

General Education Committee
March, 2009

Consent: Multiple Revisions to Course	HIST 417 Age of Renaissance Beth Plummer 745-5739
Consent: Multiple Revisions to Course	HIST 418 Age of Reformation Beth Plummer 745-5739

Proposal Date: December 16, 2008

**Potter College of Arts and Letters
Department of History
Proposal to Make Multiple Revisions to a Course**

Contact: Beth Plummer, beth.plummer@wku.edu, 5-5739

General Education Course Form

1. Catalog description of the course:

- 1.1 Prefix and number: HIST 417
- 1.2 Title: Age of Renaissance
- 1.3 Abbreviated course title: Age of Renaissance
- 1.4 Prerequisites: None
- 1.5 Course catalogue listing: A study of Western Europe during the period 1275 to 1520 with emphasis on political, social, cultural, intellectual, and religious developments.

2. General Education goal(s) met by the course:

Category B-II: Humanities-Electives

Goal 5 An informed acquaintanceship with major achievements in the arts and humanities.

Goal 6 A historical perspective and an understanding of connections between past and present.

This course already is approved for Category B-II.

3. Proposed changes

- 3.1 Prefix and number: **HIST 317**
- 3.2 Title: **Renaissance Europe**
- 3.3 Abbreviated course title: **Renaissance Europe**
- 3.4 Prerequisites: **History 119 or 120, and Sophomore standing; or permission of the instructor.**
- 3.5 Course catalogue listing: **A study of the impact of Renaissance culture and thought among various social, intellectual, and political groups in Italian cities and princely courts, and the diffusion of the Renaissance in Western Europe from the thirteenth to sixteenth centuries.**

4. Rationale for proposed change

The title and course description more accurately reflect the content and how the course is being taught. Since this course is a general education course and enrolls non-majors as well as majors, it makes more sense to place this course at the 300-level where the work load would be more in line with the skill level of

Sophomore-level students, and above, whether or not they are History majors. This change will bring this course in line with the other upper-level general education courses offered by the History department. The changes in the title, course level, and course catalog listing *do not* substantively alter the course content, thus the course will continue to meet the stated General Education goals.

The addition of the prerequisite is intended to help students succeed in the course. All students must take HIST 119 or 120 as a Category C general education requirement and numerous sections of these courses are offered every semester so this should not cause any problems for students. More importantly, however, first-year students, and students trying to take HIST 119/120 and HIST 417 simultaneously without previous college-level history, have not done well in this course. The writing and critical thinking skills and general historical methodology gained in HIST 119 or 120, and the additional college experience will help students succeed in this course.

5. Dates of prior committee approvals:

History Department:	01/26/2009
Potter College Curriculum Committee	02/05/2009
General Education Committee	<u>02/12/2009</u>
Undergraduate Curriculum Committee	_____
University Senate	_____

Proposal Date: December 16, 2008

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Department of History
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Contact: Beth Plummer, beth.plummer@wku.edu, 5-5739

General Education Course Form

1. Catalog description of the course:

- 1.1 Prefix and number: HIST 418
- 1.2 Title: Age of Reformation
- 1.3 Abbreviated course title: Age of Reformation
- 1.4 Prerequisites: None
- 1.5 Course catalogue listing: A study of Western Europe during the period 1500-1648 with principal attention given to the religious conflicts of that time.

2. General Education goal(s) met by the course:

Category B-II: Humanities-Electives

Goal 5 An informed acquaintanceship with major achievements in the arts and humanities.

Goal 6 A historical perspective and an understanding of connections between past and present.

This course already is approved for Category B-II.

3. Proposed changes

- 1.1 Prefix and number: **HIST 318**
- 1.2 Title: Age of Reformation
- 1.3 Abbreviated course title: Age of Reformation
- 1.4 Prerequisites: **History 119 or 120, and Sophomore standing; or permission of the instructor.**
- 1.5 Course catalogue listing: **A study of the religious reform movements in Europe from the late Middle Ages to end of the religious wars in 1648, with particular attention paid to the cultural, intellectual, political, and social responses to Reformation ideas.**

4. Rationale for proposed change

The course description more accurately reflects the content and how the course is being taught. Since this course is a general education course and enrolls non-majors as well as majors, it makes more sense to place this course at the 300-level where the work load would be more in line with the skill level of Sophomore-

level students, and above, whether or not they are History majors. This change will bring this course in line with the other upper-level general education courses offered by the History department. The changes in the course level and course catalog listing *do not* substantively alter the course content, thus the course will continue to meet the stated General Education goals.

The addition of the prerequisite is intended to help students succeed in the course. All students must take HIST 119 or 120 as a Category C general education requirement and numerous sections of these courses are offered every semester so this should not cause any problems for students. More importantly, however, first-year students, and students trying to take HIST 119/120 and HIST 417 simultaneously without previous college-level history, have not done well in this course. The writing and critical thinking skills and general historical methodology gained in HIST 119 or 120, and the additional college experience will help students succeed in this course.

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