

PROPOSAL NUMBER: 99-
6116

CURRICULUM PROPOSAL FORM

DEADLINES:

REGULAR COURSE PROPOSALS: OCTOBER 23, 1998 FOR FALL, 1999 AND FEBRUARY 19, 1999 FOR SPRING, 2000
 SHORT-TERM COURSE PROPOSALS: DECEMBER 11, 1998 FOR FALL, 1999 AND MARCH 26, 1998 FOR SPRING 2000

PROPOSAL TITLE: History of the Caucasus (short-term)

SPONSOR/S: Dr. Robert H. Hewsen, ext. 3989

DEPARTMENT: History

2205.462

CHECK ALL THAT APPLY:
 UNDERGRADUATE GRADUATE

COLLEGE: _____
 If LAS: History/Humanities
 _____ Math/Sciences
 _____ Social/Behavioral Sciences

TYPE OF PROPOSAL (Check ALL that Apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> General Education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Course (NOT Gen. Ed.)
<input type="checkbox"/> New Course in _____ Bank	<input type="checkbox"/> Name Change (Dept., School, Major)
<input type="checkbox"/> Existing course, Add To _____ Bank	<input type="checkbox"/> Changes in Degree Requirements
<input type="checkbox"/> Multicultural/Global Designation	<input type="checkbox"/> Changes Involve Gen. Ed. requirements
<input type="checkbox"/> Writing Intensive Designation	
<input type="checkbox"/> Literature Designation	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor Changes to Existing Courses
<input type="checkbox"/> New Minor/Concentration/Specialization	<input type="checkbox"/> Course is NOT General Education
<input type="checkbox"/> New Major/Degree Program	<input type="checkbox"/> Course IS General Education
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Short Term Course Proposal	

DEPARTMENT
 (SIGNATURE INDICATES APPROVAL)

Robert H. Hewsen 1/24/99 Harry G. Nunte 1/24/99

DEPT. CURRICULUM CHAIR / DATE DEPT. CHAIRPERSON / DATE

COLLEGE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE
 DATE OF OPEN HEARING (if necessary) _____

APPROVED

NOT APPROVED

COMMENTS: Short-Term Course -
no signature needed here

SIGNATURE DATE

ACADEMIC DEAN (& GRADUATE DEAN, for New Graduate Programs Only)

APPROVED

NOT APPROVED

COMMENTS:

[Signature] 1/25/99
SIGNATURE (Academic Dean) DATE

SIGNATURE (Graduate Dean) DATE

UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

DATE OF OPEN HEARING (if necessary) 4-1-99 3/4/99

APPROVED

NOT APPROVED

COMMENTS:

James Reed 3/19/99
SIGNATURE DATE

SENATE

Date announced at Senate 2/23/99

Voted upon at Senate: Approved Not Approved Date:

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT/PROVOST

APPROVED

NOT APPROVED If no, reasons are as follows:

STUDENT CREDIT HOURS 3 FACULTY LOAD HOURS 3 EQUALIZED CREDIT HOURS _____

OFFICIAL COPY & APPROVAL SHEET FILED (DATE): _____

DATE/SIGNATURE EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT/PROVOST

C. J. B. Wilson

REGISTRAR

DATE APPROVED COURSE DESCRIPTION RECEIVED _____

HEGIS TAXONOMY & COURSE NUMBER ASSIGNED 2.705.462

DATE/SIGNATURE OF REGISTRAR Robert A. Kulat 3/24/99

NOTIFICATION FORWARD:

SENATE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON

DEPARTMENT CHAIRPERSONS

ACADEMIC DEAN(S)

REGISTRAR

SPONSOR(S)

7117 3/31/99

SHORT TERM COURSE PROPOSAL
HISTORY OF THE CAUCASUS
Robert H. Hewsen, PhD
Department of History

[NOTE: This course was taught successfully by its sponsor for four years (1980-83), while an adjunct at the University of Pennsylvania, and will be taught by him again at Columbia University in the fall of 1999, where he will be serving as Visiting Professor].

1. DETAILS:

- a. COURSE TITLE: History of the Caucasus.
- b. SPONSOR: Dr. Robert H. Hewsen, Department of history.
- c. CREDIT HOURS: 3 credit hours.
- d. COURSE LEVEL: Senior level (400)
- e. PREREQUISITES: Western Civilization I (2205.100) and II (2205.101) are prerequisites for this course. The course is especially recommended for students who have had Russia to 1914 (2205.220), Russia since 1914 (2205.221) or The Byzantine Empire (2205.309), but none of these last three courses is a prerequisite
- f. TIME AND SCALE OF IMPLEMENTATION: The course is to be initially offered once in the fall of 1999, and, then, if successful, will be sponsored as a permanent addition to the History Department's course offerings to be offered every other academic year according to student enrollment.
- g. CURRICULAR EFFECT: This course will be a free elective.
- h. ADEQUACY OF PRESENT STAFF: The present staff is adequate, the sponsor being an internationally recognized specialist in the history of this area of the world. No costs to the History Department are anticipated in the implementation of this proposal.
- i. RECOMMENDED LIBRARY RESOURCES: The sponsor has nurtured the library's holdings in this area since the fall of the Soviet Union and the emergence of the three major Caucasian republics as independent states. The library currently possesses such major resources as *The Great Soviet Encyclopedia* (in English trans.), *The Encyclopaedia of Islam*, *The Modern Encyclopedia of Russian and Soviet History*, and *The Modern Encyclopedia of Russian and Soviet Literature*. The acquisition of new books and tapes as they appear should place no undue burden either on the budget of the History Department or on that of the library as a whole. The sponsor has a personal library of over a thousand volumes relevant to this area and

will make selected texts available to students on a reserved shelf for use in the library.

2. RATIONALE:

a. **GENERAL:** The Caucasus region (also known as Caucasia), consists of the Caucasus Mountains lying between the Black and the Caspian Seas, and the lands to the immediate north and south of them. This vast territory includes the present independent republics of Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan, as well as the southernmost parts of the Russian Republic, and includes some fifty different ethnic groups.

b. **ACADEMIC IMPORTANCE:** The sudden emergence of the former Soviet republics of Georgia, Armenia, and Azerbaijan in 1991, revealed a lacuna in the coverage of world history in institutions of higher education in the Western World. With the exception of Armenia, which is only one part of the Caucasian world, no courses involving the study of Georgia, Azerbaijan or such North Caucasian peoples as the Chechens, Circassians, etc. are available on the university level (the program at Berkeley was funded for three years and ends in June, 1999).

c. **NONWESTERN SIGNIFICANCE:** A part of the Russian Empire since the early nineteenth century and a part of the Soviet empire from 1920 to 1991, Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan and the neighboring lands had always been regarded previously as a part of the Middle East. The Caucasus region has thus always been a part of the non-Western World.

d. **MULTICULTURAL VALUE:** Although the Caucasus region has an overall unity of its own, each of the three major Caucasian republics has its own unique language, religion and local culture, and all three have attained high levels in art, architecture, literature and music. The introduction of a course in the history of the Caucasus will enrich the multicultural offerings both of the Department and the University. Since Armenia and Georgia are Christian countries, while Azerbaijan and much of the North Caucasus is Muslim, the potential for the development of interdisciplinary and intercultural awareness on the part of students is high.

e. **GLOBAL SIGNIFICANCE:** Since the breakup of the Soviet Union, many parts of the Caucasus region have been in the world's headlines:

1) The ethnic rebellions that ushered in the disintegration of the Soviet Union began in Armenia in August, 1988 (which was also the center of a major earthquake that December).

2) The region of Karabagh seceded from Azerbaijan and declared its independence in 1992.

3) A subsequent war with Azerbaijan has led to Karabagh forces

currently occupying 20 percent of the latter.

4) Azerbaijan has for ten years imposed a blockade on the Armenian Republic, a ploy that has drawn the attention of Russia, the United States and other countries to the region.

5) While this has been taking place, a frenzied international scramble has been going on by the international oil companies to gain access to Azerbaijani oil, the largest deposits of petroleum on earth.

6) Meanwhile, Georgia became involved in a major civil war; the Abkhazian region has seceded from the country, and the Ossetian minority is also in revolt.

7) An organization of international cooperation between all of the Black Sea counties (including Armenia and Azerbaijan which are not on the sea, itself) has been formed.

8) The republic of Chechnya, lying within the Russian Republic, unilaterally announced its independence of Russia and, after a lengthy, costly and bloody war, the Russians have been unable to do anything about this.

9) Turkey has joined Azerbaijan in its blockade of Armenia, while Azerbaijani claims to an enormous territory in northwestern Iran has driven Iran to the support of Armenia.

10) The United States has recognized all three of the major Caucasian republics, and has established diplomatic relations with each.

In sum, this is an area of major concern at the present time and is not likely to decline in international importance anytime in the foreseeable future. There are no conflicts or overlaps between this course, as proposed, and any other courses currently included in the curriculum.

3. ESSENCE OF THE COURSE:

a. The student will learn the history of one of the oldest and most fought over parts of the old world, a region where the civilizations of Persia, Greece, the Rome, the Byzantium, the Arabs, the Mongols, the Turks, and the Russians have mingled and overlapped. The course will also expose the student to the world of eastern Christianity, and to the various sects of the Islamic faith, as well as to the rich cultures developed by the peoples of the Caucasus. Finally, it will provide the necessary background for an understanding of this part of the Old World as it intrudes into the headlines and otherwise impacts the world around it.

- b. TOPICAL OUTLINE/CONTENT (See attached syllabus).
- c. EVALUATION AND GRADING PROCEDURE: Students will be required to take a midterm examination and a final examination, and will submit a term paper of 12-15 pp. on some topic relevant to the course. These shall each count as one-third of the final grade.
- d. COURSE EVALUATION: At the end of the semester, forms will be submitted for student evaluation of the course and these shall then be reviewed by the History Department chair and curriculum committee.

4. RESULTS OF CONSULTATION:

a. This proposal has been discussed with the past and present Chairpersons of the History Department (in particular with Dr. Gary Hunter), and the sponsor has their support.

b. This course was proposed once before in 1993 and received support from Prof. Erika Freiburger of the Department of Foreign Languages at what was then Glassboro State College, from Prof. Chester Zimolzak of the Department of Geograophy, from Prof. Richard Johnson of the Department of Political Science and from Prof. Habib Jam of the Department of Economics. Support was also received from Professor Avedis Sanjian of the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Literatures at UCLA, from Prof. Howard I. Aronson of the Department of Slavic Languages and Literature at the University of Chicago, and from Dr. Rueben Adalian, Academic Liaison for the Armenian Assembly in Washington, D.C.. Unfortunately, it was not possible for the proposal to be pursued at that time, and Professors Freiburger and Sanjian have since died. Their rcommendations, however, are attached.

SYLLABUS
HISTORY OF THE CAUCASUS

FIRST WEEK:

- 1) Introduction to the course, course requirements, textbook.
- 2) Significance and uniqueness of the Caucasus region and its peoples.

Terminological and geographic survey.

SECOND WEEK:

- 1) Origins of the Caucasian Peoples.
- 2) Emergence of the Caucasian kingdoms and of the Caucasian Social System.

THIRD WEEK:

- 1) The Caucasus Between Rome and Iran.
- 2) The Coming of Christianity.

FOURTH WEEK:

- 1) The Emergence of a Caucasian Culture.
- 2) The Coming of Islam.

FIFTH WEEK:

- 1) Armenia and Georgia Under the Bagratid Condominium.
- 2) Medieval Caucasian Culture.

SIXTH WEEK:

- 1) Turks, Crusaders, Mongols, and Turkomans: the Decline of the Caucasian States.
- 2) Review.

SEVENTH WEEK: Midterm examination

EIGHTH WEEK:

- 1) The Caucasus Between Turkey and Iran.
- 2) The Armenian Diaspora.

NINTH WEEK:

- 1) The Russian Conquest of the Caucasus.

- 2) The Impact of the West.

TENTH WEEK:

- 1) The Tsarist Administration of the Caucasus.
- 2) Modernization and Revolutionary Movements in the Caucasus.

ELEVENTH WEEK:

- 1) Development of a Modern Caucasian Culture.
- 2) The Eastern Question.

TWELFTH WEEK:

- 1) World War I and the Caucasus.
- 2) The First Caucasian Republics, 1918-1920.

THIRTEENTH WEEK:

- 1) The Soviet Caucasus: Administration.
- 2) The Soviet Caucasus: Economics.

FOURTEENTH WEEK:

- 3) The Soviet Caucasus: Social and Cultural.
- 4) The Fall Of The Soviet Union.

FIFTEENTH WEEK:

- 1) The Caucasus Today.
- 2) Conclusion and Review.


SIXTEENTH WEEK: Final examination.

CATALOG DESCRIPTION
HISTORY OF THE CAUCASUS

Prerequisites: Western Civilization I (2205.100) and II (2205.101)

A survey of the history of the region astride the Caucasus Mountains, traditionally (but erroneously) held to have been the original home of the "Caucasian race." A unique cultural area lying between Russia and the Middle East and long a part of both, the Caucasus (or Caucasia) consists of three countries: Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan, together with the lands of nearly fifty other peoples on both sides of the range. The course traces the history of this fascinating region, surveys the rich cultural achievements of its peoples, examines the impact of the outside world upon their development, and details their problems and prospects in the post-Soviet world in which they have recently emerged as newly independent nations. Special attention is given to both the underlying uniqueness of Caucasian culture and to the diversity of its local variations.

March 1, 1993


Dr. Chester Z. Zimolzak
Department of Geography/Anthropology
Robinson Building
Rowan College of New Jersey

Dear Chet:

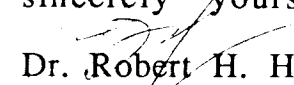
The enclosed proposal is self-explanatory. It is being sent to you because your discipline or other special interests suggest that you might be interested in serving with me as a Rowan College co-sponsor here at Rowan College.

Please understand that this proposal is very tentative and needs additional input. Feel free to indicate how it might be improved in any way. At the present time, it is purely for discussion but I would like to be able to present it to the History Department and to the Administration in a formal way before the end of the spring semester. By that time, the specific course proposals will have been written.

If you would like to lend your support to this proposal, you may do so simply by initialing it and sending it back to me with any addenda or other suggestions that you would care to make. I will then feel free to add your name to the list of Rowan co-sponsors. The Administration may wish to call upon you for your recommendations, but your sponsorship should not require anything beyond that.

Thanking you in advance for your input, I remain

sincerely yours


Dr. Robert H. Hewsen
Professor of History
President, Society for
the Study of Caucasia

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
DEPARTMENT OF SLAVIC LANGUAGES & LITERATURES
1130 EAST 59TH STREET
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60637

E-Mail: hia5@midway.uchicago.edu

3/14/93

Professor Robert H. Hewsen
Department of History
Rowan College of New Jersey
Glassboro, NJ

Dear Bob,

I have read your proposal for a specialization in the history of the
Caucasus at Rowan College and would be extremely pleased to lend my
support to it and to serve as an off-campus co-sponsor.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Howard I. Aronson".

Howard I. Aronson
Professor

March 1, 1993

Dr. Avedis K. Sanjian
Department of Near Eastern Languages
University of California
Los Angeles, CA 90024

Dear Avedis:

The enclosed proposal is self-explanatory. It is being sent to you because your discipline or other special interests suggest that you might be interested in serving with as an off-campus expert to co-sponsor it with me here at Rowan College.

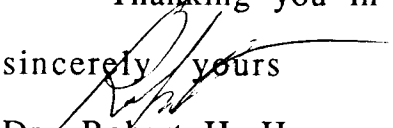
As you may have heard, Rowan College of New Jersey (formerly Glassboro State College) has just become the recipient of an endowment of \$100,000,000.00, which places us in regard to endowments in the top 3 1/2 percent of the nation's institutions of higher education. University status seems but a few years away and it is hoped that Rowan will develop into the Rutgers University of southern New Jersey. The enclosed proposal has been conceived in the light of this development.

Please understand that this proposal is very tentative and needs additional input. Feel free to indicate how it might be improved in any way. At the present time, it is purely for discussion but I would like to be able to present it to the Administration in a formal way before the end of the spring semester. By that time the specific course proposals will have been written.

If you would like to lend your support to this proposal, you may do so simply by initialing it and sending it back to me with any addenda or other suggestions that you would care to make. I will then feel free to add your name to the list of off-campus co-sponsors. Our Administration may wish to call upon you for your recommendations, but your sponsorship should not require anything beyond that.

Thanking you in advance for your input, I remain

sincerely yours


Dr. Robert H. Hewsen
Professor of History
President, Society for
the Study of Caucasia

Robert,
I have read the proposal
with great interest & find it
eminently reasonable & worthwhile.
Hence you may include my name,
for, as an off-campus co-sponsor.
With best wishes,
Avedis



GLASSBORO STATE COLLEGE

Foreign Languages and Literatures Department
Glassboro, New Jersey 08028-1770 (609) 863-6021

3/8/83

Dear Bob:

I am glad you are taking this wonderful initiative! Wish you success!

As you might know I got sick with colon cancer and metastatic liver cancer in November and will have further surgery on March 24. I'll be out for 3 weeks and hopefully back by mid-April. I feel sorry.

Best,

Erika

P.S. See connections!

819-3000