



## Women and Western Religions HYBRID COURSE

**840: 351**  
**Tues. and Fri. 10:55—12:15**

Instructor: Dr. Kathleen Bishop

Witches and Jezebels and harlots, oh my!  
Negative stereotypes of the feminine can be traced in part to the traditions, practices and scriptures of all three of the major Western traditions: Judaism, Christianity and Islam. The same traditions also celebrate traditional “womanly” qualities from fertility goddesses to virgin mothers. This course will examine how and when women appear in scripture, ritual and tradition in Religions of the West, both ancient and contemporary.

In-class meetings (8, all Tuesday):  
1/21, 1/28,  
2/11, 2/25,  
3/11,  
4/1, 4/15, 2/29

### Required Texts

The Coming of Lilith: Essays on  
Feminism, Judaism and Sexual Ethics  
Judith Plaskow, Donna Burman

Women and Religion: The Originl  
Sourcebook of Women in Christian  
Thought  
Elizabeth Clark

Women and Gender in Islam:  
Historical Roots of a Modern Debate  
Leila Ahmed

Handouts  
Online Material posted to SAKAI

### Evaluation

Exam I: TBD 25%  
Exam 2:TBD 25%  
Forum Postings (SAKAI) 25%  
Final Paper (5-10 pages) 25%

In-class meeting attendance and participation, both in-class and in the forums, will also be factors in final grade determination

