ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

GENERAL STUDIES PROGRAM COURSE PROPOSAL COVER FORM

Courses submitted to the GSC between 2/1 and 4/30 if approved, will be effective the following Spring.

Courses submitted between 5/1 and 1/31 if approved, will be effective the following Fall.

(SUBMISSION VIA ADOBE.PDF FILES IS PREFERRED)

DATE 3/5/2009

1. ACADEMIC UNIT: Department of History

2. COURSE PROPOSED: HST 349 The Early Middle Ages 3
   (prefix) (number) (title) (semester hours)

3. CONTACT PERSON: Name: Kent Wright Phone: 965-8595
   Mail Code: 4302 E-Mail: kent.wright@asu.edu

4. ELIGIBILITY: New courses must be approved by the Tempe Campus Curriculum Subcommittee and must have a regular course number. For the rules governing approval of omnibus courses, contact the General Studies Program Office at 965-0739.

5. AREA(S) PROPOSED COURSE WILL SERVE. A single course may be proposed for more than one core or awareness area. A course may satisfy a core area requirement and more than one awareness area requirements concurrently, but may not satisfy requirements in two core areas simultaneously, even if approved for those areas. With departmental consent, an approved General Studies course may be counted toward both the General Studies requirement and the major program of study. (Please submit one designation per proposal)

   Core Areas
   Literacy and Critical Inquiry—L □
   Mathematical Studies—MA □ CS □
   Humanities, Fine Arts and Design—HU □
   Social and Behavioral Sciences—SB □
   Natural Sciences—SQ □ SG □

   Awareness Areas
   Global Awareness—G □
   Historical Awareness—H □
   Cultural Diversity in the United States—C □

6. DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED.
   (1) Course Description
   (2) Course Syllabus
   (3) Criteria Checklist for the area
   (4) Table of Contents from the textbook used, if available

7. In the space provided below (or on a separate sheet), please also provide a description of how the course meets the specific criteria in the area for which the course is being proposed.

   CROSS-LISTED COURSES: □ No □ Yes; Please identify courses: ____________________________

   Is this an undergraduate course?: □ No □ Yes; Is it governed by a common syllabus? __________

Mark von Hagen
Chair/Director (Print or Type)

Date: 3/6/09

Chair/Director (Signature)

Rev. 1/94, 4/95, 7/98, 4/00, 1/02, 10/08
HST 349: The Early Middle Ages

Course Description
HST 343 is a historical survey of Europe between 400 and 1000. Once labeled the “Dark Ages,” this period is now regarded in a much more positive light, with recent historians stressing the dynamic political, cultural, and religious developments that preserved ancient cultural and launched a distinctive new society in western Europe. The course investigates issues such as the role of the Catholic church as a transitional and unifying institution in Europe; the rise of political states; the formation of legal and cultural identities; the accommodation of waves of immigrants. Course materials include a variety of primary sources, readings by contemporary historians, and a leading textbook in medieval history.

Meeting Social and Behavioral Sciences Criteria
HST 343 meets the criteria for the General Studies “Social and Behavioral Sciences” designation by (1) introducing students to the understanding and knowledge of human interaction by examining the early history of Europe, from the end of the Roman Empire to 1000 CE: (2) by treating such topics as the development of the Catholic church, the formation of monarchical states, the formation of legal and cultural identities, with the tools and findings of modern historical science, cultural geography, and political science; and (3) by introducing students to the study of primary sources – lives of saints, Procopius, biographies of Charlemagne, medieval plays – and the methods and problems of their secondary interpretation.
Proposer: Please complete the following section and attach appropriate documentation.

# ASU--[SB] CRITERIA

A SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE [SB] course should meet all of the following criteria. If not, a rationale for exclusion should be provided.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YES</th>
<th>NO</th>
<th>Identify Documentation Submitted</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1. Course is designed to advance basic understanding and knowledge about human interaction.</td>
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<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2. Course content emphasizes the study of social behavior such as that found in:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>• ANTHROPOLOGY</td>
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<td>• ECONOMICS</td>
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<td>• POLITICAL SCIENCE</td>
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<td>• SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY</td>
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<td>• SOCIOLOGY</td>
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<td>3. Course emphasizes: a. the distinct knowledge base of the social and behavioral sciences (e.g., sociological anthropological). OR b. the distinct methods of inquiry of the social and behavioral sciences (e.g., ethnography, historical analysis).</td>
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<tr>
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<td>4. Course illustrates use of social and behavioral science perspectives and data.</td>
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THE FOLLOWING TYPES OF COURSES ARE EXCLUDED FROM THE [SB] AREA EVEN THOUGH THEY MIGHT GIVE SOME CONSIDERATION TO SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE CONCERNS:

- Courses with primarily fine arts, humanities, literary, or philosophical content.
- Courses with primarily natural or physical science content.
- Courses with predominantly applied orientation for professional skills or training purposes.
- Courses emphasizing primarily oral, quantitative, or written skills.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria (from checksheet):</th>
<th>How course meets spirit</th>
<th>Evidence of how course meets criteria (i.e., where in syllabus)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advances study of human interaction</td>
<td>Students history of significant people in Early history, Middle Ages</td>
<td>Syllabus, Thorough</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emphasizes social sciences</td>
<td>Focused on history, culture, geography, political science</td>
<td>Syllabus, Thorough</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illustrates historical method</td>
<td>Introduce students to methods of dealing with multiple conflicting primary sources</td>
<td>Syllabus, Relevant readings, Course notes, Literature</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Dr. Patricia Turning  
Patricia.Turning@asu.edu  
Office: Lattie Coor Hall 4551  
Office Hours: Friday 1-3 or by appointment

Course Description:  
After the decline of the Roman Empire in the fifth century, western civilization entered into a period of turmoil, fragmentation, and a series of invasions. Several generations of scholars overlooked and dismissed the importance of this early era, and labeled it the “Dark Ages.” Recently, more innovative historians have brought to light the dynamic political, cultural, and religious developments which preserved and formed a distinctive society in the west. In this course, we shall examine broad issues such as how the Catholic Church became an institution which unified the various people throughout Europe. We will trace how kings used different tactics to consolidate power in the territories which would become France, England and Germany. Much of our time together will also be dedicated to the exploration of how cultural identities became defined in law and in literature, and how people accommodated the waves of migration from the east and north. Even though the Early Middle Ages suffered a succession of catastrophes, by the year 1000, Europe was stable, prosperous, and thriving intellectually. Students will read primary sources and pertinent historiography in order to piece together this exciting, violent and formative period.
Attendance is mandatory and will be taken each session. Class time will be divided into lecture, primary source analysis and discussion, and occasional film clips. Please come prepared to discuss the assigned readings.

Like all works in progress, this syllabus is subject to change. I will communicate with you well in advance of any alterations.

Important Notes:
- Please do not arrive late to class; if you are regularly late, I will ask you to leave. If you must be late, choose a seat that will not disrupt the rest of the class.
- Turn off and put out of sight all electronic devices before coming to class (cell phones, ipods, etc.). No text messaging in class.
- If you choose to use a computer, it must only be for taking notes. If it comes to my attention that you are using your computer for other purposes, the entire class will be prohibited from bringing computers to class.
- Please be courteous of those around you and refrain from conversation with your neighbors. If you disrupt the class, I will ask you to leave. If you nap in class, I will ask you to leave.
- If you choose to contact me through email, for questions or concerns about the course. I do ask that you use a courteous tone. I also ask that you understand that I check my email once a day (usually in the morning) during the week, and sporadically during the weekend. Therefore you must plan accordingly and understand if my response is not immediate.

All assignments must be completed on the designated due date. No exceptions are made. I do not accept late papers, and do not offer “make up” exams. You must complete ALL assignments to pass the course; failure to fulfill an assignment results in an immediate “E.” I will not grant any incompletes for this course. Plagiarism and cheating will be taken very seriously. If I have discovered that you have been dishonest in any way you will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of university policy.

If you have any problems complying with these expectations it is imperative that you come visit me in office hours and discuss your options – or drop the class. You must let me know of any complications (personal or otherwise) that would impede your success in this course so that we may find a solution. Otherwise, you should note that ALL GRADES ARE FINAL AND NON-NEGOTIABLE.

Required Readings:
- The Lives of the Desert Fathers
- Procopius, The Secret History
- Einhard and Notker the Stammerer, Two Lives of Charlemagne
- The Plays of Hroswitha of Gandersheim

Suggested Reading
- Hollister and Bennet, Medieval Europe: A Short History, 10th ed.
Additional Readings will Be Handed Out in Class, or Made Available on the Course BlackBoard

**Grading Percentages:**

- Attendance, Participation, Brief Written Responses: 10%
- Formal Papers (2): 35% (15% and 20%)
- Short Midterms (2): 30% (15% each)
- Final 25%
- 100%

**Part I: The Origins of Europe**

**Week One: Introduction to Course/Roman Foundations**
August 25-29

Web Reading: Augustus’ *Res Gestae*
http://www.fordham.edu/HALSALL/ANCIENT/1-Resgestae.html

**Week Two: Early Christianity in the Roman Empire**
September 3-5

NB: September 1 – No Class – Labor Day

**Week Three: Origins of the Catholic Church**
September 8-12

**Paper #1 Due in Class September 15: The Lives of the Desert Fathers**

**Week Four: The Germanic People**
September 15-19

**Week Five: Counter Cultures: Byzantium and Islam**
September 22-26

**RR Due of Procopius’ The Secret History – September 24**

**Week Six: The Early Franks**
September 29-October 3

**In Class Midterm #1 – October 6**

**Part II: Centralization and Fragmentation in the West**

**Week Seven: The Merovingians**
October 6-10
Week Eight: The First Europe: Charlemagne's Empire  
October 13-17

Week Nine: Decline of the Empire and Rise of the Ottonians  
October 20-24

Paper #2 Due In Class October 20 – The Two Lives of Charlemagne

Week Ten: The West Besieged – Vikings Attack  
October 27-31

Film Clip: The 13th Warrior

Read: Ibn Fadlan's ‘Account of the Rus’
http://www.vikinganswerlady.com/ibn_fdln.shtml#Risala

In class Midterm #2: November 3

Part III: Towards the Year 1000

Week Eleven: Manorialism and Feudalism  
November 5-7

Week Twelve: Anglo-Saxon England  
November 10-14

Week Thirteen: The Continent Recovers  
November 17-21

RR Due November 21: The Plays of Hrotswitha of Gandersheim

Week Fourteen: The Early Middle Ages in Film  
November 24-26

NB: November 28 – Happy Thanksgiving!

Week Fifteen: The Year 1000  
December 1-5

Week Sixteen: Conclusions  
December 8

Cumulative Final Exam  
TBA
MEDIEVAL EUROPE
A Short History

Judith M. Bennett
University of North Carolina
Chapel Hill

C. Warren Hollister
Late of the University of California
Santa Barbara
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