Osher Online™

A program of the Osher National Resource Center
at Northwestern University School of Professional Studies

WINTER2027

Women, Sainthood, and Power

This course explores the lives of female saints through history, religion, psychology, women's and gender studies, and cultural studies. Through figures such as Joan of Arc, Teresa of Avila, Rose of Lima, Frances Cabrini, and others, participants will examine women whose strength, complexity, and influence challenge narrow stereotypes of sainthood. Their stories reveal strategies of resistance, adaptation, and leadership within the limits of their times and invite reflection on their relevance today.



[Click here to view course promo video]

YOUR INSTRUCTOR: Olivia Espin



Oliva Espín is professor emerita in the department of women's studies at San Diego State University and the California School of Professional Psychology of Alliant International University. A native of Cuba, she received her BA in Psychology from the University of Costa Rica and her PhD from the University of Florida, specializing in counseling and therapy with women from different cultures and in Latin American Studies. She did post-doctoral work at Harvard University with a fellowship from the National Institute of Mental Health.

TUESDAYS, FEBRUARY 2 THROUGH MARCH 9

2pmPT | 3pmMT | 4pmCT | 5pmET

Each live session is 90 minutes

- Tuesday, February 2
- Tuesday, February 9
- Tuesday, February 16
- Tuesday, February 23
- Tuesday, March 2
- Tuesday, March 9

To register, please contact your local Osher Institute.