

TO: Larry Williams, Chair
Undergraduate Committee

FROM: Andrea Burrige, Chair
Degree Programs and CBM003 – 1

SUBJECT: Subcommittee Report

DATE: February 13, 2014

APPROVED FEB 19 2014
CA

The Degree Programs/CBM003 Subcommittee 1 met on January 29th and February 5th at 3:00 pm and February 12th at 2pm in room 404 Farish Hall.

Members present: Andrea Burrige, Teresa Chapman, Raresh Pascali, Rey Treviño,
Guests: Thomas Behr, Lois Zamora, CLASS (1/29, 2/5); Shishir Shah, NSM (2/12)

Course Additions

Subject to minor editorial changes, the Subcommittee recommends the approval of the following course additions:

UC 12502 13F ANTH 2320: Ritual and Performance
UC 12503 13F ANTH 2365: Aztec and Maya Beliefs and Cosmologies
UC 12504 13F ANTH 3335: Black Atlantic Religions
UC 12505 13F ANTH 3336: Caribbean Societies and Cultures
UC 12506 13F ANTH 4325: Data Analysis in Archaeology
UC 12507 13F ANTH 4388: Anthropology Internship Practicum
UC 12581 13F GIS 2396: Selected Topics in Global Studies
UC 12582 13F GIS 3300: Interdisciplinary India: Study Abroad
UC 12583 13F GIS 3396: Selected Topics in Global Studies
UC 12635 13F RELS 2345: Sacred Texts and Mythologies of India
UC 12637 13F RELS 3333: Religion and Literature
UC 12638 13F RELS 3335: Black Atlantic Religions
UC 12639 13F RELS 3336: Caribbean Societies and Cultures
UC 12640 13F RELS 3350: Religious Studies Internship Practicum
UC 12641 13F RELS 3376: Themes in Comparative Religion
UC 12642 13F RELS 3377: Belief and Unbelief: The Search of Meaning
UC 12643 13F RELS 3382: Politics and Religion in South Asia
UC 12644 13F RELS 4395: Religious Studies Senior Research Seminar
UC 12645 13F RELS 3398: Independent Study
UC 12646 13F RELS 4398: Independent Study
UC 12647 13F SOC 3355: Sociology of India
UC 12648 13F SOC 3362: Sociology of Religion of India
UC 12663 13F EPSY 4353: Technology in Special Education

Subject to a change in level and minor editorial changes, the Subcommittee recommends the approval of the following course additions:

- UC 12631 13F RELS 2320: Ritual and Performance → RELS 3320
- UC 12632 13F RELS 2321: Catholic Mysticism → RELS 3321
- UC 12633 13F RELS 2322: The Catholic Intellectual Tradition → RELS 3322
- UC 12634 13F RELS 2333: Us and Them: Ethical Decision-Making in Complex Cultures → RELS 3334
- UC 12636 13F RELS 2366: History of Magic, Witchcraft and the Occult → RELS 3366
- UC 12603 13F ILAS 2351: Power Writing
- UC 12604 13F ILAS 3150: Liberal Studies Internship Practicum
- UC 12605 13F ILAS 3300: Study Abroad Experience

Course Changes

Subject to minor editorial changes, the Subcommittee recommends the approval of the following course changes:

- UC 12630 13F RELS 1301: Introduction to Religious Studies
- UC 12656 13F CUIN 3111: Educational Technology for Elementary Teachers
- UC 12657 13F CUIN 3302: Social Education
- UC 12660 13F CUIN 3121: Educational Technology for Secondary Teachers
- UC 12664 13F CUIN 3313: Educational Technology
- UC 12677 13F COSC 1320: Intro to Computer Science
- UC 12678 13F COSC 3320: Algorithms and Data Structures
- UC 12679 13F COSC 3330: Computer Architecture
- UC 12680 13F COSC 3340: Introduction to Automata and Computability
- UC 12681 13F COSC 3380: Design File and Database Systems
- UC 12682 13F COSC 4211: Computer Scientists and Society
- UC 12683 13F COSC 4330: Fundamentals of Operating Systems
- UC 12684 13F COSC 4351: Fundamentals of Software Engineering
- UC 12685 13F COSC 4353: Software Design
- UC 12686 13F COSC 4354: Software Development Practices
- UC 12687 13F COSC 4355: Introduction to Ubiquitous Computing
- UC 12693 13F GEOL 1130: Physical Geology Lab
- UC 12694 13F GEOL 1160: Introduction to Oceanography Laboratory
- UC 12695 13F GEOL 1176: Historical Geology Lab
- UC 12696 13F GEOL 1340: Earth Systems
- UC 12702 13F GEOL 3355: Field Geology
- UC 12703 13F GEOL 3360: Field Geology
- UC 12707 13F GEOL 4355: Geophysical Field Camp
- UC 12708 13F GEOL 4382: Introduction to Petroleum Geology

Course Deletions

Subject to minor editorial changes, the Subcommittee recommends the approval of the following course deletions:

UC 12658 13F	CUIN 3123: Educational Technology for Adolescents III
UC 12659 13F	CUIN 3122: Educational Technology for Adolescents II
UC 12661 13F	CUIN 3113: Educational Technology for Children III
UC 12662 13F	CUIN 3122: Educational Technology for Children II
UC 12688 13F	COSC 3361: Numerical Methods I
UC 12689 13F	COSC 3362: Numerical Methods II
UC 12690 13F	COSC 3410: Digital Logic Design
UC 12691 13F	COSC 4310: Structure of Programming Languages and Compilers
UC 12692 13F	COSC 4319: Distributed Object Computing
UC 12697 13F	GEOL 2178: Atmospheric Instrumentation Lab
UC 12698 13F	GEOL 3103: Geologic Field Trip
UC 12699 13F	GEOL 3176: Life of the Geologic Past Laboratory
UC 12700 13F	GEOL 3301: Dinosaurs, Mars & the Age of the Earth
UC 12701 13F	GEOL 3335: Petrogenesis
UC 12704 13F	GEOL 3371: Optical Mineralogy
UC 12705 13F	GEOL 3376: Life of the Geologic Past
UC 12706 13F	GEOL 4342: Advanced Physical Geology

Degree Plan Changes**UC 12727 13F Changes to Global and International Studies Minor**

Background: During AY 2012-2013, GIS 2350: Introduction to Global and International Studies was added to the course catalog. The proposed update to the Global and International Studies Minor reflects the addition of this course, replacing ANTH 2395: Selected topics in Cultural Anthropology. In addition, this proposal updates the concentration course lists, including both additions and deletions.

The subcommittee recommends approval.

UC 12728 13F Changes to India Studies Minor

Background: This proposal updates the list of elective courses in the minor including both additions and deletions.

The subcommittee recommends approval.

UC 12729 13F Modifications to Religious Studies Minor

The Comparative and Cultural Studies Department proposes a set of changes that create more flexibility for students in creating a focus and updated course options.

Previous requirements: *The 18 required hours are to include:*

1. *RELS 1301 Intro to Religious Studies*
2. *Three hours of either RELS 2310: The Bible and Western Culture I or RELS 2311: The Bible and Western Culture II.*
3. *At least six hours selected from other RELS courses. See list below.*
4. *At least three hours selected from Humanities courses. See list below. (Note: Any Religious Studies course will count as a Humanities credit, or any course from the Humanities list.)*
5. *At least three hours selected from Social Sciences related courses. See list below.*

Proposed changes: The 18 required hours are to include:

1. RELS 1301 Introduction to Religious Studies
2. At least six hours of RELS courses from the following list:
 - RELS 2310 The Bible and Western Culture 1 (Humanities Core)
 - RELS 2311 The Bible and Western Culture 2 (Humanities Core)
 - RELS 2330 Judaism (Humanities Core)
 - RELS 2335 Rabbinic Biblical Interpretation (WID)
 - RELS 2340 Introduction to Hinduism (WID)
 - RELS 2350 Introduction to Islam (WID)
 - RELS 2360 Introduction to Buddhism(WID)
3. At least nine hours from an updated elective list. Note: This elective list includes courses from the three categories present in the existing structure: RELS courses, Humanities Courses, and Social Sciences courses

The subcommittee recommends approval.

UC 12735 14S**Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies**

Background: Religious Studies is the study of religious belief systems from various disciplinary perspectives (sociology, anthropology, comparative cultural studies, philosophy, literature, art and architecture, political science, etc.) It is not a degree in theology per se, though the study of scriptural traditions is integral to the major. Rather, Religious Studies focuses on religions as they operate in cultures and societies, and as they influence events and attitudes in local communities and global contexts.

The University of Houston has long had a successful Religious Studies program with well-enrolled courses and a strong number of minors graduating every year. In the climate of expanding globalization that affects every area of society, economy and politics, a degree plan that offers students a solid foundation for cross-cultural and inter-religious awareness and dialogue is highly desirable as UH continues its march towards academic and professional prominence.

The degree plan is built on the existing RELS minor program and offers both balance and interdisciplinarity, with understanding of major religious traditions and practices. It also offers the possibility of specializing in particular religions, regions, and/or theoretical approaches to the study of religion in historical, global and comparative contexts. Combined with a relevant social science, humanities or business minor, the degree can be a powerful preparation for participation in the global workplace.

Degree Plan: In addition to fulfilling Core, College, and University requirements for the Bachelor of Arts degree, students declaring the major in Religious Studies must have a minimum GPA of 2.0 and complete 33 credit hours in the major plus a 3 hour Practicum according to the criteria below, including 18 credit hours of coursework at the advanced level, 15 of which must be in residence, and a final minimum GPA of 2.0 in coursework for the major to graduate. Note no course taken to fulfill the major may be applied towards a student's minor.

All of the following are required:

A) Required Courses (3 credit hours)

RELS 1301 Introduction to Religious Studies (Humanities Core)

B) From each of the THREE following clusters

I) Judaic, Christian, and Islamic traditions (9 credit hours)

II) Asian, African, and Native American religions and world mythologies (9 credit hours)

III) Religions in Global Perspective: Theoretical and thematic topics from the Humanities and/or Social Sciences (6 credit hours)

C) TWO more courses from any of the above clusters (6 credit hours). Course list, by cluster, below.

D) Religious Studies Practicum (3 credit hours) that may be satisfied by:

- a) an approved internship program, or
- b) a designated capstone research project or honors thesis, or
- c) an approved study abroad program,
all of which foregoing options *must* be associated with a UH credit-bearing course, such as RELS 3350 Religious Studies Internship Practicum, RELS 4395 Religious Studies Senior Research Seminar, or ILAS 3300 Study Abroad Experience, for example, upon approval of the Director of Religious Studies.

The subcommittee recommends approval.