

**UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY**  
**FACULTY OF ARTS**  
**DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES**  
**Winter 2011**

Course: Religious Studies 337 L01  
Daughters of Eve: Female Images and Figures in Western Religion  
Time: TR 9:30 – 10:45 a.m.  
Instructor: Anne Moore  
Office Hours: TR 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.  
Office: Social Sciences 1324  
Telephone: 403-220-3288  
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Textbooks:

Diamant, Anita *The Red Tent*. St.Martins/Picador,1997.  
Schoemperlen, Diane. *Our Lady of the Lost and Found*. Toronto: HarperPerennial Canada, 2001.  
Al-Kouloub, Out. *Ramza*. Trans. Nayra Atiya. Syracuse: Syracuse UP, 1994.

Course Description:

The course assumes that religion, religious identity, and gender are social constructions. As the sociologist Peter Berger noted in *The Sacred Canopy*, “Every human society is an enterprise of world-building . . . Institutions, roles and identities exist as objectively real phenomena in the social world, though they and this world are at the same time nothing but human productions.” Because Religion is often the foundation upon which this enterprise of world-building takes place; religion plays a significant role in determining both personal identity and gender. For religious believers, there is a relationship between “humanly defined reality” and “ultimate, universal and sacred reality.” Through the examination of both symbolic figures such as Deborah, Thecla, and Hagar, the course will discuss how women have used these symbolic figures to promote their specific views of religiosity. The course will also analyze how Jewish, Christian, and Muslim women interpret their androcentric texts in a way that validates not only their feminine identity but also, at times, authorizes their criticism of their own religious traditions. The course will also discuss how new sources of information such as art, archaeology, material culture, folklore, rituals and even cookbooks can be used to reconstruct the historical lives of Jewish, Christian and Muslim women.

Outcomes:

The course is designed to familiarize students with methods and approaches used in the study of women within Religious Studies. One of the major considerations in the study of women is the use of several different sources other than the canonical texts and authorized interpretations. Another consideration is the various interpretative strategies used to interpret or exegete androcentric texts. Finally, there is the whole area of visual, material, ritual and places studies and how these are used to illuminate the historical lives of women. Therefore students will become acquainted with the inherent interdisciplinary nature of this type of study and will develop some skills in working responsibly with different sources.

The course assignments focus on skills of analysis and synthesis. Students will use a given novel or a specific figure as a point through which one can identify and/or hypothesize about the role, status and activities of women within a religion.

Self-Directed Study

Students are expected to develop skills of time management, organization and independent learning through assigned readings, preparation for exams and in developing a research essay.

Course Requirements:

1. Critical Analysis Using Novels:

Students will select **two** out of the three books for critical analysis.

The **two** books selected will not be from the same religious tradition the student will be examining as their research component.

These will be critical essays and a set of critical questions will be provided for each novel. Students will base their analysis on one of the specified questions. These questions will be based on the novel and

information from the lectures. The analyses will take the form of a thesis based paper, and must adhere to one of the accepted styles of APA, MLA and Chicago. Analyses will also be graded for spelling and grammar.

Analysis of The Red Tent [Due: February 3, 2011]  
 Analysis of The Lady of the Lost and Found [Due: March 10, 2011]  
 Analysis of Ramza [Due: March 31, 2011]

Two Critical Analyses 2 x 25% = **50%**

2. Research Component

a. Thesis statement & Annotated Bibliography [Due: March 3, 2011] **15%**

Annotated Bibliography will be in proper format and include One primary source, 3 academic journal articles and 3 books (minimum).

b. Detailed Outline

The detailed outline will be in proper format and will indicate: the issue being addressed, the specific topic, the thesis, methodology, line of argumentation and conclusion.

[Due: March 29, 2011] **15%**

c. Presentation of Research [Due: April 12, 2011] **20%**  
**Students may select from one of three options for the presentation of their research. More information about the specific requirements for their option will be provided.**

- i. Thesis-styled Paper 2,500 words or 10 pages double-spaced.
- ii. Web Site with text, visuals and links
- iii. Oral Presentation with the incorporation of handouts, Power-point and/or other visuals.

All presentations of research must adhere to one of the accepted styles of APA, MLA and Chicago. All will also be graded for spelling and grammar, and proper format.

The adherence to deadlines is taken as a serious requirement and responsibility of the students in this course.

*There will be no Registrar scheduled final examination for this course.*

Course Protocol

Research Components and Book Reviews: A penalty of 25% per day (including weekends) will be deducted from late assignments. The research components and book reviews must be delivered physically to the instructor on the assigned due date. Students are advised to keep a back-up of their own work. Out of consideration for the class as a whole, there is no extra credit in this course.

Grading

A numerical mark will be given for each course requirement. A letter grade will be assigned on the following number and letter grade scheme:

A+	100 - 96	A	95 - 90	A-	89 - 85
B+	84 - 80	B	79 - 75	B-	74 - 70
C+	69 - 65	C	64 - 60	C-	59 - 55
D+	54 - 53	D	52-50	F	Under 50

N.B. All written assignments will be graded with regard to both form and content.

Complementary Courses

Religious Studies 381: Women and Religion  
Religious Studies 479: Contemporary Issues in Women and Religion  
Religious Studies 325: Female Saints and Sacred Figures in Eastern Religions.

Academic Accommodation:

If you are a student with a disability who requires academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation.

Intellectual Honesty:

Students should be familiar with University regulations regarding academic integrity.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is a serious offence, the penalty for which is an F on the assignment and possibly also an F on the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw.

Plagiarism occurs not only when direct quotations are taken from a source without specific acknowledgement but also when original ideas or data from the source are not acknowledged. A bibliography is insufficient to establish which portions of the student's work are taken from external sources; footnotes or other recognized forms of citation must be used for this purpose. Plagiarism also includes the submission of a previous paper from another to fulfill the requirements of this class.

Safewalk Program :

"You don't have to walk alone...." Call 403-220-5333 and a member of the Safewalk Team will walk you to your car, the LRT, or any destination on campus. Safewalk is available to all students, staff and faculty any time of the day or night. Look for the Campus Security Help Phones located throughout the University. Please don't hesitate to call!

Gnosis:

Gnosis is the Religious Studies Student Club. For membership or more information please email: [gnosis@ucalgary.ca](mailto:gnosis@ucalgary.ca) or visit <http://www.ucalgary.ca/~gnosis>.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The new Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS110, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at [artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto:artsads@ucalgary.ca). You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.
- For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (formerly the Undergraduate programs Office) at (403) 220-5881 or visit them on the 4<sup>th</sup> Floor of MacEwan Student Centre.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.