PRESUPPOSITIONS AND PURPOSE
Until the last few decades, people were accustomed to seeing life “through men's eyes,” as psychologist Carol Gilligan says. White men studied and hypothesized about human development and fulfillment, basing their conclusions on white male subjects and ideals. For centuries religion perpetuated biases against women in home, church, and doctrine. Early psychologists, such as Sigmund Freud, picked up where religion left off. More recently, however, research in psychology and theology has challenged these patterns and provided more inclusive frameworks for understanding women. Full understanding should empower people to dismantle sexism's legacy.

This seminar-style course explores the psychological and religious ideas that shape gender and sexism, with particular focus on women. Its objectives include:

1. to foster self-awareness of gender dynamics in everyday life
2. to understand the impact of gender on selfhood and development
3. to understand how gender and race interact
4. to comprehend the political context of intrapsychic problems
5. to enhance gender sensitivity and advocacy in psychotherapy and pastoral care
6. to consider the role of congregations and women in congregations
7. to offer critique and reconstruction of religious practices and theological doctrines

REQUIRED BOOKS
Belenky, Mary Field et al., Women's Ways of Knowing: The Development of Self, Voice and Mind (Basic)
Collins, Patricia Hill, Black Feminist Thought: Knowledge, Consciousness, and the Politics of Empowerment (Routledge)
Fischer, Kathryn, *Women at the Well: Feminist Perspectives on Spiritual Direction* (Paulist)

Gilkes, Cheryl Townsend, *If It Wasn’t For the Women . . . : Black Women's Experience and Womanist Culture in Church and Community* (Orbis)

Gilligan, Carol, *In a Different Voice: Women's Conception of Self and Morality* (Harvard University Press)

Jackson, Leslie C. and Greene, Beverly, *Psychotherapy with African American Women: Innovations in Psychodynamic Perspectives and Practice* (Guilford)


Miller, Jean Baker, *Toward a New Psychology of Women: Psychological Theory and Women's Development* (Beacon)

Miller-McLemore, Bonnie J., *Also A Mother: Work and Family as Theological Dilemma* (Abingdon)

Miller-McLemore, Bonnie and Brita Gill-Austern, *Feminist and Womanist Pastoral Theology* (Abingdon)

Neuger, Christie Cozad, *Counseling Women: A Narrative, Pastoral Approach* (Fortress)

**RECOMMENDED BOOKS**

Glaz, Maxine and Jeanne Stevenson Moessner, ed., *Women in Travail and Transition* (Fortress)

Jeanne Stevenson Moessner, ed., *In Her Own Time* and *Through the Eyes of Women: Insights for Pastoral Care* (Fortress)

**REQUIREMENTS**

*Reading & class participation* informed by reading (see “Teaching Assumptions”) (25%)

*Case study/10 page (3000 words) (35%) DUE week 9/ October 27*

Using the “Interview Schedule,” Appendix A in *Women's Ways of Knowing*, interview another class member or friend outside class. You can add your own questions built on other readings in Section I. Using concepts, categories, and insights from *Women's Ways of Knowing* and at least two other books from Section I, analyze the person’s understanding of self and development.
**Research paper (40%)**  
DUE week 14/ December 8

*Divinity:* 10-page paper (3000 words): Explore a particular issue in gender, sexism, psychology, religion, and pastoral care (e.g. family and work conflicts, violence, abuse, depression, anger, body issues).

*Graduate School:* 25 page paper (7500 words): Explore any subject related to gender, sexism, psychology, and religion

**One-page research paper proposal**  
DUE week 9/ October 27

Unexplained absence and late papers lower grade at the professor’s discretion. The University and Divinity Honor Codes apply to all aspects of the class. Students are expected to use inclusive language as a common practice in VDS. Anyone needing accommodation for a disability should ask the Opportunity Development Center for assistance in identifying yourself to the instructor as having a disability.

**OUTLINE OF SESSIONS AND READING**  
(* Posted on Oak)

**Section I ** Study of Women in Psychology and Religion

**Week 1/August 25**  
*Women in Psychology and Theology*


*Saiving, “The Human Situation”*

*Hurtado, “Relating To Privilege”*

**Week 2/ September 1**  
*Women in Pastoral Theology*

*Justes, “Women”*

*Miller-McLemore, “The Living Human Web”*

Miller-McLemore & Gill-Austern, *Pastoral Theology*, Preface, Intro, Ch. 1-4, 10

**Section II ** Women, Selfhood, and Development

**Week 3/September 8**  
*Gender and Selfhood*

Miller, *Towards a New Psychology*

**Week 4/ September 15**  
*Race, Gender, and Selfhood*


**Week 5/ September 22**  
*Intellectual Development*

Belenky, *Women's Ways of Knowing*, Prefaces to 1st and anniver. eds., Intro, Part I
Week 6/ September 29  
Moral Development
Gilligan, In a Different Voice, ch. 1, 3, 4, 6

Week 7/ October 6  
Moral and Spiritual Development
Miller-McLemore, Also A Mother, Preface, Intro, Part Two

Week 8/ October 13  
Moral and Spiritual Development
Marshall, Counseling Lesbian Women

October 20  
Fall Break

Week 9/ October 27
DUE: Case study and proposal for the final paper

Section III  
Women and Therapy

Week 10/ November 3  
Psychotherapy
Green, Psychotherapy with African-American Women, ch. 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 12

Week 11/ November 10  
Pastoral Counseling
Neuger, Counseling Women, Preface, ch. 1-6

Section IV  
Women, Congregations, and Religious Practice

Week 12/ November 17  
Spiritual Direction and Beyond
Fischer, Women at the Well

Nov. 24  
Thanksgiving Break

Week 13/ December 1  
Ministry
Gilkes, If It Wasn’t For the Women, ch. 1, 4, 6, 7, 10

Week 14/ December 8  
From Classroom to Congregation
Miller-McLemore & Gill-Austern, ch. 11
Gilkes, If It Wasn’t For the Women, ch. 11

DUE: Research paper