

# Minnesota State University Moorhead

## WS 244: Women in World Religions

### A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: 3

Lab Hours/Week: \*.\*

OJT Hours/Week: \*.\*

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: Goal 07 - Human Diversity

This course will survey how gender power and control is represented in various cultural belief systems and expressed in religious practices. The class will stress the concepts of utilizing social norms and historiographical theory in order to analyze human behaviors. The class will also explore the concept of "cultural heritage" and will investigate how it affects the student's personal worldview, values and assumptions. In order to accomplish this goal, the students will be introduced to a wide variety of primary and secondary source documents as well as examples of material culture, and will be expected to provide written analysis of these items. (Same as HIST 344) MnTC Goal 7.

**B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES:** 05/13/2012 - Present

### C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Introduction and definition of the concept of women's role in world religions.
2. Reading the sources: introduction to primary/secondary debate.
3. Gender Theory.
4. 20th century treatments of the feminine in world religions.

### D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. Teaching students to "unpack" historical texts for meaning, thus allowing critical analysis.
2. Train students in important and interdisciplinary theoretical paradigms.
3. Help students demonstrate knowledge of the lively interaction of textual and material evidence, and to use these tools to apply information in an increasingly diverse world.

### E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

Goal 07 - Human Diversity

1. Understand the development of and the changing meanings of group identities in the United States' history and culture.
2. Demonstrate an awareness of the individual and institutional dynamics of unequal power relations between groups in contemporary society.
3. Analyze their own attitudes, behaviors, concepts and beliefs regarding diversity, racism, and bigotry.
4. Demonstrate communication skills necessary for living and working effectively in a society with great population diversity.

### F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

As noted on course syllabus

**G. SPECIAL INFORMATION**

None noted