Religious Studies Certificate Program

Program Description
The Religious Studies Certificate Program has been placed on hiatus since 2011; however we have recently received several inquiries from current and potential students as well as community partners about this program. Thus we would like to revive this program.

Ken Holloway was charged with analyzing the current certificate to determine what steps would be needed to make it viable. According to his report:

> The certificate requires that four of the five classes be from the core, but only the one highlighted in yellow below is regularly being taught. I would like to make that class (ANT 3241) the only core requirement. The rest of the four classes are readily available so students will start earning the certificate as soon as our change is approved.
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> > Religious Studies Core Courses:
> > The Religious Experience (REL 3020): not taught since fall 2011 (I did not bother checking earlier for these courses)
> > Anthropology of Religion (ANT 3241): taught regularly, enrolment of 50, even a distance learning option on occasion
> > Old Testament (REL 3213) was only taught once by Fred Greenspahn since fall 2011
> > Philosophy of Religion (PHI 4761) never taught since fall 2011
>
> Other courses for the certificate are in abundant supply such as Ben Lowe's Christianity classes, Eric Hanne's classes that cover Islam, my classes on Chinese religion, and etc.

Based on these findings I would like to propose a simplification of the core requirements for the Religious Studies Certificate.

Current Program:	
Requirements: Five courses (15 credits) passed with a grade of "C" or better from upper-division courses, including no more than two courses from the student's major. Four of these must be core courses and include "The Religious Experience" (REL 3020), one course that focuses on methods for studying religion and one that focuses on the content of religion. The fifth course may be any approved class which devotes at least half of its content to religion.	Requirements: Five courses (15 credits) passed with a grade of "C" or better from upper-division courses, including no more than two courses from the student's major. Two of these must be core courses, one course that focuses on methods for studying religion and one that focuses on the content of religion. The other courses may be any approved class which devotes at least half of its content to religion.

Core Courses (4 are required, including at least one from each of the following categories):

Introduction:
The Religious Experience (REL 3020)

Methods:
Anthropology of Religion (ANT 3241)
Old Testament (REL 3213)
Philosophy of Religion (PHI 4761)

Content:
History of Christianity to 1500 (HIS 3432)
History of Christianity since 1500 (HIS 3434)
History of Eastern Ideas (ASH 4600)
History of Hasidism (JST 4464)
Islamic History (ASH 3222)
Reformation Europe (EUH 4144)
Religion in America (AMH 4260)

Electives (may be any of the above classes or any class on the list below):
History of East Asia (ASH 3300)
The Holocaust (JST 4701)
Jewish Wisdom: An Introduction (JST 3513)
Peoples of the Middle East (ASH 3230)
Religion and World Politics (CPO 3761)

Core Courses (2 are required, one from Methods and one from Content):

Methods:
Anthropology of Religion (ANT 3241)
Old Testament (REL 3213)
Philosophy of Religion (PHI 4761)

Content:
History of Christianity to 1500 (HIS 3432)
History of Christianity since 1500 (HIS 3434)
History of Eastern Ideas (ASH 4600)
History of Hasidism (JST 4464)
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Approved by:
Department Chair:
College Curriculum Chair:
College Dean:
UUPC Chair:
Undergraduate Studies Dean:
UFS President:
Provost:

Date:
3/14/14
3/18/14
3-19-14
3/21/14
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