It has been about fifteen years since women began their most recent efforts to broaden their access to occupations, and to improve their positions within conventionally female occupations. It is time for an assessment of their efforts. In this course, our approach will be through the professions: medicine, teaching, law, nursing, engineering, librarianship, architecture, social work, the ministry, all self-conscious occupations about which a good deal has been written.

Like the rest of the occupational world, the professions are divided by gender; there are male professions and female professions. Our first task will be to ascertain how this gender division came about historically; women have not always been the primary school teachers, nor have men always had a monopoly on curing the sick. Then we will examine the ways in which the professions came to be structured around stereotypical notions of the work patterns and personality attributes of the majority participants. Finally, we will assess women's current position in the professions. Are women made to feel welcome in all professions? On what terms are they able to participate? Have they achieved increased autonomy and benefits in the women's professions? How are women managing careers and domestic responsibilities? Has the presence of increased numbers of women changed the structure or tone of male professions?

Our format will be a three-hour bloc, once weekly, of lectures, discussion, and paper presentations. In addition to the core readings for the course, each student will be responsible for choosing a paper topic, making an oral presentation, and submitting a final version in written form.

**GRADE DISTRIBUTION:**

25% Oral presentation  
25% Written version (12-20 pages) of oral presentation  
25% Class participation  
25% Take home final

**REQUIRED READINGS:**

Peggy Anderson, *Nurse* (Berkley)