**UNIVERSITY OF MARY WASHINGTON -- NEW COURSE PROPOSAL**

Electronically submit this completed form with attachments in one file to the Chair of the College Curriculum Committee.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COLLEGE (check one):</th>
<th>Arts and Sciences</th>
<th>X</th>
<th>Business</th>
<th>Education</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proposal Submitted By:</td>
<td>Mary Beth Mathews</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Date Prepared:</td>
<td>9/10/13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Course Title:</td>
<td>Religion in America After the Civil War</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Department/discipline and course number*:</td>
<td>RELG 278</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*This course number must be approved by the Office of the Registrar before the proposal is submitted.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of credits proposed:</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>Prerequisites:</th>
<th>None</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Will this be a new, repeatable “special topics” course? (Do you want students to be able to take this new course more than once if the topic changes?)</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Date of first offering of this new course: FALL SEMESTER, year | Spring 2015

Proposed frequency of offering of the course: Annually, Spring semester

List the faculty who will likely teach the course: Mary Beth Mathews

Are ANY new resources required? | NO | X | YES | Document in attached impact statement

This new course will be (check all that apply):

- Required in the major
- General Elective
- Elective in the major
- General Education**

**AFTER the new course is approved, a separate proposal must be sent to the General Education Committee.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Catalog Description:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>An examination of principal figures, trends, and issues in religion in America from the Civil War to the present day.</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**COURSE HISTORY**

Was this course taught previously as a topics or experimental course? YES | X | NO

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Number and Title of Previous Course</th>
<th>Semester Offered</th>
<th>Enrollment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RELG 231 A6</td>
<td>Spring 2014</td>
<td>Not yet known</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

X CHECK HERE if the proposed course is to be equated with the earlier topics or experimental offerings. This means that students who took the earlier “topics” course will only be able to take the new course if they made a C- grade or lower in the earlier course.

**NOTE:** If the proposed course has not been previously offered as a topics or experimental course, explain in the attached rationale statement why the course should be adopted even though it has not been tried out.

**REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS:**

1. **Rationale Statement** (Why is this course needed? What purposes will it serve?)
2. **Impact Statement** (Provide details about the Library, space, budget, and technology impacts created by adding this new course. Include supporting statements from the Library, IT Department, etc. as needed.)
3. **Sample Syllabus**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department Chair Approval:</th>
<th>CRV</th>
<th>Date: 9-10-13</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CCC Chair Approval:</td>
<td>Tim ODonnell</td>
<td>Date: 9-19-13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UCC Chair Approval:</td>
<td></td>
<td>Date:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. **Rationale Statement** (Why is this course needed? What purposes will it serve?)
   RELG 278 and its companion course, RELG 277, mark a change in the Religion discipline’s offering of its survey of American religion course (currently taught as RELG 276, Religion in America). The existing course, while a staple of departmental offerings and popular with students, has proven to be pedagogically and academically cumbersome. To continue to force a broad study of religions in America into a single semester denies the department and students the opportunity to address the topics involved in any more than a cursory manner. By splitting RELG 276 into logical component parts, we will offer students a chance to learn more about the diversity of religions in the United States both before and after the Civil War. The current method privileges a few religious traditions at the expense of many other. With this change, we will be able to investigate at a 200-level the varieties of religious experience in American history.

2. **Impact Statement** (Provide details about the Library, space, budget, and technology impacts created by adding this new course. Include supporting statements from the Library, IT Department, etc. as needed.)

   No new demands would be added. The material taught in this course are already available as part of the resources the University provides to RELG 276. No new acquisitions of library materials, technology, or space would occur.

3. **Sample Syllabus**
   See below
Religion in America After the Civil War
Religion 278
Mary Beth Mathews mmathews@umw.edu
Office: Trinkle B46 Campus phone: x1354

SUMMARY

This course focuses on religion in U.S. history and culture from the Civil War to the present day. Because of their dominance of American religion, Protestants will receive the most attention of our study, but Catholics, Jews, Muslims, Native Americans, Hindus, Buddhists, and other religions will play significant roles in understanding the history of religion in America. There are no prerequisites for this course, but students should have a very basic understanding (high school level) of U.S. history. By the final exam, students will have a richer comprehension of how American religions influenced American culture and vice versa.

OUTCOMES STATEMENT

[PLEASE NOTE I WILL SUBMIT THE COURSE FOR THESE DESIGNATIONS AFTER CURRICULUM APPROVAL IS FINAL]

RELG 276 satisfies one course in the Human Experience and Society General Education category. The course also carries a Writing Intensive designation. Students will be able to analyze and explain the role of religion in American history, as well as how the notion of religious pluralism informs the American experience.

TEXTS

Religion in America (8th edition) John Corrigan and Winthrop Hudson (abbreviated as C&H)
American Religions: A Documentary History R. Marie Griffith (abbreviated as RMG)
Strength to Love, Martin Luther King, Jr.
By Any Means Necessary Malcolm X
Readings posted on Canvas*

SCHEDULE

Week 1 Where Were We? A review of the antebellum world
Reading assignments: C&H, “The Broadening of Denominational Life”

Week 2 Reconstruction and the Churches
Reading assignment: C&H, “Post-Civil War America”

Week 3 The Changing Face of American Religion
Reading assignments: Pittsburgh Platform (RMG 321); C&H 283-291; Abraham Cahan*

Week 4
Roman and Other Catholic Immigration
Reading assignments: Morris, “The Whore of Babylon Learns to Vote,” and “An American Church”*; Instructions to the Priest-Monk Theophan (RMG 196)

Week Five
Reactions to Immigration, Part I

New Course Proposal Cover Sheet (July 2013)
Reading assignments: C&H “The Response of Older Americans”; Josiah Strong, Our Country (RMG)

Week Six
Reactions to Immigration, Part II
Reading assignments: A Theology for the Social Gospel (RMG 309)

Week Seven
Review week/writing workshops
No reading assignment

Week Eight
The Great Migration and the Churches
Reading assignments: DuBois (RMG 328), AME Council of Bishops, “Address on the Great Migration”; Fisher and Mapp, “Social Work at Olivet Baptist Church*

Week Nine
Reactions to the Changing World: Fundamentalism
Reading assignments: C&H 293-307, 307-315; Shall the Fundamentalists Win? (RMG 418); J. Gresham Machen*

Week Ten
Reactions to the Changing World: Pentecostalism
Reading Assignments: Azusa Street Sermons*

Week Eleven
Christians Face a Strange, New World
Reading Assignments: C&H 300-307; The Long Loneliness (RMG 486); Niebuhr, “The Irony of American History” (RMG 424)

Week Twelve
Immigrants from “New” Places and “New” Religions Appear
Reading assignments: C&H 369-374; “Asian Religions”* The Heathen Invasion of America (RMG 384);

Week Thirteen
Religion and the Civil Rights Movement
Reading assignments: C&H 360-366; Martin Luther King, Jr. (RMG 502)

Week Fourteen
Religion in the 1960s
Reading assignments: C&H 340-359; Malcolm X, By Any Means Necessary (Portions); Malcolm X (RMG 514); Declaration on Religious Liberty*; Beyond God the Father (RMG 536)

Week Fifteen
Religious Pluralism in America?
Reading assignments: Franklin Graham (RMG 602); Letter to Franklin Graham from the Council on American Islamic Relations (RMG 605); “American Hindus”*

REQUIREMENTS
New Course Proposal Cover Sheet (July 2013)
Paper proposal 5%
Midterm exam 20%
One research paper 25%
Four brief reaction papers 20%
Final Examination 20%
Class participation 10%

RESEARCH PAPER ASSIGNMENT OPTIONS

Students must write one paper, 5-7 pages in length, for this class. You will have the option of writing it in one of two ways.

Option 1: You may choose to visit a religious worship service not of your own background. Your paper would then include your observations (in the first person if you so choose), and would explain your understanding of the larger religion of which the service was a part. You may wish to consult other sources to enhance your understanding of the service, but you must cite all of your sources.

Option 2: You may choose to write a research paper, using secondary sources available at UMW or elsewhere, on a particular group, individual, or movement in American religious history. The subject of your paper need not be something we have covered in class. If you choose this option, you must write in the third person, and you must cite your sources.

ALL paper topics are subject to the approval of the instructor. Paper proposals are due early in the semester to allow you the time necessary to complete your research.

A word about Internet sources: many of them are highly unreliable, and you should use care in selecting them. If you find you must use Internet sources, please consult the instructor to discuss them. Failure to consult with the instructor about such sources will diminish your paper’s grade.

REACTION PAPERS

At four pre-determined dates this semester, you will complete a short (2 to 4 page, normal margins, double-spaced) paper, providing your reaction to a topic or theme in the week’s readings. The paper should be concise, well-argued, and original. You must use the third person, and you should engage with the topic rather than summarizing the week’s readings. Each paper must be pledged according to the requirements of the University of Mary Washington Honor Code.

CLASS PARTICIPATION

Students should complete all readings BEFORE the first meeting of class each week. Your class participation grade will be based on 1) your regular attendance and attention in class, and 2) reading quizzes, if the instructor deems those necessary.

THE HONOR CODE

I take the University of Mary Washington Honor Code very seriously. You will not receive warnings about infractions, as you should know how to cite sources by this point in your academic career. Using someone else’s words, ideas, or arguments without proper citation is plagiarism. All work must be pledged.

DIVERSITY

A word about diversity in religion: this class will examine a variety of religions, both on their own and in context with other religions. We will not, however, engage in subjective judgments about any religion we discuss. In the classroom, as in any academic environment, we must engage in open and impartial consideration of the subject.

GRADING SCALE

New Course Proposal Cover Sheet (July 2013)
The following grading scale will be in effect for this class:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>94-100</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90-93</td>
<td>A-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87-89</td>
<td>B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>84-86</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-83</td>
<td>B-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77-79</td>
<td>C+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>74-76</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-73</td>
<td>C-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67-69</td>
<td>D+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-66</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Below 60</td>
<td>F</td>
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MISCELLANEOUS

The instructor expects all students to turn in papers and take quizzes and exams on the appointed days. Extensions will be granted only in EXTREME circumstances and BEFORE the date of the exam or paper. Please note that the University of Mary Washington does not have excused absences.

Students in need of accommodations should present a letter, from the Office of Disability Resources, to the instructor confirming such a need as early as possible in the semester. The instructor makes every effort to accommodate such needs.

Students should remember that the class functions best without electronic interruptions. Computers, cell phones, and other devices should be switched off during class. Students who text during class will lose points from their class participation grade.