Women's changing status and activism from roughly 1600 to 1865. Topics include witchcraft, religion, slavery, law, work, family, sexuality, and the first women's rights movement, in each case exploring how evolving ideas about women's "place" were implicated with larger concepts of order and with the actual experience of various groups. We will also explore the gender dimensions of big events: the American Revolution, the Industrial Revolution, and the Civil War. Exams will feature essays in which students draw their own conclusions after integrating information and insights from readings, lectures, discussions, and documentary films.