

Matthew Larson
Office Hours: 12-1p Tuesdays (video chat)

Online Course
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History 222-01, Fall 2018

Europe 1350-1789: From Renaissance to Revolution

Course Description

Europe experienced profound, violent, and destabilizing change between the end of the Middle Ages and the outbreak of the French Revolution four and a half centuries later. What emerged from the Black Death in the mid-fourteenth century bore little resemblance to the collection of colonizing world powers that would do much to define the contours of the modern world at the end of the eighteenth. At the core of this transformation was competition between two forces – the evolution of the rights and role of the individual, and the ever-expanding role of the nation-state. This course will examine the individuals, social groups, movements, empires and accidental forces – both internal and external – that shaped early modern European history. Modern scholarship on the Atlantic World reveals Europe as not only an exporter of empire, culture, and ideology, but a consumer of ideas and goods from around the world that played an important role in the shaped European life.

General Education Historical Perspectives (GHP) Student Learning Outcomes:

- Use a historical approach to analyze and contextualize primary and secondary sources representing divergent perspectives.
- Use evidence to interpret the past coherently, orally and/or in writing.

Course Learning Objectives

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Recognize how interaction between various social, class, racial, and gender groups affected change over time of societal structures and systems and provide evidence-based interpretations for those changes.
- Contextualize primary sources within their historical moment and understand the purpose, meaning, and audience of those sources.
- Demonstrate and improve information literacy skills in relation to both historical sources

Department Contacts

History Department Website: his.uncg.edu

History Department Facebook Page: facebook.com/UNCGDepartmentofHistory

Required Materials

All readings will be made available on Canvas. The list of readings may change over the course of the semester. Make sure to consult the most up-to-date syllabus on Canvas.

The Western Tradition

Eugene Weber's PBS series will act as the narrative backbone to the course with one to two twenty-five-minute videos assigned per week. You can find the material on YouTube at

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaSf55r0i63QCLSXIN9W1qg/videos>

Readings

Readings will be taken from the Following Texts (found on Canvas):

Auslander, Leora. *Cultural Revolutions: Everyday Life and Politics in Britain, North America, and France.* University of California Press, 2009.

Censer, Jack R. and Lynn Hunt. *Liberty, Equality, Fraternity: Exploring the French Revolution.* The Pennsylvania State University Press, 2001.

Dunn, Richard. *The Age of Religious Wars, 1559-1789.* New York: WW Norton, 1979.

Huppert, George. *After the Black Death: A Social History of Early Modern Europe.* Indiana University Press, 1998.

Klooster, Wim. *Revolutions in the Atlantic World: A Comparative History.* New York University Press, 2009.

Mariano, John, ed. *Early Modern Italy.* Oxford University Press, 2002.

Namjay, John, ed. *Italy in the Age of the Renaissance.* Oxford University Press. 2004.

Pettegree, Andrew. *Brand Luther.* New York: Penguin Press, 2015.

Rice Jr., Eugene and Anthony Grafton. *The Foundations of Early Modern Europe, 1460-1559.* New York: WW Norton, 1994.

Woloch, Isser. *Eighteenth-Century Europe: Tradition and Progress 1715-1789.* New York: WW Norton, 1982.

Zophy, Jonathan. *A Short History of Renaissance Europe.* Prentice Hall, 1997.

Policies

Course Pacing

As an online course, a certain amount of self-pacing is expected. At minimum, students must keep up with the syllabus. If a student wishes to work far ahead of the outlined schedule, they should notify the instructor.

Office Hours

As I do not reside on campus this semester, I have designated 12-1 PM on Tuesdays as

Email

The best way to reach the instructor is through Canvas messaging where your query will be partitioned from regular mail. An effort will be made to answer all questions within twenty-four hours.

Late Assignments

Regular assignments turned after the syllabus due date will be given half credit. Essay exams will be deducted 10% per day. No late work will be accepted more than a week past the due date. Students who fall more than four weeks behind with no notification will be dropped from the course.

Technology

Students should possess ready access to the internet, the ability to stream video on YouTube, open PDF documents, and open, edit, and save Word documents.

Accessibility and Resources

The University of North Carolina at Greensboro seeks to promote meaningful access to educational opportunities for all students. Should you have any needs or questions related to disability issues, please contact the [Office of Accessibility Resources and Services](#) (OARS), located in the Elliot University Center, #215. As an instructor, I am committed to making this course accessible to all of the students in it, and will work with OARS to accommodate students' requests. N.B. You do not need to disclose details about your disability to me in order to receive accommodations. For assistance with writing assignments, contact the [UNCG Writing Center](#).

Plagiarism

The University defines plagiarism as "intentionally or knowingly representing the words of another, as one's own in any academic exercise." (See the [University's Academic Integrity Policies](#) for further information.) All sources (books, articles, documents, internet sites, etc.) used in any paper or assignment must be properly cited or will be considered plagiarism. Any instance of plagiarism will receive a zero and will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for appropriate action, including suspension or expulsion from the University.

Grading

The final grade for the course will be calculated as such:

- Reading Responses: 10%
- Source Analyses: 15%
- Paper I: 20%
- Paper II: 25%
- Paper III :30%

Grading Scale

		B+	87-89	C+	77-79	D+	67-69
A	93-100	B	83-86	C	73-76	D	63-66
A-	90-92	B-	80-82	C-	70-72	D-	60-62
						F	Below 60

Assignments

Reading Responses

Each weekly reading will be accompanied by one or two big picture questions. Students will respond to these questions using specific evidence from videos and readings. Links to these questions will be provided with the readings on Canvas and are due by the Sunday after they are assigned (unless otherwise specified on the assignment page).

Source Analyses

Students will be required to complete guided analysis of several primary source documents. Analyses are to be downloaded and submitted to Canvas by the Sunday after they are assigned (unless otherwise specified on the assignment page).

Papers

Students will write three increasingly more sophisticated essays that focus on comparison and change over time. Students will demonstrate their understanding of both readings and primary source materials. Further details on scope and expectations will be provided for each specific assignment.

- Paper I: September 16th
- Paper II: October 28th
- Paper III: December 2nd

Course Schedule

This schedule and readings assigned are subject to change. The most current version of the syllabus is always available on Canvas.

Week 01 08-13: After the Black Death

Western Tradition Videos: The Feudal Order; Common Life in the Middle Ages

Reading: Huppert Ch 1 (1-13); Zophy Ch 2 (8-28)

Primary Source: None

Week 02 08-20: Europe at the Doorstep of the Renaissance

Western Tradition Videos: The Late Middle Ages; The National Monarchies

Reading: "Humanism and the and the Lure of Antiquity" (37-58)

Primary Source: *The Prince*

Week 03 08-27: The Age of Reconnaissance and the Birth of the Atlantic World

Western Tradition Videos: The Renaissance and the Age of Discovery; The Renaissance and the New World

Reading: Rice Jr. Ch 1 (1-44)

Primary Source: TBA

Week 05 09-03: The Protestant Reformation

Western Tradition Videos: The Reformation

Reading: Rice Jr Ch 5 (146-177); Pettegree Ch 6 (143-163)

Primary Source: From *The Protestant Reformation: Major Documents*

Week 06 09-10: Competition in Spreading the Faith

Western Tradition Videos: None

Reading: Rice Jr. Ch 6 (178-202); Schutte Essay (125-142)

Primary Source: *The Protestant Reformation: Major Documents*

PAPER I DUE 9/16 by 11:59 PM

Week 07 09-17: Cities Ascendant

Western Tradition Videos: The Rise of the Middle Class; The Rise of Trading Cities

Reading: Huppert, Ch 3-4 (30-55)

Primary Source: TBA

Week 08 09-24: The French Wars of Religion and the Thirty Years' War

Western Tradition Videos: The Wars of Religion

Reading: Dunn Ch 2 (58-102)

Primary Source: The Treaty of Westphalia

Week 09 10-01: Absolutism

Western Tradition Videos: The Age of Absolutism

Reading: Dunn Ch 4 (152-198)

Primary Source: From *Leviathan*

Week 10 10-08: Absolutism and Constitutionalism

Western Tradition Videos: Absolutism and the Social Contract

Reading: Auslander Ch 3 (49-80)

Primary Source: From *Two Treatises on Government*

Week 11 10-15: The Political Implications of Enlightenment

Western Tradition Videos: The Enlightened Despots; The Enlightenment

Reading: Krieger Ch 6 (137-207)

Primary Source: From the *Enlightenment: A Brief History with Documents*

Week 12 10-22: The Fruits of the Enlightenment

Western Tradition Videos: The Enlightenment and Society; The Modern Philosophers

Reading: Krieger Ch 7 (208-238)

Primary Source: From the *Enlightenment: A Brief History with Documents*

PAPER II DUE 10/28 by 11:59 PM

Week 13 10-29: Colonial Consequences

Western Tradition Videos: The American Revolution; The American Republic

Reading: Klooster Ch 2 (11-44)

Primary Source: The Constitution, The Petition of Right, The 1689 English Bill of Rights

Week 14 11-05: The Old Regime

Western Tradition Videos: The Death of the Old Regime

Reading: Censer and Hunt Ch 1 (1-48)

Primary Source:

Week 15 11-12: 1789

Western Tradition Videos: The French Revolution

Reading: Klooster Ch 3 (45-83)

Primary Source: The Declaration of the Rights of Man, A Vindication of the Rights of Women

Week 16 11-19: Thanksgiving Week

Week 16 11-26: Wrap-up

PAPER III DUE BY 12/2/18