



**FOR APPROVAL**

**PUBLIC**

**OPEN SESSION**

**TO:** UTSC Academic Affairs Committee

**SPONSOR:** Prof. William A. Gough, Vice-Principal Academic and Dean  
**CONTACT INFO:** 416-208-7027, vpdean.utsc@utoronto.ca

**PRESENTER:** Prof. Katherine Larson, Vice-Dean Teaching, Learning & Undergraduate Programs  
**CONTACT INFO:** (416) 208-2978, vdundergrad.utsc@utoronto.ca

**DATE:** May 20, 2021 for May 27, 2021

**AGENDA ITEM:** 3

**ITEM IDENTIFICATION:**

Minor Modifications: Undergraduate Curriculum Changes, Out of Cycle Courses

**JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:**

University of Toronto Scarborough Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) “is concerned with matters affecting the teaching, learning and research functions of the Campus” (*AAC Terms of Reference, Section 4*). Under section 5.6 of its terms of reference, the Committee is responsible for approval of “Major and minor modifications to existing degree programs.” The AAC has responsibility for the approval of Major and Minor modifications to existing programs as defined by the University of Toronto Quality Assurance Process (*UTQAP, Section 3.1*).

**GOVERNANCE PATH:**

1. UTSC Academic Affairs Committee [For Approval] (May 27, 2021)

**PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:**

No previous action in governance has been taken on this item.

**HIGHLIGHTS:**

This package includes out-of-cycle minor modifications to undergraduate curriculum, submitted by all academic units for new courses that will be offered in Fall 2021, which require governance approval. Minor modifications to curriculum are understood as those that do not have a significant impact on program or course learning outcomes. They require governance approval when they modestly change the nature of a program or course.

- The Department of Historical and Cultural Studies (Report: Fall 2021 Out-of-Cycle New Courses)
  - 2 new courses (double-numbered pair)
    - CLAC94H3 The Bible and The Qur'an
    - HISC94H3 The Bible and The Qur'an

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

There are no net implications to the campus operating budget.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Be It Resolved,

THAT the proposed Humanities undergraduate curriculum changes for the 2021-22 academic year, as detailed in the respective curriculum report, be approved.

**DOCUMENTATION PROVIDED:**

1. 2021-22 Curriculum Cycle: Undergraduate Minor Curriculum Modifications for Approval Out-of-Cycle Report: Fall 2021 Out-of-Cycle New Courses, dated April 22, 2021.



## 2021-22 Curriculum Cycle

### Undergraduate Minor Curriculum Modifications for Approval

#### Report: Fall 2021 Out-of-Cycle New Courses

April 22, 2021

Historical & Cultural Studies (UTSC), Department of

## 2 New Courses:

### CLAC94H3: The Bible and the Qur'an

**Contact Hours:****Description:**

The Qur'an retells many narratives of the Hebrew Bible and the New Testament. This course compares the Qur'anic renditions with those of the earlier scriptures, focusing on the unique features of the Qur'anic versions. It will also introduce the students to the history of ancient and late antique textual production, transmission of texts and religious contact. The course will also delve into the historical context in which these texts were produced and commented upon in later generations.

Same as HISC94H3.

**Prerequisites:**

Any 4.0 credits, including [[1.0 credit in Classical Studies or History] or [WSTC13H3]]

**Corequisites:****Exclusions:**

HISC94H3

**Recommended Preparation:****Enrolment Limits:****Note:****Learning Outcomes:**

Upon the completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Identify and recognize the complex relations of intertextuality within the biblical, parabiblical and qur'anic literature
- Situate the Qur'an in the larger context of Late Antique biblical interpretation
- Analyze narrative motifs in scriptures and follow the afterlife of biblical stories as they are told and retold over centuries and across different religious configurations
- Understand the tools and methods of scriptural interpretation
- Understand the historical context in which the three Abrahamic scriptures emerged
- Analyze and problematize the recent critical-historical scholarship on the question of Islam's dependence on earlier religious traditions

**Topics Covered:**

- History of scriptures from the Hebrew Bible to the Qur'an
- A survey of narratives that the Bible and the Qur'an shares from Adam to Jesus and Muhammad
- Discussion of major biblical and qur'anic themes
- A historical survey of ancient and late antique contexts that gave rise to these scriptures

**Methods of Assessment:**

- Participation
- Reading responses
- Class Presentations
- Final Paper

**Mode of Delivery:** In Class

**Breadth Requirements:**

History, Philosophy & Cultural Studies

**Rationale:**

This course will fit right into the curriculum of the Classical Studies track in the HCS department as it will complement the courses on Ancient Mediterranean Religions, Classical Antiquity and Late Antiquity. Many students come to the university with varying degrees of background on the Bible or the Qur'an. In this course, they will be introduced to the academic and critical study of these two foundational texts and explore the relationship between the two. The Classical studies curriculum boasts a special emphasis on textual traditions and lived cultures, and this course will touch on the questions of intertextuality, orality vs. literacy, and the afterlife of biblical stories.

This course is double-numbered with HISC94H3. This course shall focus on the history of how scriptures came to be as a result of societal and historical developments that often took centuries to crystallize. As a result, an important chunk of the course will be dedicated to ancient and late antique history during which these texts were produced, disseminated and interpreted. Therefore, its content and learning outcomes should fit the History track in the HCS as well. The course would most appropriately serve the major students in the 3rd and 4th years.

This course is being proposed out-of-cycle so it can be offered in the Fall 2021 term. The pre-requisites have been designed to align with the pre-requisite structure of other CLA and HIS C-level courses. WSTC13H3 has been specifically identified as a pre-requisite course because it covers topics pertaining to women and Islam and feminist interpretations of the Quran, and exposes students to the principles and methods of Quran interpretation. It also traces the historical changes in the status of women from pre-Islamic Arabia, to the formative years of Islam and all the way to the contemporary period.

**Consultation:**

The new course code was approved by the Office of the Registrar on April 16, 2021.

The proposal was approved by the HCS DCC on April 19, 2021.

**Resources:**

This course will be taught by a regular faculty member. TA support for grading assistance will be provided if the course meets the eligibility requirements under the HCS TA/GA policy. This will be covered by the unit's existing budgets.

## HISC94H3: The Bible and the Qur'an

**Contact Hours:**

**Description:**

The Qur'an retells many narratives of the Hebrew Bible and the New Testament. This course compares the Qur'anic renditions with those of the earlier scriptures, focusing on the unique features of the Qur'anic versions. It will also introduce the students to the history of ancient and late antique textual production, transmission of texts and religious contact. The course will also delve into the historical context in which these texts were produced and commented upon in later generations.

Same as CLAC94H3.

**Prerequisites:**

Any 4.0 credits, including [[1.0 credit in CLA or HIS courses] or [WSTC13H3]]

**Corequisites:**

**Exclusions:**

CLAC94H3

**Recommended Preparation:****Enrolment Limits:****Note:****Learning Outcomes:**

Upon the completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Identify and recognize the complex relations of intertextuality within the biblical, parabiblical and qur'anic literature
- Situate the Qur'ān in the larger context of Late Antique biblical interpretation
- Analyze narrative motifs in scriptures and follow the afterlife of biblical stories as they are told and retold over centuries and across different religious configurations
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