

## **Women Doing Mission Theology**

Prof. Frances S. Adeney

EM3193 3 Credits

Fall Term, 2010

3:00-4:20 Tues. Thurs.

Garden Court 206

**DESCRIPTION:** This course uses historical and theoretical tools to outline a pattern of theological reflection utilized by women in Christian mission. Students will participate in developing this contextual methodology, evaluating its usefulness, and discovering patterns of theological reflection appropriate to various contexts of women in mission. Learning methods will include lecture/discussion, small group interaction, theological reflection and qualitative research.

### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:**

- Analyze historical patterns of growth and theological perspectives of women in mission.
- Grapple with issues of the exclusion of women from theology-making, the experience of calling, the use of scripture to validate women's calling, and the development of modes of resistance.
- Outline theological methods of women in mission and discover their relationship to contextual and doctrinal issues.
- Learn about qualitative research methods and modes of theological reflection that illumine women's methods of doing theology.
- Evaluate the usefulness of theological methods used in different contexts.
- Reflect on the uses of women's mission theologies in one's own ministry setting.
- Develop an original research project that focuses on some aspect of women doing mission theology.

### **ASSIGNMENTS:**

1. Class attendance, informed discussion of texts, and short assignments on class topics. (20%)
2. Two critical Reading Reviews of Texts. Five pages, typed, double spaced, 1500 words. (30 %)
3. A research project that includes interviews and theological reflection on how women do mission theology. Twenty pages, typed, double spaced, 5000 words. (40%)

### **REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:**

Adeney, Frances. *Christian Women in Indonesia: A Narrative Study of Gender and Religion* (Syracuse University Press, 2003)

Cannon, Katie Geneva. *Katie's Canon: Womanism and the Soul of the Black Community* (Continuum, 2003).

Robert, Dana L., ed. *Gospel Bearers, Gender Barriers: Missionary Women in the Twentieth Century* (Orbis, 2002)

Smith, Susan E. *Women in Mission: From the New Testament to Today* (Orbis, 2007).

Schussler Fiorenza. *Bread Not Stone: The Challenge of Feminist Biblical Interpretation*. Beacon Press, 1984)

Warner, Lacey C. *Saving Women: Retrieving Evangelistic Theology and Practice*. (Baylor University Press, 2007).

NOTE: DMin students will be required to write two additional Critical Reading Reviews and present them in class.

NOTE: All seminary policies on plagiarism, inclusive language, and respect for others are required for this course.

NOTE: More than three absences will result in a lowered grade.

NOTE: Late papers will be docked ½ of a letter grade if received within three days of the due date or 1 letter grade if received a week late.

NOTE: A schedule outlining class topics, activities, readings, and assignments will be provided on the first day of class.