

Proposal Form

Educational Policy and Curriculum Committee

PLEASE COMPLETE ITEMS 1 THROUGH 5:

1. Fill in the name and number of the course, the name of the policy, or the curriculum/major proposed for modification.

Course REL 201 Readings in the Tanakh (Old Testament)

Policy _____

Curriculum or major* _____

* submit copies of the current and proposed requirements for the major

2. Addition X Deletion ____ Change ____

3. Does this proposal impact other majors or minors? Yes** ____ No X

4. Does this proposal impact the Cornerstone program? Yes** X No ____

5. Does this proposal impact teacher licensure? Yes** ____ No X

** If yes, obtain appropriate signatures (signifying review) below.

Attach a statement that addresses each of items 6 through 11:

6. Nomenclature of course(s) (Department, Number, Title, Credit Hours)

7. Catalog description of course(s) (including prerequisites), curriculum or policy
(For changes, please submit a description of the existing course, policy, or curriculum.)

8. Relationship to major, other disciplines and frequency of offering

9. Proposed configuration [traditional (MWF 50 min. or TTh 75 min.) or other]

10. (a) A complete statement of the proposal's rationale to assist consideration by the EPCC

(b) A 5-line summary of the rationale to be presented to the full faculty

11. Cost estimates and staff estimates

APPROVED BY:

Signature of proposer

Date

Signature of Division Chair

Signature of Department Chair

REVIEWED BY:

Signature of Academic Dean

Signature of Education Department Chair**

Signature of Department Chair in affected major**

Signature of Cornerstone Director**

**if applicable

Upon completion of this form, print a copy to be circulated for signatures. In addition, send a copy of the proposal as an email attachment to epcc@simpson.edu

PROPOSED COURSE REL 201

EXISTING COURSE

N/A

PROPOSED CHANGE

201. Readings in the Tanakh (Old Testament)

This course will rotate its specific content depending on the interest of students. Typically the class will concentrate on one portion of the Tanakh (Pentateuch, Prophets, or Writings). Students will become acquainted with the biblical literature itself, as well as with historic and recent interpretive methods related to the literature being studied. In every case, the class will connect the biblical material to the Christian New Testament since the older stories set the stage for the story of Jesus. The class will explore how the earlier texts influence modern concepts such as slavery and freedom, gender, and the relationship of humans to the natural environment. Prerequisite: REL 111 or permission of instructor. *Cornerstone 4A*. Three hours.

RELATIONSHIP TO MAJOR, OTHER DISCIPLINES, AND FREQUENCY OF OFFERING

Religion elective. This course is designed for any student interested in biblical study beyond the introductory level. It would complement many other majors, including art history, sociology, women's studies, history, and environmental studies. We hope to offer this course every year with a three-year rotation on focus. Students could repeat the course for credit, as the focus of the course will be included in the title each year.

PROPOSED CONFIGURATION

TTh

RATIONALE FOR CHANGE

The only course we presently offer in the Tanakh/Old Testament is REL 111, a survey course. Students in a variety of majors have expressed interest in further course offerings in the Tanakh. For majors, the new 200-level courses we propose would allow a concentration in biblical studies, along with the 200-level New Testament courses. For non-majors, the course offers an opportunity for in-depth study of a portion of the Tanakh while fulfilling a Cornerstone perspective. In general, we see an increased interest among both majors and non-majors in biblical studies classes. Further, we now have a faculty member who is qualified to teach upper-level classes in this material.

COST ESTIMATES AND STAFF ESTIMATES

N/A