

KPU History Addendum

Faculty Changes:

Dr Jack Hayes now holds a 100% History appointment (formerly, 50/50 History/Asian Studies) and has assumed the Chair of History

Dr Eryk Martin and Dr Kyle Jackson now hold 100% regular appointments effective September 2019

Dr Robert Menzies holds a 50% History appointment

KPU History is deeply saddened to announce the passing of Dr Colin Green in August 2019; for the 2019-2020 academic year his sections and were covered by a number of sessional hires. We anticipate a 50% regular hire in either Asian or World History in the near future.

New Faculty:

After an exceptionally difficult year, KPU History is delighted to welcome Dr Maddie Knickerbocker to the department as a full-time Canadian/Indigenous History appointment. Dr Knickerbocker will begin her appointment in January 2021.

On Leave:

Dr Eryk Martin will be on a one-term educational leave in the Fall semester 2020 to complete a monograph and his contribution to the BC History OpenText.

Teaching Loads:

As I may have noted before, KPU remains on the world's longest running pilot program whereby we actually teach 8x3, but convince ourselves that this is equivalent to 8x4.

Co-op Program:

The first iteration of the Arts Practicum course (ARTS 4800) was a tremendous success, with seven students from the Department of History taking on a variety of practicum placements at local museums, archives, and historic sites.

Spring 2020 Enrolment:

The precipitous drop in our Spring 2020 enrolment was due to several cancelled sections that would have been taught by Dr. Green.

Online:

Apart from the COVID-19 related shift of all our courses to online delivery in March 2020, we do offer one mixed mode course (HIST 1160: Intro to South Asia) whereby students can select to work online or attend in person lectures. This course has proven to be very popular, leading other faculty members to muse about the possibility of moving to an island and teaching remotely.

Northern Lights College

We taught fewer sections this year as one of the History instructors received release to act as Campus Chair, and administration collapsed the remaining sections into one and assigned them to the other instructor, Eva St. Jean.

Exam cheating and plagiarism was a greater problem, particularly with students writing exams from overseas. This may partly have been due to lack of immersion in an academic environment, and consequent difficulties internalising academic rules. Taking classes and writing exams at 2 or 3 am probably did not help with this.

However, in our single second year course, in which all the students had prior experience in History and other Humanities and Social Sciences courses, levels of cheating and plagiarism were very low. The conclusions to be drawn from this are unfortunately not evident to our administration.

Things will be in flux next year as we are waiting to hear whether one of our instructors, Eva St. John, will retire, move to part-time instruction, or remain full-time. Despite the College posting a healthy surplus this past year, there seems to be pressure to reduce faculty numbers across all departments.

Additional Comments for SFU History's 2020-2021 Articulation Report

1. There are 21 full-time research (tenured and tenure-track) and teaching faculty in History. History also has 3 full-time research limited-term appointments and 2 teaching limited-term appointments.
2. This is the number of all full-time cross-appointments with half their load in History. We had one part-time term teaching appointment.
3. There are no full-time sessional instructors in History; an individual on a short-term contract to teach either a full or partial slate of courses would be hired as a limited-term instructor.
4. 7 sessional instructors taught a total of 8 courses
5. Have been approved for a 3 limited-term appointments, one full-time research, two part-time teaching appointments

6. This is the number of faculty who went on one of the following kinds of leave: study leave, medical leave, unpaid leave of absence, and parental leave. All but one leaves were for one or two semester's duration.
7. This number is a percentage of regular faculty who had marking support from teaching assistants; it does not include part-time term or sessional instructors who had marking support.
8. All limits are History department imposed limits. These are not university-wide limits.
9. The limit on tutorials run by teaching assistants is 17.
10. The definition of "co-ordinator" is not understood and the term is not used in the History Department. However, two other administrative appointments in History get course release: the undergraduate and graduate chairs each receive 1 CR/YR.

VIU Articulation 2020 Supplemental Report

The VIU History Department welcomed back two full-time faculty from leave in September 2019 – Dr. Cheryl Krasnick Warsh and Dr. Cathryn Spence.

The Department was also very pleased to welcome our first-ever Tier Two Canada Research Chair: Dr. Whitney Wood. Whitney taught one course for us in Fall 2109 and will teach two in Fall 2020. Dr. Wood's research explores the broad history of attitudes towards and experiences of pain during childbirth.

The Department was also happy to add a new sessional instructor in the field of Indigenous History: Dr. Chelsea Horton.

Total registration numbers were up slightly in 2019-2020 versus 2018-2019, and, despite the current uncertainty, registration for 2020 Summer session courses is very high.

Tim Lewis

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