



LAKEHEAD UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES
SOCIAL JUSTICE

CHANGE REQUEST REPORT

Change Request Tracking Number: 2018-SOC-6539

Title of Change Request: MA Social Justice addition of thesis option

Status of Change Request: In Workflow

Change Request can't be split

CHANGE REQUEST CONTENTS

#	Type	Title
1.	New Program	Master of Social Justice (Thesis Option)

CHANGE REQUEST HISTORY

Workflow Stage	Action Type	Action Taken By	Change Made	Action Rationale	Date
Initiator	Approved	Kristin Burnett	No	Submitted to workflow	02/28/2018, 03:54 PM
Submission Review (Deputy Provost)	Approved	Deputy Provost	No	This request is in the correct workflow. However, the calendar entry needs to be edited to reflect ONLY the thesis addition, not the existing programs. This work can be done at either the QA or FGS review stage. NL	03/13/2018, 11:19 AM

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

None.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS AUDIT TRAIL

None.

CHANGE REQUEST COMMENTS

None.

1.	New Program	Master of Social Justice (Thesis Option)
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DEGREE DETAILS

SPECIAL MODIFICATION FORM

	NOTE TO USER about this form: This form is only to be used at the discretion of the Calendar Officer.
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The following is information that will be displayed in the University Calendar:

Title of Program:	Master of Social Justice (Thesis Option)
Program Requirements:	

The current requirements for the MA in Social Justice Studies
(total 4 FCEs) are as follows:

Coursework Stream:

- (a) two required half-courses (1 FCE), SOCJ 5030 Theories of Social Justice and SOCJ 5090 Methods and Methodologies in Social Justice
- (b) a further six half-courses (3 FCE).

Research Project Stream:

- (a) two required half-courses (1 FCE), SOCJ 5030 Theories of Social Justice and SOCJ 5090 Methods and Methodologies in Social Justice
- (b) a further 4 half-courses (2 FCE)
- (c) a further 1.0 FCE, the required SOCJ 9800 Research Project.

Creative Project Stream:

- (a) two required half-courses (1 FCE), SOCJ 5030 Theories of Social Justice and SOCJ 5090 Methods and Methodologies in Social Justice
- (b) a further 4 half-courses (2 FCE)
- (c) a further 1.0 FCE, the required SOCJ 9821 Creative Project.

Practicum Stream:

- (a) two required half-courses (1 FCE), SOCJ 5030 Theories of Social Justice and SOCJ 5090 Methods and Methodologies in Social Justice
- (b) a further 4 half-courses (2 FCE)
- (c) a further 1.0 FCE, the required SOCJ 9601 Practicum Project.

SPECIALIZATION SOCIAL JUSTICE STUDIES:

- (a) two required half-courses (1 FCE), SOCJ 5030 Theories of Social Justice and SOCJ 5090 Methods and Methodologies in Social Justice
- (b) Remainder of courses will will be completed according to

the requirements of their home discipline / unit. Students completing a coursework based degree will have to complete at least one course paper reflecting social justice theory and methods while working in the courses in the home discipline. Students completing project and creative project work must use social justice theory and methods in their projects

SOCIAL JUSTICE STUDIES WITH A SPECIALIZATION IN WOMEN'S STUDIES

The requirements for the MA in Social Justice Studies with a Specialization in Women's Studies (total 4 FCEs) are:

Coursework Stream with a Specialization in Women's Studies:

- (a) one required half-courses (0.5 FCE), SOCJ 5030 Theories of Social Justice
- (b) WOME 5101 (1.0 FCE)
- (c) a further 5 half-courses (2.5 FCE) 1 FCE of their 2.5 FCE Social Justice electives must have a women's studies focus.

Research Project Stream with a Specialization in Women's Studies:

- (a) one required half-courses (0.5 FCE), SOCJ 5030 Theories of Social Justice
- (b) WOME 5101 (1 FCE)
- (c) a further 3 half-course (1.5 FCE)
- (d) SOCJ 9800 Research Project (1.0 FCE)

1.0 FCE of their 1.5 FCE Social Justice electives will have a women's studies focus. Students must also incorporate feminist scholarship into their research project.

Creative Project Stream with a Specialization in Women's Studies:

- (a) one required half-courses (0.5 FCE), SOCJ 5030 Theories of Social Justice
- (b) WOME 5101 (1 FCE)
- (c) a further 3 half-courses (1.5 FCE)
- (d) SOCJ 59821 Creative Project (1.0 FCE)

1.0 FCE of their 1.5 FCE Social Justice electives will have a women's studies focus. The creative project must incorporate and reflect feminist scholarship.

Practicum Stream with a Specialization in Women's Studies:

(a) one required half-courses (0.5 FCE), SOCJ 5030 Theories of Social Justice

(b) WOME 5101 (1 FCE)

(c) a further 3 half-courses (1.5 FCE)

(d) SOCJ 9601 Practicum Project (1.0 FCE)

1.0 FCE of their 1.5 FCE Social Justice electives will have a women's studies focus.

The proposed program change will be the addition of a thesis option or stream:

With this program change, the SJS program will be comprised of five streams: course, research project, creative project, practicum, and thesis.

The requirements for the thesis stream (total 4 FCEs) are:

(a) two required half-courses (1 FCE), SOCJ 5030 Theories of Social Justice and SOCJ 5090 Methods and Methodologies in Social Justice

(b) a further half-course (0.5 FCE)

(c) a further 2.5 FCE, the required SOCJ XXXX Thesis.

Thesis Stream with a Specialization in Women's Studies:

a) one required half-courses (0.5 FCE), SOCJ 5030 Theories of Social Justice

b) WOME 5101 (1 FCE)

c) a further 2.5 FCE, the required SOCJ XXXX (2.5FCEs)

1.0 FCE of their 1.5 FCE Social Justice electives will have a women's studies focus. Students must also incorporate feminist scholarship into their thesis project and be supervised by a faculty member that is both a member of the Women's Studies graduate faculty and affiliated with SJS.

SPECIALIZATION SOCIAL JUSTICE STUDIES:

(a) two required half-courses (1 FCE), SOCJ 5030 Theories of Social Justice and SOCJ 5090 Methods and Methodologies in Social Justice

(b) Remainder of courses will be completed according to the requirements of their home discipline / unit. Students completing a coursework based degree will have to complete at least one course paper reflecting social justice theory and methods while working in the courses in the home discipline. Students completing a thesis and research or creative projects work must use social justice theory and methods in their projects

The following is information for Committee Review:

What is the original program title and/or code?:	Master of Social Justice
Modified Program Code (Contact Academic & Curriculum Development Coordinator for New Code):	MA.SOCJ.TH Use placeholder text if you do not have the code yet.
Calendar Start Term. When this change should be displayed in the Calendar:	2019-20
Calendar End Term. When is the last calendar year this should be displayed?:	No Specified End Date Use No Specified End date unless you are removing it from the calendar.
Faculty or Institution Unit:	• Lakehead University
Academic Level:	Graduate
If this a graduate level program, select either PhD or Masters:	Masters
Total number of credits for the degree:	4.00
Degree Type:	MA
Is the Quality Assurance program proposal attached?:	Yes In order to attach the Proposal Brief, save your work first and then scroll to the top and select Supporting Documentation tab.
Transcript Title :	Master of Social Justice (Thesis Option)
Pedagogical rationale for this proposal. Why are you submitting this request?:	A number of students have approached me and other faculty affiliated with SJS regarding the possibility of doing a thesis. The current research project option is short (50 pages), worth 1FCE, and normally completed during the second year of the program. The opportunity to pursue a more sustained research project over a longer period of time will address one of the most pressing and significant challenges of undertaking

community based research: the time required to properly engage with communities and organizations so that research objectives address the needs and interests of those communities with which we work. The pedagogical rationale for the thesis option: (a) will allow for students to conduct a more sustained research project; (b) will allow for the development of community based research projects that are informed by community objectives and needs and designed to build local capacity. Developing such relationships with communities is extremely time consuming, especially those built with First Nations and Indigenous organizations. A thesis option will allow more time for those relationships to develop appropriately and to be rooted in trust and respect. In particular, the 0.5 FCE of the thesis option that will begin in the first year of the program during the second semester, permits students to begin developing research questions/goals with community members and organizations early. Thus, creating the potential for students to conduct research over the summer and into the fall with thesis writing and editing taking place during the second year of the program. (c) will demonstrate advanced skills in developing and carrying out independent scholarly research; (d) will facilitate in the development of HQP. A thesis will enable students to further cultivate and hone critical research/writing skills that will serve them at the doctoral level and help build capacity in First Nations, communities, and not for profit organizations. (e) will help with the recruitment and retention of outstanding graduate students and strengthen the University's graduate programming and training of highly-qualified personnel (HQP) (f) will attract research funds from federal agencies; and (g) will support Lakehead University's strategic research goals for the region and beyond. The thesis option will capitalize upon existing strengths at the university. A large number of faculty members already work in diverse research areas with focus on social justice and have a successful record of applying for and receiving external funding. A priority of SSHRC is the training of HQP and thus the ability of students to carry out more sustained research project will be mutually beneficial. The development of a thesis option also aligns with the broader objectives of the SJS program: (a) to provide an opportunity for students to specialize in social justice studies across the curriculum; (b) to develop research in social justice studies at Lakehead University as per the academic plan; (c) to provide students opportunities for hands-on advocacy work through partnerships and placements with social justice based organizations in the community; (d) to foster links between the creative arts and social justice and to provide opportunities for students to use the creative arts to promote social change; (e) to provide a foundation for students to pursue doctoral studies in disciplines related to social justice; (f) to foster the scholarly skills and independent research abilities of students in the program through advanced courses, research, and research project completion; (g) to facilitate the training of highly qualified personnel (HQPs) through coursework, projects and work as research assistants with highly qualified faculty members;

Associated Changes - List
all other requests that are

associate with this change
(enter request number or
title):

None

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?:	We do not foresee the addition of a thesis option impacting enrollment in another program within the faculty of Social Science and Humanities. Also students have the option of doing a Social Justice specialization in a cognate unit and the opportunity to do a thesis will only increase the attractiveness of all programs and options within the faculty.
Will this program impact student enrolment in another program in a different faculty/unit?:	We do not foresee the addition of a thesis option impacting enrollment in another faculty/unit. Also students have the option of doing a Social Justice specialization in a cognate unit and the opportunity to do a thesis will only increase the attractiveness of all programs and options.
Will additional resources be required (space, staff, equipment, etc.)?:	The proposed changes will not require resources that are above and beyond the resources currently needed by the new SJS program.
How will this impact existing teaching loads within this faculty/unit?:	The provision of a thesis option will reduce the number of courses that students are required to take. As it currently operates, SJS is a course heavy degree (4.0 FCEs). Even those students enrolled in the research/creative/practicum streams are still required to take 3.0 FCEs. The addition of a thesis option would reduce the course requirement to 1.5 FCEs with the thesis being equivalent to 2.5FCEs. Decreasing the number of courses students are required to take will reduce the burden on the courses offered by other departments with extant graduate programs.
What is the impact on the demand for teaching support services (library, computers, staff, etc.)?:	This proposed change will have an impact on library/research services but no different than the extant services available to the SJS program as per the original proposal.
Will this require outside support? If yes, please outline the amount and timing of the funding:	All of our faculty see and make connections between their own research and their teaching/supervision. Most of the affiliated faculty are external grants-holders. Our proposed program change, like many graduate programs, will rely on the support of faculty to facilitate the research of students. We will also work diligently to ensure that SJS students are supported in the writing of scholarships/grants.

