

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

S. 399

MEMORANDUM

To Mr. H. Evans

Secretary of Senate

Subject History Curriculum Proposal

From D. H. Sullivan

Dean of Arts

Date August 6, 1970

The Faculty of Arts has approved the attached curriculum proposal from the Department of History. Included in the submission are the new course proposals and proposed calendar entry.

Would you please bring this before Senate for approval at its next meeting. Thank you.

D. H. Sullivan

DHS:DT
encl.

NEW COURSE PROPOSALS - DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

The attached curriculum proposals for the Department of History are presented to the Faculty of Arts and Senate for their approval. Since they represent a major revision of the department's programme rather than single additions to or deletions from that programme, the department submits, for its proposals, the following collective justification, which follows as closely as possible the prescribed form for submission of new course proposals in the Faculty of Arts.

1. Calendar Information:

Course titles, numbers, descriptions, credit hours, vector descriptions and pre-requisites are listed individually - or, where appropriate, collectively - in the attached calendar entry.

2. Enrollment and Scheduling:

- i. 100 level: History 100 - not a new course and to be offered on the same basis as at present.

History 150 and 160 - estimated enrollment - 150 for fall and spring semesters; 75 for summer. To be offered every semester.

History 199 - estimated enrollment - 50-75; to be offered twice yearly, fall and spring semester.

- ii. 200 level: Courses in Group A will be offered on the same basis as the department's present 200-level courses, with estimated enrollments of from 45-100, according to predictable demand. They will be offered at least once yearly on a rotating basis.

Courses in Group B will be offered to a maximum of 30 students once a year on a rotating basis. The exception to this will be History 299, which will usually be a lower-level readings course, offered each semester according to student demand and faculty availability.

- iii. 400 level: Courses in Group A will be offered to a maximum of 30 students or, in some cases, 45. They will be offered once a year on a rotating basis.

Courses in Group B will have the same estimated enrollment as Group A courses. It is anticipated that at least three will be given during each fall and spring semester and at least two during each summer semester. The exception to this will be History 489 which will be offered at this level on the same basis as History 299 at a lower level.

It is anticipated that the revised programme will be put into effect beginning in the fall semester, 1971.

3. Justification:

The department's present calendar proposal has been produced as a result of prolonged deliberations within the department. A series of committees, sitting since January, 1969, has examined in detail the present curriculum, the developing needs of the university and its student body and the changing interests of faculty and students within the department. The committees have been composed of faculty and students in equal numbers, have received submissions from both faculty and students and have presented interim proposals to open hearings of students and faculty and final proposals to debate of the department meeting, which includes six student members, and to final referendum of its members.

These discussions have produced a programme proposal which has underlined many of the principles on which History has so far been taught in this university and which has accordingly provided that the national and regional histories which have hitherto made up the greater part of the department's programme continue to be heavily represented. Thus, the teaching of the three regions of study, the Americas, Europe and Afro-Asia, will continue, as will the teaching of smaller areas within those regions. The department has decided, however, that it wishes to extend the offerings which it currently makes and to provide additional courses which give insight into particular branches of historical knowledge or which allow faculty and students to develop their interest in subject matter which cuts across national or regional boundaries. The general feeling of the department has been that its programme needs a great deal more flexibility than it possesses at present and an attempt has been made to provide this at all levels.

At the 100-level, the present calendar consists of History 100 (An Introduction to the Study of History), History 101 (The Twentieth Century), History 121 (Europe, 1500 to 1763), History 141 (Historical Development of the Americas to 1763) and History

162 (Afro-Asia Today). Of these, only the first has been retained and the remaining new courses are as follows -

History 150 Selected Topics in Pre-20th Century History.
 History 160 Selected Topics in Contemporary History.
 History 199 Studies in Historical Method.

The third of these courses is intended primarily for major and honours students who, having taken History 100, wish to apply the concepts and techniques acquired in that course to specific historical problems. The other two courses are intended to enable instructors to provide courses which are unhampered by the fairly rigid confines of the present regional courses. The topics for these courses will change from semester to semester and faculty wishing to undertake them will be required to submit their proposals to the chairman of the department who will present them to the department's Undergraduate Studies Committee for approval.

At the 200-level, courses are divided into two groups, the first offering studies in specific nations and regions and the second in particular approaches to the study of history. The first group of courses will be substantially the same as the 200-level courses presently offered by the department - that is, they will offer introductory work in those areas which are dealt with in more concentrated fashion at the 400-level. In most cases, these courses have been re-numbered and re-titled to allow faculty teaching them to depart, where appropriate, from the rigid chronological limits imposed by current offerings. The second group of courses is designed to continue and expand the ideas and techniques discussed in History 100 and 199. This will be done by examining the contribution of various sub-branches of the historical discipline, both in general terms and with reference to specific problems.

The 400 level courses are also divided into two groups, largely corresponding to those already noted at the 200-level. The first group, national and regional courses, provides students with the opportunity to examine in depth problems in the history of specific areas, while the second group is designed to give students a broader perspective, based on an examination of problems which transcend national or regional boundaries. The topics for these latter courses will change from semester to semester and faculty wishing to undertake them will be required to submit their proposals to the chairman of the department who will bring them to the department's undergraduate studies committee for approval. The honours courses, History 495-499, remain those included in the current calendar as do the requirements for the honours programme.

Acceptance of this proposal will affect departmental degree requirements at the lower levels because there will no longer be formal course requirements of any kind. The department is, however, revising its student advising programme to ensure that its students are thoroughly acquainted with the implications of any programme they may wish to undertake and that they are equally well aware of what the department recommends for its major and honours students. At the upper level, the requirement for thirty hours is retained with the additional proviso that major students must obtain a minimum of 5 hours credit from both Group A and Group B. The recommendations conform to faculty and university degree requirements.

The total number of courses, exclusive of honours courses, offered by the department will be decreased from sixty-five to fifty-seven by this proposal. History 100 will be the only non-honours course retaining its present number and description while all others have been dropped from the calendar or re-numbered and re-described in line with the principles outlined above.

4. Budgetary and Space Factors:

It will be possible to mount the proposed programme effectively with the faculty presently employed, although it will ideally require additional faculty for the department. In addition, the revised programme will make no space or equipment requirements beyond those which the department already has. With some reallocation of existing library funds, book needs for new courses can be met from existing resources.

PROPOSED CALENDAR ENTRY

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

1. General

'But the proper and peculiar purpose of the academic study of history is not merely the acquisition of a wide knowledge of history, even when received in a reliable or at least generally acceptable form. It is rather the creation of an ability to criticize the form and the sources of this knowledge, and the awakening of a sense of the sequence of cause and effect, of the constant movement and interplay upon each other of man and his environment, of the possibilities and limitations of historical discovery and judgment, of the distinction between the significant and the casual in the particular matter that is being reviewed, and of the resolution to be satisfied with nothing less than the repose of the mind in acquired truth, or failing that, the admission of ignorance - in a word, the acquisition of the historical sense, the capacity to see or to present to others some part of past human activity in an ordered, illuminated, critically tested form, which reflects something, at least, of the reality that once existed.'

David Knowles

Regius Professor of Modern History
in the University of Cambridge and
Fellow of Peterhouse.

2. Requirements for Prospective Major and Honours students in the First Four Levels

There are no formal course requirements in the first four levels. Students intending major or honours work in a particular area such as the history of Africa or the Middle East will normally be advised to enroll in preparatory courses at the lower level. All intending majors and honours students will be advised to take History 100 and 199 before entering upper level work.

3. Requirements for Major and Honours Students in the Fifth to Eighth Levels

Major students are required to obtain credit in 30 hours of 400-level work. A minimum of 5 credit hours must be obtained from each of Group A and B 400-level courses.

A student intending to enter the History Honours programme shall make application to the department's Undergraduate Studies Committee, ordinarily at the end of his fourth level.

The normal sequence of Honours courses for all students in their fifth and sixth levels will be: 495 and 496. Before entering the seventh level, the student must choose one of two plans:

Plan A. Designed to allow the student to pursue a broader education, this plan allows more choice of courses outside the department while still providing the student with the opportunity, through additional reading and the Honours Essay, to concentrate somewhat on a particular area of historical inquiry. The basic requirement for Honours students under this plan is fifty-one hours of course work in History, divided into seven 400-level courses and four Honours courses.

Plan B. This alternative offers the student a chance to free himself of the pressures of the typical semester and to concentrate fully on further readings, and the completion of the Honours Essay, in his specific area of historical interest. The basic requirement for Honours students under this plan is fifty-six hours of course work in History, divided into six 400-level courses, two Honours courses, and the Honours semester.

The following outlines a typical programme of study under the two plans (H-History; O-Optional; Honours Courses - H495 to H499):

Level 5	Level 6
H400-5 level	H400-5 level
H400-5	H400-5 level
H495-5	H496-3
<u>O200-3 level</u>	<u>O400-5 level</u>
18	18

Upon completion of level 6, the student must choose, after consultation with faculty, either Plan A or Plan B for his final two semesters:

Plan A		Plan B	
Level 7	Level 8	Level 7	Level 8
H400-5 level	H400-5 level	H400-5 level	H499-18
H400-5 level	H498-5	H400-5 level	
H497-3	O400-5 level	O400-5 level	
<u>O400-5 level</u>	<u>O200-3 level</u>	<u>O200-3 level</u>	
18	18	18	18

Languages Other than English

Most graduate schools require some proficiency in one or two languages other than English. Those who contemplate graduate studies in History area advised to include language courses other than English in their programme.

4. Description of Courses

100-3 Introduction to the Study of History (1-2-0)

An examination of abstract and philosophical problems of historical knowledge, such as causation, objectivity, progress, determinism. Open to students from all departments.

150-3 Selected Topics in Pre-20th Century History (2-1-0)

160-3 Selected Topics in Contemporary History (2-1-0)

These courses will be offered each semester; and topics will be announced in advance.

199-3 Studies in Historical Method (1-2-0)

A study of problems encountered in the analysis and interpretation of evidence from the past, through the use of primary source material. Intended primarily for major and honours students.

200 Level:

Group A: National and Regional Courses

Courses in this group are intended to familiarize students with the past of particular areas. Themes which individual instructors expect to emphasize in each case will be announced two semesters before the course is offered.

- 200-3 Modern Africa (2-1-0)
- 201-3 Studies in African History (2-1-0)
- 202-3 Canada (2-1-0)
- 203-3 Studies in Canadian History (2-1-0)
- 204-3 Studies in Early Modern Europe (2-1-0)
- 205-3 Studies in Modern Europe (2-1-0)
- 206-3 Studies in Contemporary Europe (2-1-0)
- 207-3 The European Nation-State (2-1-0)
- 208-3 Modern Latin America (2-1-0)
- 209-3 Studies in Latin American History (2-1-0)
- 210-3 The Modern Middle East (2-1-0)
- 211-3 Studies in Middle Eastern History (2-1-0)
- 212-3 The United States to 1877 (2-1-0)
- 213-3 The United States Since 1877 (2-1-0)

Group B: Approaches to History

Courses in this group are intended to introduce students to some

important approaches to the study of the past. They will discuss the theory and the practice of these views of history, their method of enquiry and their validity as techniques for apprehending the past.

- 294-3 Religion and Science (1-2-0)
- 295-3 Cultural and Intellectual History (1-2-0)
- 296-3 Social and Economic History (1-2-0)
- 297-3 Political and Administrative History (1-2-0)
- 298-3 International Relations (1-2-0)
- 299-3 Problems in History (0-3-0)

This course is designed to allow students to pursue in greater depth a particular historical problem. It will be offered either as an individual reading course or in small seminars, depending upon student and faculty interest. Admission by consent of the instructor. Not open to upper level students.

Upper Division Courses

Admission to 400-level courses is ordinarily at the discretion of the instructor, and students are advised to consult with the instructors concerned before planning their programme. Advice will be available from the department two semesters in advance as to specific problems and themes which will be examined in each of the courses in Groups A and B.

Group A: Problems in National and Regional History

Courses in this group allow students to develop further their interest in the history of particular nations or regions. It is intended that students sample as broad a selection of courses as possible, although the opportunities for specialization are to be noted.

- 404-5 East Africa (2-3-0)
- 409-5 West Africa (2-3-0)
- 413-5 Southern Africa (2-3-0)
- 414-5 North Africa (2-3-0)
- 418-5 The Middle East in the 19th Century (2-3-0)
- 419-5 The Middle East in the 20th Century (2-3-0)
- 423-3 Canada: Diplomatic and Political (2-3-0)
- 424-3 Canada: Cultural (2-3-0)
- 428-5 Canada: Social and Economic (2-3-0)
- 429-5 French Canada (2-3-0)
- 435-5 Western Canada (2-3-0)
- 442-5 Renaissance and Reformation in Europe (2-3-0)
- 443-5 England from the Reformation to the Restoration (2-3-0)
- 446-5 Victorian Britain (2-3-0)

- 447-5 British Foreign and Imperial Policy (2-3-0)
- 448-5 Central Europe since Metternich: I (2-3-0)
- 449-5 Central Europe since Metternich: II (2-3-0)
- 450-5 France in Modern Times: I (2-3-0)
- 454-5 France in Modern Times: II (2-3-0)
- 455-5 Imperial and Soviet Russia: I (2-3-0)
- 458-5 Imperial and Soviet Russia: II (2-3-0)
- 461-5 Colonial and Early National United States (2-3-0)
- 462-5 The United States in the 19th Century (2-3-0)
- 463-5 The United States in the 20th Century (2-3-0)
- 464-5 The United States: Selected Problems (2-3-0)
- 472-5 Latin America: Intellectual and Cultural (2-3-0)
- 473-5 Latin America: Political and Social (2-3-0)

Group B: Thematic Studies

Courses in this group provide students with an opportunity to develop their interest in general or specific themes about the historic past. Although the themes offered may vary according to changing faculty and student interest such problems as revolution, ideology, political stability, war and peace, disease, give some indication of the kind of theme discussed in these courses.

- 480-5 Studies in History I (2-3-0)
- 481-5 Studies in History II (2-3-0)
- 482-5 Studies in History III (2-3-0)
- 483-5 Studies in History IV (2-3-0)
- 484-5 Studies in History V (2-3-0)

- 489-5 Studies in History (0-3-0)

This course is designed to allow students to pursue in greater depth a particular historical problem. It will be offered either as an individual reading course or as small seminars, depending upon student and faculty interest. Admission by consent of the instructor.

Honours courses (open only to Honours students)

- 495-5 Methodology and Philosophy of History

- i) A study of methodology, including such concerns as principles of historical criticism, annotation and transcription of source material, generalization, and the techniques of history and the social sciences.

- ii) An examination of various philosophies of history, as well as such philosophical questions as the role and importance of ethics and morality in the writing of history and the extent to which objectivity, if desirable, is possible in historical analysis. (0-5-0)

496-3 Directed Honours Reading I

Ordinarily this course will serve as an introduction to the events and literature of a broad area of student interest. From these directed readings in a general field of study, the student will choose a more specific topic on which to concentrate future Honours work. (0-3-0)

497-3 Directed Honours Reading II

A continuation of History 496, with readings normally closely related to the proposed subject of the Honours Essay and directed towards its final preparation.

498-5 Honours Essay

The Honours Essay, written under the direction of an individual faculty member, will reflect a familiarity with the events and literature of a particular area of study.

499-18 Honours Semester

A semester in which further reading and research in a specialized area of study will be undertaken. Conducted in close co-operation with faculty, this 18-hour 'course' will culminate with the student writing an Honours Essay, a work which shall reflect an ability to analyze and synthesize the events and literature of the specific subject being considered.