

BC History Articulation Committee

MINUTES

British Columbia Council on Admissions and Transfers (BCCAT)

College of the Rockies, Cranbrook, BC

Meeting date: 7 May 2018

Present:

Anjali Malhotra	Alexander College	anjmalhotra09@gmail.com
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Timothy Lewis	Vancouver Island University	timothy.lewis@viu.ca

Guests:

Chris Moon	BC Social Studies Teachers Assoc.	christopher.c.moon@gmail.com
Alisa Webb	System Liaison	alisa.webb@ufv.ca

Recorder: Gail Edwards, Douglas College

Welcome from David Walls, President and CEO, College of the Rockies.

Welcome from Tina Block, Chair of the BC History Articulation Committee.

Meeting called to order: 9:00 a.m.

Agenda

Amendments: None

Motion to approve: Niall Christie (Langara); seconded Ted Binnema (UNBC).

Minutes of the 2017 HAC meeting, Vancouver Island University

Amendments: None

Motion to approve: Nicolas Kenny (SFU); seconded Adrianna Bakos (UFV).

Outstanding Articulation Requests

A list of pending articulation requests was circulated, with the request that members follow up with their institutions.

Institutional Reports

Alexander College

Enrolment: Steady student enrolment numbers in History

Faculty: Two faculty; offering courses in Canada, Modern Europe; South Asia.

Department and Institution: Challenges include the diversity of the international student population, who come from different learning environments, and the number of students per class

Athabasca University

Enrolment: Online distance education, open enrolment

Faculty: 4 FT in History, 2 PT, and 17 tutors; two retirements, 2 new hires

Department and Institution: Institutional changes: third party review of sustainability of AU
New president, moving to implement recommended changes; new VP Academic and Provost.
Two 4 year programs in HSS closed: General Arts, Canadian Studies (as well as 7 other programs closed in other areas). History concentration unaffected by closures.
Issues of academic misconduct – particularly plagiarism; introducing new modules to address problem: library and research skills, citation and referencing; and avoiding plagiarism

Camosun College

Enrolment: Student enrolment numbers for S18 are strong

Faculty: The History department is at the end of a transitional period - 5 FT retirements in the last five years. Current faculty levels: 3 FT, 2 term instructors; not yet known whether the most recent FT retirement will be replaced; 1 continuing sessional faculty, may be able to apply for regularization

New Dean of Arts and Sciences

New and revised courses: Crime and Punishment in Canada

Department and Institution: Dual credit program with local school district allows high school students to get some exposure to college credit.

Camosun involved in process of consultation about Indiginization

Discussion of a satellite campus in Langford

Cost of housing in the Victoria area an issue for the College

College of the Rockies

Faculty: Marcel Dirk is currently FT

New and revised courses: History of the Environment

Department and Institution: History courses are taken by students in the University of Victoria's five-year program in elementary teacher education; students exploring History and Political Science as disciplines; students in dual admission programs in partnership with the University of Victoria and with the University of Lethbridge.

Issue of articulation and transferability when courses are redesigned and no longer fit within existing articulation agreements

Corpus Christi College

Enrolment: Highest number of student enrolments, College now has 300 students overall; 60% transfer to UBC

New and revised courses: History of Racism in North America; Indigenous Peoples in Colonial North America and Indigenous Peoples in 20th century North America in development

Department and Institution: Courses offered in Medieval, European and Canadian history; history courses attract students who want to be teachers in the BC school system; in future 6 courses per year will be offered

Douglas College

Enrolment: Student enrolment numbers are strong; steady growth

New and revised courses: HIST 2206, History of the British Isles; 3rd year WWI course in development

Department and Institution: New campus at the Anvil Centre in New Westminster announced – will take some pressure off classroom space.

Project to create guidelines on scaffolded learning outcomes and assessment and the sequential development of skill sets in History completed

History faculty participating in two field schools for S18: Scotland; Greece (a joint program with SFU)

Indigenization projects at the College.

Kwantlen Polytechnic University

Enrolment: Student enrolment numbers are up, especially in Canadian history; S18 enrolments strong; significant increase in international students; to deal with waitlists, the cap on enrolments in the collective agreement was increased without increased compensation for faculty. Faculty Association grieved the decision, but in the meantime, faculty are teaching larger classes

Faculty: Eryk Martin has had an increase in workload to 75%, recently named an Associate of the Wilson Institute for Canadian History at McMaster University.

Tom Thorner is the incoming Chair of the department; Tracey Kinney on Education Leave

New and revised courses: Animals in History; Race and Ethnicity courses in African and Balkans history discontinued; Curriculum changes – 1st year continuing shift to thematic courses.

Department and Institution: Undergraduate History journal a success

KPU developing open access educational resources

Gr. 12 students taking KPU courses through dual credit program

Langara College

Enrolment: Soft domestic student enrolment numbers; growth in international enrolment numbers

Offered possibility of international-only sections, but no faculty available to teach additional sections

Faculty: 5.5 regular faculty and .5 sessional. One planned retirement, will be hiring in modern history

New and revised courses: New special topics course

Department and Institution: Increase in academic misconduct cases, particularly issues of plagiarism and students attempting to negotiate for better grades

Undergraduate student journal - *HiPo: The Langara Student Journal of History and Political Science*

Public lecture series at Dunbar Community Centre and Brock House in Vancouver has been popular

Northern Lights College

Enrolment: Student enrolment numbers in History are low but stable

Faculty: Rob Roy Douglas, new .75 faculty appointment

Department and Institution: Courses for international students – English, and (potentially) Political Science, First Nations Studies and History

NLC grading scale revised to match the grading scale at the University of Victoria

Working on changes to the course outline process, which involves approval by Education Council for all changes to the syllabus made by individual instructors

Increased enrolments in the local school system. As a result, there is an increased demand for teachers, which is driving enrolment in teacher education

Student essay competition, with winning essays published in the student journal

Indigenization projects at the College

Okanagan College

Enrolment: Student enrolment numbers are strong at the Kelowna campus, lighter at the other campuses

New and revised courses: History of Warfare and Terrorism since 1945, still has outstanding articulation requests

Department and Institution: New Associate of Arts: Studies in Resistance and Revolution, beginning F19

Attempts to encourage retention underway

Selkirk College

Enrolment: Student enrolment numbers are stable; domestic enrolments are down, with international enrolments making up the difference

Faculty: Duff Sutherland, 1 FTE, teaches 10 sections over two terms; Takaia Larsen now coordinator University Arts and Sciences

Department and Institution: Selkirk offers as well as AA in History; Diploma in Liberal Arts; and two rural professional programs – rural pre-med and pre-law. Legal history part of the pre-law program.

Enrolment in Canadian history courses is up because of demand for K-12 teachers

For the most part, international students are not intending to transfer to research universities to complete a degree.

Simon Fraser University

Enrolment: Student enrolment numbers are stable

Faculty: Faculty numbers are stable; hiring discussions tied to student enrolment numbers

New and revised courses: HIST 200 – research and digital humanities; s

Department and Institution: Changes planned to third year prerequisite

Lower-division initiatives include a team-taught course in the History of Capitalism; promotion in the classroom of course offerings for the following term; high school recruitment event with mini-lectures and a tour of the campus; remedial help for students who are struggling; additional TAs; open topics 100-level course

Joint major with First Nations Studies

Public history lecture series

Thompson Rivers University

Enrolment: Slight increase in student enrolment numbers

New and revised courses: No new courses, but 1st year and 4th year special topics courses.

Example: 4th year Reacting to the Past, focusing on historical role playing games.

Department and Institution: New Dean starts in July, new President in December

Active undergraduate History Club, Philosophy, History and Politics Undergraduate Conference, TRU Undergraduate Research Journal

Thompson Rivers University Open Learning Division

Canadian History Open Textbooks, developed by John Belshaw

New upper level courses in development

An Open Learning TRU History major in development

Trinity Western University

Enrolment: University enrolment strong overall, but History student enrolment numbers, especially upper level registrations are softer

New and revised courses: Revised course in History and the Environment, a partnership of the History and Geography and the Environment departments.

Department and Institution: The new Liberal Arts core curriculum no longer has a requirement of one History course. Instead, students have a range of options.

University of British Columbia (Okanagan)

Enrolments: Continued multi-year decline in enrolments now flattened out

Faculty: Faculty are in transition with retirements, and a new appointment to History, but 75% release as Chair; plan for new job search in coming weeks; more retirements to come, and issue of replacement hire.

New and revised courses: Rethinking and reworking course description; retiring courses

Department and Institution: Department instituted self-study in preparation for external review.

Redesigning the BA degree, shared between Arts and Sciences and Faculty of Creative Studies, so complex process, but within three years, there will be a redesigned undergraduate program

UBC(O) offers interdisciplinary graduate programs with a concentration in History, but limited participation in thematic MA degrees

University of British Columbia (Vancouver)

Enrolment:

Enrolment: Challenges over the last five years – 20% decline; now showing signs of improvement

Faculty: Lots of changes with retirements; more to come. 3 searches – for Middle East, History of Capitalism, 20th century Canada; Chinese History upcoming

Eagle Glassheim new Department Chair.

New and revised courses: History of Medicine; History of Capitalism

Department and Institution: New initiatives: publicizing courses, especially new courses, via posters, email to students, etc.

Department website is being revamped to increase visual appeal

Faculty-led student projects in collaboration with other Vancouver institutions, with funding from outside agencies

University of Northern British Columbia

Enrolment: Student enrolment numbers are flat, similar to last year. Numbers at UNBC overall are down.

Faculty: No new faculty hires are anticipated.

Department and Institution: The undergraduate History society is thriving; organized a conference in Spring 2018.

University of the Fraser Valley

Enrolment: Student enrolment numbers are slowly improving; S17 enrolments were soft; S18 offering more courses

Faculty: Faculty shrinking with retirements (1 S17, 1 S18), question of succession planning for retirements over the next five years

Department and Institution: Honours program – three students graduated this year, 1 declared for next year

Website introducing the possibility of planned offerings over the next two years; adding courses in the summer term to facilitate timely completion of degrees

“History Matters” Pro-D event being planned for May 2019 for teachers in the BC school system

University of Victoria

Enrolment: Student enrolment numbers are flat. The cost of housing in Victoria may be an issue.

Faculty: 28 faculty – a reduction.

Department and Institution: The department is discussing strategies for upper level enrolment. The M.A. program is steady, with approximately 15 students per year, including the public history option. The Ph.D. program is struggling.

The undergraduate History society is active.

There are a number of Indigenization projects across the university, and a focus on Truth and Reconciliation.

The department is concerned about changes to new BC school system's Social Studies curriculum.

Vancouver Island University

Enrolment: Student enrolment numbers are up; a 10.7% increase.

Faculty: Cheryl Krasnick Warsh was elected as the university's first Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, and was inducted in November 2017 in Winnipeg – recognized for her contributions to Canadian healthcare history.

Cathryn Spence is the winner of the Women's History Network (UK) Book Prize for 2017 for her first monograph.

New and revised courses: Moving some courses to the first year level and expanding online courses.

Department and Institution: An honours program in History will begin in September VIU is the new educational home of the journal *Gender and History*

Canadian Letters and Images Project continues to grow.

The History department will be conducting a program review

BC Social Studies Teachers Association

New curriculum changes going through review

Old curriculum: Socials 10, Socials 11; Civics 11; First nations at Grade 12

Socials 11 is gone, now at Gr. 10 level; former Gr. 10 curriculum rolled into Gr. 9.

Historical thinking emphasis, skills driven, not content based and teacher driven

Gr. 11 Explorations in in Social Studies (4 credit)

Gr. 12 – 15 course options replacing the old 8 options

Questions about continuity; availability of qualified teachers for some courses

Sept 2019 rollout – testing this year

BCTF specialists have raised concerns about the rushed process

concerns that enrolment in History 12 will decline - a joint study is planned with SFU; Chris will report back on results of study

Query about how postsecondary History departments are reaching out to HS students

Possibility of Pro-D opportunities on Historical Thinking

History promotional materials to counter emphasis on STEM

System Liaison Person

Alisa Webb (SLP) spoke to her pre-circulated report on the Joint Articulation Meeting, 2017. The meeting addressed issues related to articulation meetings and communication between articulation meetings; support for smaller institutions regarding policies and procedures; and discussed Indigenization initiatives, including pedagogies and ways of knowing; BC Campus open learning resources on Indigenization; and decolonization and Indigenization.

Northwest Community College – now Coast Mountain College

A report was received from Hondo Arendt

The College is offering more courses in sciences, fewer courses in arts

Hondo has been laid off, and there is no regular History instructor on faculty

2018-2019 schedule: one History course offered in Terrace, two in Prince Rupert

Motion: Moved by Niall Christie (Langara) and seconded by Tracey Kinney (Kwantlen) that a letter of support for the restoration of History as part of the regularly scheduled course offerings at Northwest Community College/Coast Mountain College, and the recall of Hondo Arendt.

Carried

Discussion arising from the Institution Reports

The new Social Studies curriculum

The meeting discussed strategies for strengthening the links between the BC school system and postsecondary institutions, creating new opportunities for outreach to social studies teachers in the school system, and introducing students in the school system to History as a discipline

BC Social Studies Teachers Association:

- Consolidate list of initiatives that institutions are taking to reach out to secondary students
- Opportunities for offering Professional development workshops/programs for social studies teachers
- Opportunities to promote History within the new Social Studies curriculum

Ideas and strategies at HAC member institutions included:

- Transitions that secondary students need to make to be successful as college students; transitions for students hoping to be teachers
- inviting speakers from the BC school system to discuss issues related to the new curriculum with faculty
- demonstration/sample lectures in History for visiting secondary students touring postsecondary campuses; faculty offering guest lectures in social studies classrooms
- guest lectures in teacher education programs
- “high school on campus” initiatives – and dual credit programs
- outreach to parents
- history fairs for secondary students hosted by postsecondary institutions
- local competitions for scholarships to the institution for the highest achievement in a scholarship exam for History 12 students
- developing guides to resources (e.g. primary documents) for social studies teachers in support of the new curriculum
- digital humanities initiatives

Marcel Dirk acknowledged that the meeting was taking place on the traditional and unceded territory of the Ktunaxa and Kinbasket peoples.

New Business

1. BCCAT-Funded Research Project: Issues and Challenges in Interdisciplinary Transfer

BCCAT has commissioned a research study, led by Dr. Michelle Rhodes of University of the Fraser Valley, to identify the challenges to articulation and transfer for interdisciplinary curriculum. A survey has been developed to collect data about how interdisciplinary transfer requests are evaluated and managed within individual institutions. The following articulation committees have been invited to participate in the study via an online survey: Asian Studies; Gender Studies; Global or International Studies; Environmental Studies; Hospitality and Tourism; Indigenous Studies; Peace Studies.

2. Learning Outcomes for History Course Outlines

College of the Rockies raised the question of the standardization of learning outcomes in History course outlines, and the adjudication of curriculum by the relevant curriculum committee within an institution.

Discussion summary:

Institutions have different approaches to learning outcomes in official History course outlines/ curriculum guidelines, and in requirements for individual faculty syllabi including:

- Standardization of learning outcomes by level of course
- Common learning outcomes across all courses in History
- Standardized models/templates for course outlines within a department (or Faculty)
- Institution-wide core learning outcomes
- Weighting assignments/assessments based on learning outcomes
- Integrating measurable learning outcomes and assessment
- Attaching rubrics to measurable core competencies

3. IELTS Scores and Outcomes for International Students

Kwantlen Polytechnic University raised the question of whether a minimum score of 6.5 on the International English Language Testing System (IELTS), the international standardized test of English language proficiency for non-native English language speakers, is sufficient for student success in courses in History.

Discussion summary:

- Most institutions require international students to achieve a minimum IELTS score of 6.5 with no band of the test below 6.0
- Some require that new international students take an English course at the start of their studies
- Institutional discussions about standards and student success

4. Essay Paraphrasing Tool

Northern Lights College raised the question of online software that generates a paraphrase of a passage of prose. Students who are required to submit assignments through a plagiarism software tool like Turnitin will try to use an online paraphrasing tool to “cheat” the plagiarism detection.

Discussion summary:

- Students not understanding the idea of citing paraphrased material
- Instructors may require students to discuss their work in depth during an office visit
- Issue of double translation – English to a second language and back to English in order to avoid detection of copied material by plagiarism software
- Students required to pass an online quiz on academic honesty, including acceptable use of paraphrasing
- Students face conflicting demands, have time management issues, pressures from families to succeed, don’t understand the seriousness of academic misconduct
- Athabasca University has completed a report on academic misconduct. Jill Hunter will distribute to HAC via email

5. Titling of History Courses

College of the Rockies raised the question of the titling of History courses

Discussion summary:

- Some institutions have retitled courses to stimulate student interest
- Course titles as a marketing tool
- Complaints from students that titles of courses are misleading and do not reflect the course content

Election of new Chair for 2018-19:

Gail Edwards (Douglas College)

Election of new Secretary for 2018-19:

Tracey Kinney (KPU)

2018 Meeting

**Location: Thompson Rivers University, May 6, 2019 (tentative date)
to coincide with BC Studies, May 2-4, 2018**

Thank you to Marcel Dirk and College of the Rockies for hosting the meeting.

Thank you to Tina Block for chairing the meeting.

Meeting adjourned: 2:15 by mutual consent.