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
E-Mail: jebilink@uncg.edu
History Department Office: (336) 334-5992 (to leave messages)

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.

Course Syllabus:

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<td><em>The Prince</em>, excerpts (e-reserves)</td>
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<td>Epistle Dedicatory (Dedicatory Letter), chs.14, 15, 17, 18, 23, 25, 26 [Primary Source]</td>
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| 9/27  | Discovery and Self-Discovery  
        Zophy 157-158, 278-279 |
| 9/29  | Discovery and Self-Discovery; Discussion |
| 10/4  | Erasmus and Christian Humanism  
        “The Shipwreck” [Primary Source]  
        Zophy 158-161  
        Take-Home Midterm Exam Assigned |
| 10/6  | Martin Luther  
        Preface to the First Volume of Latin Writings  
        [Primary Source]  
        Zophy 164-171 |
| 10/11 | Luther and the Reformation  
| 10/13 | John Calvin and Reformed Culture  
        Zophy 214-226  
        Take-Home Midterm Exam Due |
| 10/14 | Last Day to Drop Classes |
| 10/18 | Fall Break |
| 10/20 | Ignatius Loyola and Catholic Reform  
        Autobiography, chapter 1 [Primary Source]  
        Zophy 254-266, 299-300 |
| 10/25 | Discussion; Learning Exercise 3 |
| 10/27 | Science, Reason Authority  
        Zophy 301-305 |
| 11/1  | Galileo on Science and Scripture  
        “Letter to Castelli” [Primary Source] |
| 11/3  | Absolutism, Reason, and the State  
        Zophy 274-280, 313-315 |
T 11/8  The Age of Enlightenment; Voltaire
       Zophy 286-291, 309-312

Th 11/10 Religion Questioned, Religion Affirmed
      Voltaire, “Fanaticism,” from his Philosophical
      Dictionary [Primary Source]

T 11/15 Consent and Slavery

Th 11/17 Thomas Jefferson
      “Declaration of Independence” [Primary Source]

T 11/22 Discussion; Learning Exercise 4

Th 11/24 Thanksgiving

T 11/29 Mary Wollstonecraft and “The Woman Question”
      Excerpts from A Vindication of the Rights of Woman
      [Primary Source]

Th 12/1 The Promise of Progress on the Eve of Revolution
      Take-Home Final Exam Assigned

F 12/9 Take-Home Final Exam Due in Mailbox next to
       Dr. Bilinkoff’s Office Door, MHRA 2127, NO LATER
       THAN 2:00 PM

       Students may hand in their exams earlier if they wish.
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; (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!