All precourse assignments should be emailed to the Course of Study office by September 21, 2015.

Course Description and Outcomes
This course will explore the lived realities of women which provides the content and context of their theological development. We will discuss the theological themes, issues, and doctrines that have come to the fore in the emergence and development of this school of thought.

The students will be able to (1) identify the emerging themes of feminist/womanist theology; (2) critically articulate the historical development and contemporary concerns of these theological movements; (3) demonstrate application/increased knowledge/dialogue regarding women’s theological concerns and issues in the church/community.

Required Textbooks

Precourse Assignments
Submit assignment #1 and 2 for precourse work by September 21, 2015.

1. Read BOTH REQUIRED texts.
2. At the end of each chapter in *Introducing Feminist Theology* there are discussion questions. Select 2-3 questions and discuss them in a 2-page paper for each chapter. Your engagement of the questions should be based on the reading and your own experience. 25% of grade
3. *Hope in the Holler*. Write a paper engaging the following questions: 25% of grade
   a. What is the social / political context for the development of Womanist theology (what is happening in the world or community that contributed to the development of this theology)?
   b. What is its point of departure (pivotal issues that are central to its development – like racism, sexism, heterosexism, ageism, etc. – the isms of life)?
   c. What are its main tenets (beliefs or principals)?
   d. What religious or other themes are identified in the resources? Are there recurring
themes?

e. What specific ideas of God, Jesus Christ, and/or the (Holy) Spirit (Ghost), scripture are portrayed by the women in this resources?
f. What is the understanding of the Church, Christianity, and/or Religion?
g. How are Women portrayed in the resources?
h. What are some concrete responses of Women to their circumstances?
i. What Womanist/ Feminist principles/ new learnings do you discern from this text?

**Required Out of Class Assignment** (Do both assignments)

**Prepare an outline for discussion in class**

1. Google *The Whiteness Project: PBS doc explores what it means to be White*. Whitney Dow is being interviewed about his documentary on Whiteness in America. Listen to the full interview – 23.5 minutes and the responses. Note your own responses to the interview questions. Be prepared to discuss in class: How do the issues of ethnicity/ whiteness parallel to the discussion/ issues of whiteness? Be prepared to discuss the Statement “Whiteness is often defined in terms of blackness”. How divers is your work, your church, your social life, your home – in terms of gender and ethnicity? How does a person’s gender or ethnicity info or influence their theological understandings? Bring your own questions and responses to the interview to engage in with the class.

2. Visit a worship service lead by a person of a different gender and race from you and do a Womanist/ Feminist critique. Critique the service in terms of language, inclusiveness of gender, age, ethnicity, or any other issues that might exclude. In what way is the service new or different for you – Order of worship, content of worship, music, preaching style? What is the theological underpinning of the service? What new learning did you glean from this experience? Did you feel like “the other or the only one”. Explain that experience of “otherness or only” and its impact on you theologically. How was your life and engagement of theology impacted through this worship experience? If you are unable to attend a worship service as described above – you may interview a person – outside your household and who is not a relative. You may use the questions above and the questions outlined in assignment #2 of your precourse assignment or you may develop you own questions for the interview.

**Bring your outline, to turn in and discuss, to class on Nov. 6-7. This assignment is 35% of your grade**
Guidelines for Written Assignments

• All papers should be typed, double-spaced, on 8 ½” by 11” paper, unless the instructor has asked for a different format specifically within the precourse work. Font should be Times New Roman or something similar and no larger than size 12. Margins are to be 1” on all four sides of each page.
• All papers must include a page number and the last name of the student in either the header or footer of every page.
• You should note the question you are answering at the beginning of each new section of materials.
• All papers should provide citations for all quoted material. You may use MLA, Turabain, APA or Chicago Style.
• Punctuation should be consistent; clarity of meaning is the primary purpose of punctuation. Edit and retype material as needed and check spelling in a standard dictionary.
• All papers should attempt to eliminate discriminatory language—for example: racism, ageism, sexism, classism, and prejudicial usage concerning handicapping conditions.

Inclusive Language Covenant

The faculty of Emory Course of Study School has adopted a covenant statement encouraging inclusiveness in the use of language, as follows:

The Inclusive Language Covenant is designed to create a linguistic environment in which all students, staff, and faculty can grow in understanding and appreciating the rich diversity of God’s people. The COS faculty commits itself—through continued discussion, reflection, and exploration—to using language in such a way that we respond to the fullness of God’s presence among us as much by our choice of words as by our care for one another. Recognizing that our experience with inclusive language is an integral part of theological formation, we invite students and others to share as partners with us in this learning process.

We understand “covenant” more in terms of its biblical and theological meaning than in a legal or contractual context. Covenant signifies the common commitment of a community of faith in response to God’s revelation and in partnership with one another. The values implied in the covenant have morally persuaded us to try to generate patterns of speech and behavior that bond the members of the community in mutual respect. We expect all members of the community to address issues of diversity constructively. The entire Inclusive Language Covenant can be found on the COS website, and you are encouraged to read the whole covenant.
Directions to Email Precourse Assignments
Please read all the directions below before emailing your assignments to the COS Office, any emails received that do not follow the directions below will not be accepted. You will receive an email confirmation of receipt and if your email is not submitted correctly an email indicating you will need to resend your assignments.

1. Email only michelle.levan@emory.edu your precourse assignments, do not email assignments to the instructors. You are encouraged to email the instructors questions about the assignments.
2. Email must be received no later than 11:59pm on the deadline of September 21st.
   a. Please note that the cut off time is EASTERN STANDARD TIME zone, so email your assignments accordingly.
   b. Any precourse work received after September 21st at 11:59pm will be subject to a late penalty.
      • Precourse work received between September 22nd–September 27th is 1 letter grade deduction.
      • Precourse work received between September 28th–October 1st is 2 letter grade deductions.
      • You will be drop from the course if your precourse work is not submitted by October 1st. No precourse work will be accepted at check-in.
3. The course number and the phrase “precourse work” should be the subject of your email:
   Example - Precourse Work ACOS
   a. You will need to send a separate email for each course you are registered to attend.
4. Precourse work must be sent as an attached document and not in the body of the email.
   a. Any version of Microsoft Word will be accepted; PDF, Word Perfect, and Mac-Pages documents will not be accepted. If you are using another type of word processing program please convert your document to a version of Microsoft Word before sending.
   b. All assignments for each course must be in one document, multiple documents are not acceptable. You should send only one attachment with all course assignments; emails sent with multiple documents will not be accepted.
5. Your FULL name, phone number and email, should all be clearly included at the beginning of your email. See Example
6. Plagiarism Policy and Plagiarism Defined
   The plagiarism Policy and Defined paragraphs below must be included in the body of your email (both are below), not within your precourse work. The inclusion of the policy and definition in the body of the email, verifies that you agree to it and your email will represent your signature (which is a requirement). If the email does not include the plagiarism policy and definition it will not be accepted. Your email, with the plagiarism policy and definition will be printed and used as the cover sheet for your precourse assignments, because it has the verification of date and time received, and your agreement to the plagiarism policy and definition.
   Plagiarism Policy - I have read the plagiarism definition below and verify that this assignment represents my own work, except where credit is given.
   Plagiarism Defined: “You plagiarize when, intentionally or not, you use someone else’s words or ideas but fail to credit that person, leading your readers to think that those words are yours. In all fields, you plagiarize when you use a source’s words or ideas without citing that source. In most fields, you plagiarize even when you do credit the source but use its exact words without using quotation marks or block indentation” (201-202). Booth, Wayne C. Booth, Gregory G. Colomb, and Joseph M. Williams. The Craft of Research, Second Edition. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press, 2003.
7. If you do not follow the procedure your precourse work WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED! You will receive a confirmation of receipt within 24 hours or notice to resubmit following the process.