

# REPORT OF ACADEMIC STANDARDS COMMITTEE

## Report #F2010–2; November 2010

In this report Academic Standards Committee (ASC) brings to Senate its evaluation and recommendation on the following proposals:

- Curriculum changes in the *Bachelor of Arts, Geographic Analysis* program.
- A minor in News Studies from the School of Journalism.
- A minor in *Fashion Studies* from the School of Fashion.

Further documentation on the items addressed in this and all other ASC reports is available for review through the Secretary of Senate.

### 1. Geographic Analysis: Curriculum Changes

The proposed curriculum changes to the *Bachelor of Arts, Geographic Analysis* (GA) are intended to substantially harmonize the GA curriculum with the common first-year platform of the Faculty of Arts. The changes will permit GA to participate in the common platform without undermining its own unique, professionally-focused curriculum. The changes will expose GA students to a multidisciplinary first-year emphasizing development of universal skills and perspectives. It will also facilitate program transfer, recognizing the fact that the entering cohort is young and may benefit from having additional time to decide on its commitment to a particular field of study. There are anticipated benefits for recruitment in this model as well as opening the opportunity for GA to participate in double majors curricula.

A summary of the proposed changes is given below. Appendix 1 provides the complete revised curriculum.

- Y1 of GA maps closely onto the common platform template, except for the substitution of GEO 141 for one of the open Arts/non-Arts first-year electives of the common platform. Note that GEO 141 will be pre-approved as a transfer credit for an open Arts/non-Arts first-year elective in other Arts platform program to facilitate student transfer from GA to other programs.
- Y2 also maps closely to the common platform, except for the replacement of SSH 301 with a GEO course.
- Y3 and Y4 of GA are unchanged and map 1:1 onto the common platform template.
- GEO 27A/B will be semesterized as GEO 527 and GEO 627.
- GEO 643 (Field Methods) and 644 (Spatial Databases) have been added.
- Practicum (GEO 771) will remain in 7<sup>th</sup> semester as is at present.
- GEO 102 (Economic Geography) has been re-numbered and re-titled GEO 530 (Urban Economic Geography).
- Grade 12 English requirement changed from 65% to 70% to harmonize with other programs on the Arts Platform.

## **Recommendation**

Having satisfied itself of the merit of this proposal, ASC recommends:

*That Senate approve the proposed curriculum changes in the Bachelor of Arts, Geographic Analysis Program.*

## **2. News Studies Minor: School of Journalism**

The proposed six-course minor in News Studies will provide students with a critical perspective on the role and context of news media. Students will obtain an understanding of the practice and goals of journalism and a sense of the practice of reporting and multimedia production.

The proposed minor will increase the range of minors available to Ryerson students in at least three different Faculties. The central purpose of the proposed minor is to fill a need for non-journalism program students to better understand news media as a preparation for future scholarship, and/or various careers. The ability to understand and appraise news media intersects with disciplines from the humanities, social sciences, communication and design as well as from the world of business.

A summary of the proposed minor is given below. Appendix 2 provides the complete curriculum.

- One of two foundation course (JRN 120 or NMS 101)
- At least three courses from a second groups of courses dealing with practice/history/theory of journalism/news media
- No more than two courses from a third group of courses which examine specialized reporting areas.

## **Recommendation**

Having satisfied itself of the academic merit of this proposal, ASC recommends:

*That Senate approve the proposed minor in News Studies to be offered by the School of Journalism.*

## **3. Fashion Studies Minor: School of Fashion**

The proposed 6-course minor provides an opportunity for students from the Retail Management program, and other programs in the future, to gain an understanding of the various components of the fashion industry, including history, design and marketing. Students who complete the minor will be able to understand the development, production and marketing of merchandise and the interrelationship of each level of the fashion industry; obtain a broad understanding of historical, social, cultural and ethical issues in contemporary fashion studies; and develop research skills and critical analysis/thinking in relation to material objects and theoretical approaches to dress, fashion and representations.

A summary of the proposed minor is given below. Appendix 3 provides the complete curriculum.

- Four required foundations courses (FSN 101, FSN 121, FSN 123 and FSN 223);
- Selection of two professional elective courses from a list of ten.

## Recommendation

Having satisfied itself of the merit of this proposal, ASC recommends:

*That Senate approve the proposed minor in Fashion Studies to be offered by the School of Fashion.*

Respectfully Submitted,



Chris Evans, Chair for the committee

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### ASC Members:

Keith Alnwick, Registrar  
Diane Schulman, Secretary of Academic Council (non-voting)  
Chris Evans, ASC Vice-Chair, Vice Provost Academic  
Marsha Moshe, Arts  
Andrew Hunter, Philosophy  
Jane Saber, Business Management  
Tim McLaren, Information Technology Management  
Alex Bal, Image Arts  
Gene Allen, Journalism

Pamela Robinson, Urban Planning  
Jacquie Gingras, Nutrition  
Jacob Friedman, Mechanical & Industrial Engineering  
Noel George, Chemistry & Biology  
Cecile Farnum, Library  
Des Glynn, Continuing Education  
Andrew West, Politics & Public Administration  
Jennifer Cartwright, Business Management

# Appendix 1: Geographic Analysis: Revised Curriculum

## Bachelor of Arts GEOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS

### 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> SEMESTER

Revised Program Commencing 2011-2012

#### REQUIRED:

|         |                               |
|---------|-------------------------------|
| GEO 131 | Energy, Earth, and Ecosystems |
| GEO 141 | Geography and GIS             |
| GEO 151 | Location, Location, Location  |
| SSH 105 | Critical Thinking             |
| SSH 205 | Academic Writing and Research |

**REQUIRED-GROUP 1:** Four courses from Table I.

**PROFESSIONALLY-RELATED:** One course from Table III.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> SEMESTER

Revised Program Commencing 2012-2013

#### REQUIRED:

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| GEO 161 | Introductory Analytical Techniques        |
| GEO 241 | Cartographic Principles and Practice      |
| GEO 361 | Inferential Statistics in Problem Solving |
| GEO 441 | Geographic Information Science            |

**PROFESSIONAL:** Three courses from the following.

|         |                                       |
|---------|---------------------------------------|
| GEO 221 | Location Analysis                     |
| GEO 231 | Principles of Demography              |
| GEO 313 | Geography of the Physical Environment |
| GEO 351 | The Internal Structure of the City    |
| GEO 411 | Resource and Environmental Planning   |
| GEO 421 | Retail Economy                        |

**LIBERAL STUDIES:** Two courses from Table A.

**PROFESSIONALLY-RELATED:** One course from Table I, III, or IV.

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**5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> SEMESTER**

**Revised Program Commencing 2013-2014**

**REQUIRED-GROUP 1:** Two courses from the following:

|         |                                     |
|---------|-------------------------------------|
| GEO 521 | Geodemographics                     |
| GEO 541 | GIS Programming                     |
| GEO 542 | Introduction to Remote Sensing      |
| GEO 561 | Multi-variate Analytical Techniques |
| GEO 641 | GIS and Decision Support            |
| GEO 642 | Advanced remote Sensing and GIS     |
| GEO 643 | Field Methods                       |
| GEO 644 | Spatial Databases                   |

**LIBERAL STUDIES:** Two courses from Table B.

**PROFESSIONAL:** Four courses from Table II.

**PROFESSIONALLY-RELATED:** Two courses from Table III, or IV.

**7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> SEMESTER**

**Revised Program Commencing 2014-2015**

**REQUIRED:**

|         |           |
|---------|-----------|
| GEO 771 | Practicum |
|---------|-----------|

**REQUIRED-GROUP 1:** Two of the following:

|         |  |
|---------|--|
| GEO 772 | Individual Research Paper                  |
| GEO 871 | The Professional Geographer                |
| GEO 873 | Geographic Entrepreneurship and Consulting |

**LIBERAL STUDIES:** Two courses from Table B.

**PROFESSIONAL:** Four courses from Table II.

**PROFESSIONALLY-RELATED:** Two courses from Table III, or IV.

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**PROFESSIONAL TABLE I  
Revised Program Commencing 2011-2012**

**A total of four courses are required to graduate, as grouped and noted below.  
No more than two courses may be taken from any one subject area, including  
HST, PHL and GEO subject areas.**

**Minimum of two courses from the following:**

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| ACS 100 | Ideas that Shape the World I              |
| ACS 200 | Ideas that Shape the World II             |
| ENG 108 | The Nature of Narrative I                 |
| ENG 208 | The Nature of Narrative II                |
| FRE *** | A French course                           |
| FRE *** | A French course                           |
| HST VVV | new History course                        |
| HST XXX | new History course                        |
| HST YYY | new History course                        |
| HST ZZZ | new History course                        |
| PHL 101 | Plato and the Roots of Western Philosophy |
| PHL 201 | Problems in Philosophy                    |
| PHL 333 | Philosophy of Human Nature                |
| PHL 366 | Introduction to Existentialism            |

**Minimum of two courses from the following:**

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| CRM 100  | Introduction to Canadian Criminal Justice    |
| CRM 102  | Introduction to Crime and Justice            |
| ECN 104  | Introductory Microeconomics                  |
| ECN 204  | Introductory Macroeconomics                  |
| EUS 102  | <b>NEW</b> Environment and Sustainability    |
| EUS 202  | <b>NEW</b> Sustaining the City's Environment |
| GEO 131* | Energy, Earth, and Ecosystems                |
| GEO 141* | Geography and GIS                            |
| GEO 151* | Location, Location, Location                 |
| POG 100  | People, Power and Politics                   |
| POG 110  | Canadian Politics                            |
| PSY 102  | Introduction to Psychology I                 |
| PSY 202  | Introduction to Psychology II                |
| SOC 105  | Introduction to Sociology                    |
| SOC 107  | Sociology of Everyday Life                   |
| SSH 100  | Introduction to the Social Sciences          |
| SSH 102  | Learning and Development Strategies          |

**\* Required courses GEO 131, GEO 141 and GEO 151 are not available as a choice in Table I.**

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**PROFESSIONAL TABLE II  
Revised Program Commencing 2011-2012**

**Table II**  
**During years 3 and 4, take twelve courses from the following:**

|         |  |
|---------|--|
| GEO 372 | Global Shift in the 21st Century         |
| GEO 431 | Recreation Analysis                      |
| GEO 530 | Urban Economic Geography                 |
| GEO 513 | Physical Geography in Decision Support   |
| GEO 514 | Resource Management in Northern Canada   |
| GEO 527 | Inequalities in Urban Neighbourhoods     |
| GEO 551 | Urbanization and Regional Development    |
| GEO 553 | Studies in Rural Geography               |
| GEO 612 | Environmental Decision Making            |
| GEO 621 | Advanced Retail Analysis and Planning    |
| GEO 631 | Exploration in Travel and Tourism        |
| GEO 637 | Accessibility of Urban Social Services   |
| GEO 645 | Place and Population Health              |
| GEO 652 | Urban Transportation Systems             |
| GEO 671 | Development and Environmental Law        |
| GEO 691 | Canadian Immigration: Patterns and Place |
| GEO 773 | Field Studies                            |

**METHODS (Minimum of two required)**

|         |                                    |
|---------|------------------------------------|
| GEO 521 | Geodemographics                    |
| GEO 541 | GIS Programming                    |
| GEO 542 | Introduction to Remote Sensing     |
| GEO 561 | Multivariate Analytical Techniques |
| GEO 641 | GIS and Decision Support           |
| GEO 642 | Advanced Remote Sensing and GIS    |
| GEO 643 | Field Methods for Geospatial Data  |
| GEO 644 | Spatial Databases                  |

**CAPSTONE (Minimum of two required)\***

|         |  |
|---------|--|
| GEO 772 | Individual Research Paper                  |
| GEO 871 | The Professional Geographer                |
| GEO 873 | Geographic Entrepreneurship and Consulting |

\* Students are advised to take these courses in their 7<sup>th</sup> and/or 8<sup>th</sup> semester.

## Appendix 2: Minor in News Studies

The following courses offered by the School of Journalism will be included in the Minor. To graduate with the Minor, students will be required to have six of the courses listed below, which must include:

### Required (Select one):

JRN 120      The Culture of News OR  
NNS 101      Introduction to News (new course)

*NOTE: Students cannot receive credit for both JRN 120 and NNS 101.*

### Select a minimum of three courses:

JRN 121      Introduction to Reporting  
JRN 123      Ethics and Law in the Practice of Journalism  
JRN 400      Critical Issues in Journalism  
JRN 401      History of Journalism  
JRN 402      Theory in Journalism and Mass Communications  
JRN 403      Journalism and Ideas  
JRN 404      Journalism's Best  
JRN 405      Special Topics in Journalism Theory  
JRN 412      Documentary Survey  
NNS 102      Understanding Multimedia Journalism (new course)  
NNS 103      Basics of Photojournalism (new course)  
PHL 800      Media Ethics and the Law

*NOTE: JRN 123 and PHL 800 are antirequisites.*

Select a maximum of two courses (*Departmental consent is required for enrolment into these courses*):

JRN 500              Journalism & the Arts\*  
NNS 502 (JRN 502) Journalism & the World of Business\*\*\*  
JRN 504              Fashion Journalism\*  
JRN 505              Health & Science Journalism\*  
JRN 506              International Journalism\*\*\*\*  
NNS 507 (JRN 507) Journalism: Justice & the Courts\*\*\*  
JRN 508              Literary Journalism\*\*\*\*  
JRN 509              Journalism & the Political Arena\*\*  
NNS 510 (JRN 510) Reporting Religion\*\*\*  
JRN 512              Reporting Sports\*

\* Lecture: 3 hrs. Journalism and news-studies students in separate sections, evaluated differently.

\*\* Lecture: 2 hrs, Lab: 1 hr. Journalism and news-studies students in separate labs, evaluated differently.

\*\*\* Lecture: 3 hrs. Cross-listed. Journalism and news-studies students evaluated differently.

\*\*\*\* Lecture: 3 hrs. No differentiation among students.



*NOTE: Where journalism and news-studies students are treated differently for projects, evaluation and/or assignment to labs or sections, the differences will be clearly explained in course outlines.*

## **NOTES**

- JRN 121 will continue to prerequire JRN 120.
- Current prerequisites for listed JRN courses will be adjusted to allow enrolment of students in the Minor.
- The Minor is not available to students in the Bachelor of Journalism program.

## **Appendix 3: Minor in Fashion Studies**

**The following courses offered by the School of Fashion will be included in the Minor:**

### **Required (4 courses):**

FSN 101 Textiles I  
FSN 121 Fundamentals of Design & Colour I  
FSN 123 Introduction to Fashion I: The Industry  
FSN 223 Introduction to Fashion II: Concepts & Theory

### **Professional Electives (select 2 courses):**

FFC 521 Fashion Promo I  
FFC 621 Fashion Promo II  
FSN 221 Fundamentals of Design & Colour II  
FSN 302 History of Costume I  
FSN 400 Fashion in International Markets  
FSN 503 Design, Text and Ideas  
FSN 504 Fashion Culture – from Suffragettes to CEOs  
FSN 509 Topics in Fashion History  
FSN 510 Symbiosis & Evolution  
FSN 555 History of Fashion Illustration