

THE CONTENT OF THIS DESCRIPTION IS NOT A LEARNING CONTRACT AND THE INSTRUCTOR IS NOT BOUND TO IT. IT IS OFFERED IN GOOD FAITH AND INTENDED AS A HELPFUL GUIDE TO THE STUDENT.

TITLE: Women in the Pentateuch

TERM: Spring 2024-2025

PROFESSOR: Kimberly D. Russaw

CREDIT HOURS: 3

REGISTRATION: LIMITED TO: 10
AUDITORS: 5

UNLIMITED _____
NO AUDITORS _____

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Women in the Pentateuch is a 3-credit hour elective course focused on the many named and unnamed women found in the first five books of the Old Testament. Through the course, participants will examine the role(s) and function(s) of women in the biblical world, consider interpretive methods, and explore modern-day presentations of women in the Bible. This survey course relies heavily on student engagement through the critical reading of the biblical text and its scholarship.

CLASS OBJECTIVES:

As a result of participating in this course participants should be able to:

1. Identify female characters and themes of the Pentateuch
2. Discuss the socio-historical backdrop of the Pentateuch with special attention to the roles of women
3. Integrate scholarly readings about and interpretations of women in the Pentateuch with the stories of other women in the Pentateuch
4. Create a contemporary learning tool appropriate for their ministry context

PREREQUISITES:

Introductory Bible courses such as Genesis through Esther (OT110).

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS/READING:

- Brenner, Athalya, ed. *Exodus to Deuteronomy: A Feminist Companion to the Bible*. Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press, 1994, ISBN: 978-1850754633, \$52.95
- Gafney, Wilda C. *Womanist Midrash: A Reintroduction to the Women of the Pentateuch and the Throne*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2017, ISBN: 978-0664239039, \$23.49
- Jeansonne, Sharon. *The Women of Genesis: From Sarah to Potiphar's Wife*. Minneapolis: Fortress, 1990, ISBN: 978-0800624194, \$24.00

Potential Reading

- Ensler, Eve. *The Vagina Monologues: 20th Anniversary Edition* New York: Ballantine Books, 2018, ISBN: 978-0399180095, \$16.26
- Shange, Ntozake, *For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow Is Enuf*. New York: Scribner, 1997, ISBN: 978-0684843261, \$11.50

ASSIGNMENTS & GRADING:

- 25% Ministry Tool Assignment
- 35% Pentateuch and Popular Culture Presentation
- 40% Short Papers (2)

ATTENDANCE: Required.