

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

S. 77-81

MEMORANDUM

To SENATE

From SENATE COMMITTEE ON UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

Subject FACULTY OF INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES
PROPOSED COURSE - G.S. 304-5 -
RICHARD WAGNER: THE RING OF THE
NIBELUNG

Date JUNE 16, 1977

MOTION:

"That Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors, as set forth in S.77-81, the new course G.S. 304-5 - Richard Wagner: The Ring of the Nibelung."

(This course was approved by the Faculty of Interdisciplinary Studies and considered by SCUS at two meetings, with attention being given to the prerequisites for the course, the credit hours assigned and the nature of procedures in presenting the course to students, with answers to their enquiries satisfactory to the Committee. The course has been successfully presented earlier on a non-credit basis. SCUS approved waiver of the time requirement to permit offering of this course from 78-1).

OK Bick

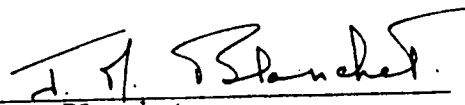
MEMORANDUM

Mr. H.M. Evans, Registrar and
Secretary, Senate Committee on
Undergraduate Studies
Subject I.S.C. 77-2, G.S. 304-5 - Richard
Wagner: The Ring of the Nibelung

From J. Blanchet, Secretary
Faculty of Interdisciplinary Studies
Undergraduate Curriculum Committee
Date April 27, 1977

Attached is the above-noted course proposal. Would you please place this on the agenda of the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies for consideration.

This proposal was originally submitted March 22, 1977 and is now being resubmitted with the additional information requested (I.S.C. 77-2(a)). Correspondence regarding Library resources is also attached.


Janet Blanchet

JB:jk

Attach.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

NEW COURSE PROPOSAL FORM

Calendar Information

Department: General Studies

Abbreviation Code: G.S. Course Number: 304 Credit Hours: 5 Vector: 3-2-0

Title of Course: Richard Wagner: The Ring of the Nibelung

Calendar Description of Course: An Interdisciplinary Study of Wagner's monumental Series of Music dramas collectively known as "The Ring". The aim of the course is to integrate four principle levels of investigation: (1) Wagner and Western Europe in the 1840's; (2) Wagner Prose; (3) The use of allegory in "The Rings" and (4) The psychological implications of "The Ring".

Nature of Course A lecture/seminar presentation of "The Ring of the Nibelung"

Prerequisites (or special instructions):

45 credits

What course (courses), if any, is being dropped from the calendar if this course is approved: ---

2. Scheduling

How frequently will the course be offered? once/year

Semester in which the course will first be offered? 1978/1

Which of your present faculty would be available to make the proposed offering possible? Dr. Alan Aberbach

Objectives of the Course

To integrate the above four levels into a unified synthesis using the music dramas of the Ring as the common denominator.

4. Budgetary and Space Requirements (for information only)

What additional resources will be required in the following areas:

Faculty (stipend)

Staff

Library (\$500.00)

Audio Visual

Space Rental of Vancouver Opera Association facilities.

Equipment

5. Approval

Date: _____

14 June 1977

14 June 77

Department Chairman

J.W. Bolvert
Dean

H. Brich
Chairman, SCUS

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

G.S. 304-5
 Richard Wagner: *THE RING OF THE NIBELUNG*

January 1978
 A. D. Aberbach

SCOPE:

This interdisciplinary course will focus on Wagner's monumental series of four music dramas collectively known as *Der Ring des Nibelungen* (*The Ring of the Nibelung*).

AIM:

Wagner's thought-out ideas on music, drama, politics, ethics, aesthetics, society, economics, religion, history, psychology, mythology, and metaphysics found their final synthesis in the prose and music of his music dramas.

The aim of this course is to examine the interaction of Wagner's ideas as they are reflected in and manifested by *The Ring of the Nibelung*.

PREREQUISITES:

There are no course prerequisites, as such; however, since many disciplines will be called upon, it is recommended that students have completed 45 credit hours of university level work before taking this course.

Note: this course does not assume any background in music.

TEXTS:

Required: The Schirmer edition of each of the four librettos (\$2.00 each).

Das Rheingold (*The Rhine Gold*), *Die Walküre* (*The Valkyrie*), *Siegfried*, *Götterdämmerung* (*The Twilight of the Gods*)

Recommended:

G. B. Shaw, *The Perfect Wagnerite*
 R. Donnington, *Wagner's Ring and its Symbols*

PROCEDURE:

This course will meet once a week for three hours. In addition, students will meet with me privately, on a weekly basis, to discuss the progress of the research paper.

GRADES:

Grades will be determined on the basis of the research done for each private weekly meeting, the quality of the final paper, the term paper conference, and the final seminar in which your research will be shared with others in the seminar.

OFFICE HOURS:

Office: 6008A.Q. Telephone: 291-3758
 Office hours: to be determined

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM

To... Mr. H. Evans
Registrar

From... T. W. Calvert
Dean, Interdisciplinary Studies

Subject... Vector for G.S. 304-5 (See SCJS 77-22) Date... June 7, 1977

At the SCJS meeting on May 30 I undertook to clarify the rationale for the proposed 3-2-0 vector for G.S. 304-5. The course outline states that class will meet on a regular basis for the equivalent of about three periods and appropriately results in a vector component of 3 (150 minutes). Professor Aberbach tells me that the vector component of 2 for the tutorial component is intended to reflect individual meetings which take place with every student in the class. He expands on this in the third paragraph of his memo dated 18th April (ISC 77-2(a)) which is attached to the course proposal form.

T. W. Calvert

T. W. Calvert

TWC:rmv
c.c.: Dr. A. Aberbach

RECEIVED
JUN - 8 1977
REGISTRY
MAIL DESK

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

I.S.C. 77-2(a)

MEMORANDUM

To: J. Weinkam, Computing Sciences

From: Alan Aberbach

Subject: R. Wagner & GS 304-5

Date: 18 April 1978

Thank you for your call the other day. I am enclosing a revised course outline for GS 304-5 and I believe this will answer several of your technical questions.

I taught a preliminary version of this course for VCC, and on the basis of the results I have modified certain ideas. Originally I believed that it could be on the 100 or 200 level, but the course is indeed "heavy" and by placing it on the 300 level, and by requiring a background of 45 credit hours of university level work I am assuming that those who will register for the course will have had a degree of sophistication that is necessary for this course. The greatest thrust in the course relates to a careful examination of the prose, and in this regard all the component parts interrelate: the philosophical, psychological, etc. For your information, I might mention that the musical part of each seminar has never exceeded 42 minutes, for each 2 1/2 hour seminar (enlarged to 3 hours).

The major purpose of meeting with students individually is because their backgrounds are so varied. Term papers topics are assigned, after consultation with each student, so that only 2 or 3 maximum relate to the same discipline. Therefore when they meet for the final presentation of their major findings it is truly interdisciplinary in design while each student has the opportunity to work in detail in the area of his/her special interest. I find this final seminar enormously exciting as it integrates all the component parts. Therefore, 2 or 3 may work on the historical forces at work (Wagner's part in the Dresden uprising, Wagner's sense of history, Wagner's relationship with Bakunin, etc; others will work on Wagner and Nietzsche, Liszt, etc; others on Jung's psychology and Wagner, or Wagner's attitudes toward religion, nature, science, etc.

Since most students will work in areas related to their major discipline it is not entirely necessary to have an extensive collection of ^{new} library materials. I have requested \$500 to cover the 8 volume edition of Wagner's prose works, plus several other key sources, i.e. Ernest Newman's four volume Life. One recorded version of The Ring is also necessary, from which tapes will be available for students. However, major financial outlays are unnecessary because students will be able to use the Wilson library at UBC, at any time.

Mr. Larry Thomas,
Assistant Librarian,
New course proposals,

J. Blaght, Secretary,
Faculty of Interdisciplinary Studies
Undergraduate Curriculum Committee,
February 16/77.

Attached are new course proposals for the following courses:

C.S. 304-5, Richard Wagner: The Ring of the Nibelung.

Kin, 486-4, Man Beneath the Sea.

These proposals will be presented to the Faculty of Interdisciplinary Studies Curriculum Committee on March 1/77 for approval and for furtherance to the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies. Please let us know whether the necessary resources are available in the Library.

Attachments,

/JMB

MEMORANDUM

RECEIVED
MAR 9 1977

To J. Blanchet, Secretary
Faculty of Interdisciplinary Studies
Subject New Course Proposals

From Larry Thomas
Collections Librarian
Date March 8th, 1977

I apologise for the delay in our responding to these proposals. Generally, the Library is prepared to support both G.S. 304 - 5 and Kin 485 - 4. We have all the titles cited for the course on the "Ring" except Donington which is either new or out of print, and we have been collecting materials related to the physiology, medicine, and technology of underwater diving.

Larry Thomas

LT/rj