**New York City College of Technology**

**Interdisciplinary Committee**

**Course Review Form**

**DATE:** 3/11/19

**REVIEWER:** Ezra Halleck

**COURSE TITLE & NUMBER:** HIS 3402: Topic in World History

**PROPOSED BY:** Ryan McMillen

**CREDIT HOURS:** 3

**PREREQUISITES:** ENG 1101 and a previous history CORE course (which includes

HIS 1000 series or AFR 1460 or AFR 1461 or AFR 1465 or AFR 1466 or LATS 1462)

**COURSE IS:** X Existing New In development

**PROPOSED COURSE DESIGNATION**: X College Option elective Capstone other:

**DEPARTMENT HOUSED IN:** Social Science

**PROPOSED STRUCTURE (e.g., co-taught, guest lecture, LC, other):**  guest lecture

**CREDIT DISTRIBUTION** (if co-taught): NA

**CATALOG DESCRIPTION:** (as appears in course catalog)A seminar-based exploration of selected topics in modern world history from 1945 to the present. Students in this course are expected to keep abreast of current trends in various parts of the world and to be familiar with popular sources of information. The topic for each section will be selected by the instructor.

(as described by proposer) …devoted to the study of social movements of global impact since WWII. The course explores the history, nature, and character of various collective actions of individuals, and how those movements evolved from earlier social movements stretching back to the 19th century. It explores how changes in technology, politics and law differentiate such movements from their earlier forebears, and

also how such movements intersected and interacted during the past 75 years. The course will compare the various strategies of such movements, and discuss the ways in which common strategies of collective action were employed in the pursuit of power and social change.

**DESCRIBE & EVALUATE HOW COURSE MEETS INTERDISCIPLINARY CRITERIA?**

Social movements are by their nature topically diverse. The subject is people and their actions and the course description includes pyschology which should be a way to make connections. For example, movements typically have leaders who are essential for stimulating the base and for making transitions to deal with changing circumstances. Who are some of these leaders? What motivates their risk taking, suffering and sacrifice? Or perhaps more in the spirit of the course, some of these characteristics carry over to the rank and file members as well. What provides motivation for people to stop thinking of just their own individual and family well-being and to begin to work for collective betterment?

**DESCRIBE & EVALUATE THE INTERDISCIPLINARY STRUCTURE?** Social science is a department which houses multiple disciplines. While primarily a history course, this topics course will bring guest lecturers from 2 of other disciplines from within the department, namely sociology and anthropology. In addition, biology will bring its perspective regarding ecology.

**DOES COURSE MEET REQUIREMENTS FOR GENERAL EDUCATION?** Yes

**STRENGTHS:** One danger of such a course is that students come away with just superficial examinations of each of the movements studied. To counter that, students will be assigned (in accordance with their interests and the topic needs of the course) a movement to study in depth. Over the course of the semester, they will be called upon to share their expertise during discussions as well as in their written work.

**WEAKNESSES:** None