

Resolution 2015-11. On Support for Academic Freedom and the "Literature of 9/11" Course

The Faculty Council resolves:

The Faculty Council of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill fully endorses the academic integrity of Professor Neel Ahuja and of his first-year seminar entitled "Literature of 9/11." Furthermore, the Faculty Council reaffirms its unequivocal commitment to the principle of academic freedom that permits this course to be taught.

Presented by Professor Hassan Melehy (Romance Studies)

NB: This reaffirmation of commitment to the principle of academic freedom follows the one made in Resolution 2010-5, "On Supporting a Resolution of the University of North Carolina Faculty Assembly on Academic Freedom," which was adopted without dissent at the meeting of December 17, 2010. Resolution 2010-5 opens as follows: "It is important that the faculty of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill reaffirm from time to time the fundamental importance of institutional protections for the academic freedoms of research and publication, teaching, shared governance, and participation in public debate because these freedoms are at the core of the University's teaching, research and service mission."

In the wake of public calls for administrative intervention to cancel or modify Professor Ahuja's course, a new reaffirmation is timely.