

The College of the Humanities
Religion Program
RELI 3222A Women in Early Christianity

Prof. Janet H. Tulloch

Credit: 0.5

Office: Paterson 2A57

Office Hours: Wed. Noon-1:30pm

Phone: 520-2600 X 3085

Electronic Aid: WebCT

Time: Wed. 8:35 – 11:25AM

Place: River Building 1201

Email: Course WebCT (first)

JanetTulloch@cunet.carleton.ca (second)

Calendar Blurb:

“The role and presence of women in early Christianity up to the 3rd century, including women among Jesus' followers, women with authority in Paul's churches, and the changing role of women as Christianity became a Roman religion.” This particular section of the course will examine women's role in the early Church up to the 4th century and will include examples of visual and material culture as part of the primary sources examined.

Required Texts/Readings:

1. Osiek, Carolyn, Margaret Y. MacDonald with Janet H. Tulloch. *A Woman's Place: House Churches in Earliest Christianity*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2006.
2. This text will be supplemented by journal articles available for downloading through the MacOdrum library and listed on the course WebCT.
3. New Testament and Apocrypha; <http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/>

Specific reading for each class will be available on the course WebCT in early September.

Requirements for successful completion of the course:

1. Book review – 20%
2. Short Assignment: mini research paper – 20%
3. Midterm: Take home essay based on readings – 20%
4. Final Exam – 40%

Except for the final exam, specific instructions for each assignment and its evaluation rubric will be available on the course WebCT in early September.

Conceptual framework for course:

One of the most interesting questions that has been posed about “Women in early Christianity” in recent years suggests a tension between historians of religion who are interested in reconstructing the lives of women in early Christian history, and Religious Studies scholars who are engaged in the rhetorical criticism of texts and images. This tension has been framed as “Real Women or Objects of Discourse? The Search for Early Christian Women” by L. Stephanie Cobb in *Religion Compass* 3/3 (2009): 379–394. In this course, we will keep this question in mind as we probe diverse primary sources (including visual imagery) for what they might be able to tell us about women’s roles in the origins of the Christian church.

Course Calendar:

September	12	Problems, questions, themes in the primary sources
	19	The women among Jesus’ followers
	26	Mary Magdalene – Book review due (20%)
October	03	Women and the politics of marriage
	10	House Church leaders and female authority
	17	Women as Agents of Expansion – Short Assignment: Mini research paper due (20%)
	24	Women Martyrs
	31	Women perceived as “heretics” within the early Church
November	07	Thecla and other women’s stories – Midterm: Take home essay based on readings due (20%)
	14	Ordained women in the early Church
	21	Women in early Christian catacomb art
	28	The end of female authority in the early Church?

December

Final Exam scheduled during the Exam period (40%) – TBA

Course Policies:

Students are expected to come to class prepared (i.e. readings are done and any questions related to readings, jotted down). Attendance in class will not be taken. If you expect to do well in this course, attendance for the entire three hours **MUST** be the student's priority for each class. I will **not** be **posting my course notes** on WebCT nor supplying notes to students who have missed class. The student is expected to **listen actively** and to **record important points during each lecture** to use in preparation for the midterm and final exam. **Questions to clarify concepts are especially welcome during class.** There will also be time for student discussion as there are no tutorials in this course. **Office hours are Wednesdays after class** until 1:30pm and by appointment.

The following **classroom etiquette will be enforced:**

1. Do not get up and walk out in the middle of a lecture or when a fellow student is asking a question. If you must leave due to an emergency, do so quietly and with due consideration of others.
2. Students are **not allowed to text or use phones** during class. All phones must be turned off at the beginning of class, including the professor's.
3. **Computer use in the classroom is limited** to taking lecture notes unless otherwise directed by the professor.

Beginning immediately, please send any **email communication** to me via the course WebCT email. Please allow up to 48 hours for a response. Students may also contact Barb Truscott: barbtruscott@cunet.carleton.ca concerning administrative matters.

All **course communication** to students will be done through the course WebCT page including group emails and announcements. Be sure to **check the course web page regularly** for updates and before coming to class.

It is not an option to claim you did not receive a course-related announcement because you don't **read/use WebCT :-).**

Students are expected to read all instructions for written assignments carefully before asking for clarification. Written **assignments are due at 16:00h** on the **date stated above on the course calendar**.

Late assignments will be penalized 1% of your final mark for the course per day excluding weekends. I do not accept electronic copies. Assignments not handed in during the class period may be deposited in the “DROP-BOX” outside of Paterson Hall 2A37. Do not slide them underneath my office door as **I am not responsible for “lost” assignments**.

Students who have **difficulty writing academic papers** are highly encouraged to register early with the Writing Tutorial Centre in Paterson Hall. **Clear writing is a priority in this course**.

All **assignment grades** will be posted on WebCT when they are marked.

PLEASE NOTE: **Extra credit work** to raise a low grade will **not be accepted**. The weight given to assignments and/or exams is fixed both for individuals and the class as a whole. **Requests for extensions** to assignments will be considered on a case by case basis. Please attach supporting documentation to your request.

REGULATIONS COMMON TO ALL HUMANITIES COURSES

COPIES OF WRITTEN WORK SUBMITTED

Always retain for yourself a copy of all essays, term papers, written assignments or take-home tests submitted in your courses.

PLAGIARISM

The University Senate defines plagiarism as “*presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.*” This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in “*substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs.*”

Plagiarism is a serious offence which cannot be resolved directly with the course’s instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They can include a final grade of “F” for the course

GRADING SYSTEM

Letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

A+ = 90-100 (12)	B = 73-76 (8)	C - = 60-62 (4)
A = 85-89 (11)	B- = 70-72 (7)	D+ = 57-59 (3)
A- = 80-84 (10)	C+ = 67-69 (6)	D = 53-56 (2)
B+ = 77-79 (9)	C = 63-66 (5)	D - = 50-52 (1)

F	Failure. Assigned 0.0 grade points
ABS	Absent from final examination, equivalent to F
DEF	Official deferral (see “Petitions to Defer”)
FND	Failure with no deferred exam allowed -- assigned only when the student has failed the course on the basis of inadequate term work as specified in the course outline.

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean.

WITHDRAWAL WITHOUT ACADEMIC PENALTY

The last date to withdraw from **FALL TERM** courses is **DEC. 3, 2012**. The last day to withdraw from **FALL/WINTER (Full Term)** and **WINTER** term courses is **APRIL 10, 2013**.

REQUESTS FOR ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term because of disability, pregnancy or religious obligations. Please review the course outline promptly and write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. You can visit the Equity Services website to view the policies and to obtain more detailed information on academic accommodation at: carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your **Letter of Accommodation** at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (*if applicable*). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (*if applicable*).

PETITIONS TO DEFER

If you miss a final examination and/or fail to submit a **FINAL** assignment by the due date because of circumstances beyond your control, you may apply a deferral of examination/assignment. If you are applying for a deferral due to illness you will be required to see a physician in order to confirm illness and obtain a medical certificate dated no later than one working day after the examination or assignment deadline. This supporting documentation must specify the date of onset of the illness, the degree of incapacitation, and the expected date of recovery.

If you are applying for a deferral for reasons other than personal illness, please [contact](#) the Registrar’s Office directly for information on other forms of documentation that we accept.

Deferrals of assignments must be supported by confirmation of the assignment due date, for example a copy of the course outline specifying the due date and any documented extensions from the course instructor.

Deferral applications for examination or assignments must be submitted within **5 working days** of the original final exam.

ADDRESSES: (Area Code 613)

College of the Humanities 520-2809	300 Paterson
Greek and Roman Studies Office 520-2809	300 Paterson
Religion Office 520-2100	2A39 Paterson
Registrar's Office 520-3500	300 Tory
Student Academic Success Centre 520-7850	302 Tory
Paul Menton Centre 520-6608/TTY 520-3937	501 Uni-Centre
Writing Tutorial Service 520-2600 Ext. 1125	4 th Floor Library
Learning Support Service 520-2600 Ext 1125	4 th Floor Library