

CURRICULUM PROPOSAL COVER SHEET
_____ Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

I. Catalog Description

RS 100 Introduction to Religion 3 credits

An introduction to the academic study of religion through an examination of various dimensions of religious expression and traditions. The course will cover such areas as: Problems about definition of religion; approaches to the study of religion; the goals, language and rituals of religion; cases of religious experience; faith, disbelief and alternatives to religion; religion and the socio-cultural context.

II. Course Objectives

1. To introduce students to the academic study of religion through an examination of various dimensions of religious expressions and religious traditions.
2. To provide students with knowledge of basic concepts and approaches that will enable them to recognize the

3. To encourage students to make independent judgments and

Actual methods of evaluation will vary from instructor to

Final Examination

Liberal Studies Form -- 2

PART II WHICH LIBERAL STUDIES GOALS WILL YOUR COURSE

All Liberal Studies courses must contribute to at least one of these goals; most will meet more than one. As you check them off, please indicate whether you consider them to be primary or secondary goals of the course. [For example, a history course might assume "historical consciousness" and "acquiring a body of knowledge" as its

Liberal Studies Form - 3

PART III. DOES YOUR COURSE MEET THE GENERAL CRITERIA FOR LIBERAL STUDIES? Please attach answers to these questions.

A. If this is a multiple-section, multiple-instructor course, there should be a basic

[The following area contains numerous horizontal lines, likely representing a table or a series of questions to be answered. The lines are mostly blank, suggesting the content is obscured or the page is a scan of a form with no data entered.]

Liberal Studies Form - 4

E. The Liberal Studies Criteria indicate six ways in which all courses should contribute to students' abilities. To which of the six will your course contribute? Check all that apply and attach an explanation.

- 1. Confront the major ethical issues which pertain to the subject matter; realize that although "suspended judgment" is a necessity of intellectual inquiry, one cannot live forever in suspension; and make ethical choices and take responsibility for them.
- 2. Define and analyze problems, frame questions, evaluate available solutions, and make choices
- 3. Communicate knowledge and exchange ideas by various forms of expression, in most cases writing and speaking.
- 4. Recognize creativity and engage in creative thinking.
- 5. Continue learning even after the completion of their formal education.
- 6. Recognize relationships between what is being studied and current issues; thoughts, institutions, and/or events.

PART IV. DOES YOUR COURSE MEET THE CRITERIA FOR THE

CHECK LIST -- HUMANITIES: RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Knowledge Area Criteria which the course must meet:

- Treat concepts, themes, and events in sufficient depth to enable students to appreciate the complexity, history and current implications.

RS 100 Introduction to Religion

Part I. Please refer to the items checked

Part III General Criteria

A. This is a course generally taught by all the instans

to discuss the content of the course and how well it
is fulfilling the Liberal Studies criteria, and finally
bring it to the department. Problems that may

- 5. The central concepts involved in the analysis of religion and the moral issues raised in class are existential and perennial questions students will continue to explore throughout their lives.
- 6. Religion shapes the lives and values of most people in society. Students will learn that a person's

most. Students will be able to link what they learn in class to what happens in the real world as issues are frequently raised and discussed.

Part IV Knowledge Area Criteria

The syllabus, along with the above explanations have amply demonstrated that the first three criteria are met.

The fourth criterion is not directly relevant in this course.

Religious Studies Criteria Which the Course Must Meet.

A close examination of the syllabus and course content

LIBERAL STUDIES

Director's Office: 353 Sutton Hall

Secretary's Office and Mailing Address: 223 Sutton Hall

April 3, 1989

SUBJECT: Religious Studies Courses

TO: Joel Mlecko, Thomas Schaub, Kwasi Yirenkyi

FROM: Liberal Studies Committee

At our March 30 meeting, we approved RS 250 Understanding the