

FEB '00

PM

**Chaminade University of Honolulu
Fall Evening Interim
September 15 - 29, 2000
Schofield Barracks**

COURSE: Religion 35010 Women and Religion
TIME: Weekdays 17:30 - 21:40, Saturdays 8-12:10
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, 2nd. 1989, **WOMEN AND WORLD RELIGIONS**, Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall.
Stone, Merlin, 1976, **WHEN GOD WAS A WOMAN**, San Diego, CA: Harcourt Brace.

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 OBJECTIVE:

- *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 in 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:

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:

- *come to class on time and stay for the whole period.
- *be courteous and professional in class discussions i.e. take turns in speaking, allow others to express their ideas without interruption, communicate with positive, constructive verbal and non-verbal language.
- *show respect and open mind to different ideas and opinions from class members.
- *turn in assignments on time.
- *be responsible to cooperate and complete class/team projects on time.

GRADING:

The grading will be based on

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| 1. Class attendance and participation | 20 pts. |
| 2. Book chapter reports | 20 pts. |
| 3. Reflective journal
(written journal 20 pts.
class presentation 10 pts.) | 30 pts. |
| 4. Research project
(written report 20 pts.
class presentation 10 pts.) | 30 pts. |

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

BOOK CHAPTER REPORTS:

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) 3 main points from the reading clearly stated in bullet or number format, and
- 3) 3 analytical questions for class discussion.

RESEARCH PROJECT:

The purpose of the project is for students to creatively apply knowledge from classroom to real life experience. Students may choose a research topic relating to the problems and issues of women and religions. The research methodology includes survey, interviews, and a literature review.

The written report of the research should be within the range of 7-10 double-spaced typed pages. It will be due on the last day of the class when the oral report is given.

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

ORAL REPORT ON RESEARCH PROJECT:

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 ten minute-time slot by not going over the time limit for each student.

REFLECTIVE JOURNAL:

Each student is required to keep a one-page reflective journal at the end of each class. In lieu of the mid-term exam, students select one specific topic from their previous collection of journal entries to analyze in detail. This journal should reflect the student's understanding of the issues of women and religions. The student will orally present this journal in class and turn in all of the written journals on the day of the mid-term class presentation. Each journal must be typed double-spaced. The total number of the journal entries is four. Each entry will be

graded for its brief and insightful reflection of the issues of women and religions. The contents of each journal entry, including the fourth one for class presentation, should have the following:

- 1) reflective understanding of the chosen topic;
- 2) insightful comments on the topic; and
- 3) 3 analytical questions about the topic.

LEARNING OUTCOME ASSESSMENT:

All students' work will be evaluated 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 in having an understanding of the subject matter objectively and from opposing viewpoints.
- *demonstration in 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 work turned in must be typed double-spaced.

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

SCHEDULE :

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>READING</u> (Chapter)
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SEPTEMBER

15	Orientation and Introduction	
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16	Carmody	2,3,4
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18	Carmody	5,6,7
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20	Carmody	8,9,10
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22	MID-TERM PRESENTATION	
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23	Stone	1-2,3,4,5
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25	Visit Dominican Community	
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26	Visit Honpa Hongwanji Temple	
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27	Stone	6,7-8,9-10
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29	FINAL CLASS PRESENTATION	
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