

CURRICULUM PROPOSAL COVER SHEET
University-Wide Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

LSC Use Only
Number <u>LS-83</u>
Action _____
Date _____

UWUCC Use Only
Number _____
Action _____
Date _____

I. TITLE/AUTHOR OF CHANGE

COURSE/PROGRAM TITLE RS 250: Understanding the Bible**
 DEPARTMENT Philosophy & Religious Studies
 CONTACT PERSON R. Thomas Schaub
 **A refinement on the old title Biblical Interpretations

II. THIS COURSE IS BEING PROPOSED FOR:

- Course Approval Only
- Course Approval and Liberal Studies Approval
- Liberal Studies Approval only (course previously has been approved by the University Senate)

III. APPROVALS

S. Montgomery
 Department Curriculum Committee

S. Montgomery 2-28-89
 Department Chairperson

Chad Cochran
 College Curriculum Committee
 Director of Liberal Studies
 (where applicable)

[Signature]
 College Dean*
 Provost
 (where applicable)

*College Dean must consult with Provost before approving curriculum changes. Approval by College Dean indicates that the proposed change is consistent with long range planning documents, that all requests for resources made as part of the proposal can be met, and that the proposal has the support of the university administration.

IV. TIMETABLE

Date Submitted to LSC _____	Semester/Year to be implemented <u>Fall 89</u>	Date to be published in Catalog <u>ASAP</u>
to UWUCC _____		

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

RS 250 Understanding the Bible

3 credits

An introduction to scholarly methods and major themes necessary to understand the Hebrew Scriptures and the New Testament of the Judaean-

II. COURSE OBJECTIVES

In completing the course the student will:

1. have gained introductory knowledge of the basic contents and times

1. The Historical traditions and theological themes found in selected passages.

- a. Patriarchal traditions - Abraham, Model of faith
- b. The Exodus experience - Formation of the Community
- c. The Monarchy - Political and Religious Unity
- d. Theological World view - Creation and the Fall

f. The Monarchy -Division and Destruction

2. The Prophetic Tradition.

- a. Nature of Prophetic literature
- b. Amos and Election
- c. Hosea and Covenant
- d. Isaiah, Monotheism and Messianism
- e. Jeremiah, Retribution and Individual Responsibility
- f. Exechiel, the Father of Judaism

3. The Legal and Liturgical literature

- a. Law codes
- b. The Psalms
- c. Judith and the role of Women in the Hebrew Scriptures

4. Israel's Wisdom Movement and its literature

- a. Practical Wisdom
- b. Theological Wisdom
- c. Sceptical Wisdom

D. The New Testament

a. The Gospel according to Mark

Exams including multiple choice, true-false and essay questions.

Periodic unannounced quizzes on reading assignments

Essay assignments

V. REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

- 1) The Bible, any edition
- 2) Stephen Harris, Understanding the Bible

VI. SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS

There will be some slide presentations to assist the student in

LIBERAL STUDIES COURSE APPROVAL FORM

About this form: Use this form only if you wish to have a course included for Liberal Studies

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Liberal Studies Form - 3

PART III. DOES YOUR COURSE MEET THE GENERAL CRITERIA FOR

- A. If this is a multiple-section, multiple-instructor course, there should be a basic equivalency (though not necessarily uniformity) among the sections in such things as objectives, content, assignments, and evaluation. Note: this should not be interpreted to mean that all professors must make the same assignments or teach the same way; departments are encouraged to develop their courses to

Liberal Studies Form -- 4

E. The Liberal Studies Criteria indicate six ways in which all courses should contribute to student education.

[The following area contains numerous horizontal lines, likely representing a table or a list of criteria, but the content is illegible due to heavy scanning artifacts.]

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 of what is being studied; and not be merely cursory coverages of lists of topics.
- / Suggest the major intellectual questions/problems which interest practitioners of a discipline and explore critically the important theories and principles presented by the discipline.
- / Allow students to understand and apply the methods of inquiry and vocabulary commonly used in the discipline.
- / Encourage students to use and apply...

Religious Studies Criteria which the course must meet:

- / Introduce students to the study of religion as a means to understanding Western culture and, therefore, to understanding themselves.
- / Provide a balanced, critical, nonsectarian examination of religion.
- / Emphasize on individual...

Explanations for Liberal Studies Course Approval

II. Liberal Studies Course

B. Acquiring a Body of Knowledge or Understanding essential to an Educated Person.

The Bible is the primary source book and norm for the beliefs and

intend to teach it in the following academic year will meet at the conclusion of the spring semester. They will review this document, including the generic syllabus. They will exchange individual syllabi and then will discuss whether they are meeting the specific goals and criteria outlined in this document.

discussions of current issues, thoughts, institutions, and/or events. One of the major goals of the course will be to stress

means for today. Examples of modern interpretations will be used to enable the student to recognize different levels of use and abuse of the Bible in modern contexts.

Knowledge Area Criteria

The introductory lectures will stress the major questions/problems of biblical studies and discuss the various methods of inquiry used in the discipline. Throughout the course these problems and methods will be exemplified in the treatment of basic concepts, themes and events in response