

## University of Toronto

# Major Modification Proposal – Type A: Significant modifications to existing graduate and undergraduate programs

*This template should be used to bring forward all proposals for major modifications to existing graduate and undergraduate programs for governance approval under the University of Toronto's Quality Assurance Process. It is designed to ensure that all evaluation criteria established by the Quality Council are addressed in bringing forward a proposal for a new program.*

### Section 1

<b>Program being modified:</b>	<b>ERMAJ1295 French Language and Literature</b>
<b>Program renamed to:</b>	<b>ERMAJ1295 French Studies</b>
<b>Department / (graduate) Unit (if applicable) where the program is housed:</b>	<b>Department of Language Studies</b>
<b>Faculty / Academic Division:</b>	<b>University of Toronto Mississauga</b>
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<b>Anticipated Effective date:</b>	<b>2012-13 Academic Year</b>
<b>Version Date:</b>	<b>November 4, 2011</b>

### Section 2

#### 1. Executive Summary

Two of the existing majors in French, French Language and Linguistics (ERMAJ0525) & French Language and Literature (ERMAJ1295) will be consolidated and offered as one single renamed program: **ERMAJ1295 French Studies**. This program will be modified to incorporate existing 300-400 level courses previously associated with ERMAJ0525 (French Language and Linguistics). Students in the French Studies Major retain the option to select concentration in either Literature (in a simplified way) or Linguistics in their upper level courses. The two current Major programs and courses continue to exist within a common amalgamated structure.

We also propose to increase the program to 8.0 credits in order to accommodate extra language requirements which include the highest advanced levels of language proficiency (in written and oral French).

## 2. Academic Rationale

The decision to consolidate the French Language and Linguistics & French Language and Literature Major programs into French Studies was made as a result of extensive consultations with Faculty who teach in French Studies. It was felt that the focus should be geared toward developing stronger language skills with a minimum of 3.0 credits in language proficiency (up to and including the advanced levels) and to provide students with the opportunity to focus their upper level courses in the areas of literature or linguistics. Maintaining two separate programs with the same language proficiency learning outcomes and a close distribution of 4.0 shared credits, which follow the same disciplinary logic of fleshing out a solid knowledge of a general field, was seen to create an artificial distinction and lack of clarity for our students.

As the specified program description included at the end of this document mentions, the core of the consolidated Major in French Studies is as follows: "3.0 other FRE credits to be completed within ONE area of concentration: [either] Linguistics [or] Literary and Cultural Studies".

The additional required language course will make certain that strong language proficiency is attained within the Major as described, and with the consolidation of the two existing programs promotes ease of choice. It also eliminates confusion and difficult choices for our students when deciding on a program of study.

We propose to align FRE offerings, whether they are in Linguistics or Literature, on the same model: after their second year, students choose FRE credits among available offerings in Linguistics or in Literature. Students in French literature will no longer be required to take a 0.5 credit in each period grouping (Groups B, C, and D) of courses. This is in line with present faculty resources at UTM.

This proposed change is also in-line with remarks expressed in the Departmental Review Final Report (2008-09): the external reviewers recommended that the French Studies discipline streamline its program offerings.

## 3. Description of the Proposed Major Modification(s)

Three changes are proposed: (1) language course requirements will increase to 3.0 (previously 2.0); (2) total credits required toward the Major will increase to 8.0 to accommodate the additional language credit; (3) students in the Major may follow one area of concentration: literature or linguistics, with any offered FRE courses in the Department.

The main learning outcome change is with the enhanced development of language proficiency thanks to the move to 8.0 credits., The proposed structure makes sure that a high measured level

of language development is attained by students in their highest-level language credits. Students will have studied the language in light of higher fluency indicators, such as advanced grammatical constructions, genres, idioms, etc. Students will be able to:

- Express themselves effectively in most formal and informal speaking on practical, social and professional topics
- Produce strongly cohesive, argued, supported opinions and detailed narrations with syntactic and lexical complexity
- Produce connected and developed speech (~ 10 minutes prepared/ ~ 5 minutes unrehearsed)
- Show some appreciation of aesthetic norms of target language (such as humour, idioms, colloquialisms, and register shifting)
- Read, with almost complete comprehension and at normal speed, expository prose on unfamiliar subjects and a variety of argumentative texts with grammatical patterns and vocabulary ordinarily encountered in discipline-based or professional reading

#### **4. Requirements**

Please see Appendix A for the full, revised calendar copy.

#### **5. Impact of the Change on Students**

Students who declared the ERMAJ1295 (French Language and Literature) or ERMAJ0525 (French Language and Linguistics) prior to 2012-13 academic year will be allowed to follow their program prior to the change, however, students who wish to take advantage of the third language credit requirements will be able to transition to the French Studies program if they wish to do so.

#### **6. Consultation**

This change does not impact other programs. Consultation has taken place with the Office of the Dean and faculty members within the Department of Language Studies.

#### **7. Resources:**

There are no resource implications.

**8. Governance Process:**

	<i>Levels of Approval Required</i>
<i>Dean's Office Sign Off</i>	
	Unit level approval
	Faculty/Divisional Council
<i>Submission to Provost's Office</i>	
<i>AP&amp;P – reported annually</i>	
<i>Ontario Quality Council - reported annually</i>	

**Appendix A:** Show how the proposed changes will be reflected in changes to the calendar copy.

Original calendar copy (please show the current approved calendar copy prior to the changes being brought forward)	Revised calendar copy (please show deletions and additions to this calendar copy resulting from the current proposal using track changes)	Clean New Calendar Copy (please show edited calendar copy with all track changes accepted – this is the new calendar copy that will replace the old)
<p>7.0 credits are required, including at least 2.0 300/400 level courses.</p> <p><b>First Year</b> FRE180Y5 (minimum grade of 63% is required) or equivalent. Students exempted from this course may replace it with a higher level 1.0 credit in FRE</p> <p><b>Second Year</b> FRE240Y5, FRE272Y5, FRE280Y5</p> <p><b>Third Year</b> 3.0 FRE literature courses including</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. at least 0.5 FRE credit in Group B</li> <li>2. at least 0.5 FRE credit in Group C</li> <li>3. at least 0.5 FRE credit in Group D</li> </ol>	<p>7.0 8.0 credits are required, including at least 2.0 300/400 level courses.</p> <p><b>First Year</b> FRE180Y5 (minimum grade of 63% is required) or equivalent. Students exempted from this course may replace it with a higher level 1.0 credit in FRE</p> <p><b>Second Year</b> FRE240Y5, FRE272Y5, FRE280Y5</p> <p><del>Third Year</del> <b>Third and fourth Years</b> <del>3.0 FRE literature courses including</del></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><del>1. at least 0.5 FRE credit in Group B</del></li> <li><del>2. at least 0.5 FRE credit in Group C</del></li> <li><del>3. at least 0.5 FRE credit in Group D</del></li> </ol> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. FRE382H5 and FRE383H5</li> <li>2. 3.0 other FRE credits to be completed within ONE area of concentration: Linguistics Literary and Cultural Studies</li> </ol>	<p><b>ERMAJ1295 (Major in French Studies)</b> 8.0 credits are required, including at least 2.0 300/400 level courses.</p> <p><b>First Year</b> FRE180Y5 (minimum grade of 63% is required) or equivalent. Students exempted from this course may replace it with a higher level 1.0 credit in FRE.</p> <p><b>Second Year</b> FRE240Y5, FRE272Y5, FRE280Y5</p> <p><b>Third and fourth Years</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. FRE382H5 and FRE383H5</li> <li>2. 3.0 other FRE credits to be completed within ONE area of concentration: Linguistics Literary and Cultural Studies</li> </ol>

Develop by the Office of the Vice-Provost, Academic Programs: April 4, 2011