

Minutes of the CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

Tuesday, December 21, 1971 - Faculty Cafeteria - 2:20 P.M.

PRESENT: Michael Steuerman, Chairman, presiding  
F. Berger, N. Bindler, D. Davidson, R. Fugazzi, J. Gosselin,  
H. Harris, H. Jick, M. Kalin, M. Kanuck, J. Kolliner,  
A. Lande, A. Levey, R. Perez, M. Pollack, S. Ritterman,  
M. Rosenstock, H. Stein, J. Sweeney, M. Weiss

I. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of December 14 were approved with one addition:

Page 28, memo #3 - Add sentence, "Moreover, the Mathematics Department has never failed to submit revisions in the Mathematics sequences after they were approved."

II. Change of Agenda Sequence

It was moved and seconded to remove the proposed course, "The History of Modern Russia" from today's agenda and substitute "Preparatory History 01." The removed course will be placed at the end of the agenda, as if it were submitted December 21.

Motion carried: Yes - 9      No - 2      Abs. - 0

III. Communications and Announcements

- 1) A memo dated December 22 from Prof. Bindler to Prof. Steuerman informing him that the History Department agrees to limit the History Option from 68 to 64 credits and desires to use the language concerning free electives found in Liberal Arts Curriculum for the History Option.
- 2) The Chairman announced that the next meeting of the Curriculum Committee will be held on January 4, 1972.
- 3) Prof. Weiss reported that the department heads (Biology, Chemistry, Physics) had met with the Dean of Faculty concerning administrative aspects of the proposed joint Ecology course. The Dean, in light of the severe budget restrictions, indicated implementation would not be possible because of the additional expenses.

Dean Rosenstock indicated that the proposed course as outlined to the Dean of Faculty would cost 10 hours of additional teaching per week, and urged the three departments to come up with a less expensive idea.



IV. Department of History New Course Proposal, "Intellectual and Social History of Modern Europe" (3 hours-3 credits)

Prof. Bindler informed the Committee that Lehman College had consented to grant major credit for the proposed course and elective credit will be granted at City College.

The representative indicated that at a recent History Department Open House a number of students expressed an interest in pursuing a History Option at Bronx Community College, and he expressed the feeling that the proposed course, if approved, would become a viable part of that program.

It was moved and seconded to call the question.

Motion carried: Yes - 12      No - 4      Abs. - 0

It was moved and seconded to approve the proposed course, "Intellectual and Social History of Modern Europe."

Motion carried: Yes - 13      No - 0      Abs. - 2

Catalog Description: Prerequisite: HIS 11 or 12

The Intellectual and Social History of Modern Europe will investigate the effects of the major ideas in the society of the West from the Eighteenth Century, with particular attention to the interaction of ideas and the total political and cultural context of western civilization. Basic themes will include: the revolutionary dynamic in democracy, romanticism and conservatism, the changing situation of religion, rise of the middle class, the role of women in modern society, restraints on progress, socialism in the Nineteenth and communism in the Twentieth Centuries, interrelations between philosophy and politics from idealism to existentialism, class conflict and social stability, culture and society, racism and equalitarianism, scientism and irrationalism.

V. "Field Work and Seminar in Social Science" - postponed at department's request until January 4, 1972.

VI. History Department New Course Proposal, "Preparatory History 01" (non-credit)

Prof. Bindler indicated that the department had been contemplating this proposal for a long time and now believes, in light of the large percentage of academically disadvantaged students, approval of the proposal is a necessity. The course is designed to meet the needs of those students who lack the necessary knowledge, skill and/or motivation to master a conventional history course. The course will use elementary texts including readings from conventional introductory courses on Western Civilization and also the use of audio-visual material.

Questions raised by Committee members, which are expected to be answered at the next meeting, include:



(continued)

- 1) Is there a need for remediation in History? e.g. Should there be one concentrated effort as opposed to individual department efforts in remediation?
- 2) What is the relationship of subject matter in this course with RDL 02?
- 3) What was and is the attrition rate in introductory History courses?
- 4) Could one additional hour in an existing course suffice for remediation in lieu of a new course?
- 5) Will an experiment be involved? Experimental vs. Control groups.
- 6) How would students qualify for the proposed course?
- 7) Are there additional cost factors?
- 8) A request was made for a course syllabus.
- 9) Were there any contacts with the newly formed Committee on Remediation?

A request was made to the Chair that Dean Donovan (Chairman of Subcommittee on Remediation) be invited to attend the next meeting to inform this Committee of the progress of the Subcommittee on Remediation and how it might affect this proposal.

Discussion to begin at the next meeting.

VII. The meeting adjourned at 4:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

*Michael J. Kanuck*

Michael J. Kanuck  
Secretary

*for EK*

MJK:gk