

## **Course Description**

### **RELI 2535 – Religion and Gender with Sarah Cook**

Religion and gender are both categories that have been central to human identities throughout history. From the first woman created in Genesis 2 as a “corresponding strength” to the practice of modest dress among modern Muslims, religious texts and traditions actively inform the way that people articulate their gender identities. Individuals, as in the case of the queer nuns known as “The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence,” can also push back against traditional religious gender roles and change the narrative of gender within their communities. In this course, we will discuss contemporary gender theory and explore how religious communities all over the world throughout history have constructed gender for their adherents. We will also investigate where and how these religious constructions of gender have been disrupted.