

## General Education Course Information Sheet

*Please submit this sheet for each proposed course*

Department & Course Number IDP, Study of Religion 11  
 Course Title Religion in Los Angeles  
 Indicate if Seminar and/or Writing II course \_\_\_\_\_

1 Check the recommended GE foundation area(s) and subgroups(s) for this course

**Foundations of the Arts and Humanities**

- Literary and Cultural Analysis X
- Philosophic and Linguistic Analysis \_\_\_\_\_
- Visual and Performance Arts Analysis and Practice \_\_\_\_\_

**Foundations of Society and Culture**

- Historical Analysis X
- Social Analysis \_\_\_\_\_

**Foundations of Scientific Inquiry**

- Physical Science \_\_\_\_\_  
*With Laboratory or Demonstration Component must be 5 units (or more)* \_\_\_\_\_
- Life Science \_\_\_\_\_  
*With Laboratory or Demonstration Component must be 5 units (or more)* \_\_\_\_\_

2. Briefly describe the rationale for assignment to foundation area(s) and subgroup(s) chosen.  
 The course introduces students to the varieties of religious experience in Los Angeles/Southern California in order to provide a deeper understanding of critical factors (cultural, historical, social, etc.) governing the manifestation of the sacred in everyday life.

3. "List faculty member(s) who will serve as instructor (give academic rank):  
Patrick Polk, Visiting Instructor; Carol Bakhos, Associate Professor

Do you intend to use graduate student instructors (TAs) in this course? Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_  
 If yes, please indicate the number of TAs 2

4. Indicate when do you anticipate teaching this course over the next three years:

2011-2012	Fall	<u>X</u>	Winter	_____	Spring	_____
	Enrollment	<u>60</u>	Enrollment	_____	Enrollment	_____
2012-2013	Fall	<u>X</u>	Winter	_____	Spring	_____
	Enrollment	<u>60</u>	Enrollment	_____	Enrollment	_____
2012-2013	Fall	_____	Winter	_____	Spring	<u>X</u>
	Enrollment	_____	Enrollment	_____	Enrollment	<u>60</u>

5. GE Course Units

Is this an **existing** course that has been modified for inclusion in the new GE? Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_  
 If yes, provide a brief explanation of what has changed. \_\_\_\_\_

This was initially offered as an Upper division Variable Topics course.

Present Number of Units: \_\_\_\_\_ Proposed Number of Units: \_\_\_\_\_

6. Please present concise arguments for the GE principles applicable to this course.

- ❑ General Knowledge
 

Students will be introduced to the academic study of religion and become more familiar with a range of religious/spiritual traditions as practiced in Los Angeles/Southern California.
- ❑ Integrative Learning
 

The course takes an interdisciplinary approach to the subject, drawing on a variety of analytical perspectives (anthropological, historical, sociological, theological, etc.) that will be integrated with first-hand student experience (site visits).
- ❑ Ethical Implications
 

Students will examine the role of religion in providing ethical/moral codes to adherents and contemplate critical issues such as religious freedom and tolerance in local contexts.
- ❑ Cultural Diversity
 

A central focus of the course is the recognition and exploration of religion as both producer and product of cultural identity (ethnic, racial, gender, political, etc.).
- ❑ Critical Thinking
 

Students will learn to critically assess the implications (local, global, etc.) of religion through application (class discussion, writing projects, etc.) of foundational scholarly orientations.
- ❑ Rhetorical Effectiveness
 

Students will be expected to formulate and effectively present their own interpretations of "Religion in Los Angeles" based on academic and experiential research.
- ❑ Problem-solving
 

Students will grapple with complex dilemmas (practical and philosophical) related to the definition, documentation, representation, and interpretation of competing systems of belief.
- ❑ Library & Information Literacy
 

Course participants will be expected to make effective use of all relevant sources of data (works in print, digital records and databases, internet sites, etc.).

**(A) STUDENT CONTACT PER WEEK (if not applicable write N/A)**

1. Lecture:	2.5	(hours)
2. Discussion Section:	1	(hours)
3. Labs:	_____	(hours)
4. Experiential (service learning, internships, other):	_____	(hours)
5. Field Trips:	5	(hours)

**(A) TOTAL Student Contact Per Week** 8.5 **(HOURS)**

**(B) OUT-OF-CLASS HOURS PER WEEK (if not applicable write N/A)**

1. General Review & Preparation:	3	(hours)
2. Reading	3	(hours)

- 3. Group Projects: \_\_\_\_\_ (hours)
- 4. Preparation for Quizzes & Exams: 7 (hours)
- 5. Information Literacy Exercises: \_\_\_\_\_ (hours)
- 6. Written Assignments: 7 (hours)
- 7. Research Activity: 10 (hours)

**(B) TOTAL Out-of-class time per week**

(HOURS)

**GRAND TOTAL (A) + (B) must equal at least 15 hours/week**

(HOURS)

**RELIGN 11****Religion in Los Angeles****Fall 2012**

<b>Class Time:</b>	TBD
<b>Location:</b>	TBD
<b>Class Website:</b>	CACLE Moodle ( <a href="https://ccle.ucla.edu/">https://ccle.ucla.edu/</a> )
<b>Instructor:</b>	Dr. Patrick A. Polk
<b>Office:</b>	TBD
<b>Office Hours:</b>	TBD
<b>Email:</b>	polk@arts.ucla.edu

**Course Description:** This class introduces students to the varieties of religious experience in Los Angeles and its environs. Presentations, required readings, and (where possible) site visits will shape the engagement of course participants with selected faiths and spiritual practices throughout Southern California and provide a deeper understanding of the myriad ways that the sacred is made manifest and encountered in the region. Foundational academic orientations within the study of religion (anthropological, historical, psychological, sociological, etc.) will be introduced as frameworks for examining and interpreting the City of Angels' almost unparalleled religious diversity. Recognizing that spiritual traditions are a crucial reflection of the region's ever changing demographics, emphasis will be placed on the role of ethnicity, gender, nationality, and race in the shaping of the religious landscape.

**Texts and Viewings:** Required text: Eck, "*A New Religious America: How a "Christian Country" Has Become the World's Most Religiously Diverse Nation*"; other key readings (academic articles, news reports, and popular accounts) and viewings are posted on the course website. DVD/VHS videos will also be shown in class.

**Attendance and Course Participation:** Attendance is mandatory. All participants are required to discuss readings, viewings, and writing assignments and should attend class prepared to do so.

**Writing Assignments:** All participants will complete three (3) short writing assignments (750-1000 words) that are geared toward heightening student awareness of religious diversity in Los Angeles and the development of a deeper understanding of how a multiplicity of faiths are expressed/experienced in the City of Angels and their impact on civic life.

**Grading Structure:**

Attendance and Participation:	15%
Assignment #1 (Due 10/4)	15%
Assignment #2 (Due 11/6)	15%
Assignment #3 (Due 11/27)	15%
Midterm Examination	20%
Final Examination	20%

**Note on Class Etiquette and Plagiarism:** You may use a laptop, PDA or other electronic devices to take class notes, but please don't use class time to answer personal e-mails, surf, or hang out on Facebook. Lastly, plagiarism is completely unacceptable.

**Course Schedule:****WEEK ONE****Thursday (9/27) Introduction to the Course - Contemplating Religion and Spirituality in Los Angeles**

Reading(s): "Definitions of Religion"

Viewing(s): Randy Newman, *I Love L.A.*; *Finding God in the City of Angeles*

**WEEK TWO****Tuesday (10/2) Surveying a Complex Religious Landscape**

Reading(s): Eck, *A New Religious America*, chpt.1; Holland, "A Study of Ethnic and Religious Diversity in Los Angeles"; "L.A. County Faith Demographics"; "Los Angeles County Census Statistics"

Viewing(s): Moodle clips

**Thursday (10/4) Surveying a Complex Religious Landscape, cont.**

Reading(s): Eck, *A New Religious America*, chpt. 2; Zelinsky, "The Uniqueness of the American Religious Landscape," *Geographical Review*, 91:3 (2001): 565-585.

Viewing(s): Moodle clips

Due: Assignment #1: Finding Signs of Faith

**WEEK THREE****Tuesday (10/9) Encountering Religion in the Street**

Reading(s): J. Michael Walker, *All the Saints of the City of Angels* (excerpts); Felch, "Blessing of the animals" *LA Times*; Linthicum, "Beaches popular for Persian fire-jumping" *LA Times*; Santa Cruz, "Blessing of the Waves" *LA Times*

Viewing(s): Moodle clips

**Thursday (10/11) Case Study: The Azusa Street Revival and Beyond**

Reading(s): Davis, "Pentecostal Earthquake," *Grand Street*, 68 (1999): 97-101; Ramirez, "Getting that Old Time Religion" *LA Times*; TBA

Viewing(s): Moodle Clips

## WEEK FOUR

**Tuesday (10/16)**

### Focus on First Nations

Reading(s): Singleton, "Surviving Urbanization: The Gabrieleno, 1850-1928," *Wicazo Sa Review* 19:2 (2004): 49-59; Street, "Pointing Down to Heaven: A Profile of the Tongva"; Morris, "Ancient tribal rites still offer sustenance; The Native American Church" *LA Times*

Viewing(s): Moodle clips

**Thursday (10/18)**

### From Homelands to New Lands

Reading(s): Engh, "A Multiplicity and Diversity of Faiths: Religion's Impact on Los Angeles and the Urban West, 1890-1940" Abdulrahim, "Holding on to Sikh heritage in the U.S" *LA Times*; Abdulrahim, "Sikhs spread awareness of their faith" *LA Times*; Morris, "Medieval heritage, new awareness (Sephardic Judaism)" *LA Times*; Sahagun, "Armenian priests journey for jars of holy oil" *LA Times*

Viewing(s): Moodle clips

## WEEK FIVE

**Tuesday (10/23)**

### Hindu L.A.

Reading(s): Eck, *A New Religious America*, chpt. 3; selected Hindu L.A. readings (newspaper articles, websites, etc.) TBD

Viewing(s): Moodle clips

**Thursday (10/25)**

### Hindu L.A. cont.

Reading(s): Strauss, "The Master's Narrative: Swami Sivananda and the Transnational Production of Yoga," *Journal of Folklore Research* 39:2/3 (2002): 217-241

Viewing(s): Moodle clips

## WEEK SIX

**Tuesday (10/30)**

### Trick: Midterm Examination

**Thursday (11/1)****Treat: All Hallows' Eve and Days for the Dead**

Reading(s): Medina and Cadena, "Dias de los Muertos: Public Ritual, Community Renewal, and Popular Religion in Los Angeles" in Matovina and Riebe-Estrella (eds.), *Horizons of the Sacred: Mexican Traditions in U.S. Catholicism*, pp. 69-94.

Viewing(s): Moodle clips

**WEEK SEVEN****Tuesday (11/6)****Buddhist L.A**

Reading(s): Eck, *A New Religious America*, chpt. 4; selected Buddhist L.A. short readings (newspaper articles, websites, etc.) TBD

Viewing(s): Moodle clips

Due: Assignment #2: Observation of/Participation in Religious Practice

**Thursday (11/8)****Buddhist L.A, cont.**

Reading(s): Ownby, "In Search of Charisma: The Falun Gong Diaspora," *Nova Religio* 12:2 (2008): 106-120.

Viewing(s): Moodle Clips

**WEEK EIGHT****Tuesday (11/13)****Case Study: Botánica Los Angeles**

Reading(s): Polk, *Botánica Los Angeles* (excerpts)

Viewing(s): Moodle clips

**Thursday (11/15)****Islam in L.A.**

Reading(s): Eck, *A New Religious America*, chpt. 5; selected Islam L.A. short readings (newspaper articles, websites, etc.) TBD

Viewing(s): Moodle clips

**WEEK NINE****Tuesday (11/20)****Islam in L.A., cont.**

Reading(s): Doherty, "Malcom X: In Print, on Screen," *Biography* 23:1 (2000): 29-48; selected Islam L.A. short readings (newspaper articles, websites, etc.) TBD

Viewing(s): Moodle clips

**Thursday (11/22) No Class – Thanksgiving Holiday**

**WEEK TEN**

**Tuesday (11/27) Always a Good Place for a New Age/Religion**

Reading(s): Watts, "This Was the Way": Father Divine's Peace Mission Movement in Los Angeles during the Great Depression," *Pacific Historical Review* 60:4 (1991): 475-496; Aldred, "Plastic Shamans and Astroturf Sun Dances: New Age Commercialization of Native American Spirituality," *American Indian Quarterly* 24:3 (2000): 329-352.

Viewing(s): Moodle clips

Due: Assignment #3: Reflection on Thanksgiving as a religious/sacred occasion.

**Thursday (11/29) Always a Good Place for a New Age/Religion, cont.**

Reading(s): Urban, "The Occult Roots of Scientology?: L. Ron Hubbard, Aleister Crowley, and the Origins of a Controversial New Religion," *Nova Religio* 15:3 (2012): 91-116

Viewing(s): Moodle clips

**WEEK ELEVEN**

**Tuesday (12/4) Drawing and Crossing Religious Lines**

Reading(s): Eck, *A New Religious America*, chpts. 6 & 7 selected L.A. short readings (newspaper articles, websites, etc.) TBD

Viewing(s): Moodle clips

**Thursday (12/6) Course Summation**





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## Course Revision Proposal

	Study of Religion 11 Religion in Los Angeles	
	Requested revisions that apply:	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Renumbering <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Title <input type="checkbox"/> Format <input type="checkbox"/> Requisites <input type="checkbox"/> Units <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Grading <input type="checkbox"/> Description	
	Multiple Listing: <input type="checkbox"/> Add New <input type="checkbox"/> Change Number <input type="checkbox"/> Delete	
	Concurrent Listing: <input type="checkbox"/> Add New <input type="checkbox"/> Change Number <input type="checkbox"/> Delete	
	<b>CURRENT</b>	<b>PROPOSED</b>
<a href="#">Course Number</a>	Study of Religion 11	Study of Religion 11
<a href="#">Title</a>	Religions in Los Angeles	Religion in Los Angeles
<a href="#">Short Title</a>	RELIGIONS IN LA	RELIGION IN LA
<a href="#">Units</a>	Fixed: 4	Fixed: 4
<a href="#">Grading Basis</a>	Letter grade or Passed/Not Passed	Letter grade or Passed/Not Passed
<a href="#">Instructional Format</a>	Primary Format Lecture  Secondary Format None	Primary Format Lecture - 3 hours per week  Secondary Format None - 0 hours per week
<a href="#">TIE Code</a>	LECN - Lecture (No Supplementary Activity) [T]	LECN - Lecture (No Supplementary Activity) [T]
<a href="#">GE</a>	No	No
<a href="#">Requisites</a>	None	None
<a href="#">Description</a>	Lecture, four hours. Introduction to varieties of religious experience in Los Angeles and its environs. Presentations, required readings, and (where possible) site visits to examine selected faiths and spiritual practices throughout Southern California and provide deeper understanding of myriad ways that sacred is made manifest and encountered. Foundational academic orientations	Lecture, four hours. Introduction to varieties of religious experience in Los Angeles and its environs. Presentations, required readings, and (where possible) site visits to examine selected faiths and

	<p>within study of religion (anthropological, historical, psychological, sociological, etc.) used as framework to examine and interpret almost unparalleled religious diversity of City of Angels. Recognizing that spiritual traditions are crucial reflection of region's ever changing demographics, emphasis on role of ethnicity, gender, nationality, and race in shaping of religious landscape. P/NP or letter grading.</p>	<p>spiritual practices throughout Southern California and provide deeper understanding of myriad ways that sacred is made manifest and encountered. Foundational academic orientations within study of religion (anthropological, historical, psychological, sociological, etc.) used as framework to examine and interpret almost unparalleled religious diversity of City of Angels. Recognizing that spiritual traditions are crucial reflection of region's ever changing demographics, emphasis on role of ethnicity, gender, nationality, and race in shaping of religious landscape. P/NP or letter grading.</p>
<a href="#">Justification</a>		Changing the Title to best represent the class.
<a href="#">Syllabus</a>		
<a href="#">Supplemental Information</a>		
<a href="#">Effective Date</a>	Fall 2012	Fall 2012
<a href="#">Department</a>	Study of Religion	Study of Religion
<a href="#">Contact</a>		<p>Name ESTHER CHANG</p> <p>E-mail estchang@humnet.ucla.edu</p>
<a href="#">Routing Help</a>		

## ROUTING STATUS

Role: Registrar's Publications Office

Status: Pending Action

Role:	Registrar's Scheduling Office - Thomson, Douglas N (dthomson@registrar.ucla.edu) - 51441
Status:	Added to SRS on 8/22/2012 9:46:41 AM
Changes:	TIE Code
Comments:	No Comments

Role:	FEC School Coordinator - Castillo, Myrna Dee Figurac (mcastillo@college.ucla.edu) - 45040
Status:	Returned for Additional Info on 8/21/2012 12:00:47 PM
Changes:	TIE Code
Comments:	Routing to Doug Thomson in the Registrar's Office

Role:	FEC Chair or Designee - Meranze, Michael (meranze@history.ucla.edu) - 52671
Status:	Approved on 8/19/2012 2:47:38 PM
Changes:	TIE Code
Comments:	No Comments

Role:	L&S FEC Coordinator - Castillo, Myrna Dee Figurac (mcastillo@college.ucla.edu) - 45040
Status:	Returned for Additional Info on 8/14/2012 11:37:40 AM
Changes:	TIE Code
Comments:	Routing to Michael Meranze for FEC approval

Role:	Department Chair or Designee - Bakhos, Carol Ann (cbakhos@humnet.ucla.edu) - 61384
Status:	Approved on 8/10/2012 9:47:10 AM
Changes:	TIE Code
Comments:	No Comments

Role:	Initiator/Submitter - Chang, Esther S (estchang@humnet.ucla.edu) - 54165
Status:	Submitted on 8/9/2012 11:35:29 AM
Comments:	Initiated a Course Revision Proposal

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