

Date: April 1, 2021

To: General Studies Council

From: *Humanities, Arts and Design Subcommittee:*

Aaron Hess

Bertha Manninen, Chair

Peter Schmidt

Re: Recommendations for Course Proposals for HU designation

Approve for HU designation:

From ASU:

GCU 362: Journey Stories: People and Places in Motion (new)

CEL 394: Democracy in America (new)

SLC/GRK/REL 362/360: Ancient Greek Religion (new)

SLC/KOR 420: Emotions across Languages, Cultures, and History (new)

From MCCC:

HIS 113: History of Eastern Civilizations to 1850 (mandatory review)

HIS 114: History of Eastern Civilizations from 1850 to present (mandatory review)

From ASU:

Deny:

HST 494: Sport and Globalization.

The application does not meet the requirements for an HU. There is little evidence that the class involves critical analysis of philosophies, religion, or ethics, or belief systems. The main paper for the course reads a lot more like a research paper than a critical analysis paper, as is the “Magazine-style” paper. The podcast is an exercise in storytelling, but that doesn’t come from the class itself (they don’t learn or practice storytelling) and it is unclear that the rest of the class has similar assignments that would constitute an HU. Moreover, we don’t find their discussion of point 1 to be all that compelling. The discussions of ethics are side effects in the history of sport, not direct discussions per se. Plus, they mention things like trans rights and gender, which really aren’t mentioned much in the document, maybe only in passing.

From MCCCD:

Revise & Resubmit HU designation:

HIS 252: History of England 1700 to the Present (mandatory review)

We think this one may be an HU if we just had better examples of the kind of assignments students have to do. The inclusion of the poetry and philosophy meets the HU requirement, but it is not clear if these kinds of assignments constitute half the class. One assignment (under Examples Student Teachback; British Culture Revolution) incorporates “music, fashion, art and literature.” The other assignments (under Examples of Unit Discussion) incorporate literary analysis. We would like to see more of these kinds of assignments, or others that involve critical analysis, in order to grant the HU. As it stands, the analysis of “music, fashion, etc.” seemed more of an afterthought or outcome of the historical elements, not the primary object of analysis. They are examples, not primary texts.