

Prs SE99

Chaminade University of Honolulu
Spring Evening Program
April 5 - June 14, 1999
Schofield Barracks

COURSE: Religion 35010 Women and Religion

TIME: Wednesdays 17:30 - 21:40

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Poranee Natadecha-Sponsel

COMMUNICATIONS: Telephone: 735-4822
Address : P.O. Box 25054
Honolulu, HI 96825-0054
Email: psponsel@chaminade.edu

TEXTBOOKS: Carmody, Denise Lardner. 1989, **WOMEN AND WORLD RELIGIONS**, Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall.

Brink, Judy, and Joan Mencher eds. 1997, **MIXED BLESSINGS: GENDER AND RELIGIOUS FUNDAMENTALISM CROSS CULTURALLY** New York, NY: Routledge.

INTRODUCTION AND DESCRIPTION:

Women have significant roles in major social institutions such as family and religion. This class will explore the interrelation between women's place in society and in religion from the comparative, global and cross cultural perspectives. The analysis will focus on religion as the impetus of changes in women's roles in different societies. This course also examines and celebrates the women whose lives illustrate choices and commitment based on faith.

CLASS OBJECTIVES:

- *to survey different roles of women in major religions cross culturally.
- *to critically review the affect of religion on cultural and social change.

*to understand and apply different approaches to the study of issues involved in social institutions and women's roles.

*to analyze factors related to problems and issues in women's status and choices of fulfilling their religious belief.

*to examine various alternatives and possibilities that women may empower themselves through religious doctrines.

CLASS FORMAT:

This class will be an interactive, cooperative learning experience for the students and the instructor. The format integrates lectures, small group discussions, student presentations, role plays, and debates. Students are encouraged and expected to actively participate in class activities. They are required to come to class with intensive reading to contribute to extensive discussion of the basic textbook and relevant videos.

REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING:

Students are required to be open minded in class discussion and to participate regularly in class activities. Each student is expected to carefully read the assigned chapter in the textbook and be prepared to discuss it for the class period of the assignment.

The grading will be based on

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| 1. class attendance and participation | 10 | pts. |
| 2. group project and class presentation | 20 | pts. |
| 3. class project report | 20 | pts. |
| 4. mid-term exam | 25 | pts. |
| 5. final exam | 25 | pts. |

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

SCHEDULE:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>READING (Chapter)</u>
APRIL		
7	Orientation and Introduction Women and World Religions	1,2,3
14	Women and World Religions	4,5,6
21	Women and World Religions ROLE PLAY	7,8,9,10,11
DISTRIBUTION OF MID-TERM EXAM QUESTIONS		
28	Mixed Blessings	1,2,3,4
MID-TERM EXAM DUE		
MAY		
5	Mixed Blessings DEBATE	5,6,7,8
12	INDIVIDUAL PROJECT	
19	INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH	
26	GROUP PROJECT	
JUNE		
2	Mixed Blessings Review	9,10,11,12,13
DISTRIBUTION OF FINAL EXAM QUESTIONS		
9	CLASS PRESENTATION ***FINAL EXAM DUE***	

REQUIREMENTS:

Students are required to be open minded and courteous in class discussion and to participate regularly in class activities. Each student is expected to carefully read the assigned chapter in the textbook and be prepared to discuss it for the class period of the assignment.

Only registered students are allowed to be in class.

All students will be graded on the following requirements:

*coming to class on time and staying for the whole period.

*being courteous and professional in class discussions, i.e. take turns in speaking, allowing others to express their ideas without interruption, communicate with positive, constructive verbal and non-verbal language.

*showing respect and open mind to different ideas and opinions from class members.

*turn in assignments on time.

*being responsible to cooperate and complete class/team projects on time.

CLASS PARTICIPATION:

Students will be assigned to read chapter(s) from the textbooks and to turn in the following on the day when they take a leading role in class discussion:

- 1) a 1-2 page (typed double spaced) summary of the chapter(s) including
- 2) 5 main points from the reading clearly stated in bullet or number format, and
- 3) 5 analytical questions for class discussion.

CLASS PROJECT:

The purpose of the class project is for students to creatively apply knowledge from classroom to real life experience. Students may choose to work on one of these two projects:

1) To interview a woman who is actively involved with gender problems and issues in religious organizations. The short report should include the background of the person being interviewed, the reason for interviewing this person, the list of interview questions, and student's insights from the information gained from the interview.

2) To research on the changing roles of women in religious organizations. The topic may include the gender problems and issues in religious organizations, and the celebration of women's work in this area. The paper must demonstrate the student's original ideas in critically analyzing the problems and issues in the particular topic. The bibliography for references cited must be included.

Plagiarized work will lead to failure of the course. Also, it will be reported to the university for disciplinary action.

CLASS PRESENTATION:

Each student will have 10 minutes to share their project with the class. The oral report should be a brief summary of the student's written report. Reading from the written report is discouraged and points will be taken off. The grade will be based on the style of presentation, the ability to deliver information succinctly, and being conscientious about the 10 minutes time slot by not going over the time limit for each student.

All students' work will be graded for:

*knowledge of the subject matter from textbooks, class lectures, discussion, videos, resources from research, outside class activities.

*ability to provide relevant examples to support viewpoints.

*ability to apply the knowledge to understand current issues in society.

*clarity and logical presentation.

*demonstration of having an understanding of the subject matter objectively and from opposing viewpoints.

*demonstration of achieving the objectives of this class.

*ability to analyze, critically review, and compare the issues cross-culturally.

Students must turn in all class assignments and the exam in class on time. Points will be taken off for turning in assignments late. All works turned in must be typed double spaced.

ONLY HARD COPY WILL BE ACCEPTED. EXAM AND ASSIGNMENTS ARE NOT ACCEPTED VIA EMAIL OR FAX.

Grading Criterion as stated in the Chaminade undergraduate catalog are as follows;

A - Outstanding scholarship and an unusual degree of intellectual initiative.

B - Superior work done in a consistent and intellectual manner.

C - Average grade indicating a competent grasp of subject matter.

D - Inferior work of the lowest passing grade, is not satisfactory for fulfillment of prerequisite coursework.

F - Failed to grasp even the minimum subject matter; no credit given.

I - Did not complete a small portion of the work or final examination due to circumstances beyond the student's control.

The issuance of an "I" grade is not automatic. Prior to reporting of grades a contract must be made between the student and the instructor for the completion of the course. Sufficient time should be allowed to permit completion of the work, evaluation, and reporting of the final grade within 90 days after the end of the semester or term. This limit may not be extended. If a new grade for the course is not submitted by the instructor prior to the deadline, the alternate grade, indicated in the contract will be recorded.