DATE: April 10, 2018

TO: Randall Hannum, Chair

College Council Curriculum Committee

FROM: Curriculum Subcommittee

Masato Nakamura (Chair), Elizabeth Schaible, and Maura Smale

RE: Final Report for 17-13 New Course Proposal, HIS1502: The Islamic Empires

**COURSE TITLE AND NUMBER:** HIS1502: The Islamic Empires

**CREDIT HOURS:** 3 Credits, 3 Class hours.

**PREREQUISITES:** CUNY Proficiency in Reading and Writing

**Catalog Description**

A survey of the history of the Ottoman, Safavid, and Mughal Empires, focusing on their development, interactions and impact on the Muslim world. Using historical sources and cultural artifacts, students learn to identify major intellectual trends in Islamic thought and architecture as well as shifting political patterns across these empires.

**Strengths**

There is enough structure to introduce students to understand the fundamentals of the history of Islamic Empires. In addition, this course structure gives the new learning opportunities to students who would like to study the Muslim world geographically and chronologically.

**Weaknesses**

None.

**Issues and Concerns Discussed**

1. Clarified that an instructor could choose from one of the three books.
2. Clarified that the readings and assignments in the outline are a suggestion (but that the content in the weekly assignments section must be covered), which is the reason that the grade scale varies and is flexible.
3. Clarified that a primary source analysis and museum visit are included in paper assignments (40%).
4. Clarified that course texts would be handouts, not textbooks.

**Subcommittee activities**

The subcommittee discussed this proposal with Professor Stephanie Boyle and gave a feedback before the spring break. Subsequently an interview was conducted with Provost August, Associate Provost Brown, and Ms. Cardascia on April 9, 2018. The final version was updated immediately on the same day.