

Sociology BCCAT Articulation Committee

2022 May 13, 9-11am Online Meeting

DRAFT Minutes

1. Welcome
2. Territorial & communities acknowledgements
3. Zoom Housekeeping
4. Adoption of the agenda
 - Motion to accept the agenda
 - 1st: Bruce Ravelli; 2nd: Samantha May; passed

5. Reports of External Reps: Fiona McQuarrie, BCCAT

- New publication on micro-credentials at BCCAT
- New publication on COVID-19 and transfer activity in BC at BCCAT – conclusion: too soon to tell!
- Joint Annual Meeting of BCCAT held every year; last year, online, was hugely well attended (400 people plus). Next meeting will be November 3-4, jointly in person and online
- BC Transfer Guide website received a big facelift over the last year – new search terms!
- New software at BCCAT website for doing articulations; nice new thing is the introduction of automatic email reminders
- Staff update: Dr. Robert Adamoski has retired and Dr. Anna Tikina has moved into his position
- Reverse Transfer (report in progress): this allows students to leave an institution (often a community college) and then return to complete the diploma without necessarily taking any more courses, for example an Associate Degree
- Cost of attending articulation meetings: Many articulation committees are including a virtual dimension. BCCAT is wondering about funding the cost of travel, especially for tight institutional budgets. Remember that BCCAT provides base funding to every publicly funded institution to facilitate travel to articulation meetings, so don't let your institution stop you from attending! Please let BCCAT know if your institution says, 'no' to travel.
- New project: BCCAT is writing a position paper to develop a policy on criteria for course inclusion in the Transfer Guide. The issue is which courses should be included in the course-to-course section of BCCAT; traditionally, courses must be university-level courses, but things have changed (we now have 5 different kinds of institutions that can grant degrees). Surveys of key players did not suggest that current definitions are problematic. One conclusion is that "university-level" be replaced by "postsecondary-level".
- BCCAT spring report: <https://www.bccat.ca/pubs/Resources/ACUpdate202204.pdf>

Comments and questions for Fiona

- Samantha May: What happens when another institution ends an articulation agreement (unexpectedly)?
- Germaine McKenzie: Where can I find these videos from BCCAT?
 - Answer: <https://www.bccat.ca/articulation/jam>

- Gerry Veenstra: How do I know that I've done everything I should have done in regards to articulation?
 - Answer: Check with your institutional Transfer Credit Contact (usually in Registrar's Office) has access to a new dashboard that shows transfer request status
- Jerry Hinbest: I would love to know more about this issue of micro-credentials; what's it all about, how's it defined, anyway?
 - Answer: See report; no standard definition, yet but short, less than three credits; BCCAT examining how they would transfer.

6. Motion to approve the Fall 2021 Minutes (see Joint Committee, F21 tab)

1st: Amanda Watson; 2nd: Kathy Fitzpatrick

Passed with no objections

Abstentions (not present at the meeting): Bruce Ravelli, Joey Moore, Veronica Alfaro, Michael Wilkinson, Janet Mayr

7. Chair's Report

- Collaborating with Lisa Cooke, new Anthropology Chair, on our new relationship (e.g. how we share the Moodle site especially communication options, and achieving efficiencies in the administrative work)
- Watching 2021 JAM sessions on YouTube (still available <https://www.bccat.ca/articulation/jam>); the event conflicted with my teaching schedule
- We don't have any incomplete articulation requests
- In response to a BCCAT survey on this issue was that one in-person meeting (in the spring) and one Zoom meeting (Fall) per year makes the most sense. We are a new committee, as Sociology alone, so let's continue to discuss what works best for us.

8. Institutional Reports

- See the discussion forum under S22 Articulation Meeting to read all the reports
- Gerry Veenstra (UBC-V) – New faculty; 'rivulets' are a new non-credential mechanism being introduced to highlight sets of course offerings, increase student connections, and faculty connections. The 'rivulets' are in health, gender and sexuality, work, family and environment and community.
- Bruce Ravelli (UVic) – UVic has a similar informal, non-credential set of 'clusters.' Things have been working smoothly with respect to articulation this past year with fewer requests (previously around 650/year!); UVIC now requires that majors complete two fourth-year seminar courses (capped at 20 students) of nine selected topic areas. Seats are prioritized for 4th year majors, then opened up to other students; students cannot approach instructors with requests to join these courses. The idea is "happy faculty = happy students" when workload is reasonable.
- Amanda Watson (SFU): New courses now in place; pilot project on BA to MA Accelerated Program will be in it's last term in F22; changing Honours requirements to facilitate this; fall course is "project mapping seminar"; but the courses are small

and potentially on the chopping block; SFU is adding “blended” or “hybrid” courses to the curriculum in a kind of permanent sense (e.g., 25% online and 75% in person).

- Germain McKenzie: Practical question about experiential learning – how exactly does one articulate such a course to another?

Other questions

- Priscillia Lefebvre (OK): Are students from some colleges disadvantaged relative to others because of grade inflation at these places?
 - General answer: Admission issue, not a transfer issue (unless a transfer agreement specifies achievement of a certain grade for transfer). Articulation of course information does not include final grade.
- Samantha May (AC): How useful and important are the soft skills (presenting, speaking, communicating, etc.) for succeeding at the receiving universities?
 - General answer: Very important. SFU is also encouraging different types of writing.

9. Administrative Business

1. The issue of unofficial course equivalencies hasn't taken off! What shall we do next?
Answer: Keep this available for now & revisit this question at the next meeting
2. Is everyone OK with sharing the site with Anthropology? Answer: Yes
3. Is everyone OK with sending emails around to everyone all the time? Answer: Yes
 - If you want to send a message to everyone in the Moodle shell (sociologists and anthropologists), in the same fashion as the old list-serve, use the new discussion forum on the HOME tab:
 - “SOCI-ANTH community ‘list-serve’ for “Forced Subscription” so everyone will receive your post”
 - All participants in our shell will automatically receive an email notification showing your post.
4. For ‘just us’ sociologists, use the discussion forum under Sociology Issues; note, a change post-meeting: I am changing this to “auto subscription” so everyone (Anth too) will receive it initially and can “unsubscribe” to opt-out. Ideally, sociologists continue to receive these posts and anthropologists unsubscribe.
5. For BCCAT announcements, please:
 - Subscribe to the monthly newsletter: <https://www.bccat.ca/about/engage>
 - See Announcements on the Moodle landing page (right column)
6. Fall 2022 meeting: Online, in the first week after courses end, between Tuesday, December 6th and Friday, December 9th; block 4 hours on zoom so we have more time for institutional reports.

- Revisit our brief discussion about an in-person/blended vs. fully online meeting for the spring 2023 meeting. Mixed positions taken, including, among others: expediency of online; benefits of in-person (e.g. building stronger relationships across institutions); desire for a meaningful, larger purpose to the meeting if in-person (e.g. an explicit session on skills sociology students need for success in 300 and 400-level courses)

Motion to adjourn

1st Bruce Ravelli; 2nd Joey Moore; passed.

S22 Sociology Attendance

No one sent regrets

19 = 18 Committee Representatives and 1 BCCAT representative

NAME	INSTITUTION	Present/Sent Regrets
Lindsey McKay	TRU	Y
Bruce Ravelli	UVic	Y
Michael Wilkinson	TWU	Y
Samantha May	Alexander College	Y
Jerry Hinbest	VIU	Y
Daniel Kae	Lasalle College Vancouver	Y
Graham Cook	Capilano University	Y
Amanda Watson	SFU	Y
Erica Franken	Yorkville University	Y
Gerry Veenstra	UBC-V	Y
Vance Mattson	COTR	Y
Veronica Alfaro	Columbia College	Y
Germain McKenzie	Corpus Christi College	Y
Joey Moore	Douglas College (SOC1)	Y
Jaime Yard	Douglas College (ANTH)	Y
Kathy Fitzpatrick	Coquitlam College	Y

Fiona McQuarrie	BCCAT	Y
Janet Mayr	Selkirk College	Y
Priscillia Lefebvre	Okanagan College	Y