

BCCAT FALL 2023 Sociology Articulation Committee Meeting
2023 Friday, Dec 8, 9am to 12pm, online

APPROVED MINUTES

Attendance, Present: 14, Regrets: 1

NAME	INSTITUTION	Present/ Regrets
Lindsey McKay	Thompson Rivers University	Present
Samantha May	Alexander College	Present
Katherine Lyon	UBC-V	Present
Jason Burt	Trinity Western University	Present
Adam Rudder	FDU (Fairleigh Dickinson University)	Present
Darryn DiFrancesco	Northern Lights College	Regrets
Antonie Scholtz	North Island College	Present
Sean Ashley	Capilano University	Present
Fiona McQuarrie	BC Council on Admissions & Transfer	Present
Seema Ahluwalia	KPU	Present
Kathleen Millar	SFU	Present
Megan Harkey	Native Education College	Present
Bruce Ravelli	UVic	Present
Kathy Fitzpatrick	Coquitlam College	Present
Sharlie Eicker	Langara College	Present

Minute-taker: Samantha May, Alexander College

1. Chair Lindsey McKay welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

2. Territorial acknowledgements

3. Introductions and Housekeeping

4. Motion to adoption of the agenda

1st: Samantha May; **2nd:** Kathy Fitzpatrick. Motion passed.

5. Motion to approve the Spring 2023 Minutes

1st: Seema Ahluwalia & **2nd:** Kathleen Millar; **Passed with abstentions:** Samantha May (minute taker), Bruce Ravelli, Jason Burt, Katherine Lyon, Megan Harkey, Sean Ashley, Seema Ahluwalia

6. Chair's Report

- **Incomplete articulation requests** none
Lindsey has posted a resource from the CAS (Canadian Sociology Assoc), created by the Indigenization Research Cluster to our Moodle shell > Resources

- **JAM 2023**

Attended. All sessions are recorded and available on the BCCAT YouTube through the BCCAT website

Presentations included: Research on articulation systems in Europe and Australia. On AI: In terms of transfer - at some point, do we want course outlines to include rules on AI? Challenge of assumptions about AI.

On Prior Learning Assessment & Recognition initiative – establishing processes to recognize and give credentials for people’s knowledge and skills

- **Spring 2024 meeting, proposed date: May 10, 2024**

Discussion of logistics

- Good to be online in one meeting and in-person in the other meeting, once a year
- In-person meetings will always be hybrid; worked well last time
- Institutional funding is generally not available but needed if we want a speaker
- Host institution: LM - good to find a host where most institutions are located, e.g. Lower Mainland. Sean - nice to have meetings at different locations - Lower Mainland and elsewhere
- It would be great if BCCAT hosted a one-day event with different articulation committees meeting on same day and BCCAT offerings like at the JAM
- Samantha May and Kathy Fitzpatrick volunteered to be on the planning committee
- Vote for May 10 - most people can attend

Discussion about meeting content

- Bruce Ravelli (UVic) - willing to host if in-depth discussion of sociology in addition to daily business
- Lindsey - shared document intended to discuss where discipline is going, what skills students should have, Indigenized content covered
- Seema - supportive of Bruce, and inclusion of discussion items he mentions
- Some support for substantive discussion of the future of our discipline at meeting

Host decided: Bruce Ravelli, uVic

7. Brief Institutional Report Discussion

Seema Ahluwalia KPU - 95 sections of sociology per year, risk that micro-credentials increase faculty precarity, much OER use and support, most faculty using Little et al. text, Z-cred courses (zero cost for materials), mobile faculty workforce, growing number of courses online (async/sync/blended), Teaching and Learning commons - faculty support and PD opportunities

Three sociology programs - major, minor, associate with a single entry point: SOCI 100
Experiential learning mandatory

Holding conference on Indigenous languages

Block transfer credit, doesn't want to create barrier for students

Confusion that Social work is the same as sociology

Quantitative courses are not popular, discussion about what should be required

Adam Rudder FDU - Yes, American institution, Hired Assoc Provost of Academic Affairs

Interesting context of receiving instructions from the US, reviewing Gen Ed → substantial reduction in requirements in US, but not in Canada. The idea is to give students more choice. There is a record number of students, undergrad students slightly reduced, 95% + international students. Trying to get a domestic tuition rate to attract more Canadian students. Looking for way to diversify campus with limited funding; a lot of the work is falling to interested (ie racialized) people. Secured one year of funding for Indigenization, looking for meaningful inclusion that is not just performativity.

Jason Burt Trinity Western - retooling courses offered, which should be required, at different levels of depth depending on year, 680 graduates with major, concentration or minor in soci in past year, Human Services popular, new hire as sessional that they hope will become permanent, Indigenization - SOCI 395 - Indigenous Peoples of Canada, Indigenous voices centred in number of courses

Antonie Scholtz NIC - Occupied with an audit; identifying things they want to do as a Soci department; some intro courses no longer offered on campus but online; advocating for return to in-person. Not offering race and social inequality (SOCI 210) to all campuses which is problematic. Repackaging of courses is exciting at the same time, DQAB excited about Associate Of Arts but only int'l students take it. Indigenization: Elders in residence, working together group - Indigenous elders and others are part of an Indigenous Education plan advisory board.

Kathy Fitzpatrick Coquitlam - no soci credentials, enrolments strong, no required soci courses, new campus opening soon and institution moving

Kathleen Millar SFU - Two new courses for 4th year, for graduating students missing credits - directed readings. A number of retirements, have hired new faculty, new faculty member this year. Teaching courses on racial justice, course deletions with retirements. We are unique as a Soci and Anth joint department, both disciplines influence each other. Anth enrolment is down (largely due to faculty retirements). Anth faculty end up teaching methods; if they didn't it would free them up for other courses. In discussion about reducing number of methods courses required, upper level take quantitative and qualitative research, but both may not be required in future. Indigenization is part of courses; DuBois is in theory courses.

Katherine Lyon UBCV: Enrollments strong, methods 2nd year general; 3rd yr stats & another methods of their choice (qual or quant).

In-person but five courses are transitioning to hybrid (including Intro)

New course: Socio of Disaster

Fac of Arts: Place & Power, Indig Strategic Plan: 3 credits from any dept; all depts creating 3 new courses. Settler Colonialism and Social Inequality.

Existing elective: Sociology of Indigenous Peoples

Bruce Ravelli UVic - Enrollments strong, Soci is only department growing, ability accommodations are no longer centrally scheduled and are now being managed by faculty and depts. (right now considering midterm exam week). Dept growing all-round; Indig new courses. Int'l students 7% but 30% budget. Accommodation (different abilities, not housing) is a big problem because extra-time is a challenge to schedule.

Sharlie Eicker Langara Enrolments doing well, archaeology field school restarted - very exciting, last-minute urgent hire needed double block Tues/Thurs; new hire; having trouble filling research methods course with students. F23 shift in student interest to in-person but students are not attending classes. Other institutions - is there a trend towards in-person or online course interest for students? Ability accommodations process takes three months, huge interest in mental health issues, students who need accommodations will then approach instructors directly - one instructor had more than 25 students/80 who needed accommodations = extra burden on faculty. Field school - Mon/Wed/Fri – summer

Lindsey McKay TRU – New department name, “Environment, Culture and Society” to reflect a merger: sociology, anthropology, archaeology and criminology joined geography/environmental studies. Sociology courses have high enrolments. Receiving a high volume of sociology transfer assessment requests. Welcomed a new faculty member, Kriston D’Amuro in a criminology/sociology position. Our new MA in Human Rights and Social Justice is going well; these kinds of programs can encourage students to take sociology courses.

Samantha AC: The S23 Anth Articulation meeting had Indigenous artist Raven John as a guest speaker. They rejected accounting, saying, “I don’t want receipts”. The conversation included the presence of a liaison, space for Indig students, art on walls to feel a sense of belonging, and a call to the group to demand \$ from govt to do the work.
<https://nac-cna.ca/en/bio/raven-john>, <https://yehawshow.com/artists/raven-john>

8. Reports of External Reps: Updates on **BCCAT** from Fiona McQuarrie

- Number of new publications, JAM went well, sessions recorded and on BCCAT YouTube channel, including presentations, e.g. Review of transfer systems, keynote: implications of Chat GPT
- Currently planning for upcoming articulation meetings. There is a calendar online of all meetings. Institutions can save money by sending one person to a cluster of meetings.
- JAM started as meeting for Articulation Committee Chairs. Orientation is available for new chairs.
- Minutes for all BCCAT discipline meetings are publicly posted.
Newly revised Articulation Committee Guide <https://www.bccat.ca/resources/ArticulationCommitteeGuide2023.pdf>
Newly revised How To Articulate handbook <https://www.bccat.ca/resources/HowToArticulate2023.pdf>

9. Old Business

Continuing the Spring 2023 conversation on "What do BC sociology students look like 2-years in?" using a Google Sheet with tabs for each institution as a shared, internal resource

- NEW tab on BC SOCI Credentials
- Reflections on and advancing this conversation: deferred to the spring 2024 meeting

10. New Business

Substantive topics we would like addressed at our spring meeting

Topics raised:

1. EDI
2. Decol/Indig
3. Methods (what lower & upper-level courses are we offering and requiring?)
4. Theory (is classical decolonized?)
5. Discussion about our discipline and its future - about specific topics, something we could bring back to institutions

Discussion points

- Comment: EDI has “become a growth industry”, what are we talking about being included in? Indigenous peoples are global; there is a need for colleagues to understand, but often all we get to is the low hanging fruit. This recalled what anthropologists heard from Raven re: Indigenization: “I don’t want receipts.”
- Question: Regarding Indig/Decolonization issues, there is an appetite for moving beyond performative institutional measures. What can BBCAT do? Is this a topic that is, or should be, relevant to articulation (the mandate of BCCAT)?
Fiona - BCCAT supportive role only; BCCAT doesn’t play police over what is discussed at meetings, Indig/ Decolonization is on topic as it falls under umbrella of articulation because part of discussion of equivalency → Relevant because about consistency and equivalencies across institutions.
- Thinking about ourselves as a collective, considering positionality, who is here & who is not
Comment/Question: “As a person of colour, a lecture *on DEI* is the last thing I want to hear. What actions are we taking?”
- Comment: Expression of a desire for an outcome of some sort.

Motion to adjourn

1st Bruce; 2nd Adam