

## Historical Awareness Subcommittee Report

Date: 9/27/18

To: General Studies Council

From: Historical Awareness Subcommittee

*Julie Holston, Chair*

*Jason Bruner*

*Matt Simonton*

*Mark Tebeau*

Re: Recommendations for Course Proposals (H designation)

### Recommend for Approval

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*From ASU: (none)*

*From MCCCDC: (none)*

### Recommend for Revise/Resubmit

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*From ASU: (none)*

*From MCCCDC: (none)*

### Recommend for Denial

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*From ASU:*

**SPA 394     The Cinema of Spain**

**Rationale:** This course falls under the two exclusionary criteria of being “merely organized chronologically” and being “exclusively the history of a field of study or a field of artistic or professional endeavor.” In order to move beyond these exclusions, a course needs to demonstrate a greater degree of engagement with historical analysis than this course does. The designation specifies that courses embed “systematic historical analysis in the core of the syllabus, including readings and assignments.” The assignments in this course do not require substantial historical analysis, nor does the course

require any specific historical readings. (The historical texts mentioned in the syllabus are optional, not required.) The chronological organization by historical periods seems to serve the primary purpose of providing structure, as opposed to establishing a basis for students to engage broad historical issues in a systematic analytic exploration throughout the semester. The final assignment includes historical sources as one option with respect to evidence, but does not hold students accountable for having developed a sufficient degree of historical consciousness. The assignment's focus, and in fact, the focus of the course, is on cinematic representations of Spanish culture, politics, and historical events, rather than on understanding the broader spectrum of Spanish history itself.

*From MCCCD:* (none)