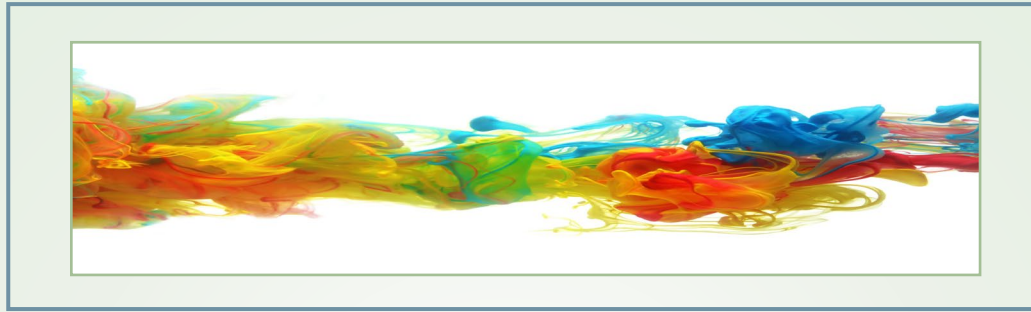


HNRS 2020

CONTEMPORARY CHRISTIAN THOUGHT

SPRING 2022 TTH 3-4:20PM

INSTRUCTOR: DR. MADHURI YADLAPATI



Are you curious about how religion has been affected by the cultural movements of feminism, queer theory, race studies, and atheism? While many assume these contemporary movements are antithetical to Christianity, there has also been a vibrant paradigm shift over the past fifty years and many Christian thinkers have taken the insights drawn from these social movements to be consistent with and central to Christian liberation as portrayed by Jesus in the first century. The result is an interesting set of conversations.

We will enter into these conversations by reading deeply in liberation theology, feminism, queer theology, non-theism, and interreligious studies. Can Christianity free itself from a cultural history of patriarchy and racism? What ideological resources have people found in Christian scripture to support anti-racist activism or marriage equality? How have feminists thought differently about Christian views of sin and grace? How have postmodern insights, religious diversity, and atheism impacted how Christians speak of God? Is this still Christian? To what degree do these constructive proposals represent a subversion of Christianity or embody Christian liberation?

While the course deals with Christian thought, it does not presume or preclude any confessional stance. We will read profound texts with a critical eye, discuss the questions they raise, and analyze their relationship to each other as we understand their intellectual, social, and political context.



“It is the mark of an educated mind to be able to entertain a thought without accepting it.” --Aristotle