**PURDUE UNIVERSITY**

REQUEST FOR ADDITION, EXPIRATION, OR REVISION OF AN UNDERGRADUATE COURSE
(10000-40000 LEVEL)

**DEPARTMENT** Philosophy  
**EFFECTIVE SESSION** Spring 2014

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Please check the items below which describe the purpose of this request.

- New course with supporting documents
- Add existing course offered at another campus
- Expulsion of a course
- Change in course number
- Change in course title
- Change in course credit/type
- Change in course attributes (department head signature only)
- Change in instructional hours
- Change in course description
- Change in course requisites
- Change in semesters offered (department head signature only)
- Transfer from one department to another

**PROPOSED:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject Abbreviation</th>
<th>Subject Abbreviation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>REL</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Number</th>
<th>Course Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>48900</td>
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**Long Title** Senior Project

**Short Title**

Abbreviated title will be entered by the Office of the Registrar if omitted. (20 CHARACTERS ONLY)

**TERMS OFFERED:**

- [ ] Summer
- [ ] Fall
- [x] Spring

**CAMPUS(ES) INVOLVED:**

- [ ] Calumet
- [ ] Fort Wayne
- [ ] Indianapolis
- [ ] N. Central
- [ ] Tech Stateside
- [ ] W. Lafayette

**CREDIT TYPE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. Fixed Credit Cr. Hrs.</th>
<th>3</th>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>2. Variable Credit Range:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Cr. Hrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Check One)</td>
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<tr>
<td>To</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximum Cr. Hrs</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>3. Equivalent Credit:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
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</table>

**COURSE ATTRIBUTES:**

- [ ] Pass/No Pass Only
- [ ] Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory Only
- [x] Department
- [ ] Instructor
- [ ] 7 Variable Title
- [ ] 8 Honors
- [ ] 9 Full Time Privilege
- [ ] 10 Off Campus Experience

**Schedule Type**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lecture</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minutes Per Mtg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meetings Per Week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offered</td>
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<tr>
<td>% of Credit</td>
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</table>

**Cross-Listed Courses**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION (INCLUDE REQUISITES/RESTRICTIONS):**

Senior-level directed studies course devoted to the research, writing, and presentation of an original project in the field of religious studies under the direction of one or more faculty members. May be repeated for up to 9 credits. Prerequisite: consent of instructor.

**COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

This capstone course is guided by three main learning outcomes: 1) the refinement and display of research skills appropriate to the successful completion of an undergraduate program of study in the field of religious studies; 2) the refinement and display of written communication skills appropriate to the successful completion of an undergraduate program of study in the field of religious studies; and, 3) the refinement and display of oral communication skills appropriate to the successful completion of an undergraduate program of study in the field of religious studies.

**SIGNED DEPARTMENT HEAD**

[Signature]

**SIGNED SCHOOL DEAN**

[Signature]

[Date]

**SIGNED POT WAYNE DEPARTMENT HEAD**

[Signature]

[Date]

**SIGNED INDIANPOULI DEPARTMENT HEAD**

[Signature]

[Date]

**SIGNED NORTH CENTRAL FACULTY SENATE CHAIR**

[Signature]

[Date]

**SIGNED WEST LAFAYETTE DEPARTMENT HEAD**

[Signature]

[Date]

**SIGNED WEST LAFAYETTE COLLEGE/SCHOOL DEAN**

[Signature]

[Date]

**SIGNED WEST LAFAYETTE REGISTRAR**

[Signature]

[Date]

OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR
REL 49900
Senior Project
Plan and Agreement

Overview
REL 49900, "Senior Project," is a senior-level directed studies course devoted to the research, writing, and presentation of an original project in the field of religious studies under the direction of one or more faculty members. The course may be repeated for up to 9 credits. The course prerequisite is consent of instructor. In consultation with the student and any other faculty members involved, the faculty member serving as instructor of record for the course must complete the following "Plan and Agreement" form, which serves as the syllabus for the course. While individual projects will take different forms, all offerings of this capstone course should be guided by three main learning outcomes: 1) the refinement and display of research skills appropriate to the successful completion of an undergraduate program of study in the field of religious studies; 2) the refinement and display of written communication skills appropriate to the successful completion of an undergraduate program of study in the field of religious studies; and, 3) the refinement and display of oral communication skills appropriate to the successful completion of an undergraduate program of study in the field of religious studies. In addition the formal evaluation of written work produced, it is expected that all students will present an oral summary of their project to a faculty committee chaired by the instructor of record.

Housekeeping Information
Term: ____________
Registration: REL 49900-
Student Name: ____________
Student ID: ____________
Instructor of Record: ____________
Other Faculty Involved: ____________

Project Description
Provide a description of the project, including all relevant detail (e.g. subject, methodology, expected outcome).

Work Plan
Provide a detailed work plan noting what is to be accomplished and when.

Evaluation
Provide an explanation of how the work will be evaluated.
***SAMPLE PLAN AND AGREEMENT***

REL 49900
Senior Project
*Plan and Agreement*

**Overview**
REL 49900, "Senior Project," is a senior-level directed studies course devoted to the research, writing, and presentation of an original project in the field of religious studies under the direction of one or more faculty members. The course may be repeated for up to 9 credits. The course prerequisite is consent of instructor. In consultation with the student and any other faculty members involved, the faculty member serving as instructor of record for the course must complete the following "Plan and Agreement" form, which serves as the syllabus for the course. While individual projects will take different forms, all offerings of this capstone course should be guided by three main learning outcomes: 1) the refinement and display of research skills appropriate to the successful completion of an undergraduate program of study in the field of religious studies; 2) the refinement and display of written communication skills appropriate to the successful completion of an undergraduate program of study in the field of religious studies; and, 3) the refinement and display of oral communication skills appropriate to the successful completion of an undergraduate program of study in the field of religious studies. In addition the formal evaluation of written work produced, it is expected that all students will present an oral summary of their project to a faculty committee chaired by the instructor of record.

**Housekeeping Information**

- **Term:** Spring 2015
- **Registration:** REL 49900-02
- **Student Name:** Mary Douglas
- **Student ID:** 9002398456
- **Instructor of Record:** Erik S. Ohlander
- **Other Faculty Involed:** Quinton Dixie, L. Michael Spath

**Project Description**
*Provide a description of the project, including all relevant detail (e.g. subject, methodology, expected outcome).*

This section of REL 49900 will be undertaken in support of the finalization of a thesis of between 40–50 pages in length in the area of the phenomenology of religion in which the student will investigate recent negotiations over the interpretive and methodological models of Rudolph Otto, Gerardus van der Leeuw, and Mircea Eliade in view of recent broader critiques of the concept of *sui generis* religion by a series of prominent scholars of religious studies (e.g., Russell McCutcheon, Steven Wasserstrom, Mark Taylor, Hans Kippenberg, and Johnathan Z. Smith). Under a section of REL 49900 conducted in the fall 2014 term, the student completed the basic research and outlining phase of the thesis and began drafting its initial portion. The present independent study will allow the student to complete the project...
under the instructor of record's continued guidance, something which is essential to the success of the project. The final, polished version of the thesis will be completed, submitted to, and defended orally in front of a faculty committee consisting of Drs Ohlander (chair), Dixie and Spath towards the end of the spring term 2015. By way of background, in the context of the abovementioned REL 49900 registration during the fall 2014 term, the student successfully completed the following tasks:

1) Prepared an extensive preliminary research bibliography based on systematic and sustained research and reading in consultation with the instructor of record.

2) Prepared a selected annotated bibliography drawn from the preliminary research bibliography.

3) Prepared a complete outline of the thesis.

4) Drafted the initial portion of the thesis as specified in the outline.

Having accomplished the above has put the student in a good position to complete the project and its concomitant requisites in the timeframe outlined above.

**Work Plan**

*Provided a detailed work plan noting what is to be accomplished and when.*

The goal of this section of REL 49900 is to allow the student the necessary time, guidance, and support to accomplish the following tasks:

1) Complete, sequentially, the drafting and then the finalization of each section of the thesis on the basis of the above referenced outline. The procedure for accomplishing this will run as follows:

   a. The student will submit to the instructor of record a draft of each section or multiple sections of the thesis by a specified deadline, normally every other week.

   b. The instructor of record will read the draft of the section or sections submitted, make suggestions for rewriting or further research (as necessary) and then assign a deadline for the submission of the revised section or sections.

   c. The instructor of record will approve each revised section as complete, and the student will then move on to completing the next section or sections.

2) Specific deadlines will accord with the following accomplishments:

   a. End of January, 2015: Finalization and approval of a total of 50% of the sections of the thesis.
b. End of February, 2015: Finalization and approval of a total of 75% of the sections of the thesis.

c. End of March, 2015: Finalization and approval of a total of 100% of the sections of the thesis.

d. End of April, 2015: Finalization and approval of the entire thesis along with the production of a final, polished draft for review by the faculty committee.

e. Beginning of May, 2015: Oral presentation and defense of the thesis.

These tasks will be completed under the direct tutelage of the instructor of record, who will hold regularly scheduled meetings with the student to direct, advise, monitor, and evaluate her progress on completing the aforementioned tasks. Members of the faculty committee will be invited to read a draft or drafts of the thesis prior to the final deadline.

**Evaluation**

*Provide an explanation of how the work will be evaluated.*

Evaluation will be based on the completion of the above tasks according to the specifications of the instructor of record. Letter grade conversions will adhere to the following scale: excellent = ‘A’; very good = ‘B’; satisfactory = ‘C’; partly satisfactory = ‘D’; and unsatisfactory = ‘F’.