

Initiative Report for Social Science 2009-10

New Religion Course - Women in Religion

Summary:

Request for 100 hours Curriculum Development funding for the development of a course in Women in Religion.

Description

Veena Howard would like to develop a course in the way women are viewed by religion and the role of women in religious history and modern religious movements. This course serves the college's mission to gender diversity and would expand the scope of our Religion offerings into an underrepresented area. It would heighten awareness of the role of women in religion and call attention to historical and current issues of women's rights and social justice where religion fosters gender discrimination or promulgate negative stereotypes about women.

Questions and Answers

How is the initiative linked to the Unit Plans most recently submitted?

- 1. How does it continue the achievement of those goals?**
- 2. If this is a continuation of an initiative started last year, make sure that relationship is clear.**

How is this initiative linked to the efficiencies and productivities plans you had last year?

- 1. How does it continue the achievement of these plans?**
- 2. If this is a continuation of an efficiency or productivity plan started last year, make sure that relationship is clear.**

This initiative continues to diversify course offerings into sub-specialties of interest to students and which fit the college diversity mission. In past terms we have offered a 'Women in Philosophy' class and a Learning Community studying 'Nature, Religion and Ecology,' studying religion in the context of other important social issues.

This plan will increase FTE and draw on the unique talents of our faculty in bringing specific scholarship interests to students in the classroom.

Describe the resources needed:

This is a request for 100 hours of curriculum funding to develop this course Women in Religion.

Curriculum Development

*100 hours of curriculum development to develop 1 class (Women in Religion)

Funding: Curriculum Development

What specific measurable program outcomes do you expect to achieve with this initiative? The outcomes should be specific enough to be measurable. Also, outline the method that will be used to determine the results.

Measurable program outcomes include increased FTE, students taking the course fulfilling their cultural and gender diversity requirement. Enrollment will be tracked to verify this projected outcome.

Department Priority:

8

Unit Resources:

Funding Request: Carl Perkins

Funding Request: Curriculum Development

1. List the following information

- **Course Numbers (titles if not currently offered)**
- **Instructor Name(s) who will work on the curriculum development**
- **Whether each of the courses is in, or has been through, the curriculum approval process**

Previous curriculum development funds for the Nature, Religion and Ecology course resulted in a learning community which has filled and helped students fulfill the AAOT requirement and environmental studies program requirements at the University of Oregon.

- Women in Religion (Course number will have an REL designation, course number to be assigned when it goes through curriculum)
- Instructor: Veena Howard
- This course has not yet been through the curriculum process

2. List each course number (or title) and the materials to be created for each class

- **Instructional goals, objectives, syllabi and outlines**
- **Lab instruction packets**
- **Practice, quiz, presentation &/or demonstration materials**
- **Other (specify)**

Women in Religion

- This course is currently in development with the instructor to complete instructional goals, objectives, syllabi, outlines, exams and assignments.

3. List each course number (or title) and give your timeline for beginning and completing each course curriculum development.

Women in Religion

- Spring 2009: Preliminary work
- Summer 2009: Curriculum work completed
- Fall 2009: Course offered

4. What are up to 3 departmental instructional goals that are met through the development of curriculum in each class?

- Students will develop an understanding of how religious views on gender affect culture and society
- Students will learn to think critically about how their own views on gender may have been shaped by their religious upbringing or the predominantly Judeo-Christian culture of the United States
- Students will demonstrate the ability to write reflectively and persuasively about women in religion.

5. List each course number (or title) and give the value of the development of curriculum in each course to other faculty members.

Women in Religion

This course will provide a place for faculty to direct recurring questions about the role of women in religion which cannot be covered exhaustively in an introductory course. This course will develop material which other instructors might adapt to enhance more general courses in religion

6. List each course number (or title) and say how many students will be served by the development of curriculum in each class.

Women in Religion

30 students per year will be served by this course.

7. List each course number (or title) and give the specific benefits to students that you expect from the development of curriculum in each class.

- Students will acquire knowledge of the historic and current role women play in religious life and institutions.
- Students will gain an appreciation for the use of feminine metaphors and imagery used to depict the Divine in religious art, literature and ritual.
- Students will develop an understanding of the divergent of views on the role of women even within particular religious tradition, as well as and wide gap which separates groups on the extremes of the spectrum of the attempt at gender equality by Mainline American Christian Churches and the narrowly defined gender roles of Islamic Fundamentalists in the Middle East.

8. List each course number (or title) and give the specific benefits for diversity that you expect from the development of curriculum in each class.

Women in Religion

- Students will develop an understanding of historic and contemporary issues of religiously motivated discrimination against women and the conflict between some religious traditions and modern views of gender roles, gender equality and human rights.
- Students will learn about the heightened role of women in the religions of indigenous peoples, the earliest religious traditions and non-Western religions.

9. List each course number (or title) and give the specific benefits to sustainability that you expect from the development of curriculum in each class.

Women in Religion

- Students will study the concept of the earth mother and learn how the goddess religions cultivate a respect for the environment.

10. List each course number (or title) and give the specific effects on distributed learning that you expect from the development of curriculum in each class.

Women in Religion

- This will be a traditional classroom class, but some course materials, activities or resources may be made available via Moodle.

Hours requested for Curriculum Development funding:

Please enter the amount of one of the following:

- **100 hours maximum for new development.**

- **70 hours maximum for course revision**
- **50 hours for 3-4 credit conversion**
- **other (use if multiple courses addressed in one initiative**

Do not enter any characters other than numbers and a decimal.

How many hours are you requesting? If there are multiple courses addressed in the initiative, please list each course number (or title) and give the number of hours requested for each course.

100

Can this initiative be partially funded?

Yes

Partially funded curriculum development HOURS requested:

70

Explanation of effect of partial funding:

Partial funding would result in less fully developed course less time for research and development of course lectures and materials.

Funding Request: Technology Fee