

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

S.77-21

MEMORANDUM

To..... SENATE

From..... SENATE UNDERGRADUATE APPEALS BOARD

Subject..... WESTERN CIVILIZATION 12

Date..... FEBRUARY 18, 1977

MOTION: "That Senate approve the addition of Western Civilization 12 for inclusion in the list of academic 12 level subjects acceptable for admission to Simon Fraser University."

RATIONALE:

In addition to the rationale contained in S.U.A.B. Paper 74 (attached) the Senate Undergraduate Admissions Board is satisfied that this course is appropriate for university entrance based on:-

- 1) S.U.A.B.'s review of the complete curriculum guide for Western Civilization 12.
- 2) S.U.A.B.'s discussions with Mr. Vic Wright who is the English Literature 12 and Western Civilization 12 teacher at Burnaby North Secondary School.

NOTE: Once approved by Senate, Western Civilization 12 will be added to the following statement:-

"Graduation from British Columbia grade 12 with Math 11 or Algebra 11, English 12 and two additional 12 level subjects selected from Science(s) 12, Math 12, Algebra 12, History 12, Geography 12, Language(s) 12, English Literature 12, Geology 12 must be included."

ACM/cl

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM

To	SENATE UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS BOARD	From	ALAN C. McMILLAN, SECRETARY SENATE UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS BOARD
Subject	ACCEPTANCE OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION 12 FOR ADMISSION PURPOSES - SUAB 74	Date	2ND DECEMBER, 1976

MOTION I: "That SUAB approve the addition of Western Civilization 12 for inclusion in the list of academic 12 level subjects acceptable for admission to Simon Fraser University."

RATIONALE FOR MOTION I:

The Western Civilization 12 course was initiated by the Department of Education in 1971 on a "pilot" basis to two schools. The course was gradually extended into additional schools. The decision by the Department of Education to make the course available to all schools was a result of:--

- a) "the success of the course in the schools in which it has been offered since 1971."
- b) "the acquiring by the Department of video-taping rights to the Civilization films, a fact which will facilitate wider distribution of the films, and will enable the Department to provide the materials beyond the centres now serviced."

NOTE: The course outline and other relevant facts are contained in Appendix A which has been extracted from the Department of Education Western Civilization 12 curriculum guide of 1976.

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C. Course Description

Western Civilisation 12 is a course based upon a B.B.C. television series of thirteen one-hour colour films which attempt, by a combination of words, music, and colour, to extend the student's experience and understanding of the life-giving beliefs and ideas made visible and audible through the medium of the arts.

The films take the viewer from the fall of the Roman Empire to the 20th century, with the main emphasis on Western European art and architecture. The films are written and narrated by Sir Kenneth Clark.

The series does not attempt to present a complete record, but concentrates on crucial civilizing episodes against the historical background which shows us the individuals who gave new energy to civilization and those who expanded an understanding of the world and ourselves.

It is important to note that the materials on which this course is based were not prepared initially as the basis for a secondary school course. The Civilisation films were originally produced for adult audiences for viewing over an approximate three month period. It should be noted that these films are the basis of the course. The book CIVILISATION is simply a script of the films and should, therefore, be used in a supportive role.

D. Important Notes

- (1) The approach in the films is a PERSONAL one, presenting the ideas and views of one person, Sir Kenneth Clark. It must also be clear that the scope of the time period and events covered by the films necessitate a SURVEY approach rather than an exhaustive study of Western Civilization.
- (2) A broad cultural background and a genuine interest in the humanities, rather than expertise in any one subject area, are the essential qualifications for teaching Western Civilisation 12.
- (3) Students of varied interests and abilities can make positive contributions to, and derive great benefit

from, the course. Students taking English Literature 12, History 12, and/or Art 12 will find the course of particular value.

- (4) The experience of schools in the experimental stages of Civilisation 12 indicates that course enrichment is restricted under the semester system. (Difficult for students to absorb ideas so quickly; complementary courses are often in a different semester; guest speakers have to be scheduled too frequently.) Nevertheless, although course enrichment may be restricted, many teachers have found that the course can be accommodated in a semestered situation.

E. Goals

(A series of general statements outlining the intent of the course.)

- (1) By presenting concepts of Western Civilisation to develop within the student an appreciation of his/her heritage as an ongoing and life-giving activity in terms of what human beings can do and have done.
- (2) To foster a knowledge of major forces, events, ideas, and facts that have influenced society.
- (3) To develop an understanding and appreciation of forms of the arts, and the concepts behind them.
- (4) To foster a greater intellectual and emotional enjoyment of one's community.
- (5) To develop within the student an historical perspective of his time and place.
- (6) To develop a personal philosophy through a study of man's creative development.
- (7) To create an awareness of the integrating effect of knowledge as reflected in science, art, music, religion, communities, economics and politics.
- (8) To inspire confidence in the continuity of human effort and achievement, and to foster a sympathy for

human aspirations.

- (9) To develop an understanding of an individual's responsibility in society.
- (10) To foster independent study and the sharing of the results of such study.
- (11) To foster critical thinking.

F. Learning Outcomes

(A series of more specific statements arising from the Course Goals.)

- (1) The student should develop the ability to discriminate, to develop personal opinions and tastes in the light of new knowledge and aesthetic experiences.
- (2) The student should learn to recognize characteristic features of various art forms, and understand how they reflect their times.
- (3) The student should develop a knowledge of some of the great figures and their achievements.
- (4) The student should be able to see the connections among his/her courses in the Humanities, such as English, History, Art, and the relationship of these courses to the areas of science.
- (5) The student should practise independent study procedures:
 - (a) locating, organizing, and summarizing pertinent information
 - (b) enlarging vocabulary
 - (c) using library resources
- (6) The student should develop facility in designing and presenting oral reports.
- (7) The student should acquire some facility in presenting opinions in discussions and in listening to others critically but sympathetically.