CURRICULUM PROPOSAL COVER SHEET
University-Wide Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

LSC Use Only	UWUCC Use Only
Number _129_	Number _____
Action _____	Action _____
Date _____	Date _____

I. TITLE/AUTHOR OF CHANGE
COURSE/PROGRAM TITLE _RS 312 ARCHAEOLOGY AND THE BIBLE *_
DEPARTMENT _PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES_
CONTACT PERSON _R. THOMAS SCHAUB_

* Shortened Title .... Attention: New Title

II. THIS COURSE IS BEING PROPOSED FOR:
_____ Course Approval Only
_____ Course Approval and Liberal Studies Approval
__✓__ Liberal Studies Approval only (course previously has been
approved by the University Senate)

III. APPROVALS

Shawn Montgomery   3-8-90   _Shawn Montgomery_
Department Curriculum Committee   Department Chairperson

Rachel Fairya   _Rachel Fairya_ 3/28/90
College Curriculum Committee   College Dean*

Charles Coston 4-5-90
Director of Liberal Studies   Provost
(where applicable)   (where applicable)

*College Dean must consult with Provost before approving
curriculum changes. Approval by College Dean indicates that the
proposed change is consistent with long range planning documents,
that all requests for resources made as part of the proposal can
be met, and that the proposal has the support of the university
administration.

IV. TIMETABLE

Date Submitted   Semester/Year to be   Date to be published
to LSC _____   implemented ASAP in Catalog _ASAP_
to UWUCC _____

Revised 5/88   [Attach remaining parts of
                                      proposal to this form.]

COURSE SYLLABUS

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

RS 312 Archaeology and the Bible   3 credits

An investigation of religio-historical traditions of the Bible in light of archaeological research. Will include study of archaeological method and interpretation, and discoveries in Egypt, Mesopotamia and Syro-Palestine as background for understanding the traditions and religious practices and beliefs of Israel. Special topics include the Patriarchal narratives, the Exodus and Conquest, Israel under David and Solomon, the Dead Sea Scrolls and the Spread of Christianity in the Roman world.

II. COURSE OBJECTIVES

On completion of the course the student should:

1. Be familiar with the broad historical and cultural setting of the Ancient Near east as background for understanding the biblical traditions.

2. Recognize the importance of the major discoveries of ancient written texts and the impact of these texts on the interpetation of the Bible.

3. Understand the basic methods and interdisciplinary role of archaeology as well as its limitations in solving questions of historical and religious traditions.

4. Be able to critically evaluate accounts of archaeological discoveries and distinguish approaches which attempt to use archaeology to prove the Bible from those which are intended to illustrate or contribute to an understanding of the biblical traditions.

III. COURSE OUTLINE

A. The Ancient Near East (3 lectures)

   1. Egypt
   2. Mesopotamia
   3. Syro-Palestine

B. Writing and Language Systems (3 lectures)

   1. The Biblical Documents
   2. Major discoveries and their interpretations

C. History of Palestinian Archaeology (2 lectures)

D. Methodology (2 lectures)

   1. Development of archaeological methods
   2. Interdisciplinary approaches

E. Archaeology and the Hebrew Scriptures (22 lectures)