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Wartburg Theological Seminary
Feminist Theologies
1 credit elective
Spring 2022

HT 231W - Feminist Theologies

Course Description

In the choir of voices that constitute systematic theology in the 21st century, one of the most important sections of the choir is that of feminist theologians. While feminist theology has deep roots in the Christian tradition, it has only been since the late 20th century that the work of feminist theologians has received a wide audience and garnered serious consideration. Certainly, there is a great diversity among feminists, reflective of the many different contexts from which they do theology; however, it is also clear that they share many similar concerns and approaches. Many of these similarities have their roots in the oppression, abuse, and neglect that many women in the church in particular, and in society as a whole, have experienced in the past, and are still experiencing today.

In our current context, feminist theologians are raising issues and challenging traditional church doctrines in ways that are deeply meaningful and relevant not only for women, but for all Christians and the larger life of the church in the world. Therefore, it is of critical importance that women and men who are planning to serve the church in public ministry have both an understanding and appreciation of feminist theologies. This course seeks to provide students with both, looking at a variety of voices representing different ethnic, national, gender and ecumenical backgrounds, while also focusing on Feminist Lutheran voices and different views of Jesus Christ and the cross.

This course will run as a seminar, with a focus on discussion—with active student participation and leadership—with little lecture. Students will have the opportunity to focus on particular voices that delve into theological approaches that are most interesting to them.