To: Professor Karen Campbell, Chair, CEP
From: Jim Epstein, DUS, History Department
Subject: Changes to the History Major

The History Department seeks CEP approval for two changes in our undergraduate program. The first change adds a new concentration to our program of concentration. The Catalog presently reads:

Program of Concentration in History
The major program requires a minimum of 30 hours in history; no more than 6 hours of AP or IB credit may count toward this total. Course work is distributed as follows:
1. 200 or 297 (3 hours)
   Note: 200 should be taken as soon as possible and must be taken no later than the second semester of the junior year. 297 is limited to second-semester juniors who have been admitted to the Honors Program. Students entering the Honors Program who have already taken 200 will receive elective credit for that course.
2. Five courses in one of the following concentrations (15 hours):
   A. Asia
   B. Latin America
   C. Europe
   D. Early America and the United States
   E. Comparative History/Special Topics
See below for a list of courses that count for Concentrations A, B, C, and D.

Note: AP and IB credit will not count toward the 15 hours for the concentration; an appropriate capstone course (see below) will count. Students choosing concentration E must have the approval of their adviser and the director of undergraduate studies for a specific program of study.

We propose adding "Middle East and Africa" to our list of concentrations. With the new faculty we are hiring, together with our current faculty, we now have critical mass in this important area of study. Presently, Professors David Wasserstein and Moses Ochonu are specialists respectively in Muslim civilization/Middle East and Africa. Ron Messier and Bill Longwell, both of whom have also taught in these areas will no longer be teaching. The College of Arts and Science has offers out to fill one tenure-track and one tenured position in the history of Islam, the Middle East, and North Africa, and we have the possibility of a third tenure-track, spousal hire.

The Catalogue would, therefore, be changed to read:
2. Five courses in one of the following concentrations (15 hours):
   A. Asia
   B. Latin America
   C. Europe
   D. Early America and the United States
   E. Middle East and Africa
   F. Comparative History/Special Topics
See below for a list of courses that count for Concentrations A, B, C, D, and E. Note: AP and IB credit will not count toward the 15 hours for the concentration; an appropriate capstone course (see below) will count. Students choosing concentration F must have the approval of their adviser and the director of undergraduate studies for a specific program of study.

Our second proposed change pertains to Option 2 of the department's capstone requirement. The Catalog presently reads:
Option 2: 295, Undergraduate Seminar (3 hours). Prerequisite: 200. Note a student may take HIST 295 as an elective before completing HIST 200, but it will not count as a capstone course.

As it is now, while students do not get credit for History 295 as the capstone unless they have taken Hist 200, they can take the Hist 295 for ordinary credit. But Hist 295—by far the most common way to fulfill the capstone—builds on what is taught in our gateway course to the major, Hist 200, Historian's Workshop. It has proved difficult to have students who have not taken Hist 200 in a class requiring a major research project based on primary sources. We would like simply to delete the second sentence in the Catalog to read: Option 2: 295, Undergraduate Seminar (3 hours). Prerequisite: 200.

Thank you and your committee for your consideration in this matter. I would be pleased to provide any further information that you may require.