

IMPAC End of Year Report  
Religious Studies  
27 April 2006

There exist approximately nineteen programs in Religious Studies (RS) in the CSU and UC system; and religious studies courses are offered in at least half of the campuses comprising the California Community Colleges (CCC) in the state. Before early 2005, most of these programs were unknown to each other. There had been few if any discussions among representatives of these programs about the substance of their respective programs; the relationship between RS programs and course offerings in the UC, CSU, and CCC; or their plans for the future with respect to strengthening religious studies offerings across the state.

In early 2005 various campus representatives received permission to establish a Religious Studies IMPAC entity separate from the Humanities and Philosophy programs already approved under IMPAC. This seemed reasonable, given that most RS programs in the CSU and UC systems are independent of these programs; and have been in many cases for more than 30 years. We received permission to establish ourselves as an independent IMPAC discipline; and held two meetings this past year to discuss issues of disciplinary integrity; transfer of CCC units; and the feasibility of establishing a 9-unit package of mutually agreeable units that would articulate from the CCC to the UC and CSU programs.

Those two meetings were fruitful gatherings. The IMPAC designation provided the opportunity to undertake a full-scale review of the structure of all programs in the CSU and UC systems; to establish contact persons at each campus; to discuss the distinctives of each program; and to bring together members of the majority of the programs to discuss the feasibility of coordinated transfer options; to establish system-wide networks; and to begin to discuss the desired content and pedagogical standards of acceptable courses. In short, IMPAC is examining a nine unit package of three courses in religious studies for transfer. These include Introduction to the Study of Religion; Judaism, Christianity, and Islam; and Religions of Asian Civilizations. In addition to designating the broad content of such courses, the IMPAC team will probably suggest some alternative and substitute courses, given the sorts of other courses that are part of many UC and CSU programs; and given that many CCC campuses do not offer all of these courses at this time. It is important to note, however, that there is not at this time unanimous agreement on this package, but we are making steady progress toward the development of an articulation agreement.

The work of IMPAC has been slowed a bit and also given greater impetus by the concurrent work of LDTP (Lower Division Transfer Protocol, a CSU-based articulation protocol). LDTP is on the verge of approving a nine-unit articulation agreement among its 11 CSU member departments. And because LDTP has benefited from the discussions and growing consensus among IMPAC faculty, there is every reason to believe that an LDTP agreement in Religious Studies will develop shortly. Once this agreement is in

place, it is quite possible that any remaining differences between LDTP and IMPAC will be resolved and we can move to an agreement in principle concerning the nine units that UC and CSU RS programs will accept from community colleges. As lead of IMPAC and my campus's representative to LDTP, I believe it is reasonable to expect that an LDTP agreement will be in place by the end of the summer; and an IMPAC agreement by the end of 2006, less than 18 months from the establishment of our IMPAC discipline.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joel Zimbelman, Ph.D.  
Faculty Lead, Religious Studies, IMPAC  
Professor and Chair, Department of Religious Studies  
Coordinator, Program in Humanities  
Fellow, Center for Applied and Professional Ethics  
California State University, Chico  
Chico, CA. 95929-0740  
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530.898.4741  
530.898.5468 (fax)

Attachments

**Item I: Religion Programs in the CSU and UC Systems, by program name and campus**

**Item II: List of Lower Division Requirements for RS programs in the CSU and UC**

**Item III: List of RS Programs across the UC and CSU, with basic contacts and program information (attached)**

**Item IV: List of all CCC with course offerings in RS (various dates)**

**Item V: IMPAC Invitation Letter April 2005**

**Item VI: IMPAC June 21 Correspondence on first meeting**

**Item VII: Correspondence, October 2005**

**Item VIII: Minutes, 19 November 2006 IMPAC meeting**

**Item IX: Minutes, January 2006 IMPAC meeting**

**Item X-XI: LDTP discussions—correspondence and proposals, various**

**ITEM I:**

Religion, Study of B.A. (UCLA, UCSD)

Religious Studies A.B. (UCD)

Religious Studies B.A. (CSUB, CSUC, CSUFULL, CSULB, CSUN, HSU, SDSU, UCB, UCR, UCSB)

Religious Studies B.S. (SJSU)

Philosophy and Religion B.A. (SFSU)

Philosophy B.A. (Religious Thought Concentration) (UCSC)

Philosophy B.A. with Religious Studies Option (CSUDH, CSUFRES)

Art History/Religious Studies B.A. (UCR)

Asian Religions B.A. (UCLA)

Humanities and Religious Studies B.A. (CSUS)

## **ITEM II:**

Lower Division requirements in RS Programs in the CSU and UC  
for 2004-2005 Academic Year

Joel Zimbelman

6 May 2005

UC Berkeley

8 units lower division required, consisting of  
two "topics" courses, content undetermined

UC Riverside

12 units lower division required, consisting of  
One course in Asian Religions  
One course in Myth and Ritual  
One additional course

UC San Diego

No lower division courses in major, though there may be lower division prerequisites

UC Santa Barbara

1 lower division course required  
2 additional lower division courses recommended  
Content of all three lower division courses is open

UC Irvine

RS Minor only

3 core required courses, consisting of  
Western Religions  
Asian Religions  
Intro to the Study of Religion,  
Though it is not clear whether these are lower or upper division

UC Davis

20 units of lower division required, consisting of  
A survey of world religions or a myth/ritual course  
Courses from several traditions (pick from a list)  
A course in anthropology of religion

CSU Bakersfield

Two lower division courses required,  
Western Religions  
Asian Religions

CSU Chico

Two lower division courses required,

Western Religions  
Asian Religions  
Up to six additional lower division units required, including  
Introduction to the Study of Religion

CSU Fresno  
At least one lower division course required, chose from  
RS 25 or RS 45

CSU Fullerton  
Three required lower division courses,  
Intro to World Religions  
Christianity or New Testament  
    Or Judaism  
    Or Islam  
Asian Religions or Buddhism

CSU East Bay  
RS option in Department of Philosophy  
Three course core, one lower division  
Religions of the World

Humboldt State  
Two required lower division courses  
World Religions  
Intro to the Study of Religion

CSU Northridge  
Two lower division courses required, selected from  
Intro to the Study of Religion  
Bible  
World Religions  
Western Religions

CSU Long Beach  
15 unit core; select from a list that contains some lower division,  
Intro to the study of Religion  
Eastern Religions

San Diego State University  
Lower division units required for major preparation  
World Religions  
Bible or Religious Diversity

San Francisco State University  
Degree in Philosophy and Religion

One lower division course required  
Philosophy of Religion

CSU Sacramento

Humanities/RS joint degree

For the RS track, no lower division courses in RS required (but four humanities courses required). However, one lower division course, Native American Religion and Philosophy, is an elective

San Jose State University

Core lower division required

Intro to the Study of Religion

Western Religions

Eastern Religions

170M III

IMPAC Project, List of Heads of Religious Studies Programs in the CSU and UC

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Institution	Dept. Chair/Program Coordinator	Email Contact/ Department Web Site/ Program Description	Dept. Affiliation/Address/phone numbers	Basic information on program and on lower division requirements for the major, option., or minor
UC Berkeley	Niklaus Largier	<a href="mailto:nlargier@berkeley.edu">nlargier@berkeley.edu</a> <a href="http://ls.berkeley.edu/ugis/religioustudies/">http://ls.berkeley.edu/ugis/religioustudies/</a> <a href="http://ls.berkeley.edu/ugis/religioustudies/page1.html">http://ls.berkeley.edu/ugis/religioustudies/page1.html</a> <a href="http://ls.berkeley.edu/ugis/religioustudies/courses/index.html">http://ls.berkeley.edu/ugis/religioustudies/courses/index.html</a>	Dandeleit Contact: 3229 Dwinelle Hall 510-642-2046  Largier Contact: 5412 Dwinelle Hall  510.643.3984  Office of Undergraduate and Interdisciplinary Studies, 343 Campbell Hall, 510.642.2363	UC Berkeley 8 units lower division required, consisting of two "topics" courses, RS 90A (Rg Veda) and RS 90B.
UC Los Angeles	Andrea Beard		Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, 290 Royce Hall, UCLA, Los Angeles California 154003	BA in Asian Religions  On introduction to religions course (East Asi focus)
UC Riverside	Nyitray, Vivian-Lee  June O'Connor, Chair	<a href="mailto:Vivian-Lee.Nyitray@ucr.edu">Vivian-Lee.Nyitray@ucr.edu</a>  <a href="mailto:June.oconnor@ucr.edu">June.oconnor@ucr.edu</a>  <a href="http://www.religioustudies.ucr.edu">http://www.religioustudies.ucr.edu</a>	HMNSS Building, Room 1609 Department of Religious Studies University of California, Riverside 900 University Avenue Riverside, CA 92521 Phone (951) 827-3612	UC Riverside 12 Quarter units lower division required, consisting of One course in Asian Religions One course in Myth and Ritual One additional course

		<p><a href="http://www.students.ucr.edu/catalog/current/rst.html#Program">http://www.students.ucr.edu/catalog/current/rst.html#Program</a></p> <p><a href="mailto:ashuttscrowne@ucsd.edu">ashuttscrowne@ucsd.edu</a></p> <p><a href="http://religion.ucsd.edu/">http://religion.ucsd.edu/</a></p> <p><a href="http://religion.ucsd.edu/Major%20and%20Minor.htm">http://religion.ucsd.edu/Major%20and%20Minor.htm</a></p>	<p>Fax (951) 827-3324 Nytiray — 951.827.2234</p> <p>O'Connor 951.827.3743</p> <p>Program for the Study of Religion University of California, San Diego 9500 Gilman Drive, 0410 La Jolla, CA 92093-0410</p> <p>Phone: 858-534-8849 Fax: 858-534-8686 <a href="mailto:religion.ucsd.edu">religion.ucsd.edu</a> <a href="mailto:religion@ucsd.edu">religion@ucsd.edu</a></p>	<p>UC San Diego</p> <p>No lower division courses in major, though there are certain lower division/ GE course requirements that can be applied to the minor. These would include RELI 110A or B and RELI 112 or 113; or cognates from other colleges in the UCSD system (e.g. Revelle, ERC).</p>
<p>UC Santa Barbara</p>	<p>David White, Chair but contact is Juan Campo</p>	<p><a href="mailto:white@religion.ucsb.edu">white@religion.ucsb.edu</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.religion.ucsb.edu/pages/about.html">http://www.religion.ucsb.edu/pages/about.html</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.registrar.ucsb.edu/majors/Religious%20studies-ba-2004.pdf">http://www.registrar.ucsb.edu/majors/Religious%20studies-ba-2004.pdf</a></p>	<p>Department of Religious Studies Humanities and Social Sciences Building University of California Santa Barbara, CA 93106-3130 Phone: (805) 893-7136 Fax: (805) 893-2059</p>	<p>UC Santa Barbara</p> <p>1 lower division course required 2 additional lower division courses recommended Content of all three lower division courses is open</p>
<p>UC Irvine</p>	<p>Susan Blakeley Klein</p>	<p><a href="mailto:sbklein@uci.edu">sbklein@uci.edu</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.humanities.uci.edu/">http://www.humanities.uci.edu/</a></p>	<p>Director of Religious Studies Associate Professor of Japanese Literature and Culture Department of East Asian Languages and</p>	<p>UC Irvine</p> <p>RS Minor only (though a major will be in place shortly) 3 core required courses, consisting of Western</p>

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		<u>religious studies/</u> <a href="http://www.humanities.uci.edu/rreligious_studies/Minor.htm">http://www.humanities.uci.edu/rreligious_studies/Minor.htm</a>	Literatures University of California Irvine, CA 92697-6000 949-824-8165  Klein (home) 949-854-8757	Religions, Asian Religions, Intro to the Study of Religion, which are all lower division.
UCLA	S. Scott Bartchy	<a href="mailto:bartchy@history.ucla.edu">bartchy@history.ucla.edu</a> <a href="mailto:religion@humnet.ucla.edu">religion@humnet.ucla.edu</a> <a href="http://www.humnet.ucla.edu/humnet/rreligion">www.humnet.ucla.edu/humnet/rreligion</a>	Director, Center for the Study of Religion at UCLA 74B Dodd Hall/Box 145102 UCLA, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1451  UCLA, Professor of Christian Origins and History of Religion, Department of History, UCLA 310.825.8948	Interdepartment Program in the Study of Religion  BA in Asian Studies above
UC Davis	Jeanne Hart	<a href="mailto:ghart@ucdavis.edu">ghart@ucdavis.edu</a> <a href="http://why.ucdavis.edu/academic/majors/rst.cfm?majors_list=alpha_majors.inc">http://why.ucdavis.edu/academic/majors/rst.cfm?majors_list=alpha_majors.inc</a> <a href="http://religions.ucdavis.edu/depa">http://religions.ucdavis.edu/depa</a>	Religious Studies UC Davis 622 Sproul Hall Davis, CA 95616  Phone: 530.752-4999	UC Davis 20 units of lower division required, consisting of A survey of world religions or a myth/ritual course Courses from several traditions (pick from a list) A course in anthropology of religion

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		rtment/FrontPage		
CSU Bakersfield  (2/15/05)	Liora Gubkin	lgubkin@csub.edu <a href="http://www.csub.edu/ReligiousStudies/">http://www.csub.edu/ReligiousStudies/</a> <a href="http://www.csub.edu/ReligiousStudies/rsmajor.html">http://www.csub.edu/ReligiousStudies/rsmajor.html</a>	Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, California State University, Bakersfield 9001 Stockdale Hwy, Bakersfield, CA 93311 Phone: 661-654-2314 fax: 661-665-6904	CSU Bakersfield Two lower division courses required, Western Religions Asian Religions
CSU Chico	Joel Zimbelman	jzimbelman@csuchico.edu <a href="http://www.csuchico.edu/rs/">http://www.csuchico.edu/rs/</a> new catalog: under construction	Chair, Department of Religious Studies, 239 Trinity Hall, CSU Chico  Chico, California 95929-0740 530.898.5661	CSU Chico Two lower division courses required, Western Religions Asian Religions Up to six additional lower division units allowed, including Introduction to the Study of Religion
CSU Dominguez Hills		<a href="http://www.csudh.edu/philosophy">www.csudh.edu/philosophy</a>	Department of Philosophy LaCorte Hall A-342 CSU Dominguez Hills	BA in Philosophy with option in Religious Studies

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<p>CSU Fresno</p>	<p>Robert Maldonado</p>	<p><a href="mailto:robertma@csufresno.edu">robertma@csufresno.edu</a>  <a href="http://www.csufresno.edu/Philosophy/">http://www.csufresno.edu/Philosophy/</a>  <a href="http://www.csufresno.edu/Philosophy/">http://www.csufresno.edu/Philosophy/</a>  <a href="http://www.csufresno.edu/Philosophy/">http://www.csufresno.edu/Philosophy/</a></p>	<p>1000 East Victoria Street                  Carson, Ca. 90747                  Ph. 310-243-3328  <a href="mailto:philosophy@csudh.edu">philosophy@csudh.edu</a>                  Department of Philosophy                  California State University, Fresno                  2380 E Keats Ave MB 105                  Fresno, CA 93740-8024                  559-278-2879                  559-278-2621 (Office)                  559-278-6484 (FAX)</p>	<p>CSU Fresno—Department of Philosophy, RS option                  At least one lower division course required, chose from                  RS 25—Methods of Reasoning                  or RS 45—Introduction to Logic</p>
<p>CSU Fullerton</p>	<p>James Santucci</p>	<p><a href="mailto:jsantucci@fullerton.edu">jsantucci@fullerton.edu</a>  <a href="http://www.fullerton.edu/catalog/academic_departments/cprl.asp">http://www.fullerton.edu/catalog/academic_departments/cprl.asp</a></p>	<p>Department of Comparative Religion                  CSU Fullerton                  P.O. Box 6868                  Fullerton Ca 92834-6868</p>	<p>CSU Fullerton                  Three required lower division courses,                  Intro to World Religions                  Christianity or New Testament                  Or Judaism                  Or Islam                  Asian Religions or Buddhism</p>

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<p>CSU East Bay (2/15/05)</p>	<p>Roberta Millstein, Interim Chair</p>	<p><a href="mailto:Roberta.Millstein@csueastbay.edu">Roberta.Millstein@csueastbay.edu</a> <u>u</u> <a href="http://www.csueastbay.edu/ecat/20042005/u-phil.html#">http://www.csueastbay.edu/ecat/20042005/u-phil.html#</a></p>	<p>(714) 278-4204</p> <p>Department of Philosophy College of Arts, Letters, and Social Sciences Office: Meiklejohn Hall 4006 (510) 885-3225 FAX: (510) 885-2123</p>	<p>CSU East Bay RS option in Department of Philosophy Three course core, one lower division Religions of the World</p>
<p>Humboldt State</p>	<p>Harry Wells Steve Jenkins</p>	<p><a href="mailto:hlw2@humboldt.edu">hlw2@humboldt.edu</a> <a href="mailto:SLJ9@humboldt.edu">SLJ9@humboldt.edu</a>  <a href="http://www.humboldt.edu/%7Er elig/">http://www.humboldt.edu/%7Er elig/</a>  <a href="http://www.humboldt.edu/%7Er elig/major.html">http://www.humboldt.edu/%7Er elig/major.html</a></p>	<p>Religious Studies Department Humboldt State University 1 Harpst Street Arcata, CA 95521 707-826-5750 707-826-4122 (fax)</p>	<p>Humboldt State Two required lower division courses World Religions Intro to the Study of Religion</p>
<p>CSU</p>	<p>Patrick Nicholson</p>	<p><a href="mailto:Pat.nichelson@csun.edu">Pat.nichelson@csun.edu</a></p>	<p>Chair</p>	<p>CSU Northridge</p>

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<p>Northridge</p>		<p><a href="mailto:pnichelson@csun.edu">pnichelson@csun.edu</a>  <a href="http://www.csun.edu/religious.studies/">http://www.csun.edu/religious.studies/</a>  <a href="http://www.csun.edu/religious.studies/graduation.html">http://www.csun.edu/religious.studies/graduation.html</a></p>	<p>Department of Religious Studies          CSU Northridge          Northridge, CA 91330-8316          818 677 3392 department phone          818 677 2740 office</p>	<p>Two lower division courses required, selected from          Intro to the Study of Religion          Bible          World Religions          Western Religions</p>
<p>CSU Long Beach</p>	<p>Carlos R. Priar</p>	<p><a href="mailto:crpiar@csulb.edu">crpiar@csulb.edu</a>  <a href="http://www.csulb.edu/depts/relst">http://www.csulb.edu/depts/relst</a>  <a href="http://www.csulb.edu/depts/relst/requirements.htm">http://www.csulb.edu/depts/relst/requirements.htm</a>  <a href="http://www.csulb.edu/depts/relst/ud/catalog.htm">http://www.csulb.edu/depts/relst/ud/catalog.htm</a></p>	<p>Department of Religious Studies          Macintosh Humanities Building 619          1250 Bellflower Blvd.          Long Beach, CA 90840-2409          Phone: (562) 985-5341</p>	<p>CSU Long Beach          15 unit core; select from a list that contains some lower division,          Intro to the study of Religion          Eastern Religions</p>
<p>San Diego State</p>	<p>Rebecca Moore          Linda Holler          Khaleel Mohammed</p>	<p><a href="mailto:remoore@mail.sdsu.edu">remoore@mail.sdsu.edu</a>  <a href="mailto:Lholler@mail.sdsu.edu">Lholler@mail.sdsu.edu</a>  <a href="mailto:Khaleel.mohammed@sdsu.edu">Khaleel.mohammed@sdsu.edu</a>  <a href="http://arweb.sdsu.edu/es/admissi">http://arweb.sdsu.edu/es/admissi</a></p>	<p>Department of Religious Studies          College of Arts and Letters          5500 Campanile Drive          San Diego, CA 92182-8143          619-594-5185          Fax: 619-594-1004</p>	<p>San Diego State University          Lower division units required for major preparation          World Religions          Bible or American Religious Diversity</p>

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<p>San Francisco State</p>	<p>Mohammad Azadpur</p>	<p><a href="http://www.sfsu.edu/~philsphr/">http://www.sfsu.edu/~philsphr/</a>  <a href="http://www.sfsu.edu/%7Ebulletin/current/programs/philoso.htm#630">http://www.sfsu.edu/%7Ebulletin/current/programs/philoso.htm#630</a>  <a href="mailto:azad1@sfsu.edu">azad1@sfsu.edu</a></p>	<p><a href="http://coursecat.sdsu.edu/catalog/REL%20S.pdf">http://coursecat.sdsu.edu/catalog/REL%20S.pdf</a>  <a href="http://www.sfsu.edu/~philsphr/">http://www.sfsu.edu/~philsphr/</a></p>	<p>San Francisco State University          Degree in Philosophy and Religion          One lower division course required          Philosophy of Religion</p>
<p>CSU Sacramento</p>	<p>Jeffrey Brodd  Brad Nystrom</p>	<p><a href="mailto:jbroad@csus.edu">jbroad@csus.edu</a>  <a href="http://aaweb.csus.edu/catalog/current/PROGRAM/HRS.asp">http://aaweb.csus.edu/catalog/current/PROGRAM/HRS.asp</a>  <a href="http://aaweb.csus.edu/catalog/current/PROGRAM/HRS.asp#Major">http://aaweb.csus.edu/catalog/current/PROGRAM/HRS.asp#Major</a></p>	<p>Department of Humanities and Religious Studies          California State University, Sacramento          6000 J Street          Sacramento, CA 95819-6083          (916) 278-7703 (fac office)          (916) 278-7703 (dept. office)</p>	<p>CSU Sacramento          Humanities/RS joint degree          For the RS track, no lower division courses in RS required (but four humanities courses required). However, one lower division course, Native American Religion and Philosophy, is an elective</p>

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<p>San Jose State University</p>	<p>Richard Keady, coordinator of program; Chris Jochim, chair of Department of Humanities</p>	<p><a href="mailto:rkeady@sjsu.edu">rkeady@sjsu.edu</a>  <a href="mailto:jochim@sjsu.edu">jochim@sjsu.edu</a>  <a href="http://sjsu.edu/hum/majors/religiousstudies/">http://sjsu.edu/hum/majors/religiousstudies/</a>  <a href="http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/catalog/departments/RELS-section-1.html">http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/catalog/departments/RELS-section-1.html</a></p>	<p>Coordinator          Comparative Religious Studies Program          San Jose State University          San Jose, CA 95192-0097          Chris Jochim, Chair          Humanities Department          San Jose State University          San Jose, CA 95192-0092          Phone: 408 924-4465 Fax: 408 924-4576          Mira Zussman, Acting Coordinator through sp. 05</p>	<p>San Jose State University          Core lower division required          Intro to the Study of Religion          Western Religions          Eastern Religions</p>
<p>Community College Participants          Riverside Community College</p>	<p>Richard Mahon</p>	<p>Dr. Richard Mahon          Associate Professor in Humanities          Riverside Community College          4800 Magnolia Avenue          Riverside CA 92506-1299          Lovekin A6G - (951) 222-8862  <a href="mailto:richard.mahon@rcc.edu">richard.mahon@rcc.edu</a>          web support: <a href="http://faculty.rcc.edu/mahon">http://faculty.rcc.edu/mahon</a></p>	<p></p>	<p></p>

IMPAC Project, List of Heads of Religious Studies Programs in the CSU and UC

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Dan Barnett		Butte Community College	
Eric Thompson			
Gwyneth Mapes			
Julie Adams	IMPAC coordinator	<a href="mailto:asccc@ix.netcom.com">asccc@ix.netcom.com</a>	
Rev. 4/27/05			

get rest

ITEM IV

passed on by Richard Mahan, Fall 2005

college catalog year	Religious Studies courses listed in catalog (indicates department listing)
Allan Hancock 01-02	World Religion; Exploring Religious Issues
American River 01-02	Old Testament; New Testament
Antelope Valley 00-01	Philosophy of Religion
Bakersfield 01-02	3 (Humanities): Intro, Eastern Religions, Western Religions
Barstow 99-00	Comparative Religion Intro to the Bible
Butte 99-00	2 (Philosophy): Western, Eastern
Cabrillo 97-98	2 (Philosophy): "Non-Western Philosophical Traditions", Comparative
Cañada	3 (Philosophy) World Religions, Phil of Religion, Asian.
Cerritos 00-01	1 (Humanities) Encounters with Living Faiths
Cerro Coso 00-02	3 (Philosophy): Intro to Phil of Religion, East, West
Chabot College	4 (Religious Studies) World Religions, two on Islam
Chaffey 00-01	3 (Philosophy) intro, east, west
Citrus	1 (Philosophy) World Religions

Dan Barnett -

Coastline 01-02	5 ( <b>Religious Studies</b> ) (all Christian-centered)
College of Alameda 01-03	1 ( <b>Humanities</b> ) World Religions
College of Marin 01-03	3 ( <b>Humanities</b> ) The Long Search, World Religions, Asian
College of San Mateo 00-01	2 ( <b>Philosophy</b> ): Asian Philosophy, World Religions
College of the Canyons 00-01	2 ( <b>Philosophy</b> ): Asian thought, Comparative Religion
College of the Redwoods 99-00	1 ( <b>Philosophy</b> ): Religions of the World
College of the Sequoias 00-01	3 ( <b>Philosophy</b> ) Comparative, OT, NT
College of the Siskiyou 03-05	2 ( <b>Philosophy</b> ) World Religions, Phil of Religion
Columbia 01-02	1 ( <b>Humanities</b> ): World Religions & Spirituality
Compton	
Contra Costa 00-01	1, comparative Religion
Copper Mountain 00-01	1, World Religion
Cosumnes River 01-02	3 ( <b>Philosophy</b> ), inc. World Religion, Philosophy of Religion, Bible
Crafton Hills 01-02	6, all in <b>Religious Studies</b>
Cuesta 00-02	2 ( <b>Philosophy</b> ) World, Bible
Cuyamaca 01-02	9+, all in <b>Religious Studies</b>
Cypress 01-02	2, East/West
College of the Desert	

De Anza 00-01 ••4+	4+ (Humanities), Intro to Religion, Western Religion, Eastern Philosophy
Diablo Valley 00-01	4 (Philosophy): Phil. of Religion., Judeo- Christian, Comparative, Contemporary Religious Movements
East LA 00-01	1, World Religion
El Camino 01-02	1 (Philosophy) Phil of Religion
Evergreen Valley	1 (Philosophy)
Feather River 01-03	2 (Philosophy) Comparative, Christianity
Folsom Lake	
Foothill 00-01	3 (Philosophy) Intro, east, west
Fresno 00-02	1 (Philosophy) World Religions
Fullerton 01-03	2 (Philosophy) Intro, World Religions
Gavilan 03-05	3 (Philosophy), World Religions, Phil., Asian
Glendale 01-02	2 (Philosophy), Phil of Religion, World Religions
Golden West 01-02	2 (Philosophy) Philosophy of the East, Phil of Religion—Western
Grossmont 99-00	4+ in Religious Studies
Hartnell 01-02	--
Imperial Valley 01-02	1 (Philosophy) World Religion
Irvine Valley 03-04	1 (Philosophy) Phil of Religion
LA City 01-02	2 (Philosophy) Phil of Religion, Asian
LA Harbor 98-00	1 (Philosophy) World Religions
LA Mission	1 (Philosophy) World Religion
LA Pierce 98-00	2 (Philosophy), east, west

*Gwyneth M. Speis*

*Stephen Felder*

*Mario Rivera  
Andrew Walzer*

LA Southwest 02-03	--
LA Trade	--
LA Valley 00-01	3 (Philosophy), Asian, East, West + dept. of Jewish studies
Lake Tahoe 00-01	1 (Philosophy) Phil of Religion
Laney 03-05	2 (Humanities), World Religions, African-American
Las Positas 02-04	2 (Religious Studies) World Religions, Islam
Lassen 04-06	2 (Philosophy) World Religions, Christianity
Long Beach 00-01	9 (Philosophy) Phil of Religion
Los Medanos 01-02	2 (Humanities) Comparative, Phil of Religion
Mendocino	1 (Philosophy) World Religion
Merced 04-05	1 (Philosophy) Comparative
Merritt 99-01	--
Mira Costa 00-01	3 (Philosophy), Asian Phil, World Religions, Phil of Religion
Mission 02-03	2(Philosophy), Comparative Religion, Asian Philosophy
Modesto JC 99-00	1 (Philosophy), Philosophical & Comparative
Monterey Peninsula 02-03	2 (Philosophy), Eastern Philosophy, Women in Religion
Moorpark 01-02	2 (Philosophy), east, west
Mt. San Antonio	
Mt. San Jacinto	

*Janice Daurio*  
*John Birmingham*  
*Jerry Caplin*

Napa Valley 00-02	1 (Humanities) Comparative Religion
Ohlone 01-02	6 (Philosophy), Comparative, OT, NT, Asian, World Religions, Islam
Orange Coast 01-02	2 (Philosophy) World Religions, Phil of Religion
Oxnard 02-03	2 (Philosophy) East, West
Palo Verde 01-02	--
Palomar	4, World Religions, Religion in America, Ethics of World Religions
Pasadena 04-05	3 (Religious Studies), Near East, Far East
Porterville 99-00	1 (Philosophy) Phil of Religion
Rancho Santiago	
Reedley --002	1 (Philosophy) World Religions
Rio Hondo 00-01	4, World Religions, East, West, U.S.
<u>Riverside City</u>	2 (Humanities) World, Religion in America
Sacramento CC 02-03	2 (Philosophy) World Religions, East
Saddleback 01-02	2 (Philosophy), World Religions, Phil of Religion
San Bernardino Valley	6+ (Phil/Religious Studies), Intro., World Religions, Tribal, America, Bible, Jesus
San Diego City	--
San Diego Mesa	3 (Humanities), NT, OT, World Religions
San Diego Miramar 01-02	3 (Humanities), NT, OT, World Religions
San Francisco CC 00-01	2 (Humanities), Comparative, Phil of Religion
San Joaquin Delta 01-02	2 (Humanities), East/West

*Richard Mahon*

*Jack Jackson*

*San Diego State U*

*Dept. of Religious Studies*

San Jose City 00-02	1 (Philosophy), World Religions
Santa Ana 01-02	1 (Philosophy) World Religions
Santa Barbara CC 01-02	1, Comparative World Religions
Santa Monica 01-02	2 (Philosophy), Asian, Phil of Religion
Santa Rosa JC	4 (Humanities), OT, NT, Western, R in America
Santiago Canyon	
Shasta 00-01	--
Sierra 01-02	2 (Philosophy) Phil or Religion, Asian Philosophy
Skyline 98-00	1 (Philosophy) World Religions
Solano 01-02	2 (Philosophy) East/West
Southwestern 01	2 (Philosophy), World Religions, Asian Philosophy
Taft 00-02	1 (Philosophy) World Religions
Ventura 00-01	2 (Philosophy) East, West
Victor Valley	5 (Religious Studies), Intro, OT, NT, World Religions, America
Vista	1 (Humanities), World Religions
West Hills 01-02	1 (Humanities) Comparative
West LA 02-04	1 (Philosophy) World Religions
West Valley 00-01	2 (Philosophy), Comparative, Religious Pluralism in U.S.
Yuba 02-03	2 (Philosophy), World Religions, Phil of Religion

— world Religions  
Asian Philosophy

1 Tom V



## Department of Religious Studies

California State University, Chico

1 April 2005

Dear Fellow Department Chair/Coordinator in Religious Studies,

My name is Joel Zimbelman, Chair of the Department of Religious Studies at CSU, Chico. I am writing to explore your interest in and ask your help on an issue which I believe may be vital to the integrity and growth of the programs in Religious Studies at CSU and UC campuses.

As many of you are aware, a formal program known as The Intersegmental Major Preparation Articulated Curriculum (IMPAC) Project is developing in the higher educational institutions of California. A partnership between the Community Colleges, CSU, and UC campuses, IMPAC is a faculty-designed and faculty-run project which focuses on ensuring that students transferring from California community colleges to UC and CSU institutions will be properly prepared for progressing in their chosen major immediately upon transfer, (i.e., that they will not have to repeat any course work) and will be able to complete some work toward their major during their time in community colleges. The project, sponsored by the three institutions of higher education in California, enables faculty from the three systems to meet regionally at intervals throughout the year in order to address potential problems of established curriculum requirements and procedures that may impede the smooth progress of a transferring student. These meetings provide a forum where faculty may discuss their willingness to be part of more expansive articulation agreements; and review and reconcile the prerequisites of course work both within their particular disciplines and between disciplines.

Various highly enrolled and high-unit majors in the UCs and CSUs have already signed on to this program, and are meeting over the next few months to complete streamlined articulation agreements. But no such initiative has yet been taken by religious studies departments or faculty in the systems. There good reasons for this: we are often very small departments with few majors; we don't even exist on the majority of campuses in the systems; few students transfer into our majors from community colleges; and it might be difficult to arrive at a substantive transfer commitment, given the diversity of our programs (and in light of the fact that there are no accrediting institutions in religious studies that seek uniform curricular standards).

I'd like to explore with all of you the idea of establishing ourselves as a program that would at least pursue discussion of participation in such an articulation agreement. No one needs to commit to this partnership up front; but I do think we need to meet, talk, and find out what we think about the effect such an agreement would have on our programs. The usual caveats aside, there may be very good reasons for the chairs and coordinators of religious studies programs to support such an agreement, and to see if we can sign on soon. Without some such commitment to taking a standard set of courses from the community colleges, we may inadvertently dissuade students in that system from seriously considering RS as a future major; and we will, over time, see fewer and fewer transfer students taking our major or minor on as a course of study (especially as the cost of college goes up and aid for students is limited to the first four or five years of college).

Some of your colleagues in other programs may have attended the IMPAC meetings held this past year in San Jose, Newport Beach, Sacramento, Los Angeles, and Belmont/SF. At these gatherings the IMPAC project brought together faculty from 26 different disciplines, and this year five more are being incorporated into the discussions. Please visit the project's website at [www.cal-impac.org](http://www.cal-impac.org) for a listing of all 31 of the specific disciplines, as well as the subject clusters into which they are grouped. My only argument is that I don't think we can afford to ignore the direction that things are going; we need to be participants in this process or make an informed decision not to participate.

If you are interested in joining your fellow chairs and coordinators of religious studies programs for such a discussion, you are invited to attend a statewide meeting of the IMPAC group for which religious studies programs have received permission to convene and discuss these issues. I think we need to begin tilling the soil—and exploring our options—if we want to participate in these articulation agreements. Richard Mahon of Riverside Community College and others, who represent the community colleges (and who have worked on the philosophy and humanities articulation arrangements) will be present at that meeting as well. They were a pleasure to work with this past January, and I believe they can help us get a sense of what the benefits and burdens of such an agreement would be.

### **Statewide Meeting**

April 30, 2005

10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Continental breakfast at 9:30 a.m.

Radisson Hotel-LAX, 6225 West Century Blvd., Los Angeles, CA

(310) 670-9000

If you are interested in attending this four-hour meeting, please let me know. You may sign up for the sessions on the website above. Reimbursement for travel, some meals, and in some situations lodging will be covered by the IMPAC team, but you'll need to register through the web portal on their official form. In preparation for this meeting, I'll also be gathering materials on your programs for distribution. Please send me either a web link to your course requirements and descriptions or a hard copy. And Julie Adams, who coordinates the logistics of these meetings, should be notified as well. Julie's email is [asccc@ix.netcom.com](mailto:asccc@ix.netcom.com). Finally, if you have particular questions for the community college representative Richard Mahon, you may reach him at [Richard.Mahon@rcc.edu](mailto:Richard.Mahon@rcc.edu).

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Professor and Chair,  
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Coordinator, Humanities Program, and  
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PS. Please peruse the attached list of programs and let me know if information needs updating or if there are programs that have been inadvertently excluded. I have about 18 programs in both systems listed.

ITEM VI

21 June 2005

To: Department Chairs and Coordinators of programs in Religious Studies in the CSU and UC Systems

From: Joel Zimbelman, Chair, Religious Studies, CSU, Chico

Re: Latest IMPAC Meeting

Date: 21 June 2005

Dear Colleagues,

I apologize for not getting this material out to you sooner; but my semester rolled into summer school, and now we are nearing the end of June.

In any event, most of you are familiar with the issue that we are facing regarding community college articulation (see my last letter of 1 April, attached). Many of you have received Richard Mahon's draft of the minutes of our April Meeting in San Mateo (I have attached a copy of Richard's email as well). As Richard notes in his email, there was some interest among the ten or so participants at that meeting to see if we could develop some consensus about what nine units UC and CSU programs might be willing to accept from the community colleges at the lower division for articulation into established RS programs. The big question was: "could eighteen diverse programs in religion or religious studies come to some agreement on what they might all, as a body, accept in terms of six or nine units of lower division course work from community colleges?" Among those gathered, interest tended to focus on three survey courses: Eastern Religions, Western Religions, and Introduction to the Study of Religion. But there were no formal votes taken; there is no formal agreement that we should adopt these courses at this time; and many other issues remain unresolved.

The lack of agreement among the wider participants in religious studies at CSU and UC campuses is something that we will need to focus on in the near future. I have enclosed a packet of material that a) summarizes the structure of all of the RS programs that I know about in both systems; and b) provides departmental material that describes the structure of most programs. A perusal of this material, which includes my annotations in the last column of the summary pages concerning how well a nine-unit lower division articulation of the three courses described above, shows that we have our work cut out for us. Some programs would have no problem with the articulation of these three courses.

Others would find it much more difficult to accept the nine units, and might see such a mandate as undercutting the integrity of their program. Whether there might be larger issues of departmental integrity or of long-term program strength to consider in this context is what we need to talk about in the future.

Please take a look at the enclosed materials, and let either Richard Mahon or I know what you think about our reflections so far. I am confident that, in many cases, we can close the gap between where we as departments are at this time and where we as a discipline could be if we are able to arrive at some compromises. I look forward to hearing from you.

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1 TOM VII

**Letter Sent out October 21 2005 to all members of the project.**

Dear Colleague in UC and CSU Religious Studies departments and those teaching religious studies courses at California community colleges,

For some of you this will be a follow-up letter to one I sent out a few months ago. For others of you, it will serve as an introduction to an important project that the CSU, UC and CC campuses are spearheading to assist our students as they move between our institutions. I'm writing to request your participation in the following initiative.

The Intersegmental Major Preparation Articulated Curriculum (IMPAC) project is a faculty-designed and faculty-run project which focuses on ensuring that students transferring from California community colleges to UC and CSU institutions will be properly prepared for progressing in their chosen major immediately upon transfer, (i.e., that they will not have to repeat any course work; and to allow them hopefully to bring with them from the community colleges a limited number of units that might count as prerequisites for or actual credit in the major). The project, funded by a grant, enables faculty from the state's three higher education systems to meet regionally at intervals throughout the year in order to address potential problems of established curriculum requirements and procedures that may impede the smooth progress of a transferring student. These meetings provide a forum where faculty may review and reconcile the prerequisites of course work both within their particular disciplines and between disciplines.

Some of your colleagues may have attended the meetings held this past year in San Francisco and Los Angeles. At these gatherings in 2004-2005, the IMPAC project brought together faculty from 33 different disciplines, and this term six more are being incorporated into the discussions.

**I'm pleased to notify you that, after a year of partnership with humanities and philosophy programs across the state, religious studies is now autonomously represented in IMPAC.** This is an important development. It means that we can begin to explore as a group both what we want new or budding RS majors to be studying; and it gives us a wonderful chance to recruit students into our programs while they are still in the early years of their college experience. As more and more of the CSU and UC campuses accept transfer students from the community colleges, their presence becomes a greater factor in the flourishing of RS majors. And as this partnership develops and takes substantive form in courses accepted to the UC and CSU programs, it will clearly inform the substance of what community colleges need to provide their students. Please visit the project's website at [www.cal-impac.org](http://www.cal-impac.org) for a listing of all 39 of the specific disciplines, as well as the subject clusters into which they are grouped.

**The IMPAC staff and I ask you to help this process in the following ways:**

- (1) Please urge representatives of your department or program to attend the IMPAC regional and statewide meetings now scheduled for 2005-2006. (See the attached announcement.) South and Metro regions attend the regional meeting scheduled on **November 19th** at LAX Sheraton Gateway, and North, Central, and Bay regions on **January 21st** at San Francisco Westin. Representatives can be anyone designated by the Department, but we hope that you'll consider the Department Chair, undergraduate advisor, or another faculty member who works with transfer students. **There is no cost for attending these sessions. IMPAC will reimburse for transportation, meals, lodging, and incidentals within the stipulations of their budget (further information will be provided).**
- (2) Ask your representatives to share their IMPAC experiences with those colleagues who are responsible for the baccalaureate education of transfer students in their major, as well as the articulation officers on your campus.
- (3) Encourage your department's faculty to keep abreast of the IMPAC project by regularly visiting our website at [www.cal-impac.org](http://www.cal-impac.org).

**I can't stress enough that your department's participation is critical to IMPAC's work, and ultimately to the ability of California faculty to enhance the successful transfer of community college students.**

I expect our work this year among Religious Studies faculty to focus on the following three tasks.

**1. See if we can move toward consensus on 9 units of lower division work provided by the community colleges that, as a group, UC and CSU programs in religious studies would be willing to accept. Presently over 100 community colleges teach over 250 religious studies courses in their curricula. Our task ought to be to help these programs flourish. But at the same time, we need to help students scattered across the state by exploring whether every UC and CSU program in religious studies could agree on some credits that all of us would be willing to accept as early major work done by our future students at the community college level.**

**2. Establish a listserv among faculty in the 18 religious studies programs in the CSU and UC systems and our counterparts in the community colleges. Literally for decades faculty in the UC and CSU religious studies programs have been teaching and developing our programs with little knowledge of what else is being offered in religious studies off of our own campuses. A listserv might provide us with the first chance to keep tabs on developments at other campuses; expand our knowledge of other programs in our system and sister systems; and explore ways that we might help strengthen identified programs.**

**3. Provide a venue in which we can begin to get to know our colleagues in other departments and programs across the state; and explore ways of strengthening our programs in the face of future budget cuts and other forces that might undercut our programs.**

There will be other tasks to take on in the future. But this will be a good start. Please consider joining us at a future meeting, or selecting a colleague who might be the point person to IMPAC from your department. I'll be glad to put them on the listserv and mailing list that is now under development.

Cordially,

Joel Zimbelman, Ph.D.  
Impac lead faculty for Religious Studies  
Professor and Chair, Department of Religious Studies  
Coordinator, Humanities Program, and  
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IMPAC Lead Faculty and Coordinators

170m VIII

**Minutes of the IMPAC for Religious Studies Meeting  
Los Angeles, California  
19 November 2006**

Notes taken by Joel Zimbelman, IMPAC Lead for Religious Studies

The following people attended the November 19 IMPAC Religious Studies meeting:

- Jerry Caplan, Moorpark College
- Janice Daurio, Moorpark College
- Stephen Felder, Irvine Valley College
- Jack Jackson, San Bernardino Valley College
- David White, UC Santa Barbara
- Gwyneth Mapes, Grossmont College
- Richard Mahon, Riverside Community College
- Christine Jamshidnejad, Articulation Office, Diablo Valley College
- Joel Zimbelman, CSU, Chico

This was the first official meeting of the autonomous RS IMPAC project, though some of the attendees (Mahon, Mapes, Zimbelman) had been present in April 2005 at the Humanities IMPAC meeting, where we discussed RS IMPAC issues and received permission to establish an RS IMPAC project.

Richard Mahon provided an overview of the goals of IMPAC and some background issues concerning the Lower Division Transfer Pattern (LDTP) that is being developed between the California Community Colleges and the CSU Campuses. More on this in my afterword.

The nature of the April 2005 discussion was summarized by Mahon, Mapes, and Zimbelman.

The bulk of the meeting time focused on the feasibility of establishing a nine-unit package of courses that might be transferable from California Community Colleges to all RS programs in the UC and CSU systems. Everyone at this meeting (and at the April 2005 meeting as well) agreed that it would be ideal (for transferring students as well as for articulation officers and for RS programs and

departments that are seeking to establish more majors and stronger programs) if such a consensus could be developed. Zimbelman provided information that summarized a) the scope of RS course offerings from all Community Colleges (developed last year by Mahon); and b) the general structure, course requirements, and contact persons at all known RS majors in the CSU and UC systems.

The participants at the April 2005 meeting and at this meeting came to a consensus on three issues.

First, they agreed that IMPAC would be most likely to attain its goal of a religious studies community college transfer curriculum if the RS programs/departments in the CSU and UC could agree that students completing the following nine units would be able to transfer their work into these programs.

- A survey course in Religions of Asia
- A survey course in Western Religions
- A course dedicated to an Introduction to the Study of Religion

This did not preclude some UC/CSU departments/programs accepting other courses into their major program; but this would establish both a baseline and a shared set of courses acceptable to all programs.

Second, the participants agreed that UC and CSU departments/programs would eventually have the prerogative and responsibility to specify general content, pedagogical, and formal requirements (type and amount of writing, course objectives, etc.) for these classes. Additionally, it was recognized that there might have to be some assistance for some community college campuses to help develop or expand these offerings. Strategies were discussed on how this might be accomplished (including regional workshops for developing syllabi, classroom plans and materials, etc.), but it seemed a bit premature to spend too much time on this until there was official agreement that the courses mentioned above would be accepted by all CSU and UC programs/departments.

Third, the participants recognized that an idealized transfer packet of three courses might for a time (two-three years) run up against the hard realities of community college course offerings and resources. A survey of the actual community college offerings revealed that, while many campuses do offer some combination of these courses, most do not offer all three; and in some cases a

more comprehensive survey course in World Religions (both Asian and Western, as well as in some cases indigenous traditions) replaces one or both of the Asian and Western courses. Thus, the participants urged that, for the time being, UC and CSU programs/departments consider accepting on at least an interim basis a World Religions course in lieu of one of the first two courses listed above.

Fourth, the participants discussed strategies on how to bring into the conversation on this issue those departments or programs that have not been part of the conversation to this point. In addition to the participants in this meeting, there were individuals at the April 2005 meeting from Los Rios CC, San Jose State, Long Beach State, Grossmont College, Riverside Community College, CSU, Chico, and LA City College. Zimbelman volunteered to contact representatives of all of the RS programs/departments personally in early January to invite them to send representatives to the IMPAC Statewide meeting on January 21 in San Francisco. Because this meeting coincided with the Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion in Philadelphia, IMPAC administrators have given permission for RS representatives from all programs (not just the Northern campuses) to convene in San Francisco for further discussions at the January meeting.

Fifth, participants agreed that once a decision is made about which community college courses will be accepted on transfer to the RS programs in religious studies at CSU and UC campuses, a coordinated effort will need to be undertaken to develop promotional material for students and to work with articulation officers at the community colleges to help in the smooth transfer of units. Christie Jamshidnejad volunteered to assist Zimbelman and others in developing an information brochure, advising sheet, or other helps so that students and faculty at community colleges, the UCs and the CSUs all have a better appreciation of how the Religious Studies IMPAC agreement works.

Finally, the participants agreed that much work remains to be done to smooth out an agreement that will be acceptable to all 18-20 programs in religious studies in the CSUs and UCs. Zimbelman urged that representatives from all of these programs aim for a "fast track" and unambiguous acceptance of the nine identified units and classes by all campuses. In other words, campuses should recognize that there is a consensus developing that is supporting this transfer pattern for to all campuses. However, it was recognized that some UC or CSU campuses might be willing to accept under petition this work from community college students but might not wish to change the official structure of their major. Others might permit this work as bona fide prerequisite work, but not

transfer it directly into the major. The goal of IMPAC is to aim for uniformity on the transfer of these units; but we recognize that some of these details will need to be worked out in the coming months.

The goal is to seek consensus on this recommendation by February, and put these policies in place in the spring of 2006.

Respectfully submitted,

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ITEM IX

**Minutes of the IMPAC for Religious Studies Meeting  
Millbrae, California (Westin SF Airport)  
21 January 2006, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.**

Notes taken by Joel Zimbelman, IMPAC Lead for Religious Studies

The following people attended the 21 January IMPAC Religious Studies meeting:

- Liora Gubkin, CSU Bakersfield
- Steve Jenkins, Humboldt State
- Chris Jochim, San Jose State
- Vivian Lee Nyitray, UC Riverside
- Eric Thompson, Santa Rosa Junior College
- Khaleed Mohammed, San Diego State
- Pamela Hood, San Francisco State
- Dan Barnett, Butte Community College
- Mohammed Azadpur, San Francisco State
- Richard Mahon, Riverside Community College
- Christine Jamshidnejad, Articulation Office, Diablo Valley College
- Joel Zimbelman, CSU, Chico

This was the second official meeting of the autonomous RS IMPAC project.

**Item 1:** Materials from previous meetings (a list of all RS programs in the CSUC and UC, together with contact persons; a list of all Community College religion courses offered along with departmental designations; and full program descriptions of all RS programs and majors in both the CSU and UC systems) were reviewed. Updated copies of these materials will be sent out to all participants.

**Item 2:** Richard Mahon and Joel Zimbelman provided an overview of the last RS IMPAC meeting and the consensus that was arrived at by the participants. At the November 2005 meeting, all participants supported the idea of implementing a nine-unit lower division transfer program from community colleges to the UC and CSU RS programs, though a formal vote or statewide consensus had not yet been arrived at. This would consist of two 9-unit options:

Asian Religions (3), Western religions (3), and a course titled Introduction to the Study of Religion (3).

An alternative track of nine units was also proposed, in light of the realities of what the community colleges are able at this time to teach: that track consisted of

Introduction to the Study of Religion(3), World religions (3), and one other course/elective (3).

**Item 3:** Mahon, Jochim, Gubkin, and Jenkins summarized the recent efforts of LDTP, the CSU/community college effort to determine a transfer protocol that would be accepted toward the BA degree in Religious Studies at CSU campuses. That meeting, which was held in December of 2005 and chaired by Richard Keady of SJSU, resulted in the CSU campus representatives officially approving a six-unit course protocol with two options:

- A course in Asian religions (3) and a course in Western religions (3)

or

- A course in World religions (3) and one other lower division elective in religious studies (3).

**Item 4:** The bulk of the meeting time focused on exploring the shape of a final IMPAC transfer recommendation for courses to RS programs in the CSUs and the UCs. There quickly emerged a desire to recommend the nine-unit transfer protocols put forth at the November 2005 meeting (see box above). Discussion of optimum names for the courses resulted in recommendations of World Religions; Judaism, Christianity and Islam or Abrahamic Religions (for Western Religions); Asian Religions; and Introduction to (the Study of) Religion. A vote to approve this recommendation was unanimous.

At the same time, and while affirming the work of the LDTP meeting, the participants at this meeting decided to approach LDTP and urge them to add an additional three-unit approved transfer course, Introduction to Religion or Introduction to the Study of Religion, to the two six-unit rubrics that they had developed and approved in December. There was a strong sense among our group that--given the nature of the discipline of RS, the mandate given to LDTP

to develop nine-units of viable transfer work, and the need to communicate the distinct nature of the academic and comparative study of religion to students--an Introduction to (the study of) Religion course ought to be included in the LDTP framework. Jochim and Zimbelman volunteered to contact Keady and other members of the LDTP group (including Paul Levesque) to see if they might consider such an amendment to their recommendation before it is voted on by various departments. Zimbelman also offered to develop a course description for the intro course, and to see if it might be accepted as friendly by LDTP. The goal of the intro course would not be to provide an exhaustive methodologies course, but rather to address the big questions about defining religion, exploring its dimensions and concrete expressions in a comparative way, and to "invite" students to a lifelong and further exploration of issues in religion. Content and rigor issues would need to be decisively addressed.

The proposals that this group supported were not meant to force the hand of CSU and UC departments to change the structure of their majors. However, there was strong agreement that the 19 extant programs in RS in the CSU and UC ought to seriously consider accepting the work done by transfer students from the community colleges. UC and CSU departments/programs would have the prerogative and responsibility to specify general content, pedagogical, and formal requirements (type and amount of writing, course objectives, etc.) for these classes. And this was not seen to preclude some UC/CSU departments/programs accepting other courses into their major program. However, the IMPAC proposal would establish both a baseline and a shared set of courses acceptable to all programs. Zimbelman volunteered to organize the effort to contact all departments as a followup to this meeting and register their support for these proposals.

Once agreement with LDTP and IMPAC proposals by CSU and UC RS programs is reached, Zimbelman offered to lead the effort to develop model syllabi for distribution to the community colleges (with input from programs and faculty representatives); and to seek funding for a series of ongoing workshops led by various RS faculty across all three systems that would help community college faculty develop these courses so that their students are well-prepared for the upper division work that they would be moving into at the CSU and UC campuses.

Participants also agreed that once a decision is made about which community college courses will be accepted on transfer to the RS programs in religious studies at CSU and UC campuses, a coordinated effort will need to be

undertaken to develop promotional material for students and to work with articulation officers at the community colleges to help in the smooth transfer of units. Christie Jamshidnejad volunteered to assist Zimbelman and others in developing an information brochure, advising sheet, or other helps so that students and faculty at community colleges, the UCs and the CSUs all have a better appreciation of how the Religious Studies IMPAC agreement works.

**Item 5:** The final goal of the participants was to reconcile the LDTP and IMPAC recommendations and attain consensus on these recommendations by all 19 RS programs in the CSU and UC by the Statewide IMPAC meeting, to be held in Los Angeles on Saturday 6 May 2006.

Respectfully submitted,

Joel Zimbelman, Ph.D.  
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1 TOM X

Introduction to Religion  
LDTP Descriptor

Draft 2.0 Zimbelman 4/10/06

A. Description

An introduction to the academic study of religion through an examination of the nature and function of religions in diverse cultures and societies. Analysis of important religious ideas and concepts and of various dimensions of religious expression and practice (sacred texts, ritual, art and music, the life and practices of religious communities) from the perspectives of several academic disciplines.

B. Recommended Preparation: No specific courses

C. Prerequisites: None

D. Minimum Unit Requirement: 3 semester units

E. Course Goals

The course Introduction to Religion presents scholarly interpretations of the world's religious traditions. It aims to contribute to essential literacy and a respect for diversity in the area of religion.

F. Student Learning Outcomes: Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

- Recognize why the idea of “religion” or “the religious” is important to individuals, cultures, and modern scholars. Examine religion as a personal experience and as a cultural and tradition-based phenomenon.
- Exhibit familiarity with how various believers, scholars, and critics have defined and understood religious experience and activity; with their explanations for religion's origins, purpose, and nature; and with contributions of selected academic disciplines (such as sociology, psychology, history, anthropology).
- Identify and critically and comparatively analyze a selection of concepts and themes that are central to the beliefs and practices of identified religions (such as the sacred, faith, belief, salvation, truth) and/or the intersections of these claims with such social issues as peace and violence, the environment, economic activity, women and religion, and sexuality).
- Be familiar with the ways in which religious belief and practice are expressed in symbols and myths, sacred texts, ritual practice, religious community, legal and ethical norms, and material culture (art, music, architecture). Recognize at least three of these dimensions in two different religious traditions.
- Students will gain familiarity with representative primary and important secondary sources in the field of religion; and have an opportunity for significant descriptive, reflective, and critical writing.

1 ITEM X)

Rebecca, thank you for your thoughts and attention to this issue. I'll copying a few other folks on this email as well, and in particular hope that Russ Abrams, Robert Maldonado, Paul Levesque, and Steve Jenkins will respond, since Richard Keady asked me to write to them personally.;

I think there are three issues that need to be front and center when a campus is voting for or against the proposal as sketched by LDTP and Richard Keady's proposed amendment. Let me take a shot at them.

The first thing to remember here is that LDTP is not attempting to impose any recs. that would force programs in the CSUC to change their programs--we really have no desire to do that. Our primary task is to create a coherent opening for CC students who want to do some RS work at their institutions and then transfer in to the CSUs without losing credits and in a way that they can bring some work with them that will get them started on their majors. Realistically, this means that if CSU campuses want to advance this goal, they will have to make some room for at least 9 units of lower division work. On some campuses this will not be a big deal, since students are either required to do such LD work according to the plan of the major; or there is some slack in the major to accomodate lower division, either as a prerequisite or as an elective. But note that the majors on a CSU campus don't need to be restructured just to accomodate these few (but hopefully a growing number of) students. Our desire would be for campuses to make accomodations for these students--in the same way they might make accomodations for students who transfer from other institutions; or from study abroad programs; or from another major that required some courses that seemed to support an RS major, etc.

Second, LDTP decided (correctly, I think), that it was important to specify some general contours/scope and content on these classes. Again, this is not a back door way of trying to get you to change your program, but rather a substance and quality control issue. Many CC programs have a few courses in RS, and they tend to be all over the place. But if you've worked with articulation in the past, you know that its near impossible sometimes to figure out what went on those courses; and in some cases they are weak; in other cases they are esoteric and play to fairly narrow intersts of instructors in the CCs. By specifying a set list of courses around which all CSUs could agree on for transfer, we make it easier for CC students to chose a curriculum that will be portable for any campus that they wish to apply to for an RS major. As campuses increase in size, impaction comes along on some campuses, prices in some urban centers price students out of attending, etc., this give students options for choosing programs that they would not otherwise have..

But, more importantly, the LDTP convention gives the CSUs (and the UCs, if they adopt a similar program for their campuses) a means to assist CCs in developing the sort of content driven and rigorous courses that we would all like to see. As Keady has suggested, an agreement on some courses would allow us to move to the next stage of actually meeting with and working with CC RS teachers to develop the sorts of curriculum that we would like to see and that would assure some level of success in CSU programs for CC students. The courses in the LDTP syllabus are a compromise and accomodation among 12 fairly independent programs in the CSU (and there are 8 more when you add the UCs). Until last year

none of us (that is, no one who teaches in a CSU or UC) even knew where in the systems RS programs existed. We found that lots of CCs offered "western" and "eastern" traditions courses; and many offered just the "world religions" option (the former two are more popular in programs in the UC and CSU). A few CCs offered the intro to the study of religion course, but not very many (but several CSU and UC programs offer this). For reasons I laid out in my earlier memo, there is a strong argument to offer an intro course into a discipline that has had identity problems for too long, though the content of that course will need serious discussion, negotiation, etc. Additionally, we needed to accomodate for awhile CC programs that don't offer very much in the way of traditions or the intro course; hence the "take another RS course if you can't make up 9 units from the above list."

So, I think that the best way to think about LDTP and a yes vote on Richard's revised recommendation is that it is a first step in bringing RS into the scope of viable and transferable work from the CCs to the CSUs; it tries to nudge CCs in some ways but recognizes that they have a ways to go in developing coherent programs that will be acceptable to four year institutions; and that there is a whole lot of work still to do in terms of shaping the content of these classes. My own feeling is that general guidelines on some reading and writing requirements, scope, and rigor expectations will be the best way to go, in part because, as you note with the intro course--content can be quite varied. We are a different sort of discipline than, say, chemistry, and I think this agreement reflects that.

I hope I've answered your questions, and that you'll consider supporting this proposal.

**I've printed Liora G's (Bakersfield) comments below as well, and my response to her concerns, so you can see where this conversation is going.**

Let me echo Richard's position. I would absolutely committed to changing this descriptor, which as it now stands is an interesting amalgamation of a philosophy or religion approach and a normative methodological angle. I think we can do much better in terms of coming to an agreement of what a good intro course could be. I chatted with Liora and others at the IMPAC meeting, and think that there is broad support for an intro course that would take a very different tack than what we now have on the books; and that would be a much more open, welcoming, and rigorous course. Indeed, part of the success of the broad undertaking we are embracing is to develop the descriptor by consensus. The flaw in LDTP is that they want descriptors before the courses are mandated. And that, I think, is the wrong way to go. I can only say that this descriptor should and will be set aside, either once the package is concluded, or as a promised precondition to its approval by CSU campuses. Joel Zimbelman, RS, CSUC, and IMPAC lead.

HERE IS LIORA'S EMAIL...

Dear Liora and Everyone:

I am in total agreement that the descriptor for the Introduction to Religion/Comparative Religions is inadequate. I would ask you, and others, to consider

1. approving the "Reconciliation Package" with this flaw with the clear understanding that the first order of business after the approval would be to organize a meeting of all interested to, among other things, craft a descriptor upon which we can all agree. I don't think that anyone has the intention of leaving that descriptor in place, or

2. Maybe we should simply delete the present descriptor and insert TBA. We could begin discussions in Claremont. This may get too complicated, but could we accept a provisional vote with the condition that we revisit the present descriptor of the Introduction to Religion/Comparative Religions course at a conference TBA???

What think ye???

Best regards,

RK

At 09:14 PM 3/1/2006, Dr. Liora Gubkin wrote:

>  
>  
>Dear Richard,  
>  
>  
>  
>As one of the two LDTP committee members who is also a participant in IMPAC,  
>I truly appreciate your efforts to reconcile the outcomes from the two  
>meetings. We are all interested, as you said, in creating a transfer  
>protocol that will benefit our students and our programs.  
>  
>  
>  
>The faculty at CSU, Bakersfield thoroughly discussed the proposal at our  
>last meeting. We agree with the promotion of a more-robust nine-unit  
>package. We are in favor of promoting the study of religion at the  
>community  
>colleges and want to support those efforts. Unfortunately, we cannot  
>accept  
>the Descriptor for "Introduction to Religion/Comparative Religions" as  
>described on page 9, which means we must vote against the  
>"Reconciliation  
>Package" as it currently stands.  
>  
>  
>  
>Our primary concern is the language of "religious truth" in Student  
>Learning  
>Outcomes a. and c. First, it seems to presume the existence of  
>"religious  
>truth." Moreover, it may even suggest that a student's own  
>"methodology"  
>gives him/her access to this truth. While this is certainly an  
>important  
>topic for Philosophy of Religion, our introductory classes often  
>bracket the

>question of "truth" and focus upon more generic, and less loaded,  
concepts  
>such as "worldview" and "meaning" to encourage students to see beyond  
their  
>own methodology and value the insights of other traditions.  
>  
>  
>  
>Student Learning Outcome c. is particularly problematic in our  
opinion. To  
>ask lower-division students, who likely have no prior exposure to the  
>academic discipline, to "evaluate conflicting claims to religious  
truth,"  
>especially in conjunction with SLO a. feeds into students' willingness  
to  
>judge their "truth claims" as right and others' as wrong, a real  
concern in  
>culturally conservative Bakersfield. Perhaps CSU campuses located  
elsewhere  
>will not have this issue, although given our current national,  
cultural  
>context, I doubt it.  
>  
>  
>  
>If memory serves correctly, one reason we did not include the intro  
course  
>in LDTP was concern that we would not be able to agree upon a  
Descriptor in  
>the meeting-time allotted. The RS faculty at Bakersfield are willing  
to  
>revisit a revised "Reconciliation Package" if the Descriptor can be  
amended  
>and re-circulated. I have cc'd everyone (including participants at  
LDTP and  
>IMPAC who do not have a vote on this proposal) regarding our concerns  
with  
>hope that we can agree upon a nine course package rather than default  
to the  
>December LDTP proposal.  
>  
>  
>  
>Sincerely,  
>  
>  
>  
>Liora Gubkin