PLEASE NOTE CAREFULLY:

The full set of school regulations and procedures is contained in the Undergraduate Student Handbook which is available online at your MyAberdeen page. Students are expected to familiarise themselves not only with the contents of this leaflet but also with the contents of the Handbook. Therefore, ignorance of the contents of the Handbook will not excuse the breach of any School regulation or procedure.

You must familiarise yourself with this important information at the earliest opportunity.

COURSE CO-ORDINATOR/COURSE TEAM

Course Coordinator: Dr Marie-Luise Ehrenschwendtner
Email: m.ehrenschwendtner@abdn.ac.uk
Telephone: 01224-273110
Office: 210, Crombie Annexe
Office Hours: tbc

Discipline Administration:

Mrs Claire Hargaden
50-52 College Bounds
Room CB001
01224 272366
divrs@abdn.ac.uk
TIMETABLE
Seminars
Monday 12pm – 1pm Taylor, A12
Friday 10am – 12pm Taylor, A12

Students can view their university timetable at
http://www.abdn.ac.uk/infohub/study/timetables-550.php

COURSE DESCRIPTION
The course will examine the spiritual issues and practical challenges that confronted religious women in the Middle Ages. Community life and library production differed widely according to the rules the women followed, the resources they had command of, and their daily experiences. Additionally, the course will look into the piety of secular women whose religious aspirations were restricted by household chores and their duties as wives and mothers. The sources we will use are chosen from the women’s own writings, from biographies and from theoretical texts which contemplate the ‘nature of women’.

INTENDED AIMS AND LEARNING OUTCOMES
The course will give students deeper insights into the lives of medieval religious women in the context of their environment. The course will familiarise students with historical sources and methodologies and will provide students with a deeper understanding of religious, spiritual and theological developments during the Middle Ages.

LECTURE/SEMINAR PROGRAMME
Week 1: Female Lifestyles during the Middle Ages
St Thomas Aquinas, Summa Theologiae 2a2ae. q178, a2.

Week 2: Hildegard of Bingen


Week 3: The Helfta Mystics: Mechthild of Magdeburg and Gertrud of Helfta


Week 4: Mendicants: Clare of Assisi; Female Followers of St. Dominic: Extracts from *The Lives of the Sisters of Unterlinden*


Week 5: The Beguine and Heretic: Marguerite Porète


**Week 6: Anchoresses: The Ancrene Wisse and Julian of Norwich**


**Week 7: Margery Kempe, Housewife, Pilgrim and Mystic**


**Week 8: The Doctor of the Church: Catherine of Siena**


**Week 9: Married but ...: Angela of Foligno and Catherine of Genoa**


Week 10: **Reformation Period Women: Caritas Pirckheimer, a Humanist and Abbess and Jeanne de Jussie, a Poor Clare in Reformation Geneva**


Week 11: **Reformation Period Women: Katharina Zell, a Protestant Minister’s Wife**


**ASSESSMENT**

**PLEASE NOTE:** In order to pass a course on the first attempt, a student must attain a Common Grading Scale (CGS) mark of at least E3 on each element of course assessment. Failure to do so will result in a grade of no greater than CGS E1 for the course as a whole.

One Essay (40%; 3000-3500 words)
One Seminar Presentation (10%)
One Three Hour Examination
ESSAYS (40%)
Essays should be between 3000 and 3500 words long, including quotations and footnotes; students should note that they will be penalised for work which is either too long or too short.

In research and writing your essay you are encouraged to follow up relevant topics of particular interest to you. However, you should refine the precise topic of your essay in consultation with the course lecturer well in advance of the due date. This is to ensure that you haven’t taken on something too ambitious in terms of time, effort and word-limit.

Presentation (10%):
A written summary of the content of the presentation is to be submitted the day before the presentation is given. One copy of the summary should be handed in with essay cover-sheet before 4 pm the day before the presentation.

ASSESSMENT DEADLINES
Essay: 19th November 2015

SUBMISSION ARRANGEMENTS
Submit one paper copy to the drop boxes in CB008 in 50-52 College Bounds and one electronic copy to Turnitin via MyAberdeen. Both copies to be submitted by 3.00pm on the due date.

Please note: Failure to submit both an electronic copy to TurnitinUK and an identical paper copy, with the digital receipt attached, will result in a deduction of marks. Failure to submit to TurnitinUK will result in a zero mark.

EXAMINATION
The exam will be three hours long and will count for 50% of the final mark. General exam guidance will be given in the Student Handbook.
RESIT INFORMATION
100% Examination
Access to the resit which is provisional on:

- All submitted coursework having been submitted and graded at CGS 6 or higher.
- Student having a valid Class Certificate. Students with C7s are not eligible for resits.

Past exam papers can be viewed at http://www.abdn.ac.uk/library/learning-and-teaching/for-students/exam-papers/.