

HIS 391-01 HISTORICAL SKILLS AND METHODS

THE AGE OF REFORMATIONS, 1500-1700

Fall Semester 2017
Tues, Thurs 2:00-3:15 PM
MHRA 1208

Instructor: Jodi Bilinkoff
Office: MHRA 2127
Office Hours: Tues, Thurs 1:00-1:45 PM and by appointment

Contact Information:

History Department Office: 336-334-5992
E-Mail: jodi_biinkoff@uncg.edu

Required Reading for Course:

Diarmaid MacCulloch, *The Reformation: A History* ISBN: 978-0143035381
William Kelleher Storey, *Writing History: A Guide for Students* ISBN: 978: 0199830046

These books are available for purchase at the UNCG Bookstore however, using the Internet usually results in considerable savings. MacCulloch's book is also on reserve at Jackson Library.

COURSE SYLLABUS

- T 8/15 Introduction to Course
History and Historiography
- Th 8/17 The Religion of Late Medieval Christians
MacCulloch 10-34
- T 8/22 Identities and Categories of Analysis
- Th 8/24 Martin Luther
MacCulloch 115-132
- T 8/29 Luther, His Followers, Detractors, and Dissenters
MacCulloch 132-157
- Th 8/31 Whose Luther?
Excerpts from writings by Heiko Oberman (to be assigned);
Lyndal Roper, "Martin Luther's Body: The 'Stout Doctor' and his
Biographers," *American Historical Review* 115-2 (Apr 2010):351-384.
[available via Journal Finder, Jackson Library home page]
- Exercise 1 Assigned—make two copies** [Historiography]
- T 9/5 Reformation from the Top: Henry VIII and England
MacCulloch 198-204, 280-295, 280-295
- Th 9/7 Catholic Reform
MacCulloch 88-105
- Exercise 1 Due—bring two copies**
- T 9/12 Distribution of Paper Topics
- Basic Data Collection Exercise Assigned**
Storey 99-108, 114-118, 119-123
- Th 9/14 Peer Review, Proof-Reading, Editing
- T 9/19 The Radical Reformation
MacCulloch 158-171, 204-212

Th 9/21 Analyzing Primary Sources: Martyrdom in the Age of Reformations
(documents to be assigned)
Storey 35-36, 39-47

Exercise 2 Assigned [Textual Analysis]

T 9/26 John Calvin and Reformed Culture
MacCulloch 193-198, 237-269, 378-82

Th 9/28 Counter-Reformation Catholicism I
MacCulloch 234-237, 297-306, 322-329

Exercise 2 Due

T 10/3 Counter-Reformation II

Th 10/5 Library Searching: Secondary Sources
Workshop with Ms Lynda Kellam, CitiLab, Jackson Library

M 10/9 **Last Day to Drop Classes**

T 10/10 **FALL BREAK**

Th 10/12 Secondary Sources and Categories of Analysis

Basic Data Collection Exercise Due

T 10/17 Oral Progress Reports

Th 10/19 Oral Progress Reports

T 10/24 Oral Progress Reports

Exercise 3 Assigned [Identifying Primary Sources]

Th 10/26 Library Searching: Primary Sources
Workshop with Ms Kathelene Smith, Special Collections, Jackson Library

T 10/31 Primary Sources: Research and Writing

Th 11/2 Building Biographies: Sources and Citation Techniques

Exercise 3 Due

T 11/7 Guidelines for Written Research Reports

Drafts Assigned—make two copies

Th 11/9 Final Oral Reports

T 11/14 Final Oral Reports

Th 11/16 Final Oral Reports

T 11/21 Peer Review, Proof-Reading, Editing

Drafts of Written Research Reports Due—bring two copies

Th 11/23 **THANKSGIVING**

T 11/28 Reformation Research and Research Skills: Where do we go from here?
Festive End of Semester

Fri 12/1 **FINAL WRITTEN PROJECT REPORTS AND ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHIES DUE IN MAILBOX NEXT TO THE DOOR TO DR. BILINKOFF'S OFFICE (MHRA 2127) NO LATER THAN 2:00 PM.**

YOU MAY HAND IN YOUR WORK EARLIER IF YOU WISH.

GUIDELINES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. **Attendance Policy:** This is a small, seminar-style course. Regular attendance and full participation by students are absolutely crucial to the success of the course. Please make every effort to attend each class meeting. If you are not prepared to come consistently, arrive on time, and stay until the end of the class, please drop the course. If you miss more than 3 classes you may be dropped at the discretion of the instructor. If you miss 3 classes in a row you will definitely be dropped. I will drop registered students who do not attend the first 2 meetings of the semester or notify me. In case of an emergency, contact the Dean of Students Office and they will contact all your instructors: (336) 334-5514 deanofstudents@uncg.edu

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. I do not allow laptops in the classroom, except in cases of documented medical need. In those cases I will require students to seat themselves so as not to distract others. Cellphones and other electronic equipment must be turned off and placed out of sight during class periods.

3. Please read the material and complete assignments for a given class period before coming to class. Be prepared to raise questions and engage in discussion. It is essential to keep up with the syllabus. If you lose your copy, just ask me for another or download a copy from the History department website: <https://his.uncg.edu/>

4. Grades will be based primarily on a series of take-home writing assignments. I will hand out a schedule of assignments and describe them in detail after the drop/add period is over. Assignments must be word-processed, double-spaced, spell-checked, with 12-point fonts and standard 1" margins. I require hard copies of written work; I will accept e-mail attachments only with prior permission. As always, I am looking for correctness and clarity of exposition in students' written work, as well as a demonstration of comprehension of course content. Put another way: writing counts! I will formulate final grades according to this rough breakdown: Exercises 1-3, cumulative average=25%; Collection of Basic Data, Formulation of Research Questions, and Oral Reports=25%; Annotated Bibliography=25%; Written Research Report=25%.

5. **Responsibility Clause:** If for ANY reason you are unable to hand in an assignment or make an oral presentation 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 ways of contacting me.

6. 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 Monday October 9. 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, analytical, and research skills, please take this course!

For more information on History Department activities check out:

<https://www.facebook.com/UNCGDepartmentofHistory>

<https://his.uncg.edu/>