

Non-Major Modification Program Changes

1. Program: **Neuroscience**
 2. Degree Designation: **Specialized Honours BSc**
 3. Type of Modification: (Example: changes to degree / admission requirements) **Changes to calendar copy for qualifying period and continuation requirements**
 4. Effective Date: **Fall 2022**
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5. State what the changes are (Example: increase / decrease to the number of major credits)

Change in Calendar Copy from:

Qualifying Period: once admitted students will enter a qualifying period. Depending on their pathway (Biology, Kinesiology & Health Science, or Psychology) students must complete their first-year curriculum with an overall grade point average (GPA) of at least 7.50 on at least 27 earned credits at the end of first year. Successful completion of the qualifying period requirements will allow students to continue in the BSc Specialized Honour neuroscience program. Students proceeding in the program after the qualifying period are required to maintain the continuation GPA requirement.

Change to:

Qualifying Period: once admitted students will enter a qualifying period. Students must **achieve** an overall grade point average (GPA) of at least **7.00 (B+)** on at least **24** earned credits. Successful completion of the qualifying period requirements will allow students to continue in the BSc Specialized Honour neuroscience program. Students proceeding in the program after the qualifying period are required to maintain the continuation GPA requirement

For continuation requirement on Calendar Copy, change from:

Continuation requirement: students must attain a cumulative grade point average of 6.00 (B) on 30 credits to continue in the program.

Change to:

Continuation requirement: students **proceeding in the program after the qualifying period are required to maintain an overall GPA** of 6.00 (B) to continue in the program.

6. Provide the rationale for the proposed changes that is rooted in the program learning outcomes.

These changes do not create any changes in the program learning outcomes. The qualifying threshold is confusing given the interpretation of the GPA to a letter grade (B+) is the same regardless of whether 7.50 or 7.00 is used. As well some students were failing to achieve the 7.50 GPA while still maintaining a 7.00 GPA. The lack of a 7.50 GPA meant that we were having to waive on a case by cases basis this criteria so that students who still

had a B+ average but whose GPA dropped below 7.5 could be retained in the program. These changes will soften the GPA expectations marginally, better align the neuroscience program with honour progression, and modify the language so that the Qualifying period and continuation requirements can be implemented automatically with the degree progress report/decision tree.

7. Provide an updated mapping of the program requirements to the program learning outcomes to illustrate how the proposed requirements will support the achievement of program learning objectives.

Changing the GPA to 7.00 will allow the program to retain more students and given them the opportunity to achieve the learning objectives.

8. If relevant, summarize the consultation undertaken with relevant academic units, including commentary on the impact of the proposed changes on other programs. Provide individual statements from the relevant program(s) confirming consultation and their support.

These changes were made in consultation with Associate Deans of the two Faculties: Susan Murtha, Associate Dean Learning, Teaching, & Academic Programs, Mike Scheid, Faculty of Science Associate Dean of Students; directors and managers from student services of the respective Faculties: Josephine Fung, Susy Riberio, Robert Bishop; as well as staff from the Office of the Registrar: Lesa Cozzi, Olga Carew

9. Describe any resource implications and how they are being addressed (e.g., through a reallocation of existing resources). If new/additional resources are required, provide a statement from the relevant Dean(s)/Principal confirming resources will be in place to implement the changes.

N/A

10. Provide a summary of how students currently enrolled in the program will be accommodated.

We have already waived the current GPA threshold, lowering it to 7.00 for the inaugural 2020/21 cohort and we will continue to do so for the next cohort using the proposed requirements. Thus, while the proposal changes have not been officially implemented, we are already applying them.

11. Provide as an appendix a side-by-side comparison of the existing and proposed program requirements as they will appear in the Undergraduate or Graduate Calendar.

Existing Program/Certificate/Diploma Regulations	New Program/Certificate/Diploma Regulations
Neuroscience Specialized Honours BSc Qualifying Period: once admitted students will enter a qualifying period. Depending on their pathway (Biology, Kinesiology & Health	Neuroscience Specialized Honours BSc Qualifying Period: once admitted students will enter a qualifying period. Students must achieve an overall grade point average

~~Science, or Psychology~~ students must achieve an overall grade point average (GPA) of at least ~~7.50~~ on at least ~~27~~ earned credits ~~at the end of the first year~~. Successful completion of the qualifying period requirements will allow students to continue in the BSc Specialized Honour neuroscience program. Students proceeding in the program after the qualifying period are required to maintain the continuation GPA requirement.

Continuation requirement: students proceeding in the program after the qualifying period are required to maintain an overall GPA of 6.00 (B) ~~on 30 credits~~ to continue in the program.

Graduation requirement: all graduates must complete a total of at least 120 credits with a minimum overall cumulative grade point average of 6.00 (B).

(GPA) of at least 7.00 (B+) on at least 24 earned credits. Successful completion of the qualifying period requirements will allow students to continue in the BSc Specialized Honour neuroscience program. Students proceeding in the program after the qualifying period are required to maintain the continuation GPA requirement

Continuation requirement: students proceeding in the program after the qualifying period are required to maintain an overall GPA of 6.00 (B) to continue in the program.

Graduation requirement: all graduates must complete a total of at least 120 credits with a minimum overall cumulative grade point average of 6.00 (B).