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HSTC SURVEY OF UNIVERSITY COUPSES ON CANADIAN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Ed. Note: We are not certain as to how comprehensive a survey this is as we must rely upon our readers to supply information. The survey includes both undergraduate and graduate courses dealing wholly with the history of Canadian science and technology, and with courses with high Canadian content. Each entry includes course title and number, instructor, length of course, frequency of offering, first offering, number and level of students and brief contents. Additional notes by respondents are printed below.

I. Undergraduate Courses

Concordia University

Science and Human Affairs SCHA 446: Selected Topics in History of Science

Instructor: S. Sheets-Pyenson

Full year; offered annually (77/78 first devoted to Canada) 8 students (uq)

"Course encourages students to use Montréal archives and special library holdings. Each student completed ca. 25-pg. research paper."

University of Western Ontario
History of Science 314B: Science and Medicine in Canada
Instructor: A. Richardson
Half-course; first offered 74; offered annually
15 students (2nd-4th yr)
"An examination of the development of scientific and medical activities in Canada from aboriginal times to the present day."

History of Science 315B: Selected Topics in Science, Medicine, and Technology
Instructor: A. Richardson
Half-course; first offered 75; offered every 3 yrs.
3 students (2nd-4th yr)
"In-depth studies of topics selected in keeping with individual student interest in consultation with the course instructor."

University of Winnipeg
History 2902: Science and Technology in Canadian History
Instructor: P.J. Bowler
Full year; first offered 77/78; offered alternate years
8 students (mostly 2nd yr)
"A study of the ways in which advances in science and
technology have been applied in Canada during the last
150 years."

University of Toronto

University College UNI 301F: Science and Technology in Canadian Culture

Instructor: R.A. Jarrell

Half-course; first offered 76; offered alternate years 7 students (3rd-4th yr)

"Covers science and technology in Canada from 17th century to the present within its cultural context; includes science policy issues."

II. Graduate Courses

Université de Montréal

HSS: Histoire des sciences au Canada et au Québec Instructors: C. Limoges, L. Pyenson, Y. Rabkin Semester course; first offered spring 77; alternate years 8 students (M.A. level)

"Course was oriented to libraries, archives, and other resources in the Montréal region. Each student completed a research paper of approx. 20 pages. Outside specialists were integrated into the teaching format."

University of Toronto

IHPST: HPS 1037X: Science in Canadian History

Instructor: T.H. Levere

Half-course; first offered 76/77; offered alternate years 5 students (M.A. and Ph.D. level)

"Science in Canada in its social context, with emphasis on 19th century. . .geological and magnetic surveys, the role of local societies, and the development of scientific education."

IHPST: HPS 1023: History of Canadian Technology

Instructor: B. Sinclair

Full year;

3 students (M.A. and Ph.D. level)

". . .emphasizing the period 1815-1914. . .attention will be divided about equally between bibliography and research into specific topics."

III. Courses with High Canadian Content

McGill University

Plant Science 367-638: History of Plant Pathology

Instructor: R.H. Estey

Half-course; first offered 57; offered annually

6 students (post-graduate)

"Major events leading to recognition of the cause and control of plant diseases in Europe and North America." Approximately 20% Canadian content. University of New Brunswick

History 2060: Science in History

Instructor: Philip Enros

Full year; first offered 77/78; future unknown

Undergraduates

Course deals mainly with the social history of science with some time given to Canadian topics, especially science at the UNB.

Approximately 25% Canadian content.

York University

Atkinson College, Natural Science 171: Nature and Growth of

Instructor: Ron B. Thomson

Full year; first offered 77; offered every term

40 students (undergraduates)

History of science with a unit on the role Canadians play

in science, the reasons, implications, and future.

Approximately 20% Canadian content.

Faculty of Arts, History 480: History of Technology since 1800 Instructor: Peter R. Knights
Full year; first offered 74/75; offered annually
12-15 students (4th year undergraduates)
Course stresses general theme of developing North American technology; sources largely on U.S. but Canadian topics are encouraged in student research.
Canadian content varies.

SCIENCE AND SOCIETY IN THE HIGH SCHOOL

Dr Garry Peddle North York Board of Education and Atkinson College

The 1950s marked a watershed in the teaching of science. Educational theorists such as Carl Rogers were calling for a change to less authoritarian methods of instruction. Under the impact of such texts as Tinus Pauling's General Chemistry the content of courses was evolving from historical-descriptive to a theoretical-principles approach. The progress towards change was rapidly accelerated when Sputnik convinced some politicians that a major revision in the educational system was necessary. The result was the implementation of freer, less structured methods of instruction coupled with a curriculum based upon the theoretical-principles approach.

However, by the beginning of the seventies, it was becoming obvious (to some people) that the grand experiments in methods had failed and a swing back to a more structured system is currently under way. In addition, there has been a reaction