# Course Change Proposal
## Form A

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic Group (College):</th>
<th>Academic Organization (Department):</th>
<th>Date:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arts and Letters</td>
<td>Humanities and Religious Studies</td>
<td>March 16, 2011</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Course Proposal:</th>
<th>Department Chair:</th>
<th>Submitted by:</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New <em>x</em> Change ___ Deletion ___</td>
<td>Jeffrey Brodd</td>
<td>Jeffrey Brodd</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Does this course fulfill a requirement for single-subject or multiple subject credential students?</th>
<th>For Catalog Copy:</th>
<th>CCE (Extension):</th>
<th>Semester Effective:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes ___ No <em>x</em></td>
<td>Yes <em>x</em> No ___</td>
<td>Yes ___ No <em>x</em></td>
<td>Fall <em>x</em> Spring _</td>
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This course replaces experimental course Subject Area (prefix) and Catalog Nbr (course number):
If changing an existing course, should new version be considered a repeat of the original version? If so, the same Course ID will be maintained. If not, a new Course ID will be assigned. Note: In PeopleSoft terminology, the Course ID is the unique system identifier, not the Catalog Nbr.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Change from:</th>
<th>Change to:</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Subject Area (prefix) &amp; Catalog Nbr (course no.):</strong></td>
<td><strong>Title:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Units:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Subject Area (prefix) &amp; Catalog Nbr (course no.):</strong></th>
<th><strong>Title:</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HRS 198</td>
<td>Seminar in Religious Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Units:</strong> 3</td>
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**JUSTIFICATION:**
- The department is reconfiguring its curriculum in response to assessment findings and the most recent HRS program review, which suggest that students need classes that offer opportunities to build content knowledge and develop skills in concentration’s methods and approaches (which are introduced in General Education and core courses in the major) in focused seminar settings. HRS 198 will serve as the capstone course for majors with Religious Studies concentration.

**NEW COURSE DESCRIPTION:** (Not to exceed 80 words, and language should conform to catalog copy. See http://www.csus.edu/umanual/acad.htm - Guidelines for Catalog Course Description)

Senior seminar for Humanities and Religious Studies majors with Religious Studies Concentration; focuses on the perspectives and methods of the academic study of religion. Topics chosen by the instructor. Prerequisite: Completion of 9 units of HRS lower-division core courses, HRS 108, senior status; or instructor permission. May be repeated. 3 units.

**Note:**
- Prerequisite: Enforced at Registration: Yes _x_ major/minor code No ___
- Corequisite: Enforced at Registration: Yes ___ No _x_ ______
- Graded: Letter _x_ ___ Credit/No Credit ______
- Instructor Approval Required? Yes ___ No _x_ ______

**Course Classification** (e.g., lecture, lab, seminar, discussion):
C-5 seminar

Title for CMS (not more than 30 characters)
Seminar in Religious Studies

**Cross Listed?**
Yes ___ No _x_ ______

If yes, do they meet together and fulfill the same requirement, and what is the other course.

**How Many Times Can This Course be Taken for Credit?**
____twice, if on different topics ______

Can the course be taken for Credit more than once during the same term? Yes ___ No _x_—unless two different topics ______
**FOR NEW COURSE PROPOSALS OR SUBSTANTIVE CHANGES ONLY:**

**Description of the Expected Learning Outcomes:** Describe outcomes using the following format: “Students will be able to: 1), 2), etc.” See the example at [http://www.csus.edu/acaf/example.htm](http://www.csus.edu/acaf/example.htm)

Specific courses proposed using this number will meet the department’s learning goals----
Students will be able to:
- Demonstrate knowledge of human cultures, their values and forms of expression;
- Demonstrate analytical reading, critical thinking skills, and effective communication skills (both written and oral) in order to be prepared for life-long learning;
- Demonstrate an ability to undertake synthetic and cross-disciplinary study and learning

**Attach a list of the required/recommended course readings and activities [Note: it is understood that these are updated and modified as needed by the instructor(s).] This attachment should be forwarded only to your Dean’s office, not Academic Affairs.**

**Assessment Strategies:** A description of the assessment strategies (e.g., portfolios, examinations, performances, pre- and post-tests, conferences with students, student papers) which will be used by the instructor to determine the extent to which students have achieved the learning outcomes noted above:

- Guided study and discussion of topics in Religious studies.
- Supplemental presentations, reports and term projects/papers as required by instructor.

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For whom is this course being developed?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Majors in the Dept</th>
<th>Majors of other Depts</th>
<th>Minors in the Dept</th>
<th>General Education</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>X</td>
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Is this course required in a degree program (major, minor, graduate degree, certificate)? Yes X No __________

If yes, identify program(s): Humanities and Religious Studies

Does the proposed change or addition cause a significant increase in the use of College or University resources (lab room, computer facilities, faculty, etc.)? Yes __ No X __________

If yes, attach a description of resources needed and verify that resources are available.

Indicate which department or programs will be affected by the proposed course (if any). ________________________________

*The Department Chair’s signature below indicates that affected programs have been sent a copy of this proposal form.*

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**Approvals:** If proposed change, new course or deletion is approved, sign and date below. If not approved, forward without signing to the next reviewing authority, and attach an explanatory memorandum to the original copy.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Signatures:</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Department Chair:</td>
<td>3/16/11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Dean or Associate Dean:</td>
<td>3/18/11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPSP (for school personnel courses ONLY)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Associate Vice President and Dean for Academic Programs</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Distribution: Academic Affairs (original), Department Chair and College Dean. Dean’s office to send original after approval to Academic Affairs, at mail zip 6016. An electronic copy must also be sent.

9/10/2008
California State University, Sacramento  
Seminar in Religious Studies: Religious Cultures in Comparative Perspective  
Spring 2012

Humanities and Religious Studies 198-01  
Mendocino 1024  
Tuesday 6:00-8:50

Professor Jeffrey Brodd. Email: jbrodd@csus.edu  
Office: Mendocino 211. 278-7703. Hours:  

Senior seminar for Humanities and Religious Studies majors with Religious Studies Concentration; focuses on the perspectives and methods of the academic study of religion. Topics chosen by the instructor. Prerequisite: Completion of 9 units of HRS lower-division core courses, HRS 108, senior status; or instructor permission. May be repeated. 3 units. The topic this term is religious cultures in comparative perspective. Our study will focus on three specific locations and historical moments: Rome in 8 BCE, Singapore in 2009, and Sacramento in 2012.

Learning Objectives

The course is designed to provide an advanced seminar experience for Humanities and Religious Studies majors, and thus will incorporate the primary learning objectives of the program:

- Demonstrate knowledge of human cultures, their values and forms of expression;
- Demonstrate analytical reading, critical thinking skills and effective communication skills (both written and oral) of a variety of texts;
- Appreciate the importance of life-long learning;
- Demonstrate an ability to undertake synthetic and cross-disciplinary study and learning

Texts

Gerald James Larson and Elliot Deutsch, eds., Interpreting Across Boundaries: New Essays in Comparative Philosophy
Mary Beard, John North, and Simon Price, The Religions of Rome (2 volumes)
John L. Esposito, Darrell J. Fasching, and Todd Lewis, Religions of Asia Today
Lois Ann Lorentzen et al., Religion at the Corner of Bliss and Nirvana: Politics, Identity, and Faith in New Migrant Communities
Course Reader, with various excerpts from other selected texts  
(Various brief readings and charts provided by instructor during the course of the semester)

Requirements and Grading

Each student will write a term paper (of approximately 15 pages) requiring substantial research and analysis. Each student also will complete several short (app. 500-word) informal essays in response to readings, and will provide a brief presentation to the class on the selected term paper topic; specific instructions will be provided. Especially due to our modified seminar format, active participation in class is expected. All reading assignments are to be completed prior to the meetings for which they are listed (see “Schedule and Assignments”).

Attendance is required, as per departmental attendance policy. Course grades will be based on the following:

Quality of engagement in class sessions 15%
Presentation on paper topic  10%
Five responses to readings  25%
Term paper (and review of another’s draft)  50%

Schedule of Topics

Week 1  Introduction: religious cultures

Weeks 2  Introduction: comparing religions
Gerald James Larson and Elliot Deutsch, eds., Interpreting Across Boundaries: New Essays in Comparative Philosophy

Weeks 3-6  The religious culture of Rome, ca. 8 BCE
Mary Beard, John North, and Simon Price, The Religions of Rome (2 volumes)

Due: Initial statement of paper topic(s)

Weeks 7-9  The religious culture of Singapore, ca. 2009
John L. Esposito, Darrell J. Fasching, and Todd Lewis, Religions of Asia Today

Due: Final statement of paper topic and preliminary bibliography

Weeks 10-12  The religious culture of Sacramento, ca. 2012
Lois Ann Lorentzen et al., Religion at the Corner of Bliss and Nirvana: Politics, Identity, and Faith in New Migrant Communities

Weeks 12-14  Themes and issues in the comparison of religious cultures

Due: First draft of term paper

Week 15  Summary and reflections

Due: Final draft of term paper and first draft with colleague’s review