelor of Science from the University of Saskatchewan be eligible to be awarded another 4-year

or Honours Bachelor of Science upon completion of a minimum of 30 credit units. The 30 credit units would include a minimum of 12 credit units of relevant courses as approved by the department of the new major. The outcome of this change will be the elimination of the Advanced and Honours Certificates in Science as students who meets the requirements will be awarded a Bachelor of Science.

As with the credit unit change discussions, we agreed that this was not a new degree as the documents might have suggested. That is, students who meet the requirements will be awarded a Bachelor of Science.

In terms of implementing this change, if approved, I do not foresee any difficulties.

Sincerely,

Kelly McInnes

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Kelly McInnes

KM/ja