

CAPILANO UNIVERSITY COURSE OUTLINE			
TERM:	FALL 2014	COURSE NO:	WGST 226
INSTRUCTOR:	TBA	COURSE NAME: WOMEN AND RELIGION	
OFFICE:	LOCAL:	SECTION NO:	CREDITS: 3
E-MAIL:			

COURSE FORMAT:

Three hours of class time, plus an additional hour delivered through online or other activities for a 15-week semester, which includes two weeks for final exams.

COURSE PREREQUISITES:

Note: Completion of WGST 100 and/or WGST 111 is recommended.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will examine how women are perceived and the roles that they play in major religious traditions, cultures and communities. Topics covered include an examination of how women have been shaped by religious traditions, patriarchy and mythology as well as women's role as agents of resistance or social change, and as spiritual leaders in religious movements. In the first part of the course we will look at the three "religions of the book" (Judaism, Christianity, and Islam); in the second part, Asian religions (Hinduism, Buddhism, Shinto, Confucianism) as well as women in Indigenous traditions, and contemporary spirituality.

COURSE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Analyze and appraise how women are situated within various religious movements and how this in turn impacts their agency
- Discuss women and religion from an academic and feminist perspective (critically, and comparatively).
- Demonstrate an ability to communicate complex ideas and critical perspectives, in both written and oral formats.

COURSE WEBSITE:

<https://moodle.capilanou.ca>

REQUIRED TEXT:

Anderson, L. M., & Young, P.D. Women and Religious Traditions. Ontario, Canada: Oxford University Press, 2010.

Print Package available from the Capilano University Bookstore

COURSE CONTENT:

Note: The following list is a general guide to the topics to be covered each week. A detailed outline, complete with assigned readings and assignment due dates, can be found on the course website.

DATE	TOPIC
<i>Week 1</i>	Course Introductions
<i>Week 2</i>	Texts and Contexts
<i>Week 3</i>	Images of Women
<i>Week 4</i>	Influence in Institutions: Judaism and Christianity
<i>Week 5</i>	Politics and Social Change: Islam
<i>Week 6</i>	Politics and Social Change: Judaism
<i>Week 7</i>	Politics and Social Change: Christianity
<i>Week 8</i>	Sikhism
<i>Week 9</i>	Hinduism
<i>Week 10</i>	Buddhism
<i>Week 11</i>	Other Asian Traditions
<i>Week 12</i>	Indigenous Traditions & Contemporary Women's Spirituality
<i>Week 13</i>	Wrap-up
<i>Weeks 14-15</i>	Final Exam Period

EVALUATION PROFILE:

Final Paper	30%
Thought Papers X 2 (5% each)	10%
"I AM" Presentation	10%
Critical Reading Assessment 1	20%
Critical Reading Assessment 2	20%
Class & Moodle Participation	<u>10%</u>
	100%

ASSIGNMENTS:

Note: Assignment details and due dates can be found on the course website.

Research Paper: The paper should be approximately 6-8 pages in length and adhere to APA style.

Thought Papers: Two thought papers (maximum 2 pages each, double spaced) that offer a critical reflection on the readings for that week.

"I AM" Presentation:

A 15 minute oral presentation in which the story of a particular female religious leader is told, and its historical and religious context.

Assignments – continuedCritical Reading Assessment:

Reading tests will assess students' ability to critically analyze the assigned readings and lecture materials.

4th hour Activity – Moodle discussion forum:

Students will identify a news story or current event, and post a link to the source on the Moodle discussion forum, and also post 2-3 critical thinking questions related to the story in order to stimulate discussion.

Participation:

The participation grade is based on attendance and the general quality contributions to the class over the course of the semester. It will be the quality, more than the quantity, of class preparation and participation that will count.

GRADING PROFILE:

A+ = 90 - 100%	B+ = 77 - 79%	C+ = 67 - 69%	D = 50 - 59%
A = 85 - 89	B = 73 - 76	C = 63 - 66	F = 0 - 49
A- = 80 - 84	B- = 70 - 72	C- = 60 - 62	

OPERATIONAL DETAILS:

Capilano University has policies on Academic Appeals (including appeal of final grades), Student Conduct, Cheating and Plagiarism, Academic Probation and other educational issues. These and other policies are available on the University website.

Office Hours:

To be announced in the first class. Please note that email and Moodle messages will be read and answered during these times.

Attendance:

Regular attendance is strongly recommended. When students are absent from class, they are still responsible for the material covered during their absence, including announcements, assigned readings and handouts.

Late Assignments:

Marks will be deducted for lateness (% reduction per day). Late assignments must be delivered in class or to the instructor's office -- no email submissions will be accepted.

Missed Exams:

Students will be allowed to make up exams and quizzes only under the following conditions: if a doctor's certificate of illness is provided; if suitable documentation is provided for other instances (i.e. death of a close family member); if **prior** approval of the instructor has been obtained.

Incomplete Grades:

On rare occasions, a student may be in a situation that warrants the granting of an incomplete grade. Students seeking this grade should submit a written request as soon as the need becomes apparent.

Operational details – continued

English Usage: University-level writing skills are required for all assignments. Spelling, punctuation and grammatical errors will result in a reduced grade and, if they are excessive, may result in a refusal to grade the paper. See the English Writing Centre for help.

Electronic Devices: Laptops may be used only for course purposes in class, and cell phones must be turned off. No personal electronic devices (cell phones, calculators, electronic dictionaries, etc...) may be used during an examination without prior approval from the instructor.

Emergency Procedures: Please familiarise yourself with the emergency procedures posted on the wall of your classroom.