



Asia, Africa, Australasia 2a (HIST08025) Student/Staff Liaison Committee Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 10th November 2011
Room G11, 13.00-14.00

Present: Dr Chris Harding, Dr Talat Ahmed, Professor Paul Nugent,
Dr Tina Picton Phillipps, Leonora Carr, Cormac Healy,
Paloma Miranda, Esmond Sage,

In attendance: Marie-Therese Rafferty (minutes)

Absent: Joseph Mujere, Travis Paterson, Thomas Echlin-Harradine

Apologies: Catriona Ellis, Charlotte Hastings, Rosalind Parr

1. Welcome

CH opened the meeting, and provided brief overview of format.

2. Tutorials/Lectures

- Not much introduction to major Themes/Regions. General feeling of jumping straight into subject. It was also suggested that lecturers could perhaps link subject into topical/cultural area.
CH suggested possibly extending introduction for major themes over 2 lectures. It was suggested by student reps that reference to relevant current affairs and/or popular films would also help.
- Some lectures can be dense with information, with less detail on PPT slides, making it difficult to pick out useful points when taking notes.
Action: More content to be included in slides
- Good link between lectures and tutorials, keeps subject fresh although some students found it to be overpowering. It was suggested that lecturers not refer to tutorials in lectures, as it may not always be the case that tutorials follow the lecture schedule.

Action: first lecture of the course to highlight that tutorials and lectures are not intended to match one another precisely, either in content or in timing throughout the semester (this is why two separate bibliographies are provided, for example).

- Good mix of journal topics, although some felt that questions can be too broad.
- Positive feedback for tutorials in general. It was noted that the use of 'halfway points of feedback' during semester worked well for one group. It was suggested that tutors discuss format of tutorials at start of semester (what is expected, structure of class discussions, if tutorials will follow lecture schedule).
- Difficulties in accessing books for popular question topics. CH suggested making greater use of HUB reserve.
Action: To forward student suggestion of intermediate loan time of 24hrs to library.

3. Essays/Coursework

- Confusion over referencing – what style to use
CH highlighted availability of essay writing workshops, and suggested this could be advertised more on course. Available guidance in Sub-Hons handbook and course handbook also highlighted to student reps.

4. AOB:

CH asked students for thoughts on the graded Non Written Skills component to tutorials. General response was positive, with comment made that it encouraged students to be more prepared for tutorials, and to focus more.

No further business was presented and the meeting was called to a close.