

**SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY****MEMORANDUM****To:** Senate**From:** J.W.G. Ivany  
Chair, SCAP**Subject:** Department of History -  
Curriculum Changes**Date:** November 17, 1988

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Action undertaken by the Senate Committee on Academic Planning/Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies gives rise to the following motion:

Motion: that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors the curriculum changes as set forth in S.88-68 in Middle Eastern History and African History in the Department of History including

|             |            |                                                                                 |
|-------------|------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| New course  | HIST 355-3 | The Arab Middle East in the Twentieth Century                                   |
| Deletion of | HIST 352-3 | The Modern History of North Africa: From the 'Barbary' Corsairs to Independence |
|             | HIST 342-3 | The History of Nigeria: An Emerging African Giant                               |

## PROPOSED CALENDER REVISIONS FOR M.E. COURSES

### I. Summary of Revisions

- A. Lower division: - No changes
- B. Upper division
  - 1. History 350: - Editorial changes in course title and description
  - 2. History 352: - Course to be dropped
  - 3. History 354: - Editorial changes in course title, description and prerequisites
  - 4. History <sup>355</sup> - Introduction of a new course
  - 5. History 465: - Editorial changes to reflect the continuing focus of the course, and to introduce prerequisites
  - 6. History 467: - Introduction of prerequisites

### II. Rationale for Proposed Revisions

The Department of History at Simon Fraser University has one of the largest undergraduate enrollments in Middle Eastern history in North America. In the two semesters 1986-3 and 1987-1, the headcount in the four courses offered by the Department was 362. The one summer semester course added another 15 students to this number. As there is no reason to expect student demand for Middle Eastern history to change dramatically over the next few years, we have thought it best to chart the course of instruction for this period, and to spell it out as clearly as possible in the calendar.

The proposals which follow allow us to achieve two objectives. The first, and most important, of these is the substitution of a new three hundred level course for HIST 352-3, an infrequently taught course on North Africa. The new HIST <sup>355</sup>-3 is an improvement on the present curriculum that will offer a more comprehensive coverage of the important interwar and immediate postwar period in the Eastern Arab world. This revision will allow us and the Department as a whole to deal more effectively with the increased number of students, mainly History majors, who seek to enroll in upper division Middle Eastern courses. Although we are retaining the same

number of upper division courses that we now offer, we are shifting the concentration of those courses to an area that more directly builds on the expertise that our students acquire at the lower division.

The second objective is to introduce editorial changes to existing course titles and descriptions so that the regional focus and content of the courses we have been regularly teaching are more clearly defined for calendar purposes. This is particularly necessary in the case of HIST 465 which, over the last few years, has increasingly come to focus on the emergence of the state of Israel and the rise of the Palestinians.

### **III. Course Descriptions and Rationales**

#### **I. History 350**

Title and description for this course currently read as follows:

*From:* **HIST 350-3 Origins of the Modern Middle East: Continuity and Change from the Ottoman Conquest of Constantinople (1453) to World War I**

A study of Ottoman society from the reigns of Mehmet the Conqueror and Sulayman the Magnificent to the nationalist upheavals in the 19th century, focussing on Balkan independence movements, the rise of Egypt as a Middle Eastern power, the encroachments of Europe, and, of central importance, the efforts of Ottoman statesmen to reform their state and to keep the loyalty of the Arab provinces.

The editorial changes to read as follows:

*To:* **HIST 350-3. Origins of the Modern Middle East: Continuity and Change in the Ottoman Empire from 1453 to World War I.**

A study of Ottoman society and the impact of Ottoman rule in the Middle East, North Africa and the Balkans from the conquest of Constantinople to the establishment of the Turkish Republic in 1922. Emphasis will be on the conflict between preservation and reform in the 19th. century, on the rise

and progress of national movements within the Empire, and on the significance of the Ottoman legacy for the 20th. century Arab world.

### Rationale

The editorial changes in title and description are intended to tighten style and content description to provide students with a clearer indication of the focus of the course.

### 2. HIST 352-3

For reasons stated above, and in order to enable us to teach the new course outlined further below we request the removal from the calendar of **HIST 352-3 The Modern History of North Africa**

### 3. HIST 354-3

Title and description for this course currently read as follows:

#### **HIST 354-3 Imperialism and Political Modernization in Asia**

A comparative discussion of the Western intervention in the political and administrative life of selected traditional societies of Asia over the past two centuries, and of the resulting confrontation of the 'old' and the 'new' in the nationalist reactions and in the politics of modernization that became the concomitant of independence.

The editorial changes to read as follows:

#### **HIST 354-3 Imperialism and Political Modernization in Asia and North Africa**

A comparative discussion of European intervention, over the last two centuries, in the political life of selected traditional societies in Asia and North Africa. This course will study the interaction of these societies with the West, a common denominator in their various experiences, while also comparing the ways in which imperialism furthered, hindered or distorted the course of their modernization.

*Prerequisites: One of the following is recommended: HIST 151, 249, 251*

### Rationale

The addition of North Africa to the title description is designed to broaden the comparative nature of the course, and to remove an unrealistic geographical constraint on the regions relevant to its theme. This course was intended to enable students to compare the experience of different parts of the Middle East in their encounter with European imperialism, and to undertake, where a comparable experience is discernible, a further comparison of this experience with that of other parts of Asia. North Africa is, of course, also a part of the Middle East in the broader interpretation of the term adopted both by the relevant academic associations and scholarly journals. It is important to add this clarification to this course title to indicate to our students that while the focus of our course offerings is shifting to the Eastern Mediterranean it is not intended to exclude all considerations of the North African experience from our curriculum, particularly for comparative purposes. The editorial changes in the course description are intended to tighten style and content description, and to provide students with a clearer indication of the main themes of the course. An indication of prerequisites has been added to align the recommendations for this course with others offered at the same level.

### 4. History <sup>355</sup>

This is a new course for which title, description and rationale follow, and for which a sample outline is attached.

### <sup>355</sup> **HIST 22-3. The Arab Middle East in the Twentieth Century**

An examination of this century's major themes in the history of Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, Jordan and Saudi Arabia, as well as some of the other states of the Arabian peninsula. Topics to be investigated include the origins of Arab nationalism and Islamic reformism; the origins and development of the Lebanese Question; the emergence of the politics of the military in Iraq and Syria, and the special role of the Jordanian and Arabian monarchies.

*Prerequisites: One of the following is recommended: HIST 151, 249, 251*

NEW  
COURSE:

### Rationale.

This course permits greater scope for the examination of specific Arab countries and the relations among them than exists in the present curriculum. Moreover, by moving the subject of Israel and the Palestinians to a separate 400 division seminar, we can concentrate in this course on the several other imperial and internal issues which shaped the patterns of political, social and intellectual development in the 20th. century Eastern Arab World. The course fills a certain gap in our curriculum, it adds depth to the curriculum by building on subjects that are introduced at the lower division, and it fits into the department's 300 level needs by providing a combination of specialisation and survey. An indication of prerequisites has been added to align the recommendations for this course with others offered at the same level.

### 5. History 465-3

Title and description for this course currently read as follows:

#### **HIST 465-3 Religion and Nationalism in the 20th Century Middle East**

*From:* A discussion of the modern history of nation-building in the context of traditional religious identifications and secular ideological objectives in selected regions of the Middle East. For example, attention may be given to the formulation of Zionism and the creation of Israel; to the viability of Lebanon on a sectarian basis; to the emergence of a secular Turkish state; or to the evolution of Islamic reformism and Arab nationalism.

*Prerequisite: At least one of the following is recommended: HIST 151, 249, 251.*

The editorial changes to read as follows:

**HIST 465-3 Religion and Nationalism in the Emergence of Israel  
and the Rise of the Palestinians**

A discussion of the modern history of nation-building in the context of traditional religious identifications and secular ideological objectives in a controversial part of the Middle East, the seat of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

*Prerequisites: One of HIST 151, 249, 251, 350, <sup>355</sup> 354, or permission of the department.*

**Rationale**

Instruction in History 465 was originally designed to treat, each in a different semester, a number of distinct regional conflicts and developments, examples of which were listed in the course description. Over the years it has regularly come to focus largely on one of the problems listed; namely, that of Israel and the Palestinians, one of the most debated international conflicts of the past sixty years. We, therefore, feel it would be appropriate to formalise in the title of the course the allocation of this upper division seminar to a concentrated study of the historical literature devoted to the origins and development of this problem. In addition this change will 'free-up' the other regional developments for treatment in the new History 3XX.

The prerequisite for this course has been changed from a recommendation to a requirement because we feel that a certain level of background knowledge is necessary to sustain useful discussion in a four hundred level seminar. However, we have also adopted the formula of exemptions appended to four hundred level African history courses because we do not wish to be so rigid as not to recognise that a student may be able to substitute achievement in related areas of study for the completion of the work we will now require.

**6. History 467-3**

The prerequisite for this course currently read as follows:

*Prerequisites: At least one of the following is recommended: HIST 352, 354*

To: This should be changed to read as follows:

*Prerequisites: One of HIST 151, 249, 251, 350, <sup>355</sup> 354, or permission of the department.*

#### Rationale

The prerequisite for this course has been changed from a recommendation to a requirement because we feel that a certain level of background knowledge is necessary to sustain useful discussion in a four hundred level seminar. However, we have also adopted the formula of exemptions appended to four hundred level African history courses because we do not wish to be so rigid as not to recognise that a student may be able to substitute achievement in related areas of study for the completion of the work we will now require.

#### IV. Timing

We would like these changes to take effect in September 1989.

#### V. Additional Calendar Changes

We also propose a modification of the department's definition of groups as it appears on p. 84 of the 1987/88 calendar. We would like the Group 3 heading at both the lower and upper division to read: **Latin America, the Middle East, Africa**. This change more accurately reflects the focus of the non-Western portion of the Department's curriculum, it also gives some recognition to the national and international reputation which the Department's Middle Eastern program has achieved. We recommend that this change be inserted in the calendar as soon as possible.

#### VI. Conclusion

The revised curriculum will consist of the following courses: History 151, 249, 251, 350, 354, <sup>355</sup> 465 and 467. These seven courses represent no net additions to our current offering in Middle Eastern history. They do, however, represent a more concentrated focus of our energies. We believe that it is a logical and desirable concentration, and we note that it is hardly a restrictive one. Our curriculum will cover Islamic civilization from 600



to 1200 in History 249; Ottoman patterns of rule in the Middle East from 1453 to 1922 in History 350; and, through various approaches, the Middle East from 1800 to recent times as represented by the survey in History 151, by the focus on imperialism in History 251, by the concentration on the twentieth-century Arab world in History <sup>355</sup>, on the Arab-Israeli issue in History 465 and on modern Egypt in History 467.

We believe that students will find this program attractive in its chronological comprehensiveness and useful in its overall concentration on the Eastern Mediterranean world.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON UNDERGRADUATE STUDIESNEW COURSE PROPOSAL FORMCalendar InformationDepartment HISTORYAbbreviation Code: HIST Course Number: 355 Credit Hours: 3 Vector: 2-1-0Title of Course: The Arab Middle East in the Twentieth Century

Calendar Description of Course: An examination of this century's major themes in the history of Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, Jordan and Saudi Arabia, as well as some of the other states of the Arabian peninsula. Topics to be investigated include the origins of Arab nationalism and Islamic reformism; the origins and development of the Lebanese Question; the emergence of the politics of the military in Iraq and Syria, and the special role of Nature of Course: Lecture/tutorial the Jordanian and Arabian monarchies.

Prerequisites (or special instructions):

One of the following is recommended: HIST 151, 249, 251

What course (courses), if any, is being dropped from the calendar if this course is approved: HIST 352

2. SchedulingHow frequently will the course be offered? once every 5th semesterSemester in which the course will first be offered? not decided

Which of your present faculty would be available to make the proposed offering possible? John Spagnolo, William Cleveland

Objectives of the Course**OFFICE OF THE DEAN**

AUG 16 1988

**FACULTY OF ARTS**4. Budgetary and Space Requirements (for information only)

What additional resources will be required in the following areas:

Faculty noneStaff noneLibrary noneAudio Visual noneSpace noneEquipment none5. ApprovalDate: 16 Aug 8811/15/88William Cleveland  
Department ChairmanRCB  
DeanRS  
Chairman, SCUS

SCUS 73-34b:- (When completing this form, for instructions see Memorandum SCUS 73-34a. Attach course outline). No outline as yet.

## SAMPLE OUTLINE FOR HIST. 355

### **HIST 355-3: The Arab Middle East in the Twentieth Century**

An examination of this century's major themes in the history of Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, Jordan and Saudi Arabia, as well as some of the other states of the Arabian peninsula. Topics to be investigated include the origins of Arab nationalism and Islamic reformism; the origins and development of the Lebanese Question; the emergence of the politics of the military in Iraq and Syria, and the special role of the Jordanian and Arabian monarchies.

Although the impact of the Arab-Israeli wars on the Arab states will be examined, students should note that such issues as the British Mandate in Palestine and the clash between Palestinians and Israelis will be considered only as they relate to the developments mentioned above. Specific attention to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict is given in History 465.

#### Texts:

Peter Mansfield, The Arabs

Yehoshua Porath, In Search of Arab Unity

Malcolm Kerr, The Arab Cold War

These works will be supplemented with readings on reserve in the library.

#### Grades:

Mid term exam. 20%; Tutorial 20%; Essay 30%; Final exam 30%

### **Weekly Lecture Topics**

- |          |                                                                      |
|----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Week I   | The Ottoman-Arab World to 1914                                       |
| Week II  | Revolt, Independence and Occupation: The Arab Middle East, 1914-1922 |
| Week III | The Politics of Realism (I) Iraq from 1922 to 1940                   |

- Week IV      The Politics of Realism (II) Syria and Lebanon from 1922 to 1940
- Week V        The Politics of Realism (III) The Rise of the House of Saud to 1940
- Week VI       The Politics of Idealism: Pan-Arabism and Pan-Islam from 1922-1940
- Week VII      a) Mid-term examination  
                  b) World War II and the Arab Middle East
- Week VIII     The Radicalization of Arab Politics in the Age of Nasser - The End of the Old Order?
- Week IX       Syria and Lebanon in the Arab World, 1945-1967 - A New Regionalism?
- Week X        The Arab Cold War: The Regional State System and the Super Power Conflict
- Week XI       The Civil War in Lebanon: Causes and Impact
- Week XII      Iraq, Syria and Arabia from 1970 - New Stability in the Arab Regimes?
- Week XIII     The Arab Middle East since World War I - The Historical Pattern

## PROPOSED CALENDAR CHANGES (AFRICAN HISTORY)

### A. SUMMARY OF REVISIONS

#### Lower Division

1. Hist. 146 Editorial change in course title and description.
2. Hist. 231 Title and description to be changed.

#### Upper Division

4. Hist. 342 To be dropped. The course will, in future, be taught as Hist. 483.
5. Hist. ~~342~~ <sup>343</sup> Formerly Hist. 478 - re numbered
6. Hist. 483 To be given a new title and a more ~~general~~ <sup>general</sup> course description
7. Hist. 478 To be dropped. This course will in future be taught as Hist. ~~342~~ <sup>343</sup>.

### B. CHANGES IN DETAIL

#### Lower Division

1. Hist. 146 From: Title and description in the current calendar reads as follows: Africa since the Partition. An introduction to the history of Modern Africa, treating the European occupation, African resistance, and the emergence of new states and their contemporary problems.

#### Proposed New Title and Description

To: Africa in Recent History. Colonialism, Independence and National Building.

#### Rationale for Change

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2. Hist. 231 From: To tighten style and content description and provide students with a clearer indication of the focus of the course.  
To: Title and description in the current calendar reads as follows: Hist. 231-3 The Collapse of the Imperial Order. A study of the real or apparent decline of Western Imperial authority, 1902-1965, with special reference to Africa and India. Prerequisite: Hist. 146 recommended. Students with credit for Hist. 216 may not take this course for further credit.

Proposed New Title and Description

- 10: The Origins of Modern Africa; Conquest, Resistance and Resurgence. Continuity and change in sub-Saharan Africa from the era of the slave trade until World War II. Prerequisites: None.

If the proposals are accepted Hist 231 will in future be primarily an African history course. The change will therefore enable the Department's Africanists to prepare their students more effectively for the African Upper Division courses.

Upper Division

4. Hist. 342 To be dropped. The course will be taught, on occasion, as Hist. 483.
5. Hist. ~~342~~ <sup>343</sup> Hist. 478 renumbered. Proposed title and course description as follows: The Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade. How the trade began, how it was conducted, and how it influenced African development. Special attention will be paid to the controversies which surround its end.  
  
No prerequisites. Students with credit for Hist. 478 may not enroll in Hist. ~~478~~ <sup>343</sup>.
6. Hist. 483 To be given a new title and more general course description.  
  
Title and course description read as follows: The National Struggle in Zimbabwe. An examination of the myths and the extent to which they should (or were shaped by) realities in colonial Rhodesia from c 1955 to licit independence in 1980.

Proposed title and description

- Hist. 483 The Struggle for Identity in sub-Saharan Africa. Selected topics in the history of an African state. Prerequisites: None
7. Hist. 478 To be renumbered as Hist. ~~478~~ <sup>343</sup>.

Rationale for proposed Upper Level Changes - *HIST 478-renumbered to HIST 343*  
*HIST 483*

Student enrollments in African history have increased dramatically. The pressure has been felt particularly at the 300 level. The changes outlined above make it possible to provide new places at the 300 level. Although Hist. 478 teaches well as a seminar it can be altered so as to make it a sound lecture course for forty students. It should therefore be moved to the 300 level. Hist. 342 cannot very easily be taught as a lecture course. It will, therefore, be preserved as a seminar course. It can in future be taught as Hist. 483. With a new title and course description it will, in fact, be possible to teach Hist. 483 in a variety of ways. If the new proposals are accepted Hist. 483 will on some occasions have as its subject matter selected topics on Zimbabwean history. On others it will have as its subject a topic, or topics, in Nigerian history.