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LSC: App-5/1/14

UWUCC: App-9/2/14

Senate: App-10/7/14

REVISION APPROVAL COVER SHEET FOR CONTINUATION OF W-DESIGNATION

TYPE I PROFESSOR COMMITMENT

Professor Stuart Chandler

Department Religious Studies

Email chandler@iup.edu

Please provide answers to these questions on the next page:

1. List up to three of the W courses that you have taught since your appointment as a Type I professor.
2. Using your most recent W course, discuss what the writing activities are intended to accomplish. You do not need to describe the amount of writing, frequency of assignments or fill out the summary chart for writing assignments.

Approvals:	Signature	Date
Professor (s)	<i>Stuart Chandler</i>	April 15, 2014
Department Chair	<i>Stuart Chandler</i>	April 15, 2014
College Dean	<i>Ann</i>	4/19/14
Director of Liberal Studies	<i>D. H. Smith</i>	5/1/14
UWUCC Co-chair(s)	<i>Gail Sedquist</i>	9/2/14

Received

APR 22 2014

Liberal Studies

TYPE I PROFESSOR COMMITMENT

PROFESSOR Stuart Chandler

DEPARTMENT Religious Studies

List up to three of the W courses that you have taught since your appointment as a Type I professor.

RLST 220 Buddhist Thought and Practice

RLST 373 Advanced Studies in Buddhism--Buddhist Scriptures

RLST 480 480 (H) Religion and U.S. Law

Using your most recent W course, discuss what the writing activities are intended to accomplish. You do not need to describe the amount of writing, frequency of assignments or fill out the summary chart for writing assignments. +

Writing Assignments: Advanced Studies in Buddhism--Buddhist Scriptures

Class Discussion Essays

Classes often begin with students spending approximately twenty minutes writing a brief essay on a topic that deals with the reading assigned for that week. Some such essays are written without consulting the text, others are open book. Alternatively, the assignment is sent to students via email the day before class so that each student can write the essay at home. These assignments have three goals: encourage students to keep up with the assigned reading; furnish starting points for class discussions; provide very controlled writing exercises to help students develop analytic and synthetic skills.

Short Essays

Over the course of the semester, students write four three-page essays. Each essay analyzes a text that has been assigned for class. A student may either expand upon thoughts initially developed for an in-class essay or develop a topic of his or her choice. These assignments are intended to guide students in doing very close readings of particular passages so as to provide persuasive exegeses.

Thesis

This extended essay is intended to teach students how comparative research is conducted and presented in writing in the Study of Religion. Students are guided in finding, analyzing, and comparing appropriate materials, devising a thesis, and providing evidence supporting that thesis. Comparative analysis is a very commonly used form of writing in the Study of Religion and hence it is crucial for students to grasp how such essays are constructed. Students are taught not only how to conduct textual research, but how to use appropriate scholarly language in writing their essays.