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## History/Slavic 3721

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**From** Steele, Rachel <steele.682@osu.edu>

**Date** Mon 11/24/2025 8:39 PM

**To** Getson, Jen <getson.3@osu.edu>; Reed, Christopher <reed.434@osu.edu>; Ernst, Joe <ernst.150@osu.edu>; Tuxbury-Gleissner, Philip <tuxbury-gleissner.1@osu.edu>

**Cc** Soland, Birgitte <soland.1@osu.edu>; Vankeerbergen, Bernadette <vankeerbergen.1@osu.edu>; Steele, Rachel <steele.682@osu.edu>; Neff, Jennifer <neff.363@osu.edu>; DeGirolamo, Anne <degirolamo.10@osu.edu>

Good evening,

On Thursday, November 6th, the Themes II Subcommittee of the ASC Curriculum Committee reviewed a course proposal for History/Slavic 3721 to be included in the GEN Theme: Sustainability category.

The Subcommittee did not vote on the proposal as they would like the following points addressed:

- a. The Subcommittee asks that the units provide student-friendly information in the syllabus regarding how the Theme is the central focus of the course. Specifically, they would like to see that sustainability is an intrinsic part of the course's description (curriculum.osu.edu under "General Information" and syllabus, pp. 1-2), the descriptions of major course assignments (syllabus pp. 6-7) and the readings and topics (syllabus pp. 9-21 under "Course Schedule"). The Subcommittee offers the friendly advice that the units may wish to consider how a student, looking at the syllabus, would see the Theme "signposted" throughout.
- b. The Subcommittee asks that the departments include in the Course Schedule (syllabus pp. 9-21) additional readings on the topic of sustainability. The Subcommittee also asks that these readings occur early in the course, so that the topic of sustainability is firmly centered for students at the beginning of the semester.
- c. The Subcommittee asks that the departments incorporate into the course schedule opportunities for students to demonstrate their "developing sense of self as a learner" (ELO 2.2) in an assessable manner. While the Subcommittee notes and appreciates the presence of some reflection on the many philosophical and moral questions surrounding the intersection of nuclear power and sustainability, this ELO is focused on students' awareness of their own learning and reflection on/analysis of the ways that they learn and how their thinking has changed over the duration of the course. While the Subcommittee acknowledges that there are many methods for assessing this ELO (including the potential for integrating this type of reflection into some of the course's existing assignments), they offer the friendly suggestion that asking students to complete a graded reflection at the beginning, mid-point, and end of the semester can be a simple and effective way to meet this ELO.
- d. The Subcommittee asks that the departments electronically enforce the course's exclusion (curriculum.osu.edu under "Prerequisites and Exclusions").
- e. The Subcommittee asks that p. 1 of the syllabus be altered to refer to the course as "Slavic 3721" rather than "Russian 3721".
- f. The Subcommittee suggests removing or altering the "Credit Hours and Work Expectation" statement on p. 4 of the syllabus. This statement is part of the old Distance Learning Syllabus template, which was retired in early 2024, and the language surrounding course's teaching and activities, such as "direct instruction" is not conducive to describing an in-person course.

I will return History/Slavic 3721 to the departments' queues via curriculum.osu.edu in order to address the Subcommittee's requests.

Should you have any questions about the feedback of the Subcommittee, please feel free to contact Birgitte Sølund (faculty Chair of the Themes II Subcommittee; cc'd on this e-mail), or me.

Best,  
Rachel



**Rachel Steele, MA**

(Pronouns: she/her/hers / Honorific: Ms.)

Program Manager, Office of Curriculum and Assessment

**College of Arts and Sciences**

306 Dulles Hall 230 Annie and John Glenn Ave. Columbus, OH 43210

(614) 292-7226

Member, University Conduct Board

Graduate Student, History of Art

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