

RELI 620

Feminism and Religion



This course introduces students to the rich and multi-faceted debates within and about feminism and religion. Long considered to be mutually exclusive categories because of the implication of religious traditions and institutions in patriarchal histories and structures, at least since the 1970s, religious feminists have participated in feminist movements and struggles across the globe. While feminist theories and critiques of religion have contributed to the study of gender in religious contexts, religious feminists and their theological and theoretical framework have had a deep and lasting impact on religious conversations and communities that deserves further attention. Religious and non-religious feminists share a commitment to ethics of gender equality and justice even where their analysis of the causes of inequality and injustice may diverge. Through the cultivation of careful and critical reading practice of primary texts by religious feminists and their secular critics, the course enables students to recognize the patterns and arguments of historical and contemporary debates within and across religious traditions and communities, while continuously tracing the ethical commitments and underlying values of feminist scholars and activists.

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Tuesdays & Thursdays
3:30PM – 4:45PM

General Education Requirements: PH, CI

