

Approval Chart for Curriculum Changes

A = Approve I= Information Item¹ R= Advise & Respond²

Course Number PSYC 348 or Degree Plan(s) _____

State the requested change and reason. A memo may be attached if more space is necessary.

For years, the Department of Psychology has wanted to create a course that explicitly integrates faith and learning. The lack of such a course has been one of the most egregious omissions in our degree plan given the mission of ACU and our Department.

Creating and offering PSYC 348 Psychology and Christianity is the culmination of that objective.

Circle the number that corresponds to the requested change. Degree plan changes are on the second page.

		COUNCIL ³								
	Change to a Course	Dept./School	College Academic	Deans	TEC	UGEC	UUAC	GRAD	Provost	President
1.	Title (description unchanged)	A	A	A	I				I	I
2.	Description (not affecting content)	A	A	A	I				I	I
3.	Course term(s)	A	I	A	I				I	I
4.	Content (substantive change)	A	A	A	I				A	A
5.	Number of hours (lecture, lab, contact)	A	A	A	A				A	A
6.	Course number within the hundred	A	A	I	I				I	I
7.	Course number beyond the hundred	A	A	A	A				A	A
8.	Prerequisites	A	A	A	I				I	I
9.	Course fee(s)	A	--	A	--				A	I
10.	From U to G <i>or</i> G to U	A	A	A	A				A	A
11.	Cross list with another department: U or G level	A	A	A	A				A	A
12.	Department of record	A	A	A	A				A	A
13.	Open or close a course	A	A	A	A				A	A
14.	New course — See website for application and process. This change includes combining or splitting a course(s).	A	A	A	A				A	A

Note: When an academic unit does not have a council, the UGEC and/or UUAC will serve as its academic council, depending on the nature of the issue.

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COUNCIL ³																		
	Change to a Degree Plan	Dept./School	College Academic	Deans	TEC	UGEC	UUAC	GRAD	Provost	Faculty	President	Board of Trustees						
1.	University Requirements — Change in approved course content ⁶	A	A	A	A				A	--	A	--						
2.	University Requirements — Add or drop a required course from the University Requirements chart ⁶	A	A	A	A				A	A	A	--						
3.	University Requirements — Add or drop a course from a menu within the University Requirements ⁶	A	--	--	A				A	--	A	--						
4.	University Requirements — Change hours within a menu on the University Requirements chart ⁶	A	A	A	A				A	A	A	--						
5.	Major — Revision of major ^{4,5}	A	A	A	A				A	--	A	--						
6.	Major — Adopt or change admission requirements	A	A	A	A				A	--	A	--						
7.	Major — Add ^{4,5}	A	A	A	A				A	A	A	I						
8.	Major – Discontinue (proposed by the department or college)	A	A	A	A				A	A	A	I						
9.	Major – Discontinue (proposed by the Provost)	See below.																
10.	GPA — Revise major or cumulative requirement	A	A	A	A				A	A	A	--						
11.	Minor — Revise course selection	A	A	A	I				I	--	I	--						
12.	Minor — Add	A	A	A	A				A	--	A	--						
13.	Minor – Discontinue (proposed by the department or college)	A	A	A	A				A	--	A	--						
14.	Minor – Discontinue (proposed by the Provost)	See below.																
15.	Degree — Add	A	A	A	A				A	A	A	I						
16.	Degree – Discontinue (proposed by the department or college)	A	A	A	A				A	A	A	I						
17.	Degree – Discontinue (proposed by the Provost)	See below.																
18.	Any change to a graduate degree program	A	A	A	A				A	--	A	--						

COUNCIL ³									
Board of Trustees	President	Faculty	Graduate	UAC	TEC	Dean	Department	Provost	Provost-Proposed Change
I	A	A	A			R	R	A	1. Major/Graduate Program – Discontinue (proposed by the Provost)
--	A	--	A			R	R	A	2. Minor – Discontinue (proposed by the Provost)
I	A	A	A			R	R	A	3. Degree – Discontinue (proposed by the Provost)

Approval Chart for Curriculum Changes

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COUNCIL ³										
	Change to the Catalog Information	Dept./School	College Academic	Deans	UGEC	UUAC	GRAD	Provost	Faculty	President
1.	General requirements for graduation including course requirements that are common to all majors for all degrees ⁷	--	--	--	A			A	A	A
2.	Admission requirements	--	--	--	A			A	A	A
3.	Policies governing academic probation and suspension	--	--	--	A			A	A	A
4.	Requirements for graduating with honors	--	--	--	A			A	A	A
5.	Other academic policy changes	--	--	--	A			A	--	A

¹ Councils may request additional information about “Information” items. These items are approved as “Consent Agenda.”

² The Dean and Department should respond to the Provost’s recommendation to close a program in writing. Advise & Respond (R) requires that the voting body should receive the written responses at least one week prior to the vote.

³ All courses that meet University Requirements for general education must go through UGEC. Courses or degrees offered only to students seeking teacher certification must go through the Teacher Education Council. All undergraduate changes must go before the UUAC. All graduate degree plan changes must go through the Graduate Council.

⁴ A minimum of 30 hours is required for a major. A maximum is specified for each degree (e.g., BA, BS). The university minimum for elective hours is 6, unless the requirements of external accrediting bodies make it impossible.

⁵ Program or course changes that apply to any major that includes Teacher Certification will be reviewed by the college, the Teacher Education Council (TEC), and then the UUAC.

⁶ Courses that satisfy ACU’s University Requirements (General Education) will normally have lower-level numbering, be free of prerequisites and co-requisites, appeal to more than one or two majors, and “not narrowly focus on those skills, techniques, and procedures specific to a particular occupation or profession” (SACS 2.7.3). Departments may request exceptions to the first three criteria.

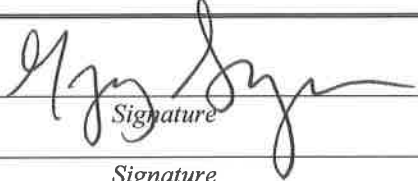
⁷ The UUAC approved the clarification that “general requirements for graduation” means the enumerated items in the “General Requirements for Bachelor’s Degrees” section of the catalog.

Revised 3-8-17

Curriculum/Catalog Changes Signature Page

 _____ <i>Signature</i>	Department/School Chair(s) _____ <i>Signature</i>	 9/10/2018 _____ <i>Approval date</i>
_____ <i>Signature</i>	_____ <i>Signature</i>	_____ <i>Approval date</i>

 _____ <i>Signature</i>	College Academic Council(s) _____ <i>Signature</i>	 11-2-2018 _____ <i>Approval date</i>
_____ <i>Signature</i>	_____ <i>Signature</i>	_____ <i>Approval date</i>

 _____ <i>Signature</i>	Dean(s) _____ <i>Signature</i>	 11/7/18 _____ <i>Approval date</i>
_____ <i>Signature</i>	_____ <i>Signature</i>	_____ <i>Approval date</i>

Teacher Education Council		
_____ <i>Chair's signature</i>	_____ <i>Signature</i>	_____ <i>Approval date</i>

General Education Council		
_____ <i>Chair's signature</i>	_____ <i>Signature</i>	_____ <i>Approval date</i>

Undergraduate Academic Council		
_____ <i>Chair's signature</i>	_____ <i>Signature</i>	_____ <i>Approval date</i>

Graduate Council		
_____ <i>Chair's signature</i>	_____ <i>Signature</i>	_____ <i>Approval date</i>

Provost		
_____ <i>Signature</i>	_____ <i>Signature</i>	_____ <i>Approval date</i>

Faculty		
_____ <i>Chair of faculty senate</i>	_____ <i>Signature</i>	_____ <i>Approval date</i>

President		
_____ <i>Signature</i>	_____ <i>Signature</i>	_____ <i>Approval date</i>

Application for a New Course v10.6

Course ID <i>Subject and Number</i>	PSYC 348
Date APPROVED	
Date DENIED	

I. Systems and Catalog Information Complete each item.

1	Course Developer	Richard Beck
2	Course Teacher	Richard Beck
3	Course Title	Psychology and Christianity
4	Course Abbreviation (if title is over 30 characters)	
5	College	College of Arts and Sciences
6	Department	Psychology
7	Number of Credit Hours	3
8a.	Number of contact hours - lecture	3
8b.	Number of contact hours – lab/activity	NA
9	Is the course for a fixed or variable number of credit hours?	Fixed
10	Explanation for variable credit	NA
11	Is the course repeatable for additional credit?	No
12	Maximum total number of credit hours a student can earn for this course	3
13	What type of course is this? (Select one. Please see Schedule Type definitions above.)	☒ Traditional lecture ☐ Traditional lab ☐ Traditional lecture/lab ☐ Experiential Learning ☐ Seminar ☐ Studio ☐ Thesis ☐ Dissertation

14	Instructor Workload	3 Hours
15	Grade Mode (check all appropriate):	☒ Standard ☐ Credit/No Credit (undergrad only)
16	Maximum Enrollment	40
17	Catalog Description (50 words or less)	A selected survey of the psychological dynamics associated and involved with Christian experience, belief, and practice.
18	List any prerequisites (course/s, test scores, class standing, major, etc.)	NA
19	List any co-requisites	NA
20	If the course is cross listed, specify the Course ID(s); MUST have signature in Section V from all Department Chairs	NA
21	Does this course have any special student costs?	☒ No ☐ Yes (If yes, must attach a <u>completed</u> "Request to Add or Change Course Fees" form. Describe in section IV-F.)
22a	How frequently will the course be offered in the Fall ? All, even or odd years?	Every Fall semester.
22b	How frequently will the course be offered in the Spring ? All, even or odd years?	Every Spring semester.
22c	How frequently will the course be offered in the Summer ? All, even or odd years?	No Summer offerings.
23	First semester this course will be offered <i>New courses may not be taught under their approved course ID until they appear in the catalog, therefore, no earlier than the coming fall.</i>	Fall 2019
24	List course/s that should be deleted, (Also, include the last semester for course/s being deleted) <i>A course cannot be deleted when it is a requirement in a degree plan in any department.</i>	NA

25	Is this course required for a degree/s? <i>If "Yes," attach a revised degree plan(s) reflecting the placement of the new course.</i>	☒ No ☐ Yes
26	Should the addition of this course be retroactively applied to the degree plan it supports?	☒ No ☐ Yes Explanation:
27	Has this course been offered as a Special Topics course?	☐ No ☒ Yes PSYC 340 Special Topics: Psychology and Christianity. Spring 18 (enrollment 39), Fall 18 (enrollment 36).
28	List any courses in which the content overlaps the proposed course. (Course ID and Name) <i>Attach a statement from the instructor/dept chair of the existing course justifying the new offering in Section IV-D.</i>	No overlap with existing ACU courses.

II. Curriculum

1	Degree Plan Explanation of how this course affects degree requirements.	The course will be an elective offering for Psychology majors and minors.
2	Justification State the justification for adding this course to the current curriculum. Represent the need.	For years, the Psychology Department has desired to offer a course explicitly engaged in the integration of faith and learning. PSYC 348 creates that experience and opportunity.

III. Course Design

1. Audience and Course Goal

1	Describe the intended audience, including prerequisite skills.	PSYC 348 will be an elective offering intended for psychology majors and minors interested in the integration of faith and psychology. However, while designed for psychology majors/minors the course is open to all students interested in exploring how psychological factors affect the experiences, beliefs and practices of individual Christians and Christian faith communities. No prerequisite skills are required.
2	State the overarching course goal(s) in performance terms.	Upon completion of the course students will be able to identify psychological dynamics at work in Christian populations and apply those insights to promote well-being within those communities.

2. Competencies and Measurements

	Competency	Measurement
1	To illustrate and apply social scientific methodology to the study of Christian experience, belief, and practice.	Participation, Reading Assignments, Unit Test
2	To identify, examine, and critically evaluate psychological dynamics associated with Christian experience, belief, and practice.	Participation, Reading Assignments, Unit Test
3	To apply psychological insights to promote spiritual, social, and emotional well-being.	Participation, Reading Assignments, Unit Test

3. Text and Resources

1. Give the full publication information of the textbook/s and other required resources and outside readings.

Johnson, E. L., Myers, D. G., Jones, S. L., Roberts, R. C., Watson, P. J., Coe, J. C., . . . Powlison, D. (2010). *Psychology & Christianity: Five Views*. Downers Grove: IVP Academic.

07/01/2016

Beck, R. A. (2011). *Unclean: Meditations on Purity, Hospitality, and Morality*. Eugene, OR: Cascade Books.

Beck, R. A. (2012). *The Authenticity of Faith: The Varieties and Illusions of Religious Experience*. Abilene, TX: Abilene Christian University Press.

Additional readings will be assigned and provided by the professor.

IV. Supporting Documentation

Supporting documents must accompany proposal prior to preliminary approval by chair and dean.

1	Library — Submit new course application and syllabus to the Dean of the Library. Consult with the director and establish a deadline for completion of the library report. Attach the signed copy of the Library report.
2	Instructional Design — The application and syllabus must be reviewed by the Adams Center. Attach a copy of the Adams Center Review Letter.
3	Content Overlap — Include one document for each course you listed in Section I-I. Attach statement from instructor/dept chair of existing course justifying the new offering.
4	Departmental Resources — List the resources that support the course and are available only through the department, if applicable. Attach the list of the holdings and the location/s.
5	Resources — List resources (other than library or departmental resources) that are needed to support this course (computers, lab equipment, other technology, etc.). Attach a complete list of all items and indicate possible sources or estimated cost of each. List the sources of any needed funds.
6	Expenses — List additional expenses needed to implement this course (full-time or part-time faculty, graduate or lab assistants, student employees, travel, special student costs, room renovation, storage facility, etc.). Attach a complete list of all items, the estimated cost of each and the source of the funds.
7	Justification — Attach all documents referred to in Section II-2
8	Syllabus — Attach the syllabus for the course based upon the anticipated first-semester offering.
9	Provide documentation for all additional attachments here

V. Preliminary Approvals

All supporting documentation has been assembled and attached to this application. I believe this course is ready to be presented to appropriate councils. We have a plan to fund this new course.

Course Number and Name: **PSYC 348 Psychology and Christianity**

Primary Department



Department Chair
Dean of the College

9/6/18

Date

Date

Cross-listing Department *Add more lines if multiple departments are cross-listing*

Department Chair
Dean of the College

Date

Date

Cross-listing Department *Add more lines if multiple departments are cross-listing*

Department Chair
Dean of the College

Date

Date

VI. Actions *Place all actions on one page.*

Course ID: PSYC 348

Course Title: Psychology and Christianity

1. College Academic Council: (for all courses)

Note: Insert additional lines for College Academic Council action for each college involved in cross-listed courses.

Approved ☒ Denied ☐  Date 11/7/18
College Dean or Director

Approved ☐ Denied ☐ _____ Date _____
College Dean or Director

2. Graduate Council: (for graduate level courses)

Approved ☐ Denied ☐ _____ Date _____
Dean of Graduate School

3. Teacher Education Council: (when applicable)

Approved ☐ Denied ☐ _____ Date _____
TEC Chair

4. University General Education Council: (when applicable)

Approved ☐ Denied ☐ _____ Date _____
Provost's designee

5. University Undergraduate Academic Council: (*undergraduate level courses*)

Approved ☐ Denied ☐ _____ Date _____
Vice Provost

6. Academic Provost: (for all courses)

Approved ☐ Denied ☐ _____ Date _____
Provost

7. President of the University: (for all courses)

Approved ☐ Denied ☐ _____ Date _____
President

Attach notes, comments, or conditions from appropriate councils:

PSYC 348

Psychology and Christianity

Course Information:

Course number and title: PSYC 348 Psychology and Christianity

Credit Hours: 3 Hours

Semester and Year: Every Fall and Spring

Meeting Time and Place: TBA

Prerequisites/corequisites: N/A

Professor Information:

Professor's name, title, rank: Richard Beck, PhD, Professor

Office location: McK 120

Phone number: 674.2310

E-mail: beckr@acu.edu

Office hours/Contact expectations: TBA

Mission Statements:

ACU Mission: The mission of Abilene Christian University is to educate students for Christian service and leadership throughout the world.

College Mission: The mission of the College of Arts and Sciences is to engage students with humanity's greatest ideas to create understanding, apply insights, and serve the world as Christian thinkers and problem solvers.

Department Mission: The mission of the Abilene Christian University Psychology Department is equipping students with psychological science and practice for Christian service and leadership throughout the world.

Unique Christian Perspective

As an exploration of the intersections of psychology with Christianity, PSYC 348 is explicitly engaged in the integration of faith and learning. Most importantly, one of the course competencies of PSYC 348 is the promotion of spiritual, emotional, and social well-being in Christian communities.

Course Content:

Catalog description: A selected survey of the psychological dynamics associated and involved with Christian experience, belief, and practice.

Intended audience: PSYC 348 is an elective offering intended for psychology majors and minors interested in the integration of faith and psychology. However, while designed for psychology majors/minors the course is open to all students

interested in exploring how psychological factors affect the experiences, beliefs and practices of individual Christians and Christian faith communities.

Format of Class: PSYC 348 is a fully face-to-face course that meets every Tuesday and Thursday. The format is discussion-based lecture with weekly reading assignments.

Outline of Topics: The course will cover three main topics, each assessed by readings, class participation, and a unit test. The first topic is an exploration of Christian religious experience, with a particular focus on mysticism (experiences of transcendence and awe) and attachment to God (the personal love relationship with God). The second topic explores the intersections of existential psychology with Christianity, with a particular focus on how anxiety is managed in healthy and unhealthy ways within Christian populations. The third topic explores the intersections of Christianity with social psychology, with a particular focus on healthy and unhealthy ways Christian communities respond to out-group members.

Required Textbooks:

James, William. (1985). *The Varieties of Religious Experience*. New York, NY: Penguin Books.

Beck, R. A. (2011). *Unclean: Meditations on Purity, Hospitality, and Morality*. Eugene, OR: Cascade Books.

Beck, R. A. (2012). *The Authenticity of Faith: The Varieties and Illusions of Religious Experience*. Abilene, TX: Abilene Christian University Press.

Additional readings will be posted in Canvas as assigned/provided by the professor.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of the course students should be able to identify psychological dynamics at work in Christian populations and apply those insights to promote well-being within those communities. Specifically, the course competencies include:

Competencies:	Measurements:
To illustrate and apply social scientific methodology to the study of Christian experience, belief, and practice.	Participation, Reading Assignments, Unit Test
To identify, examine, and critically evaluate psychological dynamics associated with Christian experience, belief, and practice.	Participation, Reading Assignments, Unit Test
To apply psychological insights to promote spiritual, social, and emotional	Participation, Reading Assignments, Unit Test

well-being.	
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Grading and Assessment of Course Competencies:

Readings (20% of Final Grade):

Each lecture will have associated course readings (chapters from required texts and selected articles provided on canvas). Each reading assignment is 5 points. For full credit each reading assignment must be complete and submitted on Canvas prior to the start of the lecture the day the assignment is due.

Readings that are submitted late are penalized 3 points. Readings submitted after the next test will receive a grade of zero.

The content of each entry will include the following: 1) a 50-100 word summary of the reading (two points), 2) a list and description of two important ideas/concepts/definitions from the reading (two points), and 3) a single sentence finishing this stem: "The thing I'd like to talk about most in this reading is..." (one point).

Unit Tests (70% of Grade):

There will be three tests during the semester. Tests will include definitions, short answer and short essay. Tests will be graded with a percentage grade (0% to 100%). The third test is a cumulative.

Attendance and Class Participation (10% of Grade):

Every class you will be given opportunities to apply the concepts discussed in the readings and lectures. Consequently, class attendance and participation are essential to demonstrate your competency in the course objectives.

Final Grading:

A = 100%-90%, B = 89%-80%, C = 79%-70%, D = 69%-60%, F = 59%-0%

University Policies:

ADA compliance:

Abilene Christian University is dedicated to removing barriers and opening access for students with disabilities in compliance with ADA and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. The Alpha Scholars Program facilitates disability accommodations in cooperation with instructors. In order to receive accommodations, you must be registered with Alpha Scholars Program, and you must complete a specific request for each class in which you need accommodations. If you have a documented disability and wish to discuss academic accommodations, please call 325-674-2667.

Academic integrity:

Academic integrity is defined as academic work completed as assigned for each class by the individual or group responsible for the work. Violations of academic integrity and other forms of cheating involve the intention to deceive, mislead, or misrepresent and therefore, are a form of lying. Such actions are contrary to behavioral norms that flow from the nature of God. Academic misconduct includes, but is not limited to, the following: 1) Failure to give credit to sources used in a work in an attempt to present the work as one's own, 2) Submission of papers or projects obtained from another source (e.g., research service or club paper file) as one's own, and 3) Falsifying information orally or in writing. Academic misconduct may result in, but is not limited to, a zero on the assignment and/or an F in the course. Additionally, the department chair, Dean of your school, and the Dean of Student Life will be notified. See the full university policy, including how to appeal a decision, by following [this link](#).

Harassment policy:

As a Christian community, Abilene Christian University has committed itself, unequivocally, to ensuring a working and learning environment in which the dignity of every individual is respected. Harassment is defined as unwelcome behavior or conduct based on sex, religion, race, age, color, national origin, veteran's status, disability, or any other characteristic protected by law when (1) submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's employment, education, or participation in University programs or activities, (2) submission to, or rejection of, such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for a decision affecting an individual's employment, education, or participation in University programs or activities, or (3) such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work or academic performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment for work, education, or participation in a University program or activity. See the full university policy by following [this link](#).

Course policies:**Attendance and tardiness:**

Attendance in this course is required. If you are absent for 20% or more of the course (6 or more classes), you will automatically receive an "F."

If you arrive within 10 minutes after class has begun, you will be counted tardy. Three tardies are equal to one absence. Arriving 10 minutes after class has begun constitutes an absence.

Participation:

You are expected to be active participants each class period, taking notes, participating in class discussions, and completing assigned tasks. If off-task behavior becomes a distraction to other students or the professor, you may be marked absent despite being in attendance that day.

PSYC 348

Course Calender

Week	Topics:	Required Textbook Reading for Unit:	Unit Tests
	Unit 1: Christian Religious Experience	<i>The Varieties of Religious Experience</i>	
Week 1	Religious Experience and Mysticism		
Week 2	Attachment to God		
Week 3	Summer and Winter Christianity		Unit 1 Test
	Unit 2: Christianity and Existential Psychology	<i>The Authenticity of Faith</i>	
Week 4	Freud and the Existential Critique of Religion		
Week 5	The Denial of Death: Ernest Becker and Terror Management Theory		
Week 6	Trade Off Theory: Defensive vs. Existential Faith		
Week 7	Cultivating an Eccentric Faith		Unit 2 Test
	Unit 3: Christianity and Social Psychology	<i>Unclean</i>	
Week 8	The Will to Embrace: God as Stranger and hospitality as an affectional capacity		
Week 9	Emotional Barriers to Hospitality: Sociomoral Disgust		
Week 10	Emotional Barriers to Hospitality: Shame		
Week 11	The Psychology of Spiritual Formation: You are What You Love		
Week 12	Hospitality as Spiritual Formation		
Week 13	Social Psychology and the Principalities and Powers		
Week 14	The Lucifer Effect		
Week 15	The Social Psychology of Idolary		Unit 3 Test

September 4, 2018

Dr. Richard Beck
beckr@acu.edu
(325)6742310

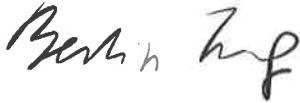
Re: Review of PSYC348

Dear Dr. Beck,

Thank you for submitting the syllabus for PSYC348: Psychology and Christianity. I have reviewed it based on the ACU Syllabus Guidelines and found that it meets all the requirements in the guidelines.

Please note that this letter is not meant to be a final approval in the course application process. Instead it is intended as a reference, which will be read by your department chair and members of the council, who may have questions or comments of their own.

If you have any questions, please feel free to let me know. Please also let us at the Adams Center know if we can be of any help as you design this course.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Berni Huff". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Director of Instructional Design
Adams Center

ABILENE CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

LIBRARY

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: September 10, 2018
TO: Dr. Richard Beck
FROM: Mark McCallon, Associate Dean for Library Information Services
RE: Course Application for PSYC 348 – Psychology and Christianity

After reviewing the course application and syllabus, the Library can support the proposed course. Please contact Melinda Isbell (mgil2a@acu.edu), Liaison to the Department of Psychology, if additional resources are needed to support the proposed course. Thank you for letting us review the course proposal.