This course will focus on feminist approaches to religious culture and communities within the context of the historical practices of patriarchy, hierarchy, and gender inequality, in Christianity, Judaism, Buddhism, Hinduism and Islam. Shifts in images, discourse, rituals and women’s roles within their faiths will be discussed. Women as agents of resistance, as instruments of social change, as spiritual leads in new and/or popular religious movements will be central to the material in the course. Global contexts and North American case studies will help us to understand the feminist challenge and contribution to religion.

**Required texts:**


**Recommended texts:**


**Course requirements:**

Final examination 25%
Participation and attendance 15%
Documentary analysis or interview (2 @ 5 pages each) 30%
Research paper 25%
Research paper proposal 5%