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INDIANA UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
SENATE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE B-2

NEW COURSE PROPOSAL

Department: Philosophy & Religious Studies

Person to contact for further information: Joel Mlecko/Kwasi Yirenkyi

Course affected: ²⁹⁰RS 390--Christianity

Desired semester of change: ASAP

Approvals:

Department Curriculum Committee Chairperson: DNR Boone

Department Chairperson: Sharon Montoya memo 10-21-87

College Advisory Committee Chairperson: James T. Gray

College Dean: Mark Stutz

A. DESCRIPTION OF ACADEMIC NEED

A1. Catalog Description: (PLEASE ATTACH)

A2. Course Syllabus: (PLEASE ATTACH)

A3. Need Fulfilled: Christianity provides an important foundational element for Western civilization. Yet, up to this time, we have not provided IUP students with the opportunity to take a course which provides an overall, in-depth perspective of Christianity.

A4. Effect on other courses: RS 390 would enrich and balance the present course offerings in Religious Studies. It would provide students an opportunity to pursue in-depth a phenomenon, Christianity, which is touched upon in many other academic areas from art to history to psychology.

A5. Does this course follow traditional offerings in the department? _____

Yes, for example, RS 380--Islam.

A6. Has this course been offered at IUP on a trial basis? Yes, in the Spring
Semester of 1987 with some thirty students; the student response
was very favorable.

A7. Is this a dual level course? No.

A8. Do other universities offer this course? Yes, for example, the University
of Pittsburgh and Duquesne University in our immediate area...

A9. Is this course recommended or required by a professional society? No.

Although the vast majority of schools--as found in the North
American Directory of Colleges/Universities With RS Programs--
do offer such a course

B. INTERDISCIPLINARY IMPLICATIONS

B1. Will the course be offered by one instructor or will there be a team? _____
One instructor. _____

B2. Are additional or corollary courses needed? No. _____

B3. What is the relationship of the content of this course to the content of
courses offered by other departments?
There is no overlap; there is no similar course offered at IUP. _____

B4. Is this course applicable in a program of the school of continuing education
directed at other than full-time students?

Yes. _____

C. EVALUATION

C1. What procedures are expected to be used to evaluate student progress? _____
Oral and written assignments, exams, course evaluations,
advisee/advisor conferences.

C2. Variable credit? No--3 credits.

D. IMPLEMENTATION

D1. What resources are needed to teach this course? None, they are
available. Five professors within the Department are capable
of teaching this course. Media holdings, with the present
projection of growth, are adequate.

D2. How many sections? One, at the present time.

D3. How often will the course be offered? At least once every three years.

D4. How many students will be accommodated? Up to forty.

A1. Catalog Description.

RS ²⁹⁰~~390~~--Christianity.

*No. of credits ?
Prerequisite?*

A study of the beliefs, practices, significant persons,
history, and cultural impact of Christianity.

A2. Course Syllabus: RS 390--Christianity

- 1-CATALOG DESCRIPTION. A study of the beliefs, practices, significant persons, history, and cultural impact of Christianity.
- 2-COURSE PROCEDURES. Primarily lectures, although comments and questions by the students are encouraged; also individual research, reading, discussion, tutorials, assignments, exams.
- 3-REQUIREMENTS. Responsibility for lecture notes, readings, exam preparation, 3 assignments, class participation.
- 4-EXAMS. Three exams--objective, essay, cumulative.
- 5-ASSIGNMENTS. The three assignments--media analysis, fieldwork, 5-7page term paper--will be fully explained during the 2nd week of classes.
- 6-GRADE EVALUATION. 1/4 Term Paper, 1/4 Media Analysis and Fieldwork, 1/2 Exams.
- 7-REQUIRED TEXT. INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTIANITY by M.J. Weaver.
- 8-SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS. Audio-visuals, guest lecturer, handouts, collateral reading.
- 9-BASIC COURSE OUTLINE.
 - a-Intro to the academic study of religion
 - b-The Bible
 - c-The context for and life of Jesus
 - d-Emergence of the Christian Church
 - e-Eastern Orthodox and Roman Catholic Christianity
 - f-The Reformation and Protestant Christianity
 - g-American Christianity
 - h-Christian Worship
 - i-Christian morality
 - j-Christianity and religious pluralism
 - k-Summary and concluding remarks