

The DU-CU 2019 Week of Jewish Philosophy

Religion & Feminism

2 events with visiting scholar Prof. Mara Benjamin
Wednesday & Thursday, April 10 & 11, 2019

Wednesday, April 10, 2019 • 11:30am-1:00pm

Embodiment in Jewish Feminist Theology

Seminar @ CU Boulder; Location shared upon RSVP

Space is limited; RSVP to CUJewishStudies@colorado.edu or [here](#)

Can human bodies be holy? Can they help us understand the divine, or only separate us from it? In contesting the denigration of both corporeality and women in Western thought, feminist theologians have identified the embrace of embodiment as a central task. In the eyes of Jewish feminist thinkers, rabbinic texts and practices offer a mixed legacy for embarking on the project of reclaiming the role of the body. Professor Mara Benjamin's talk will examine embodiment as both obstacle and path to God, using Rachel Adler's "Tumah and Taharah: Ends and Beginnings" (1976) and her later recantation of that essay, "In Your Blood, Live: Re-Visions of a Theology of Purity" (1993).

**Please RSVP
today!**

Thursday, April 11, 2019 • 5:00-7:00pm

From Embodiment to Intersubjectivity: Rethinking Feminist Views on Maternity

Seminar @ DU; Location & readings shared upon RSVP

Space is limited; RSVP to cjs@du.edu

Childbearing and childrearing hold a complicated place in feminist thought: motherhood anchors the identification of women with embodiment in Western philosophy; at the same time, maternity offers untapped resources for rethinking bodies, intersubjectivity, ethics, and other fundamental questions. In this seminar, Professor Mara Benjamin will draw on Judith Plaskow's "Woman as Body: Motherhood & Dualism" to assess the risks of and rewards of giving maternity a central role in feminist thought.

Mara Benjamin is Irene Kaplan Leiwant Associate Professor of Jewish Studies at Mount Holyoke College. She is the author of *Rosenzweig's Bible: Reinventing Scripture for Jewish Modernity* (Cambridge, 2009) and *The Obligated Self: Maternal Subjectivity and Jewish Thought* (Indiana, 2018). She holds a Ph.D. in modern Jewish thought from Stanford University and has taught at the University of Washington, Yale University, and St. Olaf College.



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