

## **HIS 222-01 EUROPE 1350-1789: FROM RENAISSANCE TO REVOLUTION**

Fall Semester 2016  
Tuesdays and Thursdays 11:00-12:15  
MHRA 1215

### **Contact Information:**

Instructor: Jodi Bilinkoff  
Office: MHRA 2127  
Office Hours: Tues, Thurs 1:00-1:45 PM and by appointment  
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### **Required Reading for Course:**

This course is based upon a set of primary source documents. A course packet containing these documents is available for purchase from the UNCG Bookstore. Please bring this packet with you to class, as we will be examining the documents together.

For purposes of reference I have ordered the textbook by Jonathan W. Zophy, *A Short History of Renaissance and Reformation Europe: Dances over Fire and Water*, 4<sup>th</sup> edition. Upper Saddle River: NJ: Pearson Prentice Hall, 2009. ISBN: 978-0-13-605628-7. This book is also available for purchase at the UNCG Bookstore, however, buying books via the internet usually results in considerable savings.

## Course Syllabus:

T	8/23	Introduction to Course; W. Europe in 1350: An Ordered Society? Zephy 9-12
Th	8/25	W. Europe in 1350: An Ordered Society? Zephy 12-17, 23-25
T	8/30	Christianity Comes to Europe: A Brief History
Th	9/1	W. Europe in 1350: A Christian Society
T	9/6	Petrarch and Humanism Zephy 71-73 "The Ascent of Mont Ventoux" [Primary Source]
Th	9/8	Discussion; <b>Learning Exercise 1</b> Student Introductions
T	9/13	Humanism and Politics; Machiavelli Zephy 55-57, 80-81 <i>The Prince</i> , excerpts (e-reserves) Epistle Dedicatory (Dedicatory Letter), chs.14, 15, 17, 18, 23, 25, 26 [Primary Source]
Th	9/15	Machiavelli <i>The Prince</i> chs. 14, 15, 17, 18, 23, 25, 26 [Primary Source]
T	9/20	Discussion; <b>Learning Exercise 2</b>
Th	9/22	1492 and Beyond; "The Columbian Exchange" Zephy 129-137

T	9/27	Discovery and Self-Discovery Zophy 157-158, 278-279
Th	9/29	Discovery and Self-Discovery; Discussion
T	10/4	Erasmus and Christian Humanism "The Shipwreck" [Primary Source] Zophy 158-161 <b>Take-Home Midterm Exam Assigned</b>
Th	10/6	Martin Luther Preface to the First Volume of Latin Writings [Primary Source] Zophy 164-171
T	10/11	Luther and the Reformation Zophy 126-27, 171-79, 183-89, 195-97
Th	10/13	John Calvin and Reformed Culture Zophy 214-226 <b>Take-Home Midterm Exam Due</b>
F	10/14	<b>Last Day to Drop Classes</b>
T	10/18	<b>Fall Break</b>
Th	10/20	Ignatius Loyola and Catholic Reform <i>Autobiography</i> , chapter 1 [Primary Source] Zophy 254-266, 299-300
T	10/25	Discussion; <b>Learning Exercise 3</b>
Th	10/27	Science, Reason Authority Zophy 301-305
T	11/1	Galileo on Science and Scripture "Letter to Castelli" [Primary Source]
Th	11/3	Absolutism, Reason, and the State Zophy 274-280, 313-315

T	11/8	The Age of Enlightenment; Voltaire Zephy 286-291, 309-312
Th	11/10	Religion Questioned, Religion Affirmed Voltaire, "Fanaticism," from his <i>Philosophical Dictionary</i> [Primary Source]
T	11/15	Consent and Slavery
Th	11/17	Thomas Jefferson "Declaration of Independence" [Primary Source]
T	11/22	Discussion; <b>Learning Exercise 4</b>
Th	11/24	<b>Thanksgiving</b>
T	11/29	Mary Wollstonecraft and "The Woman Question" Excerpts from <i>A Vindication of the Rights of Woman</i> [Primary Source]
Th	12/1	The Promise of Progress on the Eve of Revolution <b>Take-Home Final Exam Assigned</b>
F	12/9	<b>Take-Home Final Exam Due in Mailbox next to Dr. Bilinkoff's Office Door, MHRA 2127, NO LATER THAN 2:00 PM</b>  <b>Students may hand in their exams earlier if they wish.</b>

## **Guidelines and Responsibilities**

1. **Attendance Policy:** I require regular attendance for this course. We cover a great deal of material and one absence could mean missing one hundred years or more of European history! If you are not prepared to attend consistently, come on time, and stay until the end of the class period, please drop the course. A student may miss **no more than 4 classes**, for any reason. After that he/she will be dropped from the course at the sole discretion of the instructor. A student who misses 3 classes in a row will definitely be dropped. In case of an emergency, contact the Dean of Students office and they will contact all of your instructors: [deanofstudents@uncg.edu](mailto:deanofstudents@uncg.edu); (336) 334-5514.
2. **Attentiveness Policy:** If you are not prepared to pay attention and take careful notes during class periods, please drop this course. I do not make seating assignments, but if I find that students are talking together during class or behaving in such a way that distracts me or other students I will require them to change their seats. Please do not pack up your belongings until the class period is over; this can be

very distracting.

3. Laptop computers are not permitted in the classroom, except in documented cases of need. In those cases, students will be required to seat themselves so as not to distract others. Cellphones and other electronic equipment must be silenced and stowed out of sight during the class period.
4. Please read the material specified for a given class period or periods before coming to class. It is **essential** that you keep up with the syllabus. If you lose your copy, just ask me for another.
5. Grades will be based upon take-home midterm and final exams and four learning exercises carried out during discussion periods. I will describe these assignments in detail during the course of the semester. Take-home assignments must be word-processed, double-spaced, spell-checked, with standard 1" margins and 12-point font. I require hard copies of assignments; e-mail attachments will only be accepted with prior permission and in exceptional cases. I expect correctness and clarity of exposition as well as an understanding of the course content. To me, history and the way in which it is expressed are not two different things, but are rather, intimately connected. I will factor in class participation when assigning grades, including questions, comments, and responses to texts, films, etc. I also take notice of students' general mental alertness and intellectual engagement with and curiosity about the material. These are all important factors in university learning. I will formulate grades according to the following rough formula: Midterm Exam 30%, Final Exam 30%, in-class learning exercises 30%, participation, 10%.

6. All assignments are due on the days specified in the syllabus.

**RESPONSIBILITY CLAUSE:** If for **ANY** reason you are unable to hand in an assignment on time it is **YOUR** responsibility to contact me. If I am not contacted directly or by message before the due date, I will not accept late assignments. See the front page of the syllabus for contact information.

7. If you do not think you will be able to abide by these guidelines, please drop the course. The last day to drop courses without academic penalty is Friday October 14. BUT: if these guidelines seem reasonable to you, and you would like to learn about a fascinating period of history and improve your reading, writing, and analytical skills, please stay in the course!