

Professor Leslie Caroline Kelly (Caroline)
Office Hours Tu/Th 11:00-12:30 in 2114 MHRA
Email: via Blackboard

History 222: European History 1400 to 1789: From Renaissance to Revolution

Course Description

This course will begin with the year 1400 and trace the intellectual, political, and social history of the European states to 1789. The schedule is roughly chronological. Topics covered will include: the Renaissance, the Reformation, the Scientific Revolution, the Age of Exploration, the Enlightenment, and the French Revolution. The goal of this course is to facilitate a nuanced understanding of the events and peoples that have shaped pre-modern Europe. Much of the course will focus on intellectual and social history and the evidence base consulted will be largely textual with some attention paid to material culture for specific topics (such as developments in technology and everyday life in the 1700s).

Course Format

This course has 4 parts: lecture, primary source readings, textbook readings (including maps), and discussion. The lectures and the textbook will serve to direct your attention to those facts/events/places that will be essential for a scholarly discussion of the early history of Europe and will be most likely to appear on quizzes and in the exams. Lectures will be interactive and students will also be expected to participate in regular class debates and discussions. In addition, readings from pre-modern Europe will be assigned regularly which will serve as a window into the social and political communities of the past. A good understanding of the primary source readings will be necessary for class discussion (which counts toward the class participation grade) and will appear on the quizzes and the final exam. Students are responsible for all of the material assigned and students are expected to bring texts assigned for discussion to class. These assignments will be posted to Blackboard and must be printed out by the student. In addition to quizzes, there will be a mid-term exam (in class) and a final (based on lectures and assigned readings since the beginning of the semester).

Grading

The learning goals for this class are 1) memorization of significant persons, places, events of European history 1400-1789 2) ability to place a primary source within a larger historical context 3) ability to communicate effectively a coherent and logical argument in both oral and written form. This course concentrates on two kinds of arguments. A) situating primary source evidence within its broader historical context: students will be expected to make this type of argument primarily in examination essays but also on occasion orally as part of class discussion. B) making connections between the past and the present: this type of argument is reserved for class debates and discussions in which the purpose of the topic under review is to understand how the cultural history of Europe has relevance for modern life. The grading schema is as follows:

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15%	participation: class participation is an important component of the collective learning process. Students are expected to come to class ready to contribute and to be respectful of the contributions of others. Students will be graded on their regular attendance and on regular participation in lecture and discussions (especially for scheduled class discussions). The three components of class participation are presence, response (speaking when called upon), and quality (i.e., do your answers indicate deep engagement with the assigned materials and the topic under discussion?) You can think of class participation as consisting of about 1 point each week with a little extra factored in for the scheduled class discussions.
20%	quizzes: there will be 4 quizzes each worth 5%. The quizzes include maps and timelines as well as material covered in lecture and the readings.
30%	mid-term: an hour-long, in-class exam. This exam will include short essays as well as IDs, matching, and timelines from the readings and lectures.
35%	final: scheduled during the exam period; comprehensive; covers the lectures and readings from the beginning of the semester; consists of IDs, matching, timelines, essays

Extra Credit

Opportunities for extra credit will be offered periodically throughout the semester. These opportunities are typically only available to students who attend class on the day the extra credit assignment is given out. At the end of the semester, students may choose to make a presentation to the class on a topic to be chosen in consultation with the professor. The quality of the presentation will determine the degree of points awarded.

How to Study

Each week, students will be provided (via Blackboard) with a list of the lecture material they will need to memorize for the quizzes and exams. In addition, each chapter of the textbook includes a series of study questions. Questions that might show up on assessments will be listed on Blackboard. For class discussions and debates, directions will be posted ahead of time to Blackboard. In general, it is a good idea to allow for 2 hours each week to read the assigned material, to reflect on that material in light of posted questions, and to memorize. **Please note: some of the lecture materials overlap with the textbook but some do not. Oftentimes what you read in the textbook will help you to assess the primary source readings and help you to reflect on topics under class discussion and/or prepare for examination essays. Pay careful attention to what you are being asked to memorize and what you are being asked to just read and reflect upon. The “to memorize” section of the Blackboard should help with this.**

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Academic Integrity Policy

Students are expected to adhere to the academic integrity policy of the university. Please familiarize yourself with the policy and do not hesitate to ask if you have any questions. The policy is available online at: <http://academicintegrity.uncg.edu/process>

Required Texts

Western Heritage, 10th ed. Vol. B: 1300-1815, by Kagan, Ozment, and Turner; available at the bookstore or online ISBN 10:0-205-69979-0; ISBN 13: 978-0-205-69979-7

Materials posted to Blackboard (marked “selections” in the Course Schedule section below)

Blackboard

This course utilizes a Blackboard site. All student-instructor interaction outside the classroom and scheduled office hours will take place through this site (including email). Students are expected to check the site regularly for email notices, course information, discussion questions, things you need to memorize, and select readings and assignments. The Blackboard site will provide all directions for class preparation, assignments, grades, and any other miscellaneous classroom information. **You cannot take this class unless you can commit to regular use of Blackboard.**

Contacting the Instructor

Please contact me via Blackboard email or by coming to my regular office hours. I will respond to emails within 24 hours. My office hours are right after class, Tuesdays and Thursdays 11:00-12:30 in MRHA 2114. No appointment is necessary for regular office hours. Please note: I commute one hour each way to campus and will not ordinarily be available to meet in person outside of office hours.

Absences

Attendance is taken and frequent absences from class will be noted and will be taken into account when calculating the class participation grade. In particular, students are expected to be present on scheduled class discussion days (noted in bold in the Course Schedule below). If a student is absent on a scheduled quiz, exam, or discussion day, he or she must provide an official note and the missed work/event must be made-up in consultation with the instructor in order to receive credit. Please note: students are allowed up to 2 excused absences for religious observances and must give the instructor 2 weeks prior notification in addition to making up the assigned work/quiz/exam.

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Classroom Rules

Regular class: **At the start of every class, please sign the attendance sheet at the front and pick up your nametag. Nametags (provided) are to be legible, to include at least the initial of your last name, and prominently displayed for the duration of class.** The class is typically divided into two parts, each 35 minutes long and separated by a 5 minute break. You may leave and return to the class during the break if you wish but as a courtesy to your classmates and to the other classes around us, please move quietly and please return to class promptly. If you need to leave class for any reason, please do your best to wait until the break. Drinks are allowed. Food is discouraged. If you must eat in class, however, please be discrete. Personal conversations during class are frowned upon.

NO CELL PHONES. CELL PHONES SHOULD BE PUT AWAY AT THE START OF CLASS. CELL PHONES MAY ONLY BE VISIBLE DURING THE BREAK. YOU MAY BE ASKED TO LEAVE THE CLASS IF YOUR CELL PHONE IS VISIBLE (AND IT IS NOT THE BREAK). If you expect an emergency call to come in during class, please notify me ahead of time and take the call in the hallway. **NO WEB SURFING. YOU MAY BE ASKED TO LEAVE THE CLASS IF YOU WEB SURF. Wait until the break!**

Debate/discussion classes: Students will occasionally be asked to debate or discuss prickly topics. It can be very difficult and sometimes downright un-fun to go head to head with a complete stranger, particularly in public, but hey! the right to public debate and free discussion is the cornerstone of western civilization. So do your best to marshal your thoughts and be prepared to articulate the logic behind your position when called upon to do so. Naturally it goes without saying that our classroom is a “safe space” where everyone’s opinions will be respected.

Quizzes and exams: All quizzes will be held the first 15 minutes of class only. The mid-term and the final exam will start promptly at the beginning of class (or the scheduled exam time). No extra time will be granted to late-comers. Persons who require extra time for medical reasons will be granted it provided they produce prior official documentation to the instructor.

Course Schedule

Week of August 23

Intro to the course and overview of what came before 1400: the Medieval Mindset: the 3 Orders

The Renaissance

Kagan ch 10 (through p 302)

Week of August 30

Class Discussion: Cellini! and the Renaissance

Cellini selections

Money, Power, and the Secularization of Society: The Medici

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Week of September 6

The Secularization of Politics: Machiavelli

Machiavelli and the Prince

Machiavelli selections

Week of September 13

Quiz 1; The Reformation: Northern Renaissance and Biblical Scholarship Kagan ch 11 (through p 323)

Luther and his followers

Luther selections

Week of September 13

Calvin and the Anabaptists

Kagan ch 11 (pp 324-333);
Calvin selections

Counter-Reformation

Kagan ch 11 (pp 333-343)
St. Theresa selections

Week of September 20

Exploration and Exploitation: Slavery, Commerce, and Politics

Kagan ch 10 (pp 303-
310); ch 16 (pp 463-473)

Technological Advances in the Age of Exploration: Ships! & etc.

Week of September 27

Missionaries, Soldiers, and Gov't Flunkies: de Vaca, de las Casas, and del Castillo in the New World

Quiz 2; Slavery and the New World Class Discussion de Vaca, de las Casas, and del Castillo selections

Week of October 4

Scientific Revolution

Kagan ch 14 (through p 425);
Galileo selections

Scientific Revolution cont'd

Week of October 11

NO CLASS

MIDTERM

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Week of October 18

The Thirty Years War

Kagan ch 12 (pp 363-368)

Louis XIV and Absolutism

Week of October 25

The Merrie Monarch: Charles II and the spy game

Kagan ch 13 (through p 392)

Big Brother Class Discussion

Week of November 1

Everyday life in the 1700s

Kagan ch 15

Quiz 3; The Enlightenment: Reason and Empiricism

Locke selections

Week of November 8

The Enlightenment: Religious Toleration and Freedom

Kagan ch 17 (through p 517)

Voltaire continued

Voltaire selections

Week of November 15

Church and State Class Debate: Galileo, Locke, Voltaire, the French Revolution, and American today

Catherine the Great

Kagan ch 17 (pp 517-527)

Catherine the Great selections

Week of November 22

The Road To Revolution

Kagan ch 18

NO CLASS

Week of November 29

Quiz 4; Wrap-up and extra credit presentations

Extra credit presentations and review session

**** Exam during finals week Thursday December 9, 8:00-11:00am** **Students with more than two examinations within 24 hours** may apply to the University Registrar's Office, 180 Mossman Building, for permission to change their exam schedules. The usual policy is to change the middle examination in a sequence of three. Requests must be filed **by 5:00 P.M., December 6, 2010.**