



The following Motions and Documents were considered by the GFC Academic Planning Committee at its Wednesday, September 09, 2015 meeting:

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Agenda Title: **Proposal for new programs in BA Honors Human Geography and BA Combined Honors Human Geography**

CARRIED MOTION: THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the proposed Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Honors Human Geography and Combined Honors Human Geography degree programs, as submitted by the Faculty of Arts and as set forth in Attachment 1, to take effect September 2016.

Final Item: 5

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**OUTLINE OF ISSUE**

Agenda Title: **Proposal for a New Program in Honors & Combined Honors Human Geography, Faculty of Arts**

**Motion:** THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve, under delegated authority from the General Faculties Council, the proposed programs in Honors and Combined Honors in Human Geography as submitted by the Faculty of Arts and as set forth in Attachment 1, for implementation in Fall 2016.

**Item**

Action Requested	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approval <input type="checkbox"/> Recommendation <input type="checkbox"/> Discussion/Advice <input type="checkbox"/> Information
Proposed by	Dr Robert Summers, Department of Earth & Atmospheric Sciences
Presenter	Rebecca Nagel, Associate Dean, Faculty of Arts Robert Summers, Department of Earth & Atmospheric Sciences
Subject	Creation of a new Bachelor of Arts program: Honors & Combined Honors Human Geography

**Details**

Responsibility	Provost and Vice-President (Academic)
The Purpose of the Proposal is (please be specific)	To approve the proposed new programs: BA Honors Human Geography and BA Combined Honors Human Geography
The Impact of the Proposal is	To provide students in Human Geography the option to complete a more demanding Honors program. Currently, students may take a major or minor in Human Geography.
Replaces/Revises (eg, policies, resolutions)	This new program option does not replace an existing program, rather it enhances the offerings of the Department. It should be noted that an Honors program in Geography existed until 1996. At that time, several Departments in the Faculty of Science merged, including the Department of Geography, and some programs were cut, including the Honors Geography program.  Over the last few years, student interest in Human Geography has increased, and the faculty complement has been renewed. The Department is now in a position to “revive” the Honors program that was discontinued 20 years ago.
Timeline/Implementation Date	First intake planned for Fall term 2016.
Estimated Cost	Limited additional cost is anticipated. Faculty members will take on some additional responsibility to advise the Honors students and to teach the Honors seminar (proposed new course HGP 496).  Administrative time of the Department and Arts Undergraduate Student Services Office advisors will be required, but is anticipated to be minimal. Initially, administrative time of the Office of the Registrar will also be required to adjust the on line application, set up new codes in Campus Solutions and so on.
Sources of Funding	Current Department and Faculty funding.
Notes	

**Alignment/Compliance**

Alignment with Guiding Documents	<i>Dare to Discover</i> : “CREATE an exception and life-changing university experience for students through curricular and extracurricular offerings that integrate learning, discovery, and citizenship to develop the intellect
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Item No. 5

	<p>and the imagination, educate leaders, and enhance a global perspective.”</p> <p>University of Alberta Comprehensive Institutional Plan (CIP): “The U of A aims to provide enriched and transformative student experiences, resulting in graduates who are engaged citizens prepared to contribute to the social and economic well-being of the province, the nation, and the world. Access to programs at the U of A is adjusted in response to student demand, workforce needs, and new fiscal resources or constraints.”</p>
<p>Compliance with Legislation, Policy and/or Procedure Relevant to the Proposal (please <u>quote</u> legislation and include identifying section numbers)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Post-Secondary Learning Act (PSLA):</b> The <i>PSLA</i> gives GFC responsibility, subject to the authority of the Board of Governors, over academic affairs (Section 26(1)). Further, the <i>PSLA</i> gives the Board of Governors authority over certain admission requirements and rules respecting enrolment (Section 60(1)(c) and (d)). The Board has delegated its authority over admissions requirements and rules respecting enrolment to GFC. GFC has thus established an Academic Standards Committee (ASC).</li> <li>2. <b>PSLA:</b> GFC may make recommendations to the Board of Governors on a number of matters including the budget and academic planning (Section 26(1)(o)). GFC delegates its power to recommend to the Board on the budget and on new or revised academic programs to the GFC Academic Planning Committee (APC).</li> <li>3. <b>PSLA:</b> The <i>PSLA</i> gives Faculty Councils power to “provide for the admission of students to the faculty” (29(1)(c)).</li> <li>4. <b>PSLA:</b> The <i>PSLA</i> gives Faculty Councils the authority to “determine the programs of study for which the faculty is established” (Section 29(1)(a)); to “provide for the admission of students to the faculty” (Section 29(1)(c)); and to “determine the conditions under which a student must withdraw from or may continue the student’s program of studies in a faculty” (Section 29(1)(d)).</li> <li>5. <b>UAPPOL Admissions Policy:</b> “Admission to the University of Alberta is based on documented academic criteria established by individual Faculties and approved by GFC. This criteria may be defined in areas such as subject requirements, minimum entrance averages, and language proficiency requirements. In addition to academic requirements for admission, GFC authorizes each Faculty to establish such other reasonable criteria for admission of applicants as the Faculty may consider appropriate to its programs of study, subject to the approval of GFC (e.g. interview, audition, portfolio, etc.)</li> </ol> <p>The admission requirements for any Faculty will be those approved by GFC as set forth in the current edition of the <i>University Calendar</i>. In addition to the admission requirements, selection criteria for quota programs, where they exist, will also be published in the current edition of the <i>University Calendar</i>.</p> <p>The responsibility for admission decisions will be vested in the Faculty</p>

Admission Committees or in the Deans of the respective Faculties, as the councils of such Faculties will determine.”

**6. UAPPOL Admissions Procedure:  
“PROCEDURE**

**1. EFFECTIVE DATE OF CHANGES TO ADMISSION REGULATIONS**

Following approval by GFC:

a. Where changes to admission regulations may disadvantage students in the current admission cycle, normally implementation will be effective after the change has been published in the *University Calendar* for one full year (i.e., effective the second year that the information is published in the *University Calendar*). [...]

b. Where changes to admission regulations are deemed by the approving body to be “advantageous to students”, normally the date of implementation will be effective immediately or at the next available intake for the admitting Faculty.”

**7. UAPPOL Academic Standing Policy:** “All current academic standing regulations, including academic standing categories, University graduating standards and requirements for all individual programs will be those prescribed by Faculty Councils and GFC as set forth in the *University Calendar*.”

**8. UAPPOL Academic Standing Regulations Procedures:** “All proposed new academic standing regulations and changes to existing academic standing regulations will be submitted by the Faculties or the Administration to the Provost and Vice-President (Academic). Faculties will also submit to the Provost and Vice-President (Academic) any proposed changes to the use and/or computation of averages relating to academic standing, including promotion and graduation.

If the Provost and Vice-President (Academic) determines the proposal to be in good order, the proposal will be introduced to the appropriate University governance process(es). In considering these proposals, governance bodies will consult as necessary with the Faculties and with other individuals and offices.

Normally, changes become effective once they are approved by GFC or its delegate and are published in the *University Calendar*.”

**9. GFC Academic Standards Committee (ASC) Terms of Reference (Mandate):** The Office of the Provost and Vice-President (Academic) has determined that the proposed changes are substantial in nature. ASC’s terms of reference provide that “the term ‘substantial’ refers to proposals which involve or affect more than one Faculty or unit; are part of a proposal for a new program; are likely to have a financial impact; represent a definite departure from current policy; involve a quota; articulate a new academic concept” (3.A.ii).

Further, “ASC provides advice or recommends to the GFC Academic

Item No. 5

	<p>Planning Committee (APC) on proposals which involve substantial change to admission/transfer regulations or academic standing." (3.B.iv)</p> <p><b>10. GFC Academic Planning Committee (APC) Terms of Reference (Mandate):</b> GFC delegated the following to GFC APC, the Provost and Vice-President (Academic) and the Dean of FGSR:</p> <p><b>"Existing Undergraduate and Graduate Programs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Extension and/or Substantive Revision of Existing Programs</li> <li>- Revisions to or Extension of Existing Degree Designations</li> </ul> <p>All proposals for major changes to existing undergraduate and graduate programs (eg, new degree designation, new curriculum) shall be submitted to the Provost and Vice-President (Academic). [...]</p> <p>The Provost and Vice-President (Academic), after consultation with relevant Offices, committees or advisors[,] will place the proposal before APC. APC has the final authority to approve such proposals unless, in the opinion of the Provost and Vice-President (Academic), the proposal should be forwarded to GFC with an attendant recommendation from APC. [...]" (3.13.)</p> <p><b>11. PSLA:</b> "The Campus Alberta Quality Council may inquire into and review any matter relating to a proposal to offer a program of study leading to the granting of an applied, baccalaureate, master's or doctoral degree other than a degree in divinity." (Section 109(1))</p>
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**Routing** (Include meeting dates)

Consultative Route (parties who have seen the proposal and in what capacity)	Department of Earth & Atmospheric Sciences Faculty of Arts, Undergraduate Student Services
Approval Route (Governance) (including meeting dates)	Department of Earth & Atmospheric Sciences Council 2015 Faculty of Arts, Academic Affairs Committee - April 22, 2015 Faculty of Arts, Executive Committee - April 30, 2015 Faculty of Arts Council - May 19, 2015 GFC Academic Standards Committee – June 18, 2015 GFC Academic Planning Committee – September 9, 2015
Final Approver	GFC Academic Planning Committee – September 9, 2015

Attachments

1. Attachment 1: Internal Program Approval Template
2. Attachment 2: Calendar submission for proposed program

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## University of Alberta Internal Program Approval Template

This template is used for the vetting and approval of proposals to create or modify programs when such proposals do not require approval by the Minister of Innovation and Advanced Education. Proposals using this template should be accompanied by appropriate supporting documentation including draft calendar changes, letters of support, etc.

Proposals requiring Ministerial approval should be presented on the appropriate government template. Faculties and Departments pursuing program proposals are encouraged to consult with the Portfolio Initiatives Manager in the Office of the Provost and Vice-President (Academic) ([kathleen.brough@ualberta.ca](mailto:kathleen.brough@ualberta.ca)) on the appropriate template and process. Graduate proposers should also consult with the Dean of Graduate Studies ([graddean@ualberta.ca](mailto:graddean@ualberta.ca)).

This Template is used for the following:

- Graduate specialization title changes (e.g. History to Historical Studies).
- Creation of a new graduate specialization (e.g. MSc in the Department of Swedish Fisheries to MSc in the Department of Swedish Fisheries with Specialization in Trout Fishing) – requires the enrolment appendix.
- Suspension/Termination of a graduate specialization.
- The addition of an Honours/Specialization stream to an existing undergraduate program.
- The addition of a course-based option to an existing thesis-based program, or vice versa.
- Suspension/Termination of a course-based option when a thesis-based option remains, or vice-versa.

### Basic Information

1. Title of the Program:

Honours in Human Geography  
&  
Combined Honours in Human Geography

2. Proposed effective date:

As soon as possible – preferably Sept 2015.

3. Length of the program (years):

4 Years

4. Faculty and Academic Unit:

Faculty of Arts (Human Geography Program) and Faculty of Science (Department Administration), Earth and Atmospheric Sciences

5. Collaborating partners at other institutions (if any):

None

6. Contact person, with telephone number and e-mail address:

Robert Summers, 780-492-0342, [Robert.summers@ualberta.ca](mailto:Robert.summers@ualberta.ca)

7. Statement indicating completion of departmental and/or Faculty approval processes.

Approved Unanimously by the Department Council on Dec 5, 2012  
Faculty Approval in Process with this document

8. Attach proposed Calendar program and/or course changes.

See Attached.

9. Attach letter of support from the Dean of the Faculty (for graduate specialization proposals).

Not a graduate specialization proposal

**Program Impact and Rationale**

10. What is the rationale for the program proposal?

Human Geography is a growing discipline at the University of Alberta (from less than 25 majors 10 years ago to more than 65 today). There are an increasing number of requests from students who would like to do an Honors degree in Human Geography. Many institutions require that applicants to graduate studies have an Honours degree to be accepted and as such, we create a barrier for our students to continue in the discipline by not offering an Honors degree program. There are no new resources required for this offering as there are sufficient faculty members in place to supervise graduate theses.

11. Provide the expected enrolment (or other) impact on the academic unit(s) offering the program and other affected units if applicable. Include information on the current enrolment.

There should be little change in overall enrolment as most potential students are already enrolled in the Major degree program. The department may attract a small number of additional students who would not have considered enrolling previously due to the lack of such a degree.

12. Do you anticipate an enrolment (or other) impact on programs at other institutions or regulatory bodies? Describe any consultations that have occurred with other institutions and professional organizations.

No

13. Are there any resource implications (budget, information technology (IT), library (Library Impact Statement), laboratory, space, student services, administrative services (eg, FGSR, Registrar's Office, or IST), as applicable) for the proposed change? If so, please provide detail and evidence of consultation with affected unit(s) and/or appropriate University officers/committees.

No

# Proposed Honors Human Geography Program

Arts Academic Affairs – March 25 & April 22, 2015  
Arts Executive Committee – April 30, 2015  
Arts Faculty Council – May 19, 2015

16.2.2 ADMISSIONS CHART 6	
<p>Insert new text between History &amp; Linguistics</p>	<p><b><u>BA Honors</u></b></p> <p><u>Human Geography</u></p> <p><u>A minimum AGPA of 3.0 with an average of 3.3 or better in HGP courses.</u></p> <p><u>Entrance to Honors in Human Geography will ordinarily take place at the end of the second year of university study. Entrance may be granted by the Department at an earlier or later stage depending on circumstances. Students with an interest in Honors are advised to enrol in the BA Major in Human Geography (see §44.15) and choose courses in consultation with the Human Geography Honors advisor.</u></p>

## New Program HONORS & Combined Honors in Human Geography

Arts Academic Affairs – March 25 & April 22, 2015  
Arts Executive Committee – April 30, 2015  
Arts Faculty Council – May 19, 2015

44.15.1 HUMAN GEOGRAPHY – Honors in Human Geography	
<p><b>NEW PROGRAM</b></p>	<p><b><u>44.15.1 Honors in Human Geography</u></b></p> <p><u>Students planning to apply for admission to the Honors program should consult §16.2.2 for admission requirements.</u></p> <p><u>See §43.6 for Faculty regulations concerning the Honors program.</u></p> <p><u>Honors in Human Geography requires a minimum of *48 and a maximum of *54 at the senior level in HGP, EAS 221, and approved cross-listed courses. The following must be included:</u></p> <p>(1) <u>EAS 100</u></p> <p>(2) <u>HGP 100</u></p> <p>(3) <u>EAS 221, HGP 240, HGP 250, HGP 252</u></p>



	<p>(4) <u>At least two of HGP 341, HGP 342, HGP 343</u></p> <p>(5) <u>HGP 399</u></p> <p>(6) <u>HGP 496 (Undergraduate Thesis)</u></p> <p>(7) <u>HGP 499</u></p> <p><u>Approved cross listed courses: ANTHR 323, EAS 221, PHIL 355, and SOC 251.</u>  <u>See §43.3(5) for Faculty of Arts regulations pertaining to cross-listed courses.</u></p> <p><b><u>Promotion Requirements</u></b>  <u>Promotion from year to year requires a GPA of at least 3.0 with an average of at least 3.3 in HGP and approved cross-listed courses.</u></p> <p><b><u>Graduation Requirements</u></b>  <u>Graduation with Honors in Human Geography requires a graduation average of at least 3.0 with an average of at least 3.3 in senior level HGP and approved cross-listed courses. Graduation with First Class Honors requires an average of at least 3.7 in all senior level HGP and approved cross-listed courses and an average of at least 3.5 on all courses in the final year (last *30).</u></p>
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**44.15.2 HUMAN GEOGRAPHY – Combined Honors in Human Geography**

<p><b>NEW</b></p>	<p><u>Students may pursue a Combined Honors program in Human Geography and another discipline.</u>  <u>The common requirements in a Combined Honors program are the same as for other Honors programs (refer to §43.6).</u></p> <p><u>A Combined Honors degree in Human Geography and another discipline requires a minimum of *36 at the senior level in HGP and approved cross-listed courses and a minimum of *36 in the other discipline.</u>  <u>For Human Geography, the following courses must be included:</u></p> <p>(1) <u>EAS 100</u></p> <p>(2) <u>HGP 100</u></p> <p>(3) <u>At least three of EAS 221, HGP 240, HGP 250,HGP 252</u></p> <p>(4) <u>At least two of HGP 341, HGP 342, HGP 343</u></p> <p>(5) <u>HGP 399</u></p> <p>(6) <u>HGP 496 (Undergraduate Thesis)</u></p> <p>(7) <u>HGP 499</u></p> <p><u>Approved cross listed courses: ANTHR 323, EAS 221, PHIL 355, and SOC 251. See §43.3(5) for Faculty of Arts regulations pertaining to cross-listed courses.</u></p> <p><u>With the permission of the Honors Advisors, students pursuing Combined Honors in Human Geography may write an honors research project that is</u></p>
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supervised jointly by both disciplines and in which the content integrates both disciplines. Students will register in INT D 520 (\*6) instead of HGP 496.

**Promotion and Graduation Requirements**

In a Combined Honors program, students are required to meet the promotion and graduation standards of each discipline. The requirements in Human Geography are outlined in §44.15.1