

<b>Course Name</b> GNDS 480/GNDS 820. <b>Resistance and Religion</b> <b>Contact Hours</b> Tuesdays 2:30pm–5:30pm <b>Learning Hours</b> 120 (36 Seminar, 84 Private Study)		<b>Course Instructor</b> See SOLUS
<b>Course Description</b> For historically marginalized communities around the world, religion can be a source of inspiration, strength, and resistance to oppression. But for some, religion is also a source of fear and trauma, associated with experiences of violence, colonialism, occupation, and abuse. For many people, these two realities exist simultaneously as they navigate tensions between community belonging and painful histories. This course takes a critical race feminist approach to the study of religion to explore the complexities of religious worlds. Scholars of social difference and power can deepen their analyses by considering how religion and spirituality as fundamental aspects of human experience are, like race and gender, socially constructed, historically contingent categories. The course explores the intersections of religion, race, and gender in several historical and cultural moments through the lenses of resistance and relation: that is, through how religion binds people together, and how people feel may feel bound by religion.		<b>Required Course Materials</b> All readings are available through the library's e-reserve.
<b>Course Objectives</b> In completing this course, students will: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <b>Identify and explain</b> key concepts, methodologies, theoretical approaches, and assumptions in anti-racist feminist, critical race approaches to colonialism and religion</li> <li>2) <b>Evaluate</b> different kinds of primary and secondary research sources including religious texts and non-academic writing</li> <li>3) <b>Practice</b> academic writing skills, developing a thesis and building an argument</li> <li>4) <b>Practice</b> oral communication and leadership skills including active listening and respectful discourse</li> <li>5) <b>Apply</b> academic research skills including library research</li> <li>6) <b>Apply</b> feminist and anti-racist methodological approaches to reflect on their own location in society, and to understand how racism and colonialism have impacted ways of knowing.</li> <li>7) <b>Interpret</b> how structures of power mediate access to some forms of academic knowledge and identify strategies of resistance initiated by marginalized communities.</li> </ol>		<b>Course Evaluation</b>  Reading responses 3x 5%  Facilitated discussion 20%  Annotated Bibliography and Proposal 25%  Final Assignment 25%  Participation 15%
<b>Topics in Course Outline</b>		
1. Breathing our interdisciplinary work into being	7. Trauma, matter, metaphor	
2. Intersectional Feminist Methods, Critical Race Theory, and Religious Studies	8. Caste, Trauma, Resistance: Dalit feminisms and liberation	
3. The university, and religion, as institutions of colonial discipline(s)	9. Womanism, Feminism, and Theologies of Justice	
4. Indigenous perspectives on epistemological violence and sexuality	10. Identities mis/taken, mis/represented	
5. Jewish and Muslim Feminists on Palestine, Israel, and Resistance	11. Sacred/profane; resistance/play	
6. Blackness and the reproduction of nationhood	12. Embodiment, learning, and practice	

