

Graduate School

### Graduate School Board, 2023-09-29

#### In attendance

##### *Board members*

Lena Karlsson	Director of Studies, Graduate School
Catia Gregoratti	Program Director, Global Studies
Christopher Swader	Program Director, Social Scientific Data Analysis
Anne Jerneck	Program Director, Development Studies
Rikard Gustavsson	Political Science
Mikhail Martynovich	Human Geography
Angela Kinyanjui	Student representative, Development Studies

##### *Other*

Lucie Larssonova	Graduate School, Secretary in the Board
Ida Nafstad	Sociology of Law
Helen Wiman	Graduate School, Administrative team leader
Katherine Ahlstedt	Graduate School
Yağmur Yilmaz	Graduate School
Daniela Dolenc	Graduate School
Marjaana Kinnunen	Graduate School

#### Absent

Marta Kolankiewicz	Program Director, Social Studies of Gender
Leysan Storie	Program Director, Middle Eastern Studies
Terese Anving	Gender Studies
Anna Sonander	Sociology of Law
Mimmi Barmark	Sociology
Leili Laanemets	School of Social Work
Student representative	
Student representative	
Student representative	
Student representative	

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§ Decision item

**1. Meeting opens**

Meeting opens at 13.15.

**2. Election of a Board member to check the minutes**

**The Board decides** to elect Christopher Swader to, together with the Chair, check the minutes.

**3. Confirmation of the agenda**

**The Board decides** to confirm the agenda with the addition of adjoining Ida Nafstad to the meeting.

**4. Minutes from the Graduate School Board meeting June 9, 2023**

Minutes from the meeting 9 June 2023 are confirmed.

**5. Information from the student representatives**

- Angela Kinyanjui reports that some students seem to be having problems with their internships, though it is still early in the term so it could just be a result of this; she will keep the Board posted.

**6. Information from Graduate School**

- *Program admission 2023:* Admissions have levelled out, so the number of program students are now more or less what we expected.
- *Course planning:* Graduate School has tried to align its planning cycle with the departments; within the next few weeks, approximately 90% of the planning for the spring term should be finalized and, before the new year, the fall term should be set. Our goal going forward is to have all the planning done in a single round, but this year will still be in two phases.
- *Thesis updates:* Starting in 2024, Graduate School will give the same allocation hours for examination and supervision of theses as the departments do. Students are supervised by the departments, and we think it's easier if we align with the departments on this. We have a significantly smaller cohort of thesis students than in 2023. GS will be doing further work with the thesis course, we will for instance already work on it at a planning day with program directors in November. We will set up an ethics procedure which will hopefully be applied to the next cohort of students.
- *Key principles for generative AI and examination:* We have decided to wait and not formulate a policy on this because the faculty has announced that they will do so but, as teachers, we need to have something in place for the students already now. Lena has drafted some paragraphs to act as guidelines to tide us over until the faculty's decision. At Political Science they've discussed this at the board meeting, and plan to have a policy in place by October. A question that came up then was

how much of the responsibility to inform students on what is valid falls on the teachers and what happens if they don't inform the students.

Discussion on drafting up something to add to course pages on Canvas so that it is always there by default regardless of if the teacher informs or not. More on this after the faculty's education board has discussed the question at their November meeting.

## 7. Equality, Diversity and Equal Opportunity

- This will be a standing item at GS Board meetings to have a designated space for discussing questions and topics related to equality, diversity, equal opportunity, etc. Once we have an elected equality & diversity student representative, we can call the equality and diversity group to a separate meeting.
- *Chair sizes*: We received feedback from one of our program students about chair sizes in our classrooms not being inclusive. Graduate School has shared the feedback with the faculty's booking/scheduling group, who are responsible for classrooms at the Faculty of Social Sciences, together with the suggestion of ordering chairs without armrests when placing new orders going forward; the booking/scheduling group has agreed to present the feedback and suggestion in their relevant avenues. The feedback and information have also been forwarded to Graduate School's study council at the student union which, among others, includes the student safety representative position as well as the equality/diversity representative position. These positions are currently vacant, but we wanted to ensure that the information is relayed to the elected representatives once the seats have been filled.
- *Anonymous exams*: This term we will begin discussions on which courses we can implement anonymous exams. We have not historically used anonymous exams in our courses because the format of our exams are not ideal for anonymization. There are however courses where this could be implemented, and we hope to apply that when and where possible. Student representatives are asking these questions explicitly in the quality dialogues this. We'll need to have a joint discussion about this in the fall.

## 8. Course dossiers

### Appendices §8 a-o

- Dossiers for the following courses are confirmed:
  - SIMM16 *Introduction to Quantitative Methods*, VT 2023
  - SIMM23 *Theory of Science for the Social Sciences*, VT 2023
  - SIMM25 *Fieldwork*, VT 2023
  - SIMM27 *Methods of Text and Discourse Analysis*, VT 2023
  - SIMM29 *Evaluation Research – Theories and Methods*, VT 2023
  - SIMM30 *Participatory Methods of Change and Development*, VT 2023
  - SIMM32 *Quantitative Methods: Multivariate Analysis*, VT 2023
  - SIMM34 *Digital Media Research*, VT 2023
  - SIMM35 *Digital Ethnography*, VT 2023

- SIMM48 *Qualitative Analysis and Coding (using software)*, VT 2023
- SIMM55 *Research Interviews*, VT 2023
- SIMM56 *Process Tracing*, VT 2023
- SIMP28 *Critical Feminist Perspectives in Social Theory*, VT 2023
- SIMP46 *Middle Eastern Studies: Theory and Society*, VT 2023
- Graduate School Thesis Course Evaluation, VT 2023

**9. Establishment of Graduate School course offerings, spring 2024**

Appendix §9

- The establishment of Graduate School course offerings, spring 2024, was approved via a per capsulam decision 2023-10-02.

**10. Changes in course syllabus**

Appendix §10 a-b

- The Board approved the following course syllabus changes via a per capsulam decision 2023-10-02:
  - SIMM23 *Theory of Science for the Social Sciences*, spring 2024
  - SIMM48 *Qualitative Analysis and Coding (using software)*, spring 2024

**11. Next meeting**

28 November 2023

**12. Other questions**

- Question and discussion of term periods in reference to course schedules.

**13. Meeting closes**

Meeting closes at 14.15

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