ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

GENERAL STUDIES PROGRAM COURSE PROPOSAL COVER FORM

Courses submitted to the GSC between 2/1 and 4/30 if approved, will be effective the following Spring.

Courses submitted between 5/1 and 1/31 if approved, will be effective the following Fall.

(SUBMISSION VIA ADOBE.PDF FILES IS PREFERRED)

DATE: MAR 4 ’09

1. ACADEMIC UNIT: Religious Studies

2. COURSE PROPOSED: REL 314 Jewish Philosophy

(prefix) (number) (title) (semester hours)

3. CONTACT PERSON: Name: Patricia Power Phone: 5-0642

Mail Code: 3104 E-Mail: patricia.power@asu.edu

4. ELIGIBILITY: New courses must be approved by the Tempe Campus Curriculum Subcommittee and must have a regular course number. For the rules governing approval of omnibus courses, contact the General Studies Program Office at 965-0739.

5. AREA(S) PROPOSED COURSE WILL SERVE. A single course may be proposed for more than one core or awareness area. A course may satisfy a core area requirement and more than one awareness area requirements concurrently, but may not satisfy requirements in two core areas simultaneously, even if approved for those areas. With departmental consent, an approved General Studies course may be counted toward both the General Studies requirement and the major program of study. (Please submit one designation per proposal)

Core Areas

- Literacy and Critical Inquiry—L
- Mathematical Studies—MA
- CS
- Humanities, Fine Arts and Design—HU
- Social and Behavioral Sciences—SB
- Natural Sciences—SQ

Awareness Areas

- Global Awareness—G
- Historical Awareness—H
- Cultural Diversity in the United States—C

6. DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED:

☑ (1) Course Description (syllabus)
☑ (2) Course Syllabus
☑ (3) Criteria Checklist for the area
☑ (4) Table of Contents from the textbook used, if available

7. In the space provided below (or on a separate sheet), please also provide a description of how the course meets the specific criteria in the area for which the course is being proposed.

CROSS-LISTED COURSES: ☐ No ☐ Yes; Please identify courses: PHY 390 (in process)

Is this a multisection course?: ☐ No ☐ Yes; Is it governed by a common syllabus?

Joel D. Gereoeff
Chair/Director (Print or Type)

Date: 3/4/09

Rev. 1/94, 4/95, 7/99, 4/00, 1/02, 10/06
Proposer: Please complete the following section and attach appropriate documentation.

### ASU - [HU] CRITERIA

**HUMANITIES, FINE ARTS AND DESIGN [HU]** courses must meet either 1, 2, or 3 and at least one of the criteria under 4 in such a way as to make the satisfaction of these criteria a **CENTRAL AND SUBSTANTIAL PORTION** of the course content.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YES</th>
<th>NO</th>
<th>Identify Documentation Submitted</th>
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<tbody>
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</table>

1. Emphasize the study of values, of the development of philosophies, religions, ethics or belief systems, and/or aesthetic experience.  
   - see "Course Description" in syllabus

2. Concerns the comprehension and interpretation/analysis of written, aural, or visual texts, and/or the historical development of textual traditions.  
   - see "Requirements and Grading" in syllabus

3. Concerns the comprehension and interpretation/analysis of material objects, images and spaces, and/or their historical development.  
   - see syllabus

4. In addition, to qualify for the Humanities, Fine Arts and Design designation a course must meet one or more of the following requirements.
   - a. Concerns the development of human thought, including emphasis on the analysis of philosophical and/or religious systems of thought.  
     - see syllabus
   - b. Concerns aesthetic systems and values, literary and visual arts.
   - c. Emphasizes aesthetic experience in the visual and performing arts, including music, dance, theater, and in the applied arts, including architecture and design.
   - d. Deepen awareness of the analysis of literature and the development of literary traditions.  
     - see syllabus

### THE FOLLOWING ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE:

- Courses devoted primarily to developing a skill in the creative or performing arts, including courses that are primarily studio classes in the Herberger College of the Arts and in the College of Design.

- Courses devoted primarily to developing skill in the use of a language – However, language courses that emphasize cultural study and the study of literature can be allowed.

- Courses which emphasize the acquisition of quantitative or experimental methods.

- Courses devoted primarily to teaching skills.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria [from checksheet]</th>
<th>How course meets spirit (contextualize specific examples in next column)</th>
<th>Please provide detailed evidence of how course meets criteria (i.e., where in syllabus)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>study of values, of the development of philosophies, religions, belief systems</td>
<td>Topics for sessions include conceptions of God, Torah, Israel, ethics, creation, revelation, and divine providence in ancient, medieval, and modern Jewish philosophy</td>
<td>See &quot;syllabus&quot; and &quot;Sessions ... Topics&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>comprehension and interpretation analysis of written texts and historical development, as well as deepened awareness of the analysis of literature</td>
<td>All topics listed above discussed through assigned readings about primary texts in secondary texts that emphasize thought within its historical context. Texts studied include Bible, Maimonides' Guide of the Perplexed, and Franz Rosenzweig's Star of Redemption</td>
<td>See &quot;syllabus&quot; and the lists of &quot;required reading&quot; and &quot;recommended texts&quot;</td>
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<td>development of human thought with analysis of philosophical and religious systems of thought</td>
<td>All sessions deal with this, viz. major thought in western traditions of ancient, medieval, and modern philosophy. See response to #1 above.</td>
<td>See &quot;Session 1. Topic&quot; in &quot;Course Description&quot; in &quot;Syllabus&quot;</td>
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INTRODUCTION TO JEWISH PHILOSOPHY
REL & PHIL 394 35359

Fall, 2007
W 5:40-8:30 PM, BYAC 110
Instructor: Norbert M. Samuelson
ECA 363  480-650-8035  <norbert.samuelson@asu.edu>
Office Hours: TT 10:30-11:30 am, Wed 8:30-9:30 pm

Distribution Area:  General Studies, Knowledge & Skills Goals of the Course
K1, K2, K3, S1, S2

Required Reading:  See second page.

Course Description
This course is a general survey of the history of Jewish philosophy, from its origins in
the Hebrew Scriptures and early rabbinic literature to its postmodern expressions after Franz
Rosenzweig’s Star of Redemption.
Related goals for Religious Studies undergraduate majors:  K1, K2, K3, S1, S2

Requirements and Grading
A schedule is given below of the topics that will be covered in class and the required readings
for that week of class sessions.  The lectures presuppose that the students have read the material
in advance.  Three take-home essay exams and three in class, closed book quizzes will be given.
Each essay is worth a maximum of 20 points (20% of the grade) and each quiz is worth a
maximum of 10 points (10%).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Topic (Chpt assignments in Samuelson)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. (8/23)</td>
<td>What the Bible is and how it was created (1-3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. (8/30)</td>
<td>God, Torah and Israel (4-7)</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. (9/6)</td>
<td>What are Mishnah, Midrash, Talmud, and how they were created (8-9)</td>
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<td>4. (9/13)</td>
<td>God and Torah (10-11)</td>
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<td>5. (9/20)</td>
<td>Israel and ethics (12-13)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(9/27) Quiz #1; Essay #1 due</td>
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<td>6. (9/27)</td>
<td>Jewish intellectual history: from Philo through Maimonides (14-15)</td>
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<td>7. (10/4)</td>
<td>Maimonides on God and the Bible (16-17)</td>
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<td>8. (10/11)</td>
<td>Maimonides on creation and revelation (18)</td>
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<td>9. (10/18)</td>
<td>Maimonides on divine providence and the reasons for the commandments (19-20)</td>
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<tr>
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<td>(11/1) Quiz #2; Essay #2 due</td>
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<tr>
<td>11. (11/1)</td>
<td>Baruch Spinoza (23-24)</td>
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<td>12. (11/8)</td>
<td>Hermann Cohen and Martin Buber (25-26)</td>
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<td>13. (11/15)</td>
<td>Franz Rosenzweig (27-29)</td>
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<td>14. (11/22)</td>
<td>Jewish Philosophy after Rosenzweig (30))</td>
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<td>15. (11/29)</td>
<td>Quiz #3; Essay #3 due</td>
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Required Text

Recommended Texts

Withdrawals, and Incompletes
http://www.asu.edu/acad/catalog/generic/ug-enrollment.html#grading-system

Academic Dishonesty
The Department of Religious Studies abides by ASU's Office of Student Life: "Student Academic Integrity Policy." See: http://www.asu.edu/studentlife/judicial/integrity.html

Department of Religious Studies
Main Office - ECA 377
(480) 965-7145
UG Advisor:
ECA 365 (480)965-0642
INTRODUCTION TO JEWISH PHILOSOPHY
REL & PHIL 394 35359

Fall, 2007
Instructor: Norbert M. Samuelson

Required Reading: See second page.

Required Text

Recommended Texts