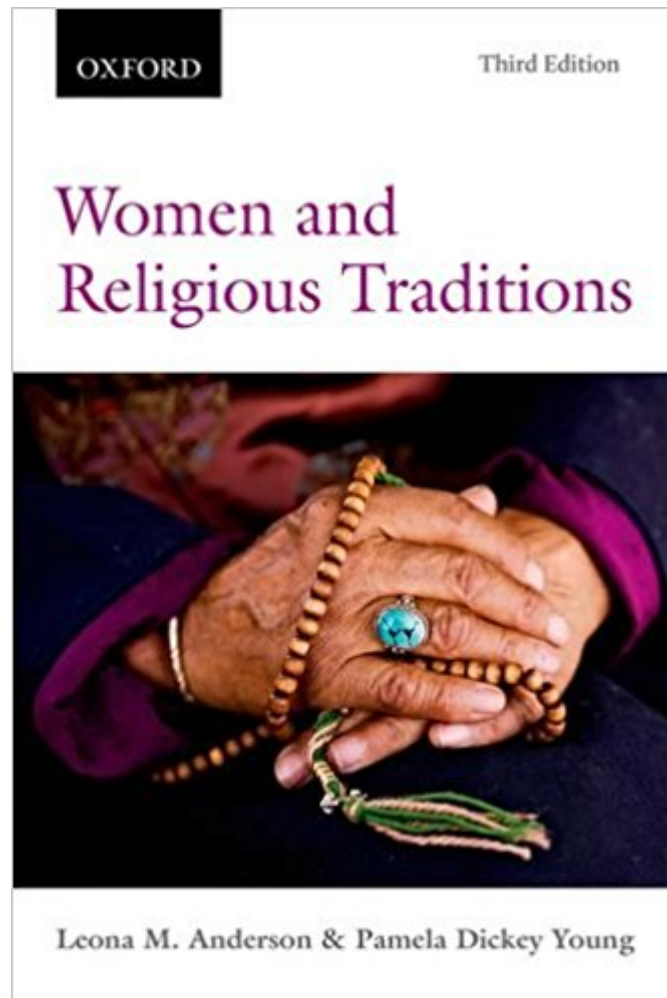




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Women And Religious Traditions



Synopsis

Women and Religious Traditions uses a critical feminist lens to explore the roles and interactions of women with major world faith traditions. Within each particular tradition, the text examines the history and status of women, family structures, sexuality, and social change, as well as texts, rituals, and interpretations by and for women. Thirteen experts contribute nine chapters and five case studies, including a new case study on women in Chinese traditions. This third edition builds on the strengths of the first two, with the addition of lived religion content in each chapter, an expanded introduction to the study of women and religion, new research on Buddhist nuns, and up-to-date material on women's current political position in Islamic countries.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Excellent, cutting-edge scholarship, compellingly written and made accessible to undergraduates. . . . This is a top-notch book." --Michele Murray, Bishop's University
"Extremely readable. . . . An excellent introduction to the topic. . . . The chapters do a very good job introducing students to the religious tradition in question, and the structure of each chapter, despite the different authors, helps the student of comparative religion to analyze the information." --Ariana Patey, Memorial University of Newfoundland

Leona M. Anderson is Professor Emeritus, Department of Religious Studies at University of Regina.
Pamela Dickey Young is Professor of Religious Studies at Queen's University.

This is required reading for a class I registered for in Religious Studies. I already read the book before the semester began and I think that had I discovered the book on my own would have found it interesting. As described it is written from a feminist perspective so it mostly kvetches about the fact that throughout history women's points of view and contributions to history in various religious cultures are largely absent. I did have to do some follow up reading on various points made in some of the chapters where assertions were made or not fully fleshed out. I really hoped to glean more about the roles women have in religious traditions -- read: gender roles -- as the title misleads one to believe the book tell. The book's organization is also poorly executed, going from oldest religion to newest religion. It would have been better to organize it based on the relationships of the cultures, rather than on their chronology of existence. For example, Chapter 1 is Hinduism, Chapter 2 is Judaism, then much later in the book Buddhism is discussed and later still Sikhism. And actually that is how I read the book. It didn't make sense to me to read it in the order it was published.

Good textbook. Sometimes a little dry.

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