

## New/Revised Course Proposal Form

### Instructions:

- Prepare your proposal according to the following outline.
  - Attach a proposed syllabus and/or course guidelines that include a list of measurable student learning outcomes and how they will be assessed.
  - Have your proposal reviewed by the appropriate department and school/college committee.
  - Submit the signed proposal to the Office of Academic Affairs. All forms must be completed in full with appropriate signatures. You will be contacted by the Curriculum Committee Coordinator with a date and time to present the proposal.
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### Form information:

1. Department: Religious Studies
2. Program: B.A. in Religious Studies
3. Course Information: New  Revised \_\_\_\_\_

<u>RELG/</u> Prefix	<u>2405 /</u> Number	<u>Religion and Film</u> Title
<u>3</u> Credit Hours	<u>None</u> Prerequisites	

4. Catalog Description for the catalog: (This description should briefly describe the basic content of the course as it will be offered.)  
  
This course will look at different themes in religious studies which are articulated by feature films and documentaries. The content will vary, but possible topics could include: Film and Catholics, Film and the Clergy, Film and Eastern Religion, Film and Religious Conflict, etcetera.
5. May students repeat this course for credit?  Yes  No  
If there are limits, please explain? May be repeated for credit if content differs.
6. What is the Rationale for the new/revised course?  
  
Social and intellectual behavior and beliefs are reflected in film. It's a powerful vehicle for understanding belief systems. Both documentary and feature films will be used to approach how belief affects social behavior and cultural practices.
7. Should this new course be considered for General Education coding?  Yes  No  
If yes, attach the Application for General Education Coding Form.
8. Staffing requirements:

- a. Qualifications necessary for instructor: Ph.D.
- b. What staffing changes, if any, will be necessary to offer this additional course?  
None
9. When will this course be initiated? Summer 2009 How often will it be taught? Biannually  
What campus(es) are likely to offer this course? Webster Groves, Downtown
10. Does this course affect degree requirements in your, or any other department/program's major, emphasis, minor or certificate?  Yes  No  
If yes, please attach corrected catalog copy for approval, with the Deans of that School/College's approval.
11. List any existing University course(s), which are similar in title and/or subject matter and explain how this course differs. Anthropology of Film and Human Rights in Film are similar, however, the subject matter of this course is exclusive to religion and religious studies.
12. Are University resources adequate to support this course? (Library holdings, space, specialized, equipment, etc.)  Yes  No  
If not, what additions are necessary? \_\_\_\_\_
13. Will any course be dropped as a result of this new course?  Yes  No  
If so, please list what course(s).

Endorsements and Approvals:

Petitioner

Department/Program Chairperson

Dean of College/School

Chair/Curriculum Committee

Date

Date

Date

Date

3/3/09

# General Education Course Coding Form

## INSTRUCTIONS

- Your responses must be typed and all sections completed. Do not submit this application unless your course meets all of the approval criteria (1000 and 2000 courses only, single code only, no prerequisites, etc.). Contact the Curriculum Committee Coordinator if you have any questions.
- Attach a syllabus that includes a list of the following:
  - Measurable student learning outcomes
    - Note: The GenEd learning outcomes should be stated separately from the course learning outcomes on the course syllabus
  - Outcome Assessment (including descriptions of reading and writing activities, projects, presentations, testing, etc.)
  - Course requirements (such as attendance, assignments, etc.)
- Have your proposal reviewed by the appropriate department and school/college committee.
- Submit your proposal to the Office of Academic Affairs. You will be contacted by the Curriculum Committee Coordinator with a date and time to present the proposal.

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## FORM INFORMATION

Select one:  New Course  Revised Course

1. Department: Religious Studies
2. Program: B.A. in Religious Studies
3. Course Information: RELG / 2405 / Religion and Film  
(1000 & 2000 only) Prefix Number Title

If the course is a **topics** or **issues** course, the last digit in the number should designate its code according to the following guidelines:

A Topics or Issues course coded 2300 designates no code.

<u>Code</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>Title</u>
2301	Critical Thinking	2304	Humanities	2307	Arts Appreciation
2302	Communications	2305	Values	2308	Scientific Understanding
2303	Historical Consciousness	2306	Cultural Understanding	2309	Mathematics

**Note:** All sections under a course number that received a general education code have the same code.

4. General Education Code requested. Arts Appreciation (List only one code)
5. Does this course have a prerequisite?  Yes  No  
(General Education Courses should not have prerequisites.)

6. Indicate how each of the General Education Learning Outcome criteria for your code (page 3 and 4) are reflected in the learning outcomes of the course.

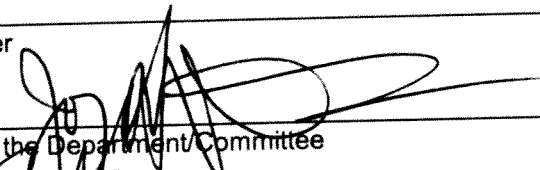
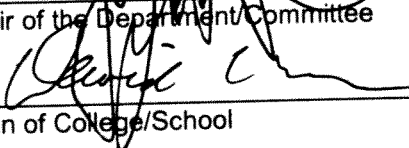
Student learns the languages and the formal qualities of the varied forms of the arts  
Student learns through active observation, participation, and response  
Student learns about the creative process

7. Student Achievement of Gen. Ed. Learning Outcomes are Assessed Within:  
(Check all that apply)

Exams  Papers  Portfolios  Class Exercises  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

8. Endorsements & Approvals:

Please have the Chair of the Department/Committee, Dean of each School/College and other programs that may be affected by this proposal, review prior to submission to the Office of Academic Affairs.

_____ Petitioner	_____ Date
 _____ Chair of the Department/Committee	_____ Date 3/10/09
 _____ Dean of College/School	_____ Date
_____ Chair of the Curriculum Committee	_____ Date

**RELG 2405**  
**Religion and Film**  
**Hollywood and the Catholics**  
**Summer 2010**

**Joseph Stimpfl**  
**Department of Religious Studies**  
**Schultz Hall**  
**968-7135**  
[jstimpfl@webster.edu](mailto:jstimpfl@webster.edu)

### Course Description

Hollywood has flirted with Catholicism almost from the beginning. They have glamorized, attached and trivialized the religious practice of Catholic religion. This course will review how Hollywood films have portrayed the clergy and to compare the real lives of clergy to the fictional version that is presented.

### General Education Learning Outcomes

- Student learns the languages and the formal qualities of the varied forms of the arts
- Student learns through active observation, participation, and response
- Student learns about the creative process

### Learning Outcomes

- Familiarity with the range of films produced about Catholics
- Understanding the diversity of views held about the film portrayal of religion
- Insight into the range of beliefs in one religion considered universal (catholic)
- Ability to analyze and describe the various trends in belief reflected in film
- Making an intellectual argument based upon data
- Conducting secondary research
- Writing persuasively to promote a point of view

### Texts

Readings will be handed out for class as is appropriate.

### Course Requirements

#### 1. Attendance

Students are expected to attend class. Since this class meets only once per week, missing one class has major impact on the course. Students are entitled to one unexcused absence. Subsequent absences will impact the final grade. More than two unexcused absences will result in a failing grade.

#### 2. Class Participation

We are equal partners in teaching this class. Everyone is expected to participate. Each class will provide ample opportunity for student to student interaction.

#### 3. Summaries

You will write five short essays for this class. Each essay should be limited to one page. Each essay should be on a substantive aspect of one of our films. It should examine the ideology expressed in the film and not concern itself with production values (photography, acting, directing, etc). All essays are typed, single spaced with 10 or 12 point type.

#### 4. Final Project

Each student will be given a take home exam at the end of this class. This exam will consist of five questions (answer only four). Each question will be limited to a one page, typed response.

### Grading

Course grades will be determined with the following emphasis:

Essays	50%
Participation	10%
Final Project	40%

*n.b. All written work is to be typed. No handwritten assignment will be accepted. Any written work may be revised/rewritten and resubmitted for regrading.*

Schedule

6/2	Glamorous Sisters (Come to the Stable)
6/9	Nuns Lives (The Nun's Story)
6/16	The Convent (Agnes of God)
6/23	Nuns and Priests (Bells of St. Mary's)
6/30	Satan (The Exorcist)
7/7	Historical Challenges (Black Robe)
7/14	The Parish Priest (Mass Appeal)
7/21	Contemporary Challenges to the Clergy (Diary of a City Priest)