

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA ASHEVILLE
FACULTY SENATE

Senate Document Number 2020S
Date of Senate Approval 03/05/20

Statement of Faculty Senate Action:

**APC Document 20 (HIST): Delete HIST 388, Introduction to Islam replacing it with
HIST 385, Islam in Historical Perspective;
Delete RELS 388**

Effective Date: Fall 2020

1. Delete: On page 167, the entry for **HIST 388, Introduction to Islam:**

388 Introduction to Islam (RELS 388) (4)
Explores Islam as a faith and way of life. In addition to studying the Quran and Prophetic traditions, the course will closely examine the dynamics of Islamic law and its role in everyday life. In addition, the course will deal with Muslim ritual and devotional practices, Sufism, and reformist and Islamist movements in the twentieth century. See department chair.

Add: On page 167, new course, **HIST 385, Islam in Historical Perspective:**

385 Islam in Historical Perspective (4)
Covers the political, religious, and intellectual history of the pre-modern Middle East. The course will provide the historical context for the rise and development of Islam as a religion and culture, and the intellectual contributions of Muslims to human civilization. Though Islamic law, theological schools, and religious movements will be discussed, the course is mainly concerned with the historical context of their development. See department chair.

Impact: None anticipated. HIST 385 will replace HIST 388 as an elective option for the Religious Studies major and minor. HIST 385 will also replace HIST 388 as an elective option in the International Studies concentration.

Rationale: HIST 388, Introduction to Islam, offered a quick survey of Islamic scriptures, law, theology, intellectual and sectarian trends, and political ideologies from the rise of Islam in 7th century Arabia to the present. After teaching the course multiple times and trying different textbooks and approaches, the decision was made to replace it because it was too broad and superficial.

HIST 385 focuses on the first three centuries, placing the rise of Islam in its historical, geographical, and religious context. Thus, it is an in depth examination of the faith in its formative period. The later periods will be covered in other courses on the Crusades and the modern Middle East.

The course replaces HIST 388 in Dr. Traboulsi's rotation. Only he will teach it. This course will enroll up to 22 students; have a lecture discussion format; meet 200 minutes per week; fulfill an elective for Religious Studies, International Studies, and History; and meet the same SLOs as all other 300-level HIST courses (critical thinking, research in primary and secondary sources, discipline appropriate written and oral expression).

2. **Delete:** On page 282, the entry for **RELS 388, Introduction to Islam:**

388 Introduction to Islam (HIST 388) (4)

Explores Islam as a faith and way of life. In addition to studying the Quran and Prophetic traditions, the course will closely examine the dynamics of Islamic law and its role in everyday life. In addition, the course will deal with Muslim ritual and devotional practices, Sufism, and reformist and Islamist movements in the twentieth century. See department chair.

3. **Delete:** On page 279, in the **Religion and Western Culture** category:

HIST 388 Introduction to Islam (4)

RELS 388 Introduction to Islam (4)

Add: On page 279, in place of deleted entry:

HIST 385 Islam in Historical Perspective (4)

Impact: None anticipated.

Rationale: HIST 385 will continue to fulfill an elective option for the Religious Studies major and minor; it just isn't necessary to have the course cross-listed within that department.