

Women and Religion in Latin America
History 0015-390-01 and Religion 0128-300-02
Mike Stanfield and Lois Lorentzen (lorentzen@usfca.edu)
Spring, 1999
T/R 11:10 AM - 12:25 PM
Campion C 9

Lorentzen, Campion D-3, x2413; Office Hours: 2-3 T/R and by appointment
Stanfield, UC 520, x 6422; Office Hours: 10-10:50, 3:30-4:30 and by appointment

Course Description

This course explores various religious legacies and traditions both shaped by and for women in Latin America. Our survey of these themes will include readings and analyses of religious traditions brought to Latin America after 1492 and how they opposed or blended with existing indigenous religious practices. In this meeting and/or collision of world and cosmological views--a major theme in Latin American history--we will focus squarely on how gender roles were constructed and how those roles both celebrated and limited women's lives.

Required Texts

Brusco, Elizabeth E. 1995. *The Reformation of Machismo: Evangelical Conversion and Gender in Colombia*. Austin: University of Texas Press.

Burdick, John. 1998. *Blessed Anastácia: Women, Race, and Popular Christianity in Brazil*. New York and London: Routledge Press.

Martín, Luis. 1983. *Daughters of the Conquistadores: Women of the Viceroyalty of Peru*. Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press.

Rosenbuam, Brenda. 1993. *With our Heads Bowed: The Dynamics of Gender in a Maya Community*. Institute for Mesoamerican Studies.

Course Reader. Available in Gleeson Library under both Stanfield and Lorentzen.

Course Requirements

Reading Response Papers	20%
Midterm	20%
Midterm	20%
Fieldwork/Book Review	15%
Final	25%

Description of Requirements

Critical Reflection Papers on the Readings: Critical reflection papers on selected readings will be due frequently. Due dates for papers are noted in the syllabus and questions to guide your analyses will be given in class. The papers will be marked with + or - . If all reading reflections are received and marked +, your grade for this requirements is an A. One missing is a B. Two missing is a C, etc.

Midterm and Final Examinations: Your first midterm is in-class and will be given on Thursday, February 25. Your second midterm is a take home and will be given during the week of March 23. Your final is in-class and will be given Tuesday, May 18.

Fieldwork: You must do fieldwork and write a 3-5 page analysis of your field research. Possible field work includes a tour of the murals in the Mission District (Precita Eyes in the mission offers mural tours); a visit to the Mexican Museum; attending St. Peter's Catholic Church in the Mission, etc. We will talk about further options in class. Paper is due Thursday, April 1.

Book Review: Read a book on a theme not covered in the course (Judaism in Latin America or African based religions such as santería or voodoo for example). Write a 5 page analysis of the book. Book review is due Thursday, April 8.

Course Schedule

January 21

INTRODUCTION

January 26

Readings: "The Role of Women" by Susan Tiano in Course Reader

January 28

Readings: "Religion in Latin America" by Michael Fleet in Course Reader

WOMEN IN INDIGENOUS/PRECOLONIAL TIMES

February 2 & 4 Readings: Introduction and Chapters 1-3 in *Moon, Sun and Witches*
(In Course Reader)

RESPONSE PAPER DUE THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4

DAUGHTERS OF THE CONQUISTADORES

WOMEN'S ACTIVISM

February 9 & 11 Read: Chapters 1-4 of *Daughters of the Conquistadores*
MARRIAGES, CONVERTS, CHOICE

February 16 & 18 Read: Chapters 5-7 of *Daughters*

RESPONSE PAPER DUE THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18

ROWDY WOMEN

February 23 & 25

Read: Chapters 8-11 of *Daughters*

MIDTERM EXAMINATION ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25

GUADALUPE

March 2 & 4

Readings: "Our Lady of Guadalupe: Story, Icon, Experience"
By Jeanette Rodriguez in Course Reader

"Introduction" to *Goddess of the Americas* by Ana
Castillo (Course Reader)

"The Undocumented Virgin" by Rubén Martínez

(Course Reader)

“Guadalupe, Subversive Virgin” by Margaret
Randall (Course Reader)

MAYAN WOMEN IN CHIAPAS

March 9 & 11 Read: Chapters 1-4 of *With Our Heads Bowed*

March 16 & 18 SPRING BREAK

March 23 & 25 Read: Chapters 5-8 of *With Our Heads Bowed*

TAKE HOME MIDTERM

LIBERATION THEOLOGY

March 30 & April 1 Read: "Latin American Feminist Theology" by Maria Pilar
Aquino (Course Reader)

“Final Statement: Latin American Conference on Theology
from the Perspective of Women” (Course Reader)

FIELD WORK DUE THURSDAY, APRIL 1

RACE AND POPULAR CHRISTIANITY – BRAZIL

April 6 & 8 Read: Chapters 1-3 in *Blessed Anastacia*

April 13 & 15 Read: Chapters 4-6 in *Blessed Anastacia*

RESPONSE PAPER DUE THURSDAY, APRIL 15

EVANGELICALS AND PENTECOSTALS

April 20 & 22 Read: Chapters 1-3 in *The Reformation of Machismo*

April 27 & 29 Chapters 4-6 in *Machismo*

May 4 & 6 Chapters 7 & 8 in *Machismo*

RESPONSE PAPER DUE MAY 6
FINAL EXAMINATION - MAY 18, 3:30 PM