

Professor Anne Schuurman
Winter 2017
Wednesdays 9:30-12:30
Somerville House 2348

English 9146B:
Saints and Heretics: Mysticism, Gender, and the Legitimacy of the Middle Ages

In their 2010 book *The Legitimacy of the Middle Ages*, Andrew Cole and Vance Smith

Work:

All written work must be submitted both in hard copy in class **and** in electronic format (Word or RTF). I may use plagiarism-checking software.

Weekly response papers (5 over the term x 4% = 20% of course grade)

You must submit **five** short response papers (750 words max) in which you discuss and analyze a key idea or passage in the reading assigned for the week; do not summarize or generalize. Your papers must be submitted electronically (in Word or RTF by email attachment) to me by Tuesday at 12:00 pm of each week. Do not submit a response paper

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage of a text from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. **Plagiarism is a major academic offense.**

See the Scholastic Offence Policy in Western Academic Calendar:

http://uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

On mental health:

Students who are in emotional or mental distress should refer to MentalHeath@Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Class Schedule

Jan 11: Introductions

Jan 18: Basic concepts.

Symposium, 201D-212A); from *Phaedrus*
- *Republic*,

book 7, 514A-518B).

Bernard McGinn, *Foundations of Mysticism*, pp. 108-182.

Jan 25: Basic concepts.

The Wooing of Our Lord.

Julian of Norwich, *A Revelation of Love*, chapters 1-43.

Mar 8: Sacred and Profane.

Margery Kempe, from *The Book of Margery Kempe*.
Georges Bataille, from *Guilty*.

Mar 15: Sacred and Profane.

Angela of Foligno, from *The Book of the Blessed Angela of Foligno*.
Georges Bataille, from *Inner Experience*.

Mar 22: Affliction and Ethics

Simone Weil, *Grace and Gravity*.

Mar 29: Affliction and Ethics.

Simone Weil, from *Intimations of Christianity Among the Ancient Greeks*.

Apr 5: Course Conclusion.