

Women & Gender Perspectives on Faith, Belief And Understanding **Dr. Melanie Duguid-May**

This course will feature women's contributions to, as well as perspectives on Christian faith, understanding & belief. We will read primary texts of writings by women, from the earliest Christian centuries through to the present, highlighting the diversities of women's lives, and thereby authorizing a tradition of Christian women's theological thinking. As we read, we will pay close critical and contextual attention not only to the systemic subordination of women, but to the ways women have forged paths and claimed their own voices, exercised leadership in ministry and mission, and organized for social change.



As we do we will ask how religious practices, institutions, and symbols have served and serve to reflect, reinforce and create diverse dynamics of gender identity, gender roles and representations, sexual identities and behaviors, including bodies as sites of both regimentation and resistance. We will explore ways religious constructs may persistently subordinate women in relation to men's dominance.

We will therefore begin with an analysis of women, gender, and power, paying particular attention to the workings of patriarchy and paternalistic dominance. Throughout we will engage women's courage—sacred as well as subversive—to step outside assigned power relations, roles, and identities, to trust their own experiences and ways of thinking, and to self-define identities and sociocultural roles, and accordingly to re-imagine Christian faith, belief and understanding.

The location is anywhere you are.

Fit the course into your schedule each week through the semester:

- The semester begins Monday August 28 and ends Wednesday December 6
- The last day to join the courses is Monday, September 11.

How to register

- \$300 to Audit (\$150 for clergy or alums of CRCDS), \$1795 for Graduate Credit, plus \$20 resource fee
- Auditors may view all aspects of the class without the completion of assignments and course forum participation that are required for graduate credit. An undergraduate degree is not required for online auditors. CEUs available for auditors.
- To learn more: <https://www.crcds.edu/online/>
- To sign up: <https://www.crcds.edu/registration-online-courses>
- For more information, contact Melissa Morral at (585) 340-9633 or email mmorral@crcds.edu