

# **VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY**

## **ACADEMIC COMMITTEE PACKET**

### **ACADEMIC COMMITTEE**

**MONDAY,  
January 23, 2012**

**2:30 p.m.**

**Rose Room  
UNIVERSITY CENTER**

**Stanley Jones  
Registrar/Secretary of the Academic Committee**

ACADEMIC COMMITTEE  
AGENDA  
January 23, 2012

1. Minutes of the December 5, 2011 meeting. (pages 1-2) approved by email December 9, 2011.
2. **COLLEGE OF BUSINESS**
  - a. Revised curriculum for the MACC degree (pages 3-5).
  - b. New Dismissal Policy for the MACC program (pages 6-8)
  - c. Change all 7000 level ACCT course prefixes to MACC (pages 9-10)
3. **COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES**
  - a. Reactivation of CRJU 7910 (page 11)
  - b. Revised Core Area F for the BA in Philosophy (pages 12-13)
  - c. Revised senior college curriculum for the BA in Philosophy – Philosophy Track (pages 14-16)
  - d. Revised senior college curriculum for the BA in Philosophy – Religious Studies Track (pages 17-19)
  - e. New course PHIL 2030 (pages 20-24)
  - f. New course PHIL 3801 (pages 25-30)
  - g. New course PHIL 3900 (pages 31-35)
  - h. New course REL 2010 (pages 36-42)
  - i. New course REL 3500 (pages 43-55)
  - j. New course WGST 3500 (pages 56-68)
  - k. New course REL 3505 (pages 69-79)
  - l. Revised AP and IB score requirements for BIOL 1107K and 1108K (page 80)
4. **COLLEGE OF EDUCATION**
  - a. New course LEAD 7999 (pages 81-87)
  - b. Revised course prerequisites, and description for KSPE 4510 (pages 88-90)
  - c. Revised Admission and Retention requirements for the BSEP degree (pages 91-92)
  - d. Revised prerequisite for KSPE, 4080, 3010, 3200, 3410, 4070, 3011, 3020, 3650, 4210, 3050, 4040, 4130, 4510, and 4550 (page 93)
  - e. Revised Admission Criteria (Incoming Freshmen only) for the BSAT degree (pages 94-97)
  - f. Revised Retention for the BSAT degree (pages 98-100)
  - g. Deactivation of KSPE 2151 (pages 101-102)
  - h. Deactivation of KSPE 4430 (pages 103-104)
  - i. Revised credit hours, prerequisites, and description for KSPE 2050 (pages 105-108)
  - j. Revised prerequisite for KSPE 3430 (pages 109-111)
  - k. Revised credit hours, title, prerequisites, and description for KSPE 3440 (pages 112-115)
  - l. Revised credit hours, prerequisites, and description for KSPE 4700 (pages 116-118)
  - m. Revised credit hours, and prerequisites for KSPE 4491 (pages 119-121)
  - n. Revised credit hours, and prerequisites for KSPE 4490 (pages 122-124)
  - o. Revised credit hours, title, prerequisites, and description for KSPE 4441 (pages 125-128)
  - p. Revised credit hours, title, prerequisites, and description for KSPE 4440 (pages 129-132)
  - q. Revised credit hours, and prerequisites for KSPE 4400 (pages 133-135)
  - r. Revised credit hours, title, and prerequisites for KSPE 4360 (pages 136-138)
  - s. Revised credit hours, title, and prerequisites for KSPE 4350 (pages 139-141)
  - t. Revised credit hours, and prerequisites for KSPE 4300 (pages 142-144)
  - u. Revised credit hours, title, prerequisites, and description for KSPE 3441 (pages 145-148)
5. **Pending items**
  - a. BA in Transatlantic Studies Program – BOR and SACS approval (Dec 10 AC)
  - b. Revised course CHEM 1010 – USG General Education Council approval
  - c. BGS in General Studies (online deliver) – BOR and SACS (MAR 11 AC)
  - d. BA in Interdisciplinary Studies – BOR and SACS (NOV 11 AC)
  - e. Inclusion of GEOG 1125 into Area D.1 – BOR approval (DEC 11 AC)

VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY  
ACADEMIC COMMITTEE MINUTES  
December 5, 2011

The Academic Committee of the Valdosta State University Faculty Senate met in the University Center Rose Room on Monday, December 5, 2011. Dr. Sharon Gravett, Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs, presided.

Members Present: Dr. Donna Cunningham (Proxy for Dr. Deborah Weaver), Ms. Laura Wright, Dr. Ray Elson (Proxy for Dr. Nathan Moates), Ms. Catherine Schaeffer, Dr. Linda Jurczak, Dr. Frank Flaherty, Dr. Frank Flaherty (Proxy for Dr. Kathe Lowney), Dr. Ray Elson, Dr. Donna Cunningham, Dr. Nicole Gibson, Dr. Ann Marie Smith, Dr. Melissa Benton, Dr. Selen Lauterbach, Dr. Carol Rossiter, and Dr. Colette Drouillard.

Members Absent: Dr. Deborah Weaver, Dr. Amy Aronson-Friedman, Dr. Nathan Moates, Ms. Jessica Goldsmith, and Dr. Kathe Lowney.

Visitors Present: Dr. Bob Gannon, Dr. Ed Chatelain, and Mr. Lee Bradley.

The Minutes of the November 14, 2011 meeting were approved by email on November 29. (pages 1-3).

**A. College of Business**

1. Revised course prefix, Management (MGNT) 3450, "Management Information Systems", (MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM – 3 credit hours, 3 lecture hours, 0 lab hours, and 3 contact hours), was approved effective Fall Semester 2012. (pages 4-6). Deactivation of CISM 3450.
2. Revised senior college curriculum – BBA in Management was approved effective Fall Semester 2012. (pages 7-8).
3. Revised course prefix, Business Administration (BUSA) 2201, "Fundamentals of Computer Applications", (FUNDAMENTALS OF COMPUTER APPLI – 3 credit hours, 3 lecture hours, 0 lab hours, and 3 contact hours), was approved effective Fall Semester 2012. (pages 9-11). Deactivation of CISM 2201.
4. Revised Core Curriculum Area F for the BBA degree was approved effective Fall Semester 2012. (pages 12-13).
5. New course, Economics (ECON) 3820, "Experimental Economics", (EXPERIMENTAL ECONOMICS – 3 credit hours, 3 lecture hours, 0 lab hours, and 3 contact hours), was approved effective Fall Semester 2012 with the description changed to read – Prerequisites: ECON 2106 and MATH 1261. An introduction to the use...will include design of experiments, analysis of experimental, data and interpretation of results, application in microeconomics topic areas,... hands-on experience as they... (pages 14-19).

**B. College of Arts and Sciences**

1. Revised course prerequisites for the following courses were approved effective Spring Semester 2012. (pages 20-46).
  - Page 20 – BIOL 4750 – Population Biology – 3 credit hours, 3 lecture hours, 0 lab hours, and 3 contact hours
  - Page 23 – BIOL 3200 – Introductory Genetics – 3 credit hours, 3 lecture hours, 0 lab hours, and 3 contact hours
  - Page 26 – BIOL 4510 – Virology – 3 credit hours, 3 lecture hours, 0 lab hours, and 3 contact hours
  - BIOL 4550 – Immunology – 4 credits hours, 3 lecture hours, 3 lab hours, and 6 contact hours
  - Page 29 – BIOL 3000 – Biostatistics – 4 credits hours, 2 lecture hours, 4 lab hours, and 6 contact hours
  - Page 32 – BIOL 3810 – Introduction to Biogeography – 3 credits hours, 3 lecture hours, 0 lab hours, and 3 contact hours
  - Page 35 – BIOL 3100 – Microbiology – 4 credits hours, 3 lecture hours, 3 lab hours, and 6 contact hours
  - BIOL 3400 – Plant Physiology – 4 credits hours, 3 lecture hours, 3 lab hours, and 6 contact hours
  - BIOL 3450 – Animal Physiology – 4 credits hours, 3 lecture hours, 3 lab hours, and 6 contact hours
  - BIOL 3460 – Human Physiology – 4 credits hours, 3 lecture hours, 3 lab hours, and 6 contact hours
  - BIOL 4500 – Cell Biology – 4 credits hours, 3 lecture hours, 3 lab hours, and 6 contact hours
  - BIOL 4710 – Aquatic Toxicology – 4 credits hours, 3 lecture hours, 3 lab hours, and 6 contact hours
  - BIOL 4800 – Protein Biochemistry – 4 credits hours, 3 lecture hours, 3 lab hours, and 6 contact hours
  - Page 38 – BIOL 3960 – Wildlife Biology – 4 credits hours, 3 lecture hours, 3 lab hours, and 6 contact hours
  - BIOL 3970 – Wildlife Diseases – 3 credits hours, 3 lecture hours, 0 lab hours, and 3 contact hours
  - BIOL 4650 – Animal Behavior – 4 credits hours, 3 lecture hours, 3 lab hours, and 6 contact hours
  - Page 41 – BIOL 3250 – Ecology and Evolution – 4 credits hours, 3 lecture hours, 3 lab hours, and 6 contact hours
  - BIOL 4350 – Developmental Behavior – 4 credits hours, 3 lecture hours, 3 lab hours, and 6 contact hours
  - BIOL 4580 – Molecular Genetics – 4 credits hours, 3 lecture hours, 3 lab hours, and 6 contact hours

BIOL 4600 – Evolution – 3 credits hours, 3 lecture hours, 0 lab hours, and 0 contact hours  
Page 44 – BIOL 3500 – Mycology – 4 credits hours, 3 lecture hours, 3 lab hours, and 6 contact hours  
BIOL 3550 – Phycology – 4 credits hours, 3 lecture hours, 3 lab hours, and 6 contact hours  
BIOL 3600 – Local Flora – 4 credits hours, 3 lecture hours, 3 lab hours, and 6 contact hours  
BIOL 3650 – Plant Systematics – 4 credits hours, 3 lecture hours, 3 lab hours, and 6 contact hours  
BIOL 3700 – Neuroscience – 3 credits hours, 3 lecture hours, 0 lab hours, and 3 contact hours  
BIOL 3800 – Invertebrate Zoology – 4 credits hours, 3 lecture hours, 3 lab hours, and 6 contact hours  
BIOL 3840 – Entomology – 4 credits hours, 3 lecture hours, 3 lab hours, and 6 contact hours  
BIOL 3870 – Parasitology – 4 credits hours, 3 lecture hours, 3 lab hours, and 6 contact hours  
BIOL 3900 – Ichthyology – 4 credits hours, 3 lecture hours, 3 lab hours, and 6 contact hours  
BIOL 3920 – Herpetology – 4 credits hours, 3 lecture hours, 3 lab hours, and 6 contact hours  
BIOL 3950 – Ornithology – 4 credits hours, 3 lecture hours, 3 lab hours, and 6 contact hours  
BIOL 3980 – Mammalogy – 4 credits hours, 3 lecture hours, 3 lab hours, and 6 contact hours  
BIOL 4000 – Topics in Biology I – 3 credits hours, 3 lecture hours, 0 lab hours, and 3 contact hours  
BIOL 4010 – Topics in Biology II – 4 credits hours, 3 lecture hours, 3 lab hours, and 6 contact hours  
BIOL 4020 – Topics in Conservation Biology – 2-4 credits hours, 2-3 lecture hours, 0-3 lab hours, and 2-6  
contact hours  
BIOL 4100 – Morphology of Land Plants – 4 credits hours, 3 lecture hours, 3 lab hours, and 6 contact hours  
BIOL 4200 – Plant Anatomy – 4 credits hours, 3 lecture hours, 3 lab hours, and 6 contact hours  
BIOL 4300 – Comparative Vertebrate Anatomy – 4 credits hours, 3 lecture hours, 3 lab hours, and 6 contact  
hours  
BIOL 4400 – Vertebrate Histology – 4 credits hours, 3 lecture hours, 3 lab hours, and 6 contact hours  
BIOL 4700 – Limnology – 4 credits hours, 3 lecture hours, 3 lab hours, and 6 contact hours

2. Revised Core Area D.1 to include GEOG 1125 was approved effective Fall Semester 2011. (pages 47-54). \*\*\*Pending BOR approval\*\*\*

Respectfully submitted,

Stanley Jones  
Registrar

RECEIVED  
NOV 15 2011

**REQUEST FOR A REVISED CATALOGUE COPY**  
(New Learning Outcomes, Admissions, or Other Program Policies)

Valdosta State University

**Area of Change:**     Core     Senior     Graduate

<b>Current Catalogue Page Number:</b> 145	<b>Proposed Effective Date for Revised Catalogue Copy:</b> (new or revised) 7/1/2011
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**Degree and Program Name:** Master of Accountancy

<p><b>Present Requirements: MAcc Course Requirements</b> The MAcc graduate curriculum consists of the following courses:</p> <p>Core Courses ..... 18 hours  ACCT 7100 Financial Accounting Theory 3 hours  ACCT 7220 Advanced Accounting..... 3 hours  ACCT 7390 Government and Not-for-profit Accounting..... 3 hours  ACCT 7410 Advanced AIS..... 3 hours  ACCT 7510 Corporate and Partnership Tax ..... 3 hours  ACCT 7800 Advanced Auditing..... 3 hours  Electives—choose 4 from the following 12 hours  ACCT 7350 Accounting in a Global Financial Community ..... 3 hours  ACCT 7453 Estate Tax, Trusts, and Wealth Transfer ..... 3 hours  ACCT 7500 Tax Research..... 3 hours  ACCT 7890 Accounting Internship..... 3 hours  or MBA Elective (Any MBA 7xxx class).. 3 hours  <b>Total Hours Required for the Degree.....30</b></p>	<p><b>Proposed Requirements: (highlight changes after printing) MAcc Course Requirements</b> The MAcc graduate curriculum consists of the following courses:</p> <p>Core Courses ..... 18 hours  MAcc 7100 Financial Accounting Theory. 3 hours  MAcc 7220 Advanced Accounting..... 3 hours  MAcc 7390 Government and Not-for-profit Accounting ..... 3 hours  MAcc 7410 Advanced AIS..... 3 hours  MAcc 7510 Corporate and Partnership Tax ..... 3 hours  MAcc 7800 Advanced Auditing..... 3 hours</p> <p>Electives.....12 hours  ANY MAcc 7xxx or MBA 7xxx course</p> <p><b>Total Hours Required for the Degree.....30</b></p>
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**Justification:** (select one or more of the following to indicate why the requested change will be beneficial, giving your justification. Please include and/or append relevant supporting data.)

Improving Student Learning Outcomes

Adopting Current Best Practice(s) in Field

Meeting Mandates of State/Federal/Outside Accrediting Agencies

Other To clarify that the 12 hours of Electives may be any MAcc 7xxx or MBA 7xxx courses. Students may choose 4 MAcc, 4 MBA, or any combination of MAcc 7xxx or MBA 7xxx courses.

**Plan for assessing the effectiveness of the proposed change:** No curriculum change or course change is requested. Note that the prefixes in the Proposed Course Requirements have been changed from ACCT to MACC in order to reflect the course prefix change in a related Request for a Revised Catalogue Copy.

<b>Approvals:</b>	
Department Head: <i>Len West</i>	Date: <i>11/11/11</i>
College/Division Exec. Committee: <i>A. Wayne Smith</i>	Date: <i>10/26/11</i>
Dean(s)/Director(s): <i>A. Wayne Smith</i>	Date: <i>11/13/11</i>
Graduate Exec. Comm.: (for grad program)	Date:
Graduate Dean: (for grad program)	Date:
Academic Committee:	Date:

Form last updated: August 6, 2009

RECEIVED

NOV 15 2011

VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY  
GRADUATE SCHOOL

**REQUEST FOR A REVISED CATALOGUE COPY**

(New Learning Outcomes, Admissions, or Other Program Policies)

Valdosta State University

Area of Change:  Core  Senior  Graduate

Current Catalogue Page Number: n/a

Proposed Effective Date for Revised Catalogue Copy: (new or revised) Fall 2012

Degree and Program Name: Masters of Accountancy

Present Requirements: n/a There is no existing MAcc dismissal policy.

Proposed Requirements: (highlight changes after printing) The MAcc Dismissal Policy will provide for automatic dismissal if a student accumulates more than three (3) deficiency points based on the following scale:

- A = 0
- B = 0
- C = 1
- D = 2
- W/F or F = 3
- U = 2

A student may appeal the dismissal decision within 30 days of grades being posted on the Valdosta State University Banner system. The form for appeals is available on the VSU Graduate School website at: <http://www.valdosta.edu/gradschool/appeals.shtml#A> Graduate students who wish to appeal a dismissal must first discuss the issue with their professor. Further appeals are then directed, in order, to their professor's Department Head, Director of the MAcc program, Dean of the Langdale College, and Vice President of Academic Affairs/Provost.

Justification: (select one or more of the following to indicate why the requested change will be beneficial, giving your justification. Include and/or append relevant supporting data.)

- Improving Student Learning Outcomes
- Adopting Current Best Practice(s) in Field
- Meeting Mandates of State/Federal/Outside Accrediting Agencies
- Other Establish a dismissal policy for the program.

Source of Data to Support Suggested Change:

- Indirect measures: SOIs, student, employer, or alumni surveys, etc.
- Direct measures: Materials collected and evaluated for program assessment purposes (tests, portfolios, specific assignments, etc.) Evaluation of policies from other VSU programs.



**Plan for assessing the effectiveness of the change in meeting program's learning outcomes (i.e., how do these changes fit within the current program assessment plan and what sorts of data will be collected and evaluated to determine if these changes are meeting stated program outcomes?).**

**Data Sources:**

- Indirect measures:** SOIs, student, employer, or alumni surveys, etc.
- Direct measures:** Materials collected and evaluated for program assessment purposes (tests, portfolios, specific assignments, etc.)

<b>Approvals:</b>	
Department Head: <i>[Signature]</i>	Date: 11/11/11
College/Division Exec. Committee: <i>[Signature]</i>	Date: 10/25/11
Dean(s)/Director(s): <i>[Signature]</i>	Date: 11/12/11
Graduate Exec. Comm.: (for grad program)	Date:
Graduate Dean: (for grad program)	Date:
Academic Committee:	Date:

Form last updated: January 6, 2010

RECEIVED

NOV 15 2011

VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY  
GRADUATE SCHOOL

**REQUEST FOR A REVISED CATALOGUE COPY**

(New Learning Outcomes, Admissions, or Other Program Policies)

Valdosta State University

Area of Change:  Core  Senior  Graduate

Current Catalogue Page Number: 145, 171, 172

Proposed Effective Date for Revised Catalogue Copy: (new or revised) 8/1/2012

Degree and Program Name: Master of Accountancy

Present Requirements: Catalog refers to MAcc classes with an ACCT prefix.

Proposed Requirements: (highlight changes after printing) Change all ~~class~~ course references to MAcc. 7XXX.   
 ACCT 7XXX Prefix

Justification: (select one or more of the following to indicate why the requested change will be beneficial, giving your justification. Please include and/or append relevant supporting data.)

- Improving Student Learning Outcomes
- Adopting Current Best Practice(s) in Field
- Meeting Mandates of State/Federal/Outside Accrediting Agencies
- Other Prefix change only, no content change in any class.

Plan for assessing the effectiveness of the proposed change: No curriculum change or course change is requested.

<b>Approvals:</b>	
Department Head: <i>Len West</i>	Date: 11/11/11
College/Division Exec. Committee: <i>[Signature]</i>	Date: 10/26/11
Dean(s)/Director(s): <i>[Signature]</i>	Date: 11/12/11
Graduate Exec. Comm.: (for grad program)	Date:
Graduate Dean: (for grad program)	Date:
Academic Committee:	Date:

Form last updated: August 6, 2009



Dear Academic Committee,

The criminal justice faculties would like to request that the deactivation of CRJU 7910, approved at the October 17, 2011 Academic Committee meeting, be rescinded. This course was just reactivated effective fall 2011 and it is a core course in the Masters of Criminal Justice Applied track. We ask that the current catalogue entry be utilized in subsequent catalogues.

Respectfully,

Faculties of the Criminal Justice Program

**Approvals**

Department Head:	<i>Danell L. Don</i>	Date:	<i>11/21/11</i>
College/Division Exec. Committee:	<i>Bonnie Richards</i>	Date:	<i>12/16/11</i>
Dean(s)/Directors(s):	<i>Bonnie Richards</i>	Date:	<i>12/16/11</i>
Grad. Exec. Committee: (for graduate course)		Date:	
Graduate Dean: (for graduate course)		Date:	
Academic Committee:		Date:	

**Department of Sociology, Anthropology, & Criminal Justice**  
College of Arts & Sciences

Address 1500 N. Patterson St. • Valdosta, GA 31698-0060  
Phone 229.333.5943 • Fax 229.333.5492 • Web [www.valdosta.edu/soc](http://www.valdosta.edu/soc)

# REQUEST FOR A CURRICULUM CHANGE

Valdosta State University

## Select Area of Change:

Core Curriculum       Senior Curriculum       Graduate Curriculum       Other Curriculum  
Specify: Area A,B,C,D,F  
F

**Current Catalog Page Number:**  
167

**Proposed Effective Date for Curriculum Change:**  
(Month/Year): August 2012

**Degree & Program Name:**  
(e.g., BFA, Art): BA,  
Philosophy and Religious  
Studies

## Present Requirements:

Core Curriculum Area F..... 18 hours  
PHIL 2010 and REL 2020..... 6 hours  
Foreign Language and  
Culture Sequence..... 9 hours  
Humanities, Arts, Natural  
Science, Social Science,  
or Computer Science  
elective (from 1000-  
2000 level only)..... 3 hours

## Proposed Requirements (Underline changes after printing this form:

Core Curriculum Area F..... 18 hours  
PHIL 2030 or REL 2010..... 3 hours  
PHIL 2010 and REL 2020..... 6 hours  
Foreign Language and  
Culture Sequence..... 9 hours

## Justification:

Select one or more of the following to indicate why the requested change will be beneficial, giving your justification. Include and/or append relevant supporting data.

Improve student learning outcomes: The addition of REL 2010 is a change based on program assessment in the Fall 2011 which suggested a need to strengthen student learning outcomes in interpretation and analysis. New advising sheets will be created for both tracks. Philosophy track students will be advised and required to take six hours of philosophy in Area F (PHIL 2010 and PHIL 2030). Religious Studies track students will be advised and required to take REL 2010 and REL 2020.

Adopting current best practice(s) in field:

Meeting mandates of state/federal/outside accrediting agencies: The addition of PHIL 2030 allows the Philosophy & Religious Studies program to satisfy the BOR requirement for 5 to 9 hours of PHIL courses in Area F for the philosophy track.

Other:

**Source of Data to Support Suggested Change:**

- Indirect measures:** SOIs, student, employer, or alumni surveys, etc. SOIs, student surveys, and alumni surveys
- Direct measures:** Materials collected and evaluated for program assessment purposes (tests, portfolios, specific assignments, etc.) Exams and papers

**Plan for assessing the effectiveness of the change in meeting program's learning outcomes (i.e., how do these changes fit within the current program assessment plan and what sorts of data will be collected and evaluated to determine if these changes are meeting stated program outcomes?).**

**Data Sources:**

- Indirect measures:** SOIs; student, employer, or alumni surveys, etc. student surveys--exit survey given to graduating seniors
- Direct measures:** Materials collected and evaluated for program assessment purposes (tests, portfolios, specific assignments, etc.) Exams and papers will be collected for use in the assessment of papers and presentations using rubrics. The addition of these new courses will allow the department to compare entry level courses with upper division and capstone courses.

**Approvals:**

Department Head: *Fred L Downing* Date: *12/12/11*

College/Division Exec. Committee: *Connie Richards* Date: *12/16/11*

Dean(s)/Director(s): *Connie Richards* Date: *12/16/11*

Grad. Exec. Committee:  
(for graduate course) Date:

Graduate Dean:  
(for graduate course) Date:

Academic Committee: Date:

Form last updated: January 6, 2010

# REQUEST FOR A CURRICULUM CHANGE

Valdosta State University

**Select Area of Change:**

Core Curriculum     
  Senior Curriculum     
  Graduate Curriculum     
  Other Curriculum  
 Specify: Area A,B,C,D,F

**Current Catalog Page Number:**  
168

**Proposed Effective Date for Curriculum Change:**  
(Month/Year): Aug 2012

**Degree & Program Name:**  
(e.g., BFA, Art): BA,  
Philosophy and Religious  
Studies (Philosophy track)

**Present Requirements:**  
**Senior College Curriculum (Philosophy Track).** ..... 60 hours  
 (must include at least 39 hours of course work numbered 3000 or above)

**Courses Required for Philosophy ..24 hours**

**Logic and Argumentation-**  
 PHIL 2020 .....3 hours

**History of Philosophy-**  
 PHIL 3060,3070, 3080,  
 3090 ..... 6 hours

**Ethics-**  
 PHIL 3100, 3120, 3130,  
 3140, 3150,3160, 3170,  
 3180, 3190, 3210, 4120,  
 4220 .....3 hours

**Philosophy, Society, and Culture-**  
 PHIL 3110,3300, 3400,  
 3430, 3530, 3540, 3610,  
 3620, 3630,3650, 3700,  
 3710,3800, 3850 ..... 3 hours

**Epistemology, Metaphysics, and Scientific Reasoning-**  
 PHIL 3200, 3220, 3230 ..... 3 hours

**Senior-level Curriculum..... 3 hours**  
 PHIL 4800, 4810, 4900,  
 or 4910

**Senior Capstone PHIL 4920 ..... 3 hours**  
**Upper Division REL courses ..... 6 hours**  
**Minor and/or Elective Courses .....30 hours**  
**Total hours required for the degree.....120**

**Proposed Requirements (Underline changes after printing this form):** Senior College Curriculum (Philosophy Track). ..... 60 hours  
 (must include at least 39 hours of course work numbered 3000 or above)

**Courses Required for Philosophy .....24 hours**

**Logic and Argumentation-**  
 PHIL 2020 ..... 3 hours

**History of Philosophy-**  
 PHIL 3060, 3070, 3080,  
 3090 .....6 hours

**Ethics-**  
 PHIL 3100, 3120, 3130,  
 3140, 3150,3160, 3170,  
 3180, 3190, 3210, 4120,  
 4220 .....3 hours

**Philosophy, Society, and Culture-**  
 PHIL 3110,3300, 3400,  
 3430, 3530, 3540, 3610,  
 3620, 3630,3650, 3700,  
 3710,3800, 3801,3850,3900... 3 hours

**Epistemology, Metaphysics, and Scientific Reasoning-**  
 PHIL 3200, 3220, 3230 ..... 3 hours

**Senior-level Curriculum ..... 3 hours**  
 PHIL 4800, 4810, 4900,  
 or 4910

**Senior Capstone PHIL 4920 ..... 3 hours**  
**Upper Division REL courses ..... 6 hours**  
**Minor and/or Elective Courses .....30 hours**  
**Total hours required for the degree ..... 120**



<b>semester hours</b>	<b>semester hours</b>
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**Justification:**

Select one or more of the following to indicate why the requested change will be beneficial, giving your justification. Include and/or append relevant supporting data.

- Improve student learning outcomes: The addition of courses on "Philosophical Themes in Film" and the "Philosophy of Happiness" will extend departmental offerings in the interpretation and analysis of film, popular culture, and applied philosophy.
- Adopting current best practice(s) in field:
- Meeting mandates of state/federal/outside accrediting agencies:
- Other:

**Source of Data to Support Suggested Change:**

- Indirect measures:** SOIs, student, employer, or alumni surveys, etc. SOIs, student surveys, and alumni surveys
- Direct measures:** Materials collected and evaluated for program assessment purposes (tests, portfolios, specific assignments, etc.) Exams and papers

**Plan for assessing the effectiveness of the change in meeting program's learning outcomes (i.e., how do these changes fit within the current program assessment plan and what sorts of data will be collected and evaluated to determine if these changes are meeting stated program outcomes?).**

**Data Sources:**

**Indirect measures:** SOIs; student, employer, or alumni surveys, etc. alumni surveys and exit surveys given to graduating seniors

**Direct measures:** Materials collected and evaluated for program assessment purposes (tests, portfolios, specific assignments, etc.) Various materials are collected for program assessment. These include surveys, exams and papers. The exams and papers are used for program assessment by paper and presentation assessment using rubrics which are tied to departmental learning outcomes. Exams and papers are collected from introductory classes, upper division classes, and the senior seminar.

**Approvals:**

Department Head: *Fred Downey* Date: *12/12/11*

College/Division Exec. Committee: *Lorrie Richards* Date: *12/16/11*

Dean(s)/Director(s): *Lorrie Richards* Date: *12/16/11*

Grad. Exec. Committee:  
(for graduate course) Date:

Graduate Dean:  
(for graduate course) Date:

Academic Committee: Date:

Form last updated: January 6, 2010

# REQUEST FOR A CURRICULUM CHANGE

Valdosta State University

**Select Area of Change:**

Core Curriculum     
  Senior Curriculum     
  Graduate Curriculum     
  Other Curriculum  
 Specify: Area A,B,C,D,F

**Current Catalog Page Number:**  
168

**Proposed Effective Date for Curriculum Change:**  
(Month/Year): Aug 2012

**Degree & Program Name:**  
(e.g., BFA, Art): BA,  
Philosophy and Religious  
Studies (Religious Studies  
Track)

**Present Requirements:**

**Senior College Curriculum (Religious Studies Track) ..... 60 hrs**  
(must include at least 39 hours of coursework numbered 3000 or above)

**Courses required for Religious Studies...24 hours**

**Religious Traditions chosen from .. 6 hours**  
REL 3510, REL 3520, REL 3610,  
REL 3700, REL 3710

**History of Religions and Sacred Texts chosen from .....6 hours**  
REL 3220, REL 3300, REL 3330,  
REL 3340, REL 3350, REL 3360,  
REL 3501, REL 3502, REL 3503,  
REL 3504, REL 3600, REL 3630,  
REL 3640

**Religion, Ethics, and Society chosen from ..... 3 hours**  
REL 3200, REL 3210, REL 3270,  
REL 3400, REL 3530, REL 3540,  
REL 3620, REL 3650, REL 3800

**Senior Capstone Course**  
REL 4920.....3 hours

**Upper Division REL Electives (3000-, 4000-level).....6 hours**

**Upper Division PHIL Courses (3000-, 4000-level).....6 hours**

**Minor and/or Elective Courses .....30 hours**

**Total hours required for the degree .....120 semester hours**

**Proposed Requirements (Underline changes after printing this form: Senior College Curriculum (Religious Studies Track)..... 60 hrs**  
(must include at least 39 hours of coursework numbered 3000 or above)

**Courses required for Religious Studies...24 hours**

**Religious Traditions chosen from ... 6 hours**  
REL 3510, REL 3520, REL 3610,  
REL 3700, REL 3710

**History of Religions and Sacred Texts chosen from .....6 hours**  
REL 3220, REL 3300, REL 3330,  
REL 3340, REL 3350, REL 3360,  
REL 3500, REL 3501, REL 3502,  
REL 3503, REL 3504, REL 3505,  
REL 3600, REL 3630, REL 3640

**Religion, Ethics, and Society chosen from ..... 3 hours**  
REL 3200, REL 3210, REL 3270,  
REL 3400, REL 3530, REL 3540,  
REL 3620, REL 3650, REL 3800

**Senior Capstone Course**  
REL 4920 ..... 3 hours

**Upper Division REL Electives (3000-, 4000-level).....6 hours**

**Upper Division PHIL Courses (3000-, 4000-level).....6 hours**

**Minor and/or Elective Courses .....30 hours**

**Total hours required for the degree .....120 semester hours**

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**Justification:**

Select one or more of the following to indicate why the requested change will be beneficial, giving your justification. Include and/or append relevant supporting data.

- Improve student learning outcomes: The two courses, REL 3500 and REL 3505 extend the departmental work in the area of the pluralistic nature of early Christianity and in the area of women and gender studies in the same period.
- Adopting current best practice(s) in field:
- Meeting mandates of state/federal/outside accrediting agencies:
- Other:

**Source of Data to Support Suggested Change:**

- Indirect measures:** SOIs, student, employer, or alumni surveys, etc. SOIs, student surveys, and alumni surveys
- Direct measures:** Materials collected and evaluated for program assessment purposes (tests, portfolios, specific assignments, etc.) exams and papers

**Plan for assessing the effectiveness of the change in meeting program's learning outcomes (i.e., how do these changes fit within the current program assessment plan and what sorts of data will be collected and evaluated to determine if these changes are meeting stated program outcomes?).**

**Data Sources:**

- Indirect measures:** SOIs; student, employer, or alumni surveys, etc. alumni surveys, and exit survey given to graduating seniors
- Direct measures:** Materials collected and evaluated for program assessment purposes (tests, portfolios, specific assignments, etc.) Various materials are collected for program assessment. These include surveys, exams and papers. The exams and papers are used for program assessment by paper and presentation assessment using rubrics which are tied to departmental learning outcomes. Exams and papers are collected from introductory classes, upper division classes, and the senior seminar.

**Approvals:**

Department Head:	<i>Fred Downing</i>	Date:	<i>12/12/11</i>
College/Division Exec. Committee:	<i>Lorrie Richards</i>	Date:	<i>12/16/11</i>
Dean(s)/Director(s):	<i>Lorrie Richards</i>	Date:	<i>12/16/11</i>
Grad. Exec. Committee: (for graduate course)		Date:	
Graduate Dean: (for graduate course)		Date:	
Academic Committee:		Date:	

Form last updated: January 6, 2010

## REQUEST FOR A NEW COURSE

Valdosta State University

**Date of Submission:** 12/06/11 (mm/dd/yyyy)

**Department Initiating Request:**

Philosophy & Religious Studies

**Faculty Member Requesting:**

Fred Downing

**Proposed New Course Prefix & Number:**

(See course description abbreviations in the catalog for approved prefixes)

PHIL 2030

**Proposed New Course Title:**

Ethics and Contemporary Society

**Proposed New Course Title Abbreviation:**

(For student transcript, limit to 30 character spaces)

Ethics and Contemp Society

**Semester/Year to be Effective:**

Fall 2012

**Estimated Frequency of Course Offering:**

annually

**Indicate if Course will be :**     Requirement for Major     Elective

**Lecture Hours:** 3

**Lab Hours:**

**Credit Hours:** 3

**Proposed Course Description:** (Follow current catalogue format and include prerequisites or co-requisites, cross listings, special requirements for admission or grading. A description of fifty words or fewer is preferred.) An introduction to the philosophical study of morality, including the theory of right and wrong behavior, the theory of value, and the theory of virtue.

**Justification:** Select one or more of the following to indicate why the requested change will be beneficial, giving your justification. Include and/or append relevant supporting data.

Improving student learning outcomes:

Adopting current best practice(s) in field: This will put the program in compliance with the requirements for Area F mandated by the BOR Philosophy Advisory Committee

Meeting Mandates of State/Federal/Outside Accrediting Agencies: Area F, BOR Philosophy Advisory Committee

Other:

**Source of Data to Support Suggested Change:**

Indirect Measures: SOIs, student, employer, or alumni surveys, etc. SOIs, student surveys, and alumni surveys

Direct Measures: Materials collected and evaluated for program assessment purposes (tests, portfolios, specific assignments, etc.) Exams and papers

**Plans for assessing the effectiveness of the course in meeting program's learning outcomes**  
(i.e., how does this course fit within the current program assessment plan and what sorts of data will be collected and evaluated to determine if the course is meeting stated program or course outcomes?)

**Data Sources:**

- Indirect measures: SOIs, student, employer, or alumni surveys, etc. exit surveys given to graduating seniors
- Direct measures: Materials collected and evaluated for program assessment purposes (tests, portfolios, specific assignments, etc.) Exams and papers will be collected for use in the assessment of papers and presentations using rubrics. The scores from this introductory course can be compared to later upper division and capstone courses.
- Other:

**\*\*Attach a course syllabus with course outcomes/assessments and general education outcomes/assessments.\*\***

<b>Approvals:</b>	
Dept. Head: <i>Fred L Downing</i>	Date: <i>12/12/11</i>
College/Division Exec. Comm.: <i>Lennie Richards</i>	Date: <i>12/12/11</i>
Dean/Director: <i>Lennie Richards</i>	Date: <i>12/16/11</i>
Graduate Exec. Comm.: (for graduate course):	Date:
Graduate Dean: (for graduate course):	Date:
Academic Committee:	Date:

Form last updated: January 6, 2010



**Course Description:**

An introduction to the philosophical study of morality, including the theory of right and wrong behavior, the theory of value (goodness and badness), and the theory of virtue and vice. The course will discuss the primary questions addressed within moral philosophy as well as require students to develop and reflect upon their own ethical positions, and think critically and analytically about ethical issues.

**Course Learning Outcomes (Objectives):**

- to develop a meaningful conception of ethics (D3)
- to develop and understanding of the intellectual heritage of contemporary society (D3)
- to develop skills in reading, writing, and speaking critically (D2)
- to develop skills in cooperative education and collaborative action (D3)

**Required Texts:**

- James Rachels and Stuart Rachels, *The Elements of Moral Philosophy*, 6<sup>th</sup> edition (McGraw Hill, 2010)
- Thomas Mappes, Jane Zembaty, and David DeGrazia, *Social Ethics: Morality and Social Policy*, 8<sup>th</sup> edition (McGraw Hill, 2012)

There will also be online reading selections to supplement course texts.

**Office Hours:**

My office is located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Brown House (102 Georgia Ave.) The times you may find me there are M-F 11:00-12:00. You can reach me there or leave a message at 333-5949. You can also reach me through e-mail at [asantas@valdosta.edu](mailto:asantas@valdosta.edu)

**Special Needs:**

Students requesting classroom accommodations or modifications because of a documented disability must contact the Access Office for Students with Disabilities located in Farber Hall. The phone numbers are 245-2498 (voice) and 219-1348 (tty).

**Grades:**

Grades will be determined on the following basis:

- weekly quizzes (25%)
- group projects/reports (25%)
- participation and attendance (25%)
- final project (25%)

**Participation and Attendance:**

Attendance is required. I will be taking roll every day and assign part of your grade on the basis of how many days missed.

The rest of your participation grade will be determined partly by your peers, and partly by me. What I'll be looking for, besides regular attendance, and encourage each of you to look for as well, are the following:

conscientious class presentations	contribution to discussion
effort to improve and grow	attentiveness* to the course materials and to each other
responsible attitude towards learning	respectful treatment of your peers

**Cell Phones:**

Cell phones are thieves of attention and attentiveness. I do not allow their use in my classes. They are to be *silenced* and *not used* during class time. If you have an emergency that requires the use of one, you must step out of the room. If I must remind you of this, you will be *asked to leave* the class and it will affect your course grade.

## Group Work:

Although some of your work will be done individually, much of the work you do in this class will be done in groups. See my Guidelines web page for rationale and suggestions for making this system work for you.

<http://www.valdosta.edu/~asantas/Study/guide.html> (Section IV)

And remember, a *third* of your participation grade will come from your group-mates.

## Readings:

The readings will often be difficult so it is important that you read the material carefully, and most often, two or three times. Check out the reading guidelines at the Guidelines page (<http://www.valdosta.edu/~asantas/Study/guide.html>) before your first reading assignment. If you have special difficulties with any of the readings, do not hesitate to ask me about it, either during class or office hours. (Actually, if you don't have any questions, that probably means you didn't read it carefully enough!)

## Study Questions and Quizzes:

There will be regular in-class and/or take-home quizzes (generally once a week). Unless otherwise indicated, the quizzes will be done *in your small groups*. These will be typically open book and based on your readings, classroom activities, and study questions provided for you online.

All study questions can be found at my Course Index:

<http://www.valdosta.edu/~asantas/2030 Index.htm>

## Small Group Projects and Reports:

For each author's text, I shall give you a take-home project, which you and your group will have at least a week to complete. Each group will arrange with me individually the work to be completed for these projects. On these assignments you will be graded collectively, so take heed to the comments listed above and below. Again, my ultimate criterion of evaluation is that of informing and/or convincing one's peers. Essays will be graded using the following criteria:

**Clarity and Development** (grammar, structure, style)

**Command of Material** (completeness, accuracy)

**Critical Reasoning** (originality, logic, imagination)

All assignments can be found at my main Course Index. <http://www.valdosta.edu/~asantas/2030 Index.htm>

For more details on writing and oral reports, see also the Guidelines webpage linked to the same course index.

<http://www.valdosta.edu/~asantas/Study/guide.html>

## Final Projects:

The final project of the term will be a choice between a group project and a final essay. The group project can be able to take a variety of forms, but will likely be a short film project. In any case it will require you to communicate something we have learned together during the course of the term to an audience outside of the classroom. Students not wishing to participate in this final group project can opt to write a final essay instead. Details for both project options will be posted on the Course Index.

<http://www.valdosta.edu/~asantas/2030 Index.htm>

## Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism:

The VSU Student Code of Conduct in the Student Handbook states:

Plagiarism is prohibited. Themes, essays, term papers, tests, and other similar requirements must be the work of the student submitting them. When direct quotations are used, they must be indicated, and when the ideas of another are incorporated in the paper they must be appropriately acknowledged. (p. 59)

Anyone found guilty of academic dishonesty—offering someone else's work as their own—will receive an 'F' in the course. In addition, current VSU policy dictates that all instances be reported to the administration for disciplinary action.

## REQUEST FOR A NEW COURSE

Valdosta State University

**Date of Submission:** 11/08/11 (mm/dd/yyyy)

**Department Initiating Request:**

PHIL/REL

**Faculty Member Requesting:**

Santas

**Proposed New Course Prefix & Number:**

(See course description abbreviations in the catalog for approved prefixes)

PHIL 3801

**Proposed New Course Title:**

Philosophical Themes in Film

**Proposed New Course Title Abbreviation:**

(For student transcript, limit to 30 character spaces)

Philosophical Themes in Film

**Semester/Year to be Effective:**

Summer 2012

**Estimated Frequency of Course Offering:**

once/ 2yrs

**Indicate if Course will be :**     Requirement for Major     Elective

**Lecture Hours:** 3

**Lab Hours:** 0

**Credit Hours:** 3

**Proposed Course Description:** (Follow current catalogue format and include prerequisites or co-requisites, cross listings, special requirements for admission or grading. A description of fifty words or fewer is preferred.) An exploration of philosophical themes in film. This course will explore through film--using epistemological, socio-political and ethical theories from the history of philosophy--some of the most vexing questions of philosophy: Who Am I? How Do I Know Who (or What) I Am? What is Choice? What is Character? What (or Who) Defines Me?

**Justification:** Select one or more of the following to indicate why the requested change will be beneficial, giving your justification. Include and/or append relevant supporting data.

Improving student learning outcomes: 1,2,3

Adopting current best practice(s) in field:

Meeting Mandates of State/Federal/Outside Accrediting Agencies:

Other: This course will differ from PHIL 3800 in that it will use film to draw out existing theories from a variety of philosophical, political and ethical perspectives.

**Source of Data to Support Suggested Change:**

Indirect Measures: SOIs, student, employer, or alumni surveys, etc. SOIs, student surveys, and alumni surveys

Direct Measures: Materials collected and evaluated for program assessment purposes (tests, portfolios, specific assignments, etc.) Exams and papers

**Plans for assessing the effectiveness of the course in meeting program's learning outcomes**  
(i.e., how does this course fit within the current program assessment plan and what sorts of data will be collected and evaluated to determine if the course is meeting stated program or course outcomes?)

**Data Sources:**

Indirect measures: SOIs, student, employer, or alumni surveys, etc. alumni surveys and exit surveys given to graduating seniors

Direct measures: Materials collected and evaluated for program assessment purposes (tests, portfolios, specific assignments, etc.) Exams and papers will be collected to be used as part of the assessment of paper and presentation assessment using rubrics tied to departmental learning outcomes.

Other:

**\*\*Attach a course syllabus with course outcomes/assessments and general education outcomes/assessments.\*\***

<b>Approvals:</b>	
Dept. Head: <i>Fred Downing</i>	Date: <i>12/12/11</i>
College/Division Exec. Comm.: <i>Connie Richards</i>	Date: <i>12/16/11</i>
Dean/Director: <i>Connie Richards</i>	Date: <i>12/16/11</i>
Graduate Exec. Comm.: (for graduate course):	Date:
Graduate Dean: (for graduate course):	Date:
Academic Committee:	Date:

Form last updated: January 6, 2010

**Course Description:**

This course will explore through film some of the most vexing questions of philosophy and identity theory—Who Am I? How Do I Know Who (or What) I Am? What is Choice? What is Character? What (or Who) Defines Me? Using epistemological, socio-political and ethical theories from the history of philosophy, we will focus on the following three themes: Identity, Memory & the Deceiver(s); Identity, Fate & Choice; Constructed Identities (e.g., race, gender, sexuality, etc.)

**Course Learning Outcomes (Objectives):**

- to explore, through film and discussion, major socio-political, ethical, and epistemological themes (D1, D3)
- to develop skills in finding philosophical and ethical themes in film (D1)
- to develop critical writing skills in philosophy and film (D2)

**Office Hours:**

My office is located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Brown House (102 Georgia Ave.) The times you may find me there are M-F 10:00-11:00. You can reach me there or leave a message at 333-5949. You can also reach me through e-mail at [asantas@valdosta.edu](mailto:asantas@valdosta.edu)

**Grades:**

Grades will be based on class participation and the writing assignments as follows:

Writing Assignment(s)	75%
Participation	25%

**Texts:**

Mary M. Litch, *Philosophy Through Film*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (Routledge, 2010)

There will also be online reading selections and notes made available through my course resources page

## Participation and Attendance:

Your "Participation" grade will be based on attendance and discussion. The first part will be determined by how many days you miss. You can make up an absence by viewing the film selection on your own and writing a 2-3 page summary and commentary on the selection on the day missed. The second part will be an assessment by me of the quantity and quality of your contribution to class discussion. The criteria I'll be using on the second part are these:

- regular attendance
- contribution to discussion
- effort to improve and grow
- attentiveness to the course materials and to each other
- respectful treatment of your peers
- responsible attitude towards learning

## Writing Assignments:

There will be **two options** for written work:

Option I: Submit *three* papers, one for each theme of the course. Deadlines are on the Course Schedule. Each of the three papers should:

- be 4-5 double-spaced typed or word-processed pages (12 pt. font) in length
- discuss the philosophical theme for that week (using online notes and class materials (including discussion);
- discuss at least two or three films from the given theme;
- draw some sort of critical conclusion(s) (i.e., tell me what *you* think—and don't make this an afterthought!)

Option II: Submit one major paper as a term paper, focusing on one or more of the themes we discussed in class. In writing this paper, you should:

- write 8-10 pages, double-spaced typed or word-processed (12 pt. font)
- develop at length the given theme and draw your own conclusions
- submit a rough draft to me after the first week (see schedule)
- submit a second, complete, draft after the 2<sup>nd</sup> week (see schedule)

See Schedule  
Next page →

### 3800 Schedule (Summer Format)

Day	Theme	Film	Reading
<b>Unit I: <i>Identity, Memory, and the Deceiver</i></b>			
R 6/10	Introductions; <i>Identity, Memory &amp; the Deceiver</i>	<u><i>Truman Show</i></u>	TBA
F 6/11	<i>Identity, Memory &amp; the Deceiver</i> (con'd)	<u><i>Dark City</i></u>	TBA
M 6/14	<i>Identity, Memory &amp; the Deceiver</i> (con'd)	<u><i>Bladerunner</i></u>	TBA
T 6/15	<i>Identity, Memory &amp; the Deceiver</i> (con'd)	<u><i>Impostor</i></u>	TBA
W 6/16	<i>Identity, Memory &amp; the Deceiver</i> (con'd)	<u><i>Memento</i></u>	TBA
<b>Unit II: <i>Identity, Fate, and Choice</i></b>			
R 6/17	<i>Identity, Fate and Choice</i>	<u><i>The Matrix</i></u>	TBA
*1 <sup>st</sup> Paper/Draft Due*			
F 6/18	<i>Identity, Fate and Choice</i> (con'd)	<u><i>What the Bleep...?</i></u> and <u>more <i>Matrix</i></u> (clips)	TBA
M 6/21	<i>Identity, Fate and Choice</i> (con'd)	<u><i>Paycheck</i></u>	TBA
T 6/22	<i>Identity, Fate and Choice</i> (con'd)	<u><i>Next</i></u>	TBA
W 6/23	<i>Identity, Fate and Choice</i> (con'd)	<u><i>I ♥ Huckabees</i></u>	TBA
<b>Unit III: <i>Constructed Identities</i></b>			
R 6/24	<i>Constructed Identities</i>	<u><i>Pleasantville</i></u>	TBA
*2 <sup>nd</sup> Paper/Draft Due*			
F 6/25	<i>Constructed Identities</i> (con'd)	<u><i>Miss Congeniality</i></u>	TBA
M 6/28	<i>Constructed Identities</i> (con'd)	<u><i>Little Miss Sunshine</i></u>	TBA
T 6/29	<i>Constructed Identities</i> (con'd)	<u><i>Crash</i></u>	TBA
W 6/30	<i>Constructed Identities</i> (con'd)	<u><i>Babel</i></u>	TBA
R 7/1	*Final Paper Due* Course Evaluations Online		



## REQUEST FOR A NEW COURSE

Valdosta State University

**Date of Submission:** 11/14/11 (mm/dd/yyyy)

**Department Initiating Request:**  
PHIL/REL

**Faculty Member Requesting:**  
Santas

**Proposed New Course Prefix & Number:**  
(See course description abbreviations in the catalog for approved prefixes)  
PHIL 3900

**Proposed New Course Title:**  
Philosophy of Happiness  
**Proposed New Course Title Abbreviation:**  
(For student transcript, limit to 30 character spaces)  
Philosophy of Happiness

**Semester/Year to be Effective:**  
Fall 2012

**Estimated Frequency of Course Offering:**  
once/ 2yrs

**Indicate if Course will be :**     Requirement for Major     Elective

**Lecture Hours:** 3

**Lab Hours:** 0

**Credit Hours:** 3

**Proposed Course Description:** (Follow current catalogue format and include prerequisites or co-requisites, cross listings, special requirements for admission or grading. A description of fifty words or fewer is preferred.) An in-depth examination of the philosophy of happiness, drawing from the work of contemporary applied philosophy and classic historical figures, from antiquity to the modern era.

**Justification:** Select one or more of the following to indicate why the requested change will be beneficial, giving your justification. Include and/or append relevant supporting data.

- Improving student learning outcomes: 1,2,3
- Adopting current best practice(s) in field:
- Meeting Mandates of State/Federal/Outside Accrediting Agencies:
- Other: Course has been offered as a Special Topics twice and is a subject of perennial interest to students. It will enhance student options for coursework in philosophy offerings relating to Philosophy, Society and Culture

**Source of Data to Support Suggested Change:**

- Indirect Measures: SOIs, student, employer, or alumni surveys, etc. SOIs, student surveys, and alumni surveys
- Direct Measures: Materials collected and evaluated for program assessment purposes (tests, portfolios, specific assignments, etc.) Exams and papers

**Plans for assessing the effectiveness of the course in meeting program's learning outcomes** (i.e., how does this course fit within the current program assessment plan and what sorts of data will be collected and evaluated to determine if the course is meeting stated program or course outcomes?)

**Data Sources:**

Indirect measures: SOIs, student, employer, or alumni surveys, etc. Alumni surveys, and exit surveys given to graduating seniors

Direct measures: Materials collected and evaluated for program assessment purposes (tests, portfolios, specific assignments, etc.) Exams and papers will be collected to be used as part of the analysis of paper and presentation assessment using rubrics tied to departmental learning outcomes.

Other:

**\*\*Attach a course syllabus with course outcomes/assessments and general education outcomes/assessments.\*\***

<b>Approvals:</b>	
Dept. Head: <i>Fred Downing</i>	Date: <i>12/12/11</i>
College/Division Exec. Comm.: <i>Lonnie Richards</i>	Date: <i>12/16/11</i>
Dean/Director: <i>Lonnie Richards</i>	Date: <i>12/16/11</i>
Graduate Exec. Comm.: (for graduate course):	Date:
Graduate Dean: (for graduate course):	Date:
Academic Committee:	Date:

Form last updated: January 6, 2010

**Course Description:**

An in-depth examination of the philosophy of happiness, drawing from the work of contemporary applied philosophy and classic historical figures, from antiquity to the modern era.

**Course Learning Outcomes (Objectives):**

- to learn some of the key elements in the philosophy of happiness (D1)
- to understand the historical approaches to the fundamental problems in human happiness (D1)
- to develop critical thinking skills with respect to one's personal conception of a good life (D2,3)

**Required Texts:**

- Aristotle, *Nicomachean Ethics*, trans, by Martin Ostwald (ISBN 0-02-389530)
- Elliott Cohen, *The New Rational Therapy: Thinking Your Way to Serenity, Success, and Profound Happiness* (ISBN: 978-0-7425-4734-6)
- Alan Watts, *The Wisdom of Insecurity* (Vintage: ISBN 10: 0394704681)

\*\*There will also be texts and readings available online through my [Philosophy of Happiness Course Index](http://www.valdosta.edu/~asantas/Happiness%20Index.htm):  
<http://www.valdosta.edu/~asantas/Happiness%20Index.htm>

**Office Hours:**

My office is located in 216 Ashley Hall. The times you may find me there are daily at 11:00-12:00. You can reach me there or leave a message at 333-5949. You can also reach me through e-mail at [asantas@valdosta.edu](mailto:asantas@valdosta.edu)

**Grades:**

Final grades will be determined on the basis of weekly journal entries, projects/presentations, class participation, and your term project. Here's the breakdown:

Projects/Presentations	(50%)
Participation	(25%)
Term Project	(25%)

**Special Needs:**

Students requesting classroom accommodations or modifications because of a documented disability must contact the Access Office for Students with Disabilities located in room Farber Hall. The phone numbers are 245-2498 (voice) and 219-1348 (tty).

**Participation and Attendance:**

Attendance is required. I will be taking roll every day and assign part of your grade on the basis of how many days missed. What I'll be looking for, besides regular attendance, are the following:

conscientious class presentations	contribution to discussion
effort to improve and grow	attentiveness to the course materials and to each other
responsible attitude towards learning	respectful treatment of your peers

**Cell Phones:**

Cell phones are thieves of attention and attentiveness. I do not allow their use in my classes. They are to be *silenced* and *no texting* should be conducted during class time. If you must make use of one, you must step out of the room. If I must remind you of this, you will be *asked to leave* the class and it will significantly affect your participation grade.

### **Projects and Presentations:**

Every student will be assigned chapters from the main texts and supplemental readings to present to me and the class in some form or fashion. Format details and specific assignments will be worked out early in the term. See main Course Index for Presentation Schedule.

### **Term Projects:**

You will be working on your term project throughout the term. The topic of the paper will be your personal "Philosophy of Happiness." You will be asked to offer a new "take" on your conception of happiness after each major unit of the course. The final product will also have an oral component. See Class Schedule for all deadlines.

**Happiness Symposium:** At the end of the term our class will sponsor a symposium in which we will showcase the best essays of the class and possibly invite outside speakers as well. Details will be discussed as the term progresses.

### **Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism:**

The VSU Student Code of Conduct in the Student Handbook states:

Plagiarism is prohibited. Themes, essays, term papers, tests, and other similar requirements must be the work of the student submitting them. When direct quotations are used, they must be indicated, and when the ideas of another are incorporated in the paper they must be appropriately acknowledged. (p. 59)

Anyone found guilty of academic dishonesty—offering someone else's work as their own—will receive an 'F' in the course.

### **Final Note:**

This document is not a contract and is subject to change as needed to meet course objectives.

## REQUEST FOR A NEW COURSE

Valdosta State University

**Date of Submission:** 12/06/11 (mm/dd/yyyy)

**Department Initiating Request:**

Philosophy & Religious Studies

**Faculty Member Requesting:**

Fred Downing

**Proposed New Course Prefix & Number:**

(See course description abbreviations in the catalog for approved prefixes)

REL 2010

**Proposed New Course Title:**

Introduction to Religion and Culture

**Proposed New Course Title Abbreviation:**

(For student transcript, limit to 30 character spaces)

Intro to Religion and Culture

**Semester/Year to be Effective:**

Fall 2012

**Estimated Frequency of Course Offering:**

annually

**Indicate if Course will be :**     Requirement for Major     Elective

**Lecture Hours:** 3

**Lab Hours:**

**Credit Hours:** 3

**Proposed Course Description:** (Follow current catalogue format and include prerequisites or co-requisites, cross listings, special requirements for admission or grading. A description of fifty words or fewer is preferred.) An analysis of how different religions respond to a variety of human issues such as marriage and family, war and peace, gender roles, poverty, child labor, and increasing globalization.

**Justification:** Select one or more of the following to indicate why the requested change will be beneficial, giving your justification. Include and/or append relevant supporting data.

Improving student learning outcomes: Students will gain more experience in interpretation and analysis

Adopting current best practice(s) in field:

Meeting Mandates of State/Federal/Outside Accrediting Agencies:

Other:

**Source of Data to Support Suggested Change:**

Indirect Measures: SOIs, student, employer, or alumni surveys, etc. SOIs, student surveys, and alumni surveys

Direct Measures: Materials collected and evaluated for program assessment purposes (tests, portfolios, specific assignments, etc.) Exams and papers

**Plans for assessing the effectiveness of the course in meeting program's learning outcomes** (i.e., how does this course fit within the current program assessment plan and what sorts of data will be collected and evaluated to determine if the course is meeting stated program or course outcomes?)

**Data Sources:**

- Indirect measures: SOIs, student, employer, or alumni surveys, etc. exit surveys given to graduating seniors
- Direct measures: Materials collected and evaluated for program assessment purposes (tests, portfolios, specific assignments, etc.) Exams and papers will be collected for use in the assessment of papers and presentations using rubrics. The scores from this introductory course will be compared to later upper division and capstone courses.
- Other:

**\*\*Attach a course syllabus with course outcomes/assessments and general education outcomes/assessments.\*\***

<b>Approvals:</b>		
Dept. Head:	<i>Fred Downing</i>	Date: <i>12/12/11</i>
College/Division Exec. Comm.:	<i>Lorris Richards</i>	Date: <i>12/16/11</i>
Dean/Director:	<i>Lorris Richards</i>	Date: <i>12/16/11</i>
Graduate Exec. Comm.: (for graduate course):		Date:
Graduate Dean: (for graduate course):		Date:
Academic Committee:		Date:

Form last updated: January 6, 2010



# **Introduction to Religion and Culture**

**REL 2010**

**Michael Stoltzfus, Ph.D.  
Fall 2012**

**Course Description:** An analysis of how different religions respond to a variety of human issues such as marriage and family, war and peace, gender roles, poverty, child labor, and increasing globalization.

**Course Overview:** In this class we will analyze how different religions (including Christianity, Islam, Judaism, Buddhism, Daoism, Hinduism and others) respond to a variety of practical, real-life dilemmas using the medium of cross-cultural case studies. We will investigate how distinctive religious and cultural traditions address issues of marriage and family, war and peace, gender roles, poverty, child labor, and other important moral issues associated with increasing globalization. We will discover the penetrating interconnections and intricate tensions that exist between religious pluralism, cultural diversity, and concrete moral problems. This course will begin by investigating how practical wisdoms and spiritual insights are routinely integrated in everyday life circumstances. We will seek to address two critical questions: What is the role of religion in helping to create a more just and peaceful world? What is the role of religion in helping to shape a more violent and anxious world?

**Special Services Information:** Students requesting classroom accommodations or modifications due to a documented disability must contact the Access Office for Students with Disabilities located in Farber Hall. The phone numbers are 245-2498.

**Cell Phone Policy:** Cell phones and other wireless distraction devices should be neither seen nor heard in the classroom setting. If I see or hear a cell phone during official class hours, then I maintain the option of confiscating the phone for a twenty-four hour period. Confiscated phones may be picked up in Ashley Hall room 109 (via departmental secretary) at the appropriate time. Please keep cell phones removed from the classroom.

## **Course Outcomes**

1. Students will engage in independent research and writing
2. Students will think critically about religion and culture
3. Students will learn basic themes in religious studies
4. Students will be exposed to religious and moral pluralism through cross-cultural case studies
5. Students will link religion with important issues in cultural development, ethical analysis and social transformation

## **Texts**

1. *Religious Pluralism and Moral Choice*. Daniel Maguire (**required text**).