



# WESTMONT

## Faculty Position Request Form

(Used for requesting a new faculty position or filling a vacant position)

Department: Religious Studies

Submitted by: Helen Rhee

Date: September 24, 2021

Nature of request:

This is a request for a new faculty position (addition) in the department.

This is a request to fill a vacancy.

Who is the faculty member leaving or retiring? Bill Nelson

Rationale: On a separate page, please briefly describe the curricular need for this faculty position, including benefit to the department if the position is filled and the negative impact if it is not.

Additional documents needed:

(a) Please complete the table on the next page listing courses the person will teach and the enrollment in these courses for the past 3 years. Also, identify any new courses the department hopes to offer if this position is filled.

(b) Position job description

Please submit materials to the Provost's Office.

## Faculty Position Supporting Documentation

Enrollment in course during the past 3 years: See a separate Excel Spreadsheet

Dept/Cr Num.								


Position job description: This tenure-track position in Old Testament entails the following teaching responsibilities: one or two sections of Introduction to Old Testament every semester, elementary and/or intermediate Hebrew for biblical language program, and/or an upper-division Old Testament course for majors and minors per semester. The faculty occupying this position is expected to contribute to departmental curriculum development, collegiality, and mission of the College.

Rationale: Please briefly describe the curricular need for this faculty position, including benefit to the department if the position is filled and the negative impact if it is not.

The faculty who will fill this position will teach one of the Common Context courses: Introduction to Old Testament. This course is vital to helping students read and understand Old Testament in its historical, cultural, and theological contexts and see God's creation and continuity of God's salvific activities throughout Israelite history. This course is vital to helping students read and understand New Testament as the fulfillment of Old Testament. This is one of the courses required for all Westmont students.

The faculty who will this position will also teach elementary and/or intermediate Hebrew and upper division Old Testament courses for Religious Studies major and minor students. Religious Studies Dept. has long wanted to build a robust Hebrew program, but it has not been able to more than dozen years. The faculty for this position will work together with Sandra Richter to build a solid Hebrew program; and this will revitalize our biblical language program. Renewed and revitalized biblical language program will strengthen our major and minor offerings and program.

If this position is not filled, its negative impact is unthinkable. We will have to rely on adjunct professors to teach one of the fundamental courses for the mission of the College. Our department's curriculum will be disparate and in disarray and rather than united and coherent as we will have to depend on different adjunct professors. Ultimately then, not only Religious Studies major and minors students, but also a significant number of Westmont students will suffer.

STC_COURSE_NAME	SEC_NO	STC_TERM	STC_TITLE	Enrollment
HB-001	1	18/FA	Elementary Hebrew I	2
RS-001	1	18/FA	Testament	46
RS-001	2	18/FA	Testament	47
RS-001	4	18/FA	Testament	37
HB-001	1	19/FA	Elementary Hebrew I	9
RS-001	1	19/FA	Testament	40
RS-001	2	19/FA	Testament	41
HB-002	1	19/SP	Elementary Hebrew II	1
RS-001	1	19/SP	Testament	9
RS-001	2	19/SP	Testament	41
RS-001	3	19/SP	Testament	10
RS-001	OL1	20/FA	Testament	32
RS-001	OL2	20/FA	Testament	39
RS-108	OL1	20/FA	Testament	5
HB-002	1	20/SP	Elementary Hebrew II	1
RS-001	1	20/SP	Testament	28
RS-001	2	20/SP	Testament	40
RS-001	1	21/SP	Testament	9
RS-001	2	21/SP	Testament	47
RS-100	1	21/SP	Formation	4