TITLE: Introduction to Daoism

Sponsor(s): Yueru Wang
Asian Studies Program

DEPARTMENT: Philosophy & Religion
CLAS

If LAS-check: History/Humanities Social/Behavioral Sciences
Math/Science

UNDERGRADUATE GRADUATE

Minor changes to existing General Education course
Request new or existing course receive the following description:
Writing Intensive Literature
Multicultural-Global Lab Science
Changes to General Education requirements of a degree or program
New or Existing course to be placed in the General Education Bank:
Fine/Performing Arts LAS: Humanities
LAS: Social Behavior LAS: Math/Science
Communication Studies

Signatures Required: representing approval before submission to Office of the Senate

Department Chair:
Department CURRICULUM Chair:
Academic DEAN:

COLLEGE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE:
Open Hearing Date: Not Approved

Signature: College Curriculum Chair

Signature: SENATE CURRICULUM CHAIR

Comments:

Signature: Executive Vice President/Provost:

This approval is independent of approval of major

Signature: REGISTRAR

Course Description Received & Approved
Hegis Taxonomy & Course # REL 10,330

Date: 6/21/06

Notification Forward:

SCC CHAIR Academic Dean
IR Department Chair
CAP VP/Student Affairs
Registrar Other-
THIS FORM MUST BE COMPLETED FOR ALL CURRICULUM PROPOSALS
The purpose of this form is to provide a channel of communication between the Campbell Library
staff and faculty when changing and designing new courses/programs. The information will be
used to assess the resources available in the library, and to identify resources the library should
acquire to support the course/program. The information will also provide the rationale for
institutional support for library acquisitions. This form should be completed in a coordinated
effort between the course sponsor(s) and the academic department liaison librarian.

**Note:** Sponsor(s) complete parts A & B
If assistance is required to complete, please notify the librarian liaison.
Forward this form to the librarian who will complete parts C, D & E

**When form is completed, attach to the original curriculum proposal before submitting to**
the Senate office.

A. **College:** Liberal Arts & Sciences  
   **Department:** Philosophy

   **Proposed by:** YOUQU WANG  
   **Date:** 1/25/2006

   **COURSE TITLE:** Introduction to Daoism

   **Anticipated Date for Course/Program Offering:** Spring 2007

B. **List specific resources that should be acquired to support this course.**

   Journal of Chinese Religion: one issue each year

C. **Describe the resources available in the library to support this course/program, including**
   reference, monographic, electronic databases, audio-visual materials, etc. A summary
   statement is sufficient.

   22 books on Asian Philosophy related to Daoism
   17 books on Asian Religions related to Daoism
   45 books on Daoism including major texts of Daoism and survey books

D. **List key periodicals available in the library to support this course/program.**

   History of Religions
   Dao: A Journal of Comparative Philosophy
   Journal of Asian Studies
   Journal of Chinese Philosophy

E. **Librarian comments & recommendations:**

   We could always order more materials for this course when it is necessary.

**LIBRARIAN LIAISON:** Sharon Shum
**Signature:**

**Cynthia Mullens**
Major Curricular Change
New Course: Introduction to Daoism
Course Syllabus

REL10.330
Introduction to Daoism
3 s.h.

1. Details:

   A. Course Title: Introduction to Daoism

   B. Sponsor: Dr. Youru Wang, Department of Philosophy and Religion, Asian Studies Program

   C. Credit Hours: 3

   D. Course Level: Undergraduate

   E. Curricular Effect: This mid-level course will increase the choices available to students for the academic study of religion. As the department is proposing its major in philosophy and religion studies, the offering of such a course increases the midlevel offerings available to our students, and helps to bridge the gap between our entry level courses and our upper level selected topics and senior seminar courses. It is one of three courses we are proposing that provide introductions to major world religions. This course will contribute to the Asian Studies Program at Rowan, meeting the increasing demand of students. It will add to the variety of multicultural/global offerings. Finally, it will be available to all students as a humanities elective, as long as its prerequisite is fulfilled.

   F. Prerequisites: Religions of Asia, or Religions of the World

   G. Implementation:

      1. Time of implementation: A pilot version of this course will be offered in the Spring of 2007.

      2. Scale of implementation: Probably one section a year will meet the needs of students in the Philosophy and Religion major, as well as students in the Asian Studies Concentration and others who wish to take it as a free or non-program elective.

   H. Adequacy:

      1. Staffing: The sponsor of this course, Professor Youru Wang, specializes in the study of Daoism.
2. Library facilities and holdings, and other relevant resources: The library's collection, including many titles ordered by the Philosophy and Religion Department over the past ten years, and supplemented by future additions, continues to need upgrading, but will support this course.

3. Space needs: One classroom with blackboard, electronic facilities and seating for twenty-five students will be needed each time the class is offered.

II. Rationale:

Nationwide there is a growing interest in the thought and practice of Daoism as more religion departments are now offering this course to students. Every year some students ask when this course will be offered at Rowan after they take the course Religions of Asia. This course will provide a basis not only for the academic study of this important Asian religion in its Asian context but also for the understanding of the way it has inspired ecological concern, a non-violent approach, and holistic perspectives on the world in a contemporary global context. A course like this will be necessary for the study of Asian culture including Asian history, arts, literature and philosophy, as well as for the study of world religions including the comparative study of Asian and Western religions, religion and self-healing, religion and tolerance, and religion and ecology.

III. Essence of the Course:

A. Objectives: The general objective of this course is to help students to acquire basic knowledge about Daoism, to examine the teachings and ideas of different Daoist schools, and to observe their practices.

B. Course Content:
Primary: (1) Survey of the ideological and practical development from Daoism's early founders Laozi and Zhuangzi to the later schools of more institutionalized Daoism;
   (2) Survey of the interaction between Daoism and various indigenous cultural traditions; Daoist influence on Chinese and East Asian cultures
   (3) A focus on two foundational texts of Daoism: the Dao De Jing and the Book of Zhuangzi
Secondary: (4) Survey of the interaction between Daoism and Western thought;
   (5) Daoism and the modern world;
   (6) Daoism and the arts, Daoism and self-healing, Daoism and non-violence, Daoism and ecology, etc.

C. Evaluation and Grading Procedures:
Variable, including such methods as tests, papers, and student presentations.

D. Course Evaluation:
This course will be reevaluated by the Philosophy/Religion department in each of the first two years it is offered and thereafter in the department's regular periodic review of its offerings. The review will take into account student evaluations of the course, reactions to the course from various other departments, and the views of the instructors who have taught the course.

IV. Results of Consultations: None needed.
Catalog Description
New Course: Introduction to Daoism 3 sh
REL10.330
This course introduces students to the central teachings and practices of Daoism, from its early founders Laozi and Zhuangzi to its interactions with the modern West. Instructional methods include observation of Daoist practice as well as study of Daoist scriptures.

Prerequisites: REL 10.230 or REL 10.200