



LAKEHEAD UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES

OUTDOOR REC~ PARKS & TOURISM

CHANGE REQUEST REPORT

Change Request Tracking Number: 2017-SOC-6456

**Title of Change Request: Discontinuation of MES in Nature-Based Recreation
and Tourism**

Status of Change Request: In Workflow

Change Request can't be split

CHANGE REQUEST CONTENTS

#	Type	Title
1.	Discontinued Program	Master of Environmental Studies in Nature-Based Recreation and Tourism

CHANGE REQUEST HISTORY

Workflow Stage	Action Type	Action Taken By	Change Made	Action Rationale	Date
Initiator	Approved	Annette Graham	Yes	Submitted to workflow	12/21/2017, 10:32 AM
Submission Review (Academic & Curriculum Development Coordinator)	Approved	Submission Review	Yes	Okay to move forward in the workflow	12/21/2017, 10:42 AM

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

None.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS AUDIT TRAIL

None.

CHANGE REQUEST COMMENTS

Date	User	Change Request Comment
12/21/2017, 10:31 AM	Annette Graham	discontinue MES.NREC.TH

1.	Discontinued Program	Master of Environmental Studies in Nature-Based Recreation and Tourism
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DEGREE DETAILS

REMOVE A PROGRAM FROM THE CALENDAR FORM - The following is information that will be displayed in the University Calendar

Select the type of Program you are removing:	Degree/Major
Program Code:	MES.NREC.TH
Supporting information is required for QA. Is your supporting documentation attached?:	Yes

Pedagogical rationale for this proposal. Why are you submitting this request?:

Pedagogical rationale for this proposal: In 2012 the MES NBRT program underwent a cyclical review. The reviewers identified a number of areas where the program could be altered to address student and faculty concerns, enrolment issues, and the sustainability of the program. Our faculty complement had declined from 11 full time faculty members at the program's conception to 8 at the time of the review (we currently have 6 full time faculty). In addition, student enrolment in the MES-NBRT had declined to an average of 3 entering students. These two factors made it apparent that it was not sustainable to continue to offer the program in its original structure (2.5 FCEs of required courses) as this took resources away from our undergraduate program and/or required faculty to be teaching on unpaid overload. As such, we put the program into abeyance over the academic terms from 2013-15 to determine how best to sustainably move forward. Three of our faculty members are cognate members of the MES-NECU program, and we have shared teaching of a 1.0 FCE methods course over the past three years. It was therefore logical to begin discussions regarding the potential to jointly offer our two programs as a way to sustain both degrees over the long term. The MES-NECU has had a more robust enrolment over its history, but there is potential for that to change as the Anthropology Department works to develop an MSc (ANTH). Through several meetings our two programs have developed a joint MES that would allow us to share teaching of required courses, create a robust graduate culture among three departments (Anthropology, Geography and ORPT), create a truly interdisciplinary MES that crosses two faculties (SSH and SES) and which allows the sustainable continuance of the two degrees while not compromising the integrity of the undergraduate programs in these departments. In the proposed program, MES NBRT and NECU students would take the following required courses: 1.0 FCE of methods courses 0.5 FCE content course 0.5 FCE elective Remaining FCEs comprised of thesis work We would have one Graduate coordinator for this merged graduate program, who would be responsible for the organization of the content course and who would receive 0.5 FCE teaching release. The content course would be team taught. We would continue to teach 0.5 FCE of the methods course, and electives would either be cross-listed courses with our undergraduate program or directed studies. As such, our faculty teaching requirements would be significantly reduced and thus not negatively impact our undergraduate degree. Interest in our MES NBRT program has continued as evidenced through enquiries received from international, domestic and within our program, students. We are also nurturing a research culture within our undergraduate students through the development of Honours Thesis seminars, presentations and publications which will contribute to growing our MES from within. The nomenclature of the degree (Master of Environmental Studies in Nature Based Recreation and Tourism) remains appropriate as it has resonated with students since its inception and builds from our HBOR degree.

Calendar Start Term. When this change should be displayed in the Calendar:

Fall 2002

Calendar End Term. When is

the last calendar year this should be displayed?:	2017-18
Faculty or Institution Unit:	• Lakehead University
Academic Level:	Graduate
Title of Program:	Master of Environmental Studies in Nature-Based Recreation and Tourism
Transcript Title of Program:	MES (Nature Rec & Tour)Th
Degree Type:	MES
Program Requirements:	The MES in Nature-Based Recreation and Tourism consists of five full course equivalents of which the thesis, Outdoor Recreation 5901 (9901), is equivalent to two FCEs. The student will take two and one-half FCE required courses: Outdoor Recreation 5010, 5030, 5050, 5131 and 5133. The remaining half-course equivalent elective may be taken from graduate courses in Outdoor Recreation. Subject to the approval of the academic units, students may choose their half-course elective from graduate courses offered outside the School.
Associated Changes - List all other requests that are associate with this change (enter request number or title):	This new merged graduate program would be located in the Faculty of Sciences and Environmental Studies.

The following is information for Senate Budget Committee Consideration:

	NOTE: Complete each section and provide full explanations for both "yes" and "no" answers. This will not be displayed in the calendar but will be used by the Senate Budget Committee when considering approval of this proposal. The creator of this proposal may be asked to attend a committee meeting to discuss this proposal. Contact the Chair of the Senate Budget Committee if you wish to discuss any of the questions below.
Will this program impact student enrolment in another program within the same faculty/unit?:	No
Will this program impact student enrolment in another program in a different faculty/unit?:	Yes, it may slightly increase the enrolment in the NECU program which is located in the Faculty of Sciences and Environmental Studies. Students interested in outdoor recreation, parks and tourism could be supervised by the three faculty members who are cognate members of the MES-NECU program.
Will additional resources be required (space, staff, equipment, etc.)?:	No, the coordination of the program will be provided by the NECU programme and the departments of Geography and Anthropology. The three ORPT faculty are existing cognate members of the MES-NECU program, and could provide supervisory

	roles.
How will this impact existing teaching loads within this faculty/unit?:	The School of ORPT would continue to teach 0.5 FCE of the methods course, and electives would either be cross-listed courses with our undergraduate program or directed studies. As such, our faculty teaching requirements would be significantly reduced and thus not negatively impact our undergraduate degree.
What is the impact on the demand for teaching support services (library, computers, staff, etc.)?:	The merging of the MES-NBRT programme into the MES-NECU programme is not expected to have any demands on teaching support services.
Will this require outside support? If yes, please outline the amount and timing of the funding:	No

