

General Education Course Proposal

Proposed Course: PHIL 132 Religion in the Margin Units 3
Prefix No. Title

Department: Philosophy School: Arts and Humanities

GE Category (Indicate one category only):

Foundation: A1___; A2___; A3___; B4___
Breadth: B1___; B2___; C1___; C2___; D___; E___
Integration: B___; C___; D___; International/Multicultural X

Existing Course X; Revised Course ___; New Course ___

Course Included in Current GE Program ___

New courses require the Undergraduate Course Proposal form in addition to this form.

Revised courses require the Undergraduate Course Change Request in addition to this form.

Proposed catalog description: Limit course description to 40 words using succinct phrases. Include prerequisites, limitations, lecture/lab hours. Indicate former course number, e.g., (Former Biol 105)

Exploration of elements facing religious studies that have been historically moved from the center to the side (marginalized), such as women's experience, ethnicity, gender, and class. Focus will include how religion has both supported and resisted this move.

Enrollment limit per section: 40

Expected number of sections per semester – Year 1 1; Year 3 1

Attachments:

1. A statement presenting the ways in which this course meets the Specifications provided in the appropriate section of the General Education Policy as well as in the Policies for Inclusion and Evaluation of General Education Courses.
2. A statement of elements common to all sections of this course, identifying content, objectives, required student activities, grading policy, representative texts, and an approximate schedule for the course. Required student activities include such things as papers, research projects, homework, laboratory and/or studio performance, recitations, participation, attendance, and exams.
3. A typical syllabus for a particular offering of the course.
4. Any special cost factors associated with this course.

Approval for Inclusion in General Education

Karen Bell 4/29/98
Department Chair Date

Kim Moorn 8/24/98
School Curriculum Committee Date

W. J. Coats 8/27/98
School Dean Date

General Education Subcommittee Date

Associate Provost Date

Attachment #2: General Syllabus

Proposed course: **Phil 132: Religion and the Margin**

Philosophy 132: Religion and the Margin

3 units, no prerequisite

Semester, Year
Schedule # ?????

Catalog description: Exploration of elements facing religious studies that have been historically moved from the center to the side (marginalized), such as women's experience, ethnicity, gender, and class. Focus will include how religion has both supported and resisted this move.

General Education: This course meets the General Education requirement for INTEGRATION (Ethnic/Gender or International, Multicultural), Area D4.

Instructor: Name
Office: Number
Office Hours: Times (minimum 5 hours/week)
Office telephone: Number
E-mail address: Email
Department Office: Music Building, Room 102; department hours: M-F 8:30-12:00; 13:00-17:00
Department telephone: 278-2621

Textbooks: Assigned texts may be drawn from primary sources, i.e., key writings on religion and within the field of religious studies. See attached bibliography for a representative selection.

Fees: There are no additional fees associated with this course

Course goals:

1. To understand and analyze the religious principles underlying human social behavior.
2. To understand how religion has shaped social, political and economic institutions.
3. To understand how religion has shaped family, gender and sexual preference.
4. To learn to analyze the contemporary social world taking into account religious norms.
5. Provide the student with methods and models for better understanding the contemporary global context and the diversity of religious expression.
6. Provide the student with new perspectives on their own self via the examination and evaluation of traditional and contemporary problems and issues in the study of religious meaning.
7. Increase appreciation of the variety of understandings religious meaning..

Course topics:

A. Every section of Phil 132 will include treatment of the following topics:

Topic 1: The Concept of the Margin within Religious Discourse

Topic 2: Gender or Sexual Orientation and Religion

Topic 3: Race and Religion

B. Every section of Phil 132 will include treatment of at least one of the following topics:

Topic 4: Identity Politics and Religion

Topic 5: Political Power and Religion

Topic 6: Economic Issues and Religion

Topic 7: Social Institutions and Religion

C. Every section of Phil 132 will include material in/from Western and non-Western perspectives on religion.

Assignments:

Information on attendance, homework, class participation

Information on methods of testing

Writing assignments. *The University General Education policy states that each course in upper division GE must have a 4,000 word writing requirement.* Accordingly, each student will be required to complete writing assignments, consistent with the GE Policy, at a minimum of 4,000 words.

Final examination (according to CSUF policy and schedule)

Evaluation: Each syllabus will contain a grading policy.

Criteria for grading: Each syllabus will state the criteria that will be used in grading.

Eligibility for a passing grade: Each syllabus will contain a statement of the necessary conditions for passing the course.

Grades: Each syllabus will include a grading scale and an explanation of how grades are to be assigned.

Course calendar: The calendar will depend on the texts and approaches chosen. The class time devoted to each topic will range from 1-4 weeks.

General information:

Policy on attendance

Policy on missed or late work

Regarding Cheating and plagiarism.

Students with disabilities.

Others specific policies for this course.

- Alves, R. A. and E. Tamez Against machismo: Rubem Alves, Leonardo Boff, Gustavo Gutierrez, Jose Miguez Bonino, Juan Luis Segundo ... and others talk about the struggle of women: interviews. Yorktown Heights, NY, Meyer-Stone Books.
- Aman, K. (1987). Border regions of faith: an anthology of religion and social change. Maryknoll, N.Y., Orbis Books.
- Anzaldua, G. (1990). Making face, making soul = Haciendo caras: creative and critical perspectives by feminists of color. San Francisco, Aunt Lute Books.
- Anzaldua, G. (1991). Borderlands: the new mestiza = La frontera. San Francisco, Aunt Lute Books.
- Brock, R. N. and S. B. Thistlethwaite (1996). Casting stones: prostitution and liberation in Asia and the United States. Minneapolis, Fortress Press.
- Bynum, C. W., S. Harrell, et al. (1986). Gender and religion: on the complexity of symbols. Boston, Beacon Press.
- Christ, C. P. and J. Plaskow (1992). Womanspirit rising: a feminist reader in religion. [San Francisco], HarperSanFrancisco.
- Comstock, G. D. (1991). Violence against lesbians and gay men. New York, Columbia University Press.
- Comstock, G. D. (1993). Gay theology without apology. Cleveland, Ohio, Pilgrim Press.
- Comstock, G. D. (1996). Unrepentant, self-affirming, practicing: lesbian/bisexual/gay people within organized religion. New York, Continuum.
- Comstock, G. D., J. M. Clark, et al. (1996). A rainbow of religious studies. Las Colinas, Tex., Monument Press.
- Comstock, G. D. and S. E. Henking (1997). Que(e)rying religion: a critical anthology. New York, Continuum.
- Comstock, G. D., M. L. Stemmeler, et al. (1992). Religion, homosexuality, and literature. Las Colinas, Tex., Monument Press.
- Cone, J. H. (1997). God of the oppressed. Maryknoll, N.Y., Orbis Books.
- C Daly, M. (1985). Beyond God the Father: toward a philosophy of women's liberation. Boston, Beacon Press.
- Éboussi Boulaga, F. (1984). Christianity without fetishes: an African critique and recapture of Christianity. Maryknoll, N.Y., Orbis Books.
- Felder, C. H. (1989). Troubling biblical waters: race, class, and family. Maryknoll, N.Y., Orbis Books.
- Felder, C. H. (1991). Stony the road we trod: African American biblical interpretation. Minneapolis, Fortress Press.
- Fiorenza, E. S. (1990). Bread not stone: the challenge of feminist biblical interpretation, T & T Clark.
- Grant, J. (1989). White women's Christ and Black women's Jesus: feminist christology and womanist response. Atlanta, Ga., Scholars Press.
- Gutierrez, G. and G. Gutierrez (1988). A theology of liberation: history, politics, and salvation. Maryknoll, N.Y., Orbis Books.
- Isasi-Diaz, A. M. (1993). En la lucha = In the struggle: a Hispanic women's liberation theology. Minneapolis, Fortress Press.
- Isasi-Diaz, A. M. (1995). Women of God, women of the people. St. Louis, Mo., Chalice Press.
- Isasi-Diaz, A. M. (1996). Mujerista theology: a theology for the twenty-first century. Maryknoll, N.Y., Orbis Books.
- Isasi-Diaz, A. M. and F. F. Segovia (1996). Hispanic/Latino theology: challenge and promise. Minneapolis, MN, Fortress Press.
- Isasi-Diaz, A. M. and Y. Tarango (1992). Hispanic women, prophetic voice in the Church = Mujer hispana, voz profetica en la Iglesia. Minneapolis, Fortress Press.
- King, M. L., Jr. and J. M. Washington (1991). A testament of hope: the essential writings and speeches of Martin Luther King, Jr. San Francisco, HarperSanFrancisco.
- Kinsley, D. R. (1989). The goddesses' mirror: visions of the divine from East and West. Albany, State University of New York Press.
- Chan, B. and L. D. Richesin (1981). The Challenge of liberation theology: a first-world response. Maryknoll, NY, Orbis.
- Matthews, S., E. Schussler Fiorenza, et al. (1993). Searching the Scriptures. New York, Crossroad.
- Menchu, R. and E. Burgos-Debray (1984). I, Rigoberta Menchu: an Indian woman in Guatemala. London, Verso.

- Plaskow, J. (1991). Standing again at Sinai: Judaism from a feminist perspective. San Francisco, HarperSanFrancisco.
- Plaskow, J. and C. P. Christ (1989). Weaving the visions: new patterns in feminist spirituality. San Francisco, Harper & Row.
- Russell, L. M. (1985). Feminist interpretation of the Bible. Philadelphia, Westminster Press.
- Russell, L. M. (1988). Inheriting our mothers' gardens: feminist theology in Third World perspective. Philadelphia, Westminster Press.
- Russell, L. M. (1990). The Church with AIDS: renewal in the midst of crisis. Louisville, Ky., Westminster/John Knox Press.
- Russell, L. M. (1993). Church in the round: feminist interpretation of the church. Louisville, Ky., Westminster/J. Knox Press.
- Schussler Fiorenza, E. (1992). But she said: feminist practices of biblical interpretation. Boston, Beacon Press.
- Schussler Fiorenza, E. (1993). Discipleship of equals: a critical feminist ekklesia-logy of liberation. New York, Crossroad.
- Schussler Fiorenza, E. (1995). Bread not stone: the challenge of feminist biblical interpretation; with a new afterword. Boston, Beacon Press.
- Schussler Fiorenza, E. (1996). The power of naming: a Concilium reader in feminist liberation theology. Maryknoll, N.Y.; London, England, Orbis Books; SCM Press.
- Schussler Fiorenza, E. and M. S. Copeland (1994). Violence against women. London; Maryknoll, N.Y., SCM Press; Orbis Books.
- Schussler Fiorenza, E. and D. Tracy (1984). The Holocaust as interruption. Edinburgh, T. & T. Clark.
- Segundo, J. L. (1976). Liberation of theology. Maryknoll, N.Y., Orbis Books.
- Sharma, A. (1987). Women in world religions. Albany, State University of New York Press.
- Sharma, A. (1994). Today's woman in world religions. Albany, State University of New York Press.
- Starhawk (1990). Truth or dare: encounters with power, authority, and mystery. San Francisco, Harper Collins.
- Starhawk (1997). Dreaming the dark: magic, sex, and politics. Boston, MA, Beacon Press.
- Starhawk (1997). Walking to Mercury. New York, Bantam Books.
- Swatos, W. H. (1994). Gender and religion. New Brunswick, N.J., Transaction Publishers.
- Tamez, E. (1989). Through her eyes: women's theology from Latin America. Maryknoll, N.Y., Orbis Books.
- Thistlethwaite, S. B. (1989). Sex, race, and God: Christian feminism in black and white. New York, Crossroad.
- Underhill, R. M. (1985). Papago woman. Prospect Heights, Ill., Waveland Press.
- Weems, R. J. (1988). Just a sister away: a womanist vision of women's relationships in the Bible. San Diego, Calif., LuraMedia.
- Weems, R. J. (1993). I asked for intimacy: stories of blessings, betrayals, and birthings. San Diego, Calif., LuraMedia.
- Weems, R. J. (1995). Battered love: marriage, sex, and violence in the Hebrew prophets. Minneapolis, Fortress Press.
- Wren, B. A. (1995). What language shall I borrow?: God-talk in worship: a male response to feminist theology. New York, Crossroad.

Attachment #3: Typical Syllabus

Proposed course: **Phil 132: Religion and the Margin**

Philosophy 132: Religion and the Margin

3 units, no prerequisite

Semester, Year

Schedule = ?????

Catalog description: Exploration of elements facing religious studies that have been historically moved from the center to the side (marginalized), such as women's experience, ethnicity, gender, and class. Focus will include how religion has both supported and resisted this move.

General Education: This course meets the General Education requirement for INTEGRATION (Ethnic/Gender or International, Multicultural). Area D4.

Instructor: Robert D. Maldonado
Office: Music 107
Office Hours: MWF 9-10; TTh 11:00-12:00
Office telephone: 278-2879
E-mail address: robertma@csufresno.edu
Department Office: Music Building, Room 102; department hours: M-F 8:30-12:00; 13:00-17:00
Department telephone: 278-2621

Textbooks:

Aquino, María P. *Our Cry For Life: Feminist Theology From Latin America*. Orbis, 1993.
Comstock, Gary, D. *Gay Theology Without Apology*. Pilgrim Press, 1993.
Sugirtharajah, R. S., ed. *Voices from the Margin: Interpreting the Bible in the Third World*. SPCK, Orbis, 1995.
Thistlethwaite, Susan. *Sex, Race, and God: Christian Feminism in Black and White*. Crossroad, 1989.

Fees: There are no additional fees associated with this course

Course goals:

1. To understand and analyze the religious principles underlying human social behavior.
2. To understand how religion has shaped social, political and economic institutions.
3. To understand how religion has shaped family, gender and sexual preference.
4. To learn to analyze the contemporary social world taking into account religious norms.
5. Provide the student with methods and models for better understanding the contemporary global context and the diversity of religious expression.
6. Provide the student with new perspectives on their own self via the examination and evaluation of traditional and contemporary problems and issues in the study of religious meaning.
7. Increase appreciation of the variety of understandings religious meaning..

Course topics:

Topic 1: The Concept of the Margin within Religious Discourse
Topic 2: Gender or Sexual Orientation and Religion
Topic 3: Race and Religion
Topic 4: Identity Politics and Religion
Topic 5: Political Power and Religion
Topic 6: Economic Issues and Religion
Topic 7: Social Institutions and Religion

This term our focus will be on marginal multicultural, international and gendered perspectives on and from Christianity. *Our Cry for Life* presents women of Latin America as autonomous agents within the church and society. It is divided into two main parts: Women and Theology: Genesis and State of the Question (Topics 1 and 2); and Women as Doers of Theology (Topics 2 and 4). *Gay Theology without Apology* "examines the Bible and Christianity not with the purpose of fitting in or finding a place in them, but of fitting them into and changing them according to the particular experiences of lesbian-bisexual/gay people" (p. 4) (Topics 2, 4, and 7). *Voices from the Margin* is divided into five main sections: Using the Bible: Reading Strategies and Issues (Topic 1); "Re-use of the Bible: Subaltern Readings (Topics 4, 6, and 7); The Exodus: One Narrative, Many Readings (Topics 3, 5, and 6); The Text and Texts: Multi-faith Readings; and People as Exegetes: Popular Readings. Finally, *Sex, Race, and God* explores a white feminist exploration of the differences of religious significance between black and white women.

The course has an explicit multicultural/international focus, including voices from US, India, Trinidad/Tobago, Costa Rica, Argentina, Zimbabwe, South Korea, Japan, South Africa, Solomon Islands, Pakistan, Nicaragua, Brazil, Cameroon, Israel, Hong Kong, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Malaysia, Brazil, Malawi, and China. Additionally, there is an interfaith component including Buddhism, Chinese Ancestor Worship, Chinese Creation Mythology, Tamil Saiva, and Islam. The course also explicitly focuses on feminist and womanist methodology and sexual preference issues.

Assignments:

1. Careful reading of course material prior to the day they appear on the calendar.
2. There will be six short (10 minute) quizzes spaced through the semester at the beginning of the class period. Format will be short answer focusing on content. While comprehensive to the course, the quizzes will emphasize material between the previous quiz (or beginning of classes for the first quiz) and the reading for the day of the quiz. The lowest quiz score will automatically be dropped from your evaluation. Missed quizzes may NOT be made up.
3. *The University General Education policy states that each course in upper division GE must have a 4,000 word writing requirement.* Accordingly, each student will be required to complete writing assignments, consistent with the GE Policy, at a minimum of 4,000 words.
 - a. There will be two reflection papers (approximately 800-1000 words each) integrating the concepts of religion and the margin with one of course topics 2-7 drawing on course reading. The papers must focus on different topics.
 - b. There will be a term paper (approximately 2400 words) of a topic or text of the student's choice from course material. Topic text proposals are due by Week 12, Class 1 and will be returned to the student by Week 12, Class 2. Further information will be made in a detailed handout of the assignment. The term paper is due Week 16, class 2.
4. Final examination (according to CSUF policy and schedule). The final will be comprehensive to the course.

Evaluation: Credit for all the assignments will be assigned weighted percentages as indicated below:

Quizzes:	30% (i.e., each quiz is worth 6%)
Short papers:	20%
Term Paper:	30%
Final:	20%

Criteria for grading: Grading criteria will be specified for each assignment, but in general:

"A" (100-90%) be awarded to work showing a high degree of competence, coverage of all parts of the question/issue, and thorough development.

"B" (80-89%) will be awarded to clearly competent responses, although there may be some weaknesses.

"C" (70-79%) will be awarded to competent responses, but much less developed and/or more superficial than the above. Responses which are primarily a restatement of the topic; lack focus or pertinent detail; remain general and undeveloped.

"D" (60-69%) will be awarded to severely underdeveloped or incomplete work.

"F" (0-59%) will be awarded to work with little or no understanding of the question issue.

Quizzes will focus on course content with questions averaging 20% weight. Average weighted evaluation will be as follows: 100% credit (i.e. 2 for a 2 point question) reflects good identification of relevant information and little or no inaccuracies. 75% credit (i.e. 1.5 for a 2 point question) reflects good identification of relevant information, but minor inaccuracies. 50% credit (i.e., 1 for a 2 point question) reflects more identification of relevant information, but not full or accurate in important respects. 25% credit (i.e., 0.5 for a 2 point question) reflects some identification of relevant information, but severely misses significant or relevant information. The resulting scale pertains:

"A" (90-100%); "B" (80-89%); "C" (70-79%); "D" (60-69%); "F" (0-59%)

Eligibility for a passing grade: In order to pass the course, each student must have a final weighted percentage above 59%.

Course calendar: The calendar is subject to change. You will know about such changes, if they are required, by attending class.

Week 1 Class 1 Introduction

Introducing the Margin

Class 2 The Margin as a Site of Creative Re-visioning (Voices, intro; Cry, intro)

Using the Bible: Reading Strategies and Issues

Scriptures and Scriptures (Voices, chapter 1)

Week 2 Class 1 Women's Rereading of the Bible (Voices, chapter 3)

Marxist Critical Tools: Are they Helpful? (Voices, chapter 4)

Class 2 The Irruption of History into Women's Life and Consciousness (Cry, chapter 1)

Latin American Women's Discovery of Causality (Cry, chapter 2)

Week 3 Class 1 Women in the Church of the Poor (Cry, chapter 3)

The Understanding of Faith from the Perspective of Women (Cry, chapter 4)

Quiz #1

The Margin as a place of doing theology

Class 2 Women's Contribution to Theology in Latin America (Cry, chapter 6)

Week 4 Class 1 Korean Minjung Theology and Jesus (Voices, chapter 6)

The Bible in the Light of Tribal Values (Voices, chapter 8)

Reflection Paper #1 due

Class 2 The Bible and African Women's Struggle for Liberation (Voices, chapter 11)

Racial Motifs in the Biblical Narratives. (Voices, chapter 14)

Multicultural Readings

Week 5 Class 1 Latin American and Korean perspectives (Voices, chapters 15, 16)

Quiz #2

- Class 2 Black African and Asian Feminist Perspectives (Voices, chapters 17, 18)
Week 6 Class 1 Palestinian and Native American Perspectives (Voices, chapter 19, 20)

Multi-Faith Readings

- Class 2 Interfaith and Cross-cultural Issues (Voices, chapters 21, 22)
Week 7 Class 1 Two Buddhist Perspectives (Voices, chapters 23, 24)
Reflection Paper #2 due
Class 2 Two Chinese Religious Perspectives (Voices, chapters 25, 26)
Week 8 Class 1 Hindu and Islamic Perspectives (Voices, chapter 27, 28)
Quiz =3

The Margin of Homosexuality

- Class 2 Introductory Issues (Gay, Intro)
Week 9 Class 1 Biblical Symbols and Sexual Ethics (Gay, chapters 1, 2)
Class 2 Rewriting Stories and Resisting the Misuse of Power (Gay, chapters 3, 4)
Week 10 Class 1 Biblical Symbols of Nurture, Friendship and Autonomy (Gay, chapters 5, 6)
Quiz =4
Class 2 Salvation, Creed, and Community (Gay, chapters, 7, 8)

The Margin of Sex and Race

- Week 11 Class 1 Introductory Issues (SRG, Intro)
Class 2 White Feminist Theory and Slavery (SRG, chapters 1, 2)
Week 12 Class 1 Issues of Class and Nature (SRG, chapters 3, 4)
Class 2 Self, Sin, and Feminine imagery of Jesus (SRG, chapters 5, 6)
Week 13 Class 1 God the Father, Mother, and Goddess (SRG, chapter 7)
Quiz =5
Class 2 Violence in White and Black (SRG, chapter 8)

Popular Voices from the Margin

- Week 14 Class 1 A Brazilian Example (Voices, chapter 29)
Class 2 A Nicaraguan Example (Voices, chapter 31)
Week 15 Class 1 An Indonesian Example (Voices, chapter 32)
Class 2 A South African Example (Voices, chapter 33)
Week 16 Class 1 A Chinese Example (Voices, chapter 34)
Quiz =6
Class 2 Review: Term Paper due

General information:

1. Policy on attendance: Attendance is required. More than two noted unexcused absences will result in course grade reduced progressively by thirds (i.e., A => A-; A- => B-; etc.)
2. Policy on missed or late work: Conflicts with the calendar of assignments should be resolved as early as possible. Except for emergencies and very special circumstances, arrangements must be made with me in advance. Missed work (except quizzes, see above) should be completed as soon

as possible. All late work without an excuse approved by the instructor (e.g., medical) will have the grade reduced progressively by thirds each day it is late.

3. **Cheating and plagiarism.** University policy defines "cheating" as "the practice of fraudulent and deceptive acts for the purpose of improving a grade or obtaining course credit. Typically, such acts occur in relation to examinations. It is the intent of this definition that the term 'cheating' not be limited to examination situations only but that it include any and all actions by a student which are intended to gain an unearned academic advantage by fraudulent and deceptive means." University policy defines "plagiarism" as "a specific form of cheating which consists of the misuse of the published and/or unpublished works of another by representing the material so used as one's own work." Cheating or plagiarism will not be tolerated in this course. Depending upon the seriousness of the action, the student may be penalized by an "F" on the assignment to an "F" in the course and the filing of a Cheating/Plagiarism Report to be placed in the student's permanent academic record.
4. **Students with disabilities.** If you are a disabled student, be sure to identify yourself to the University and the instructor so that reasonable accommodation for learning and evaluation within the course can be made. Contact Services for Students with Disabilities, Madden Library Room 1049, 278-2811