

HIS 222-01

EUROPE 1400-1789: FROM RENAISSANCE TO REVOLUTION

FALL SEMESTER 2021

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 11:00-11:50 SOEB 120

Instructor: Dr. Jodi Bilinkoff

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Office Hours: MW 3:30-4:45 and by appointment

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Graduate Assistant: Ms Rebecca Doss

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Required Reading and Purchases for Course:

This course is based upon the close reading of primary sources. We will be reading and discussing texts written by people who actually lived in Western Europe and its colonies between roughly 1400 and 1800! You will need to purchase a packet containing these documents. You will also need to purchase a second packet containing print copies of the syllabus and handouts for the course lectures.

These two packets are available at the UNCG Bookstore. The pages in both packets have 3 holes and are ready to be placed into a 3-hole binder. Please be sure to bring your binder with you as we will be going over the primary sources together during class periods.

“You cannot teach a person anything, you can only help him to find it in himself.”

Galileo Galilei (1564-1642)

COURSE SYLLABUS

W	8/18	Welcome to the Course
F	8/20	W. Europe in 1350: An Ordered Society?
M	8/23	W. Europe in 1350: An Ordered Society?
LAST DAY TO ADD CLASSES		
W	8/25	Introductions: to the Course and to One Another
F	8/27	Christianity Comes to Europe: A Brief History
M	8/30	The Formation of a Christian Society
W	9/1	Petrarch and Humanism "The Ascent of Mont Ventoux" [Primary Source]
F	9/3	Discussion: Petrarch Assignment 1 Due
M	9/6	LABOR DAY, NO CLASS
W	9/8	Humanism and Power: The Case of Florence
F	9/10	Niccolò Machiavelli, <i>The Prince</i> Dedication, chs. 14,15,17,18,23,25,26 [Primary Source]
M	9/13	Machiavelli, <i>The Prince</i> Chs.14,15,17,18,23,25,26 [Primary Source]
W	9/15	Discussion: Machiavelli Assignment 2 Due
F	9/17	1492 and Beyond RESPONSE PAPER ASSIGNED
M	9/20	The Columbian Exchange
W	9/22	Discovery and Self-Discovery
F	9/24	Discussion: 1492 and Impact RESPONSE PAPER DUE

M	9/27	Erasmus of Rotterdam and Christian Humanism
W	9/29	Erasmus, "The Shipwreck" [Primary Source]
F	10/1	Martin Luther: the Reformation Begins Assignment 3 Due
M	10/4	Luther, "Preface to the First Volume of Latin Writings" [Primary Source] TAKE-HOME MIDTERM ASSIGNED
W	10/6	The Reformation Spreads, John Calvin
F	10/8	Discussion: Protestant Reformation Assignment 4 Due
		LAST DAY TO DROP CLASSES
M	10/11	FALL BREAK, NO CLASS
W	10/13	Ignatius Loyola and the Counter-Reformation <i>Autobiography</i> , chap. 1 [Primary Source] TAKE-HOME MIDTERM EXAM DUE
F	10/15	Science and Authority
M	10/18	Galileo: Science and Politics
W	10/20	Galileo: Science, Politics—and Personalities?
F	10/22	NO CLASS MEETING
M	10/25	Galileo on Science and the Bible "Letter to Castelli" [Primary Source]
W	10/27	Discussion: Scientific Revolution Assignment 5 Due
F	10/29	Absolutism, Reason, and the State
M	11/1	Louis XIV and Versailles
W	11/3	The Age of Enlightenment
F	11/5	Religion Questioned, Religion Affirmed Voltaire, "Fanaticism," from his <i>Philosophical Dictionary</i> [Primary Source]

M	11/8	Discussion: Absolutism and Enlightenment Assignment 6 Due
W	11/10	Consent and Slavery
F	11/12	Thomas Jefferson: An Enlightenment Life
M	11/15	“The Declaration of Independence” [Primary Source]
W	11/17	Discussion: Declarations and Promises Assignment 7 Due
F	11/19	Mary Wollstonecraft: An Extraordinary Life
M	11/22	Mary Wollstonecraft, <i>A Vindication of the Rights of Woman</i> , excerpts [Primary Source]
W	11/24	THANKSGIVING, NO CLASSES
F	11/26	
M	11/29	Discussion: <i>A Vindication of the Rights of Woman</i> TAKE-HOME FINAL EXAM ASSIGNED
W	12/1	The Promise of Progress on the Eve of Revolution
M	12/6	TAKE-HOME FINAL EXAM DUE

**SEND YOUR EXAM TO DR. BILINKOFF AS A WORD ATTACHMENT
OR PDF NO LATER THAN 11:59 PM. EMAIL IT TO HER DIRECTLY,
NOT VIA CANVAS. YOU MAY SEND YOUR EXAM EARLIER IF
YOU WISH.**

GUIDELINES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. COVID PROTOCOLS: Vaccination is the single most effective tool there is for fighting the spread of the pandemic. **If you have not yet been vaccinated, UNCG strongly encourages you to do so.** You can get the vaccine for free at Student Health Services, right on campus, or at many locations in the community. As long as people remain unvaccinated, face coverings (masks) that cover both the mouth and nose are required in indoor spaces on campus. For more information and many helpful links see: <https://update.uncg.edu>
2. 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 have a compelling reason for missing a class, for example, you are ill, please stay home and notify Ms Doss by email, as she will be managing the attendance records. If you are not prepared to attend consistently, start on time, and stay until the end of the class period, please drop the course. Make every effort to use the restroom facilities before the class begins. If you miss more than 3 classes, we will reach out to you and discuss whether it is better for you to stay enrolled in the course or to drop it. If you experience a personal or family emergency, contact the Dean of Students office and they will inform all your instructors: deanofstudents@uncg.edu; (336) 334-5514 A student who has more than 3 unexcused absences will be dropped from the course.
3. ATTENTIVENESS POLICY: Be prepared to pay attention and take careful notes during class periods. After the drop/add period is over I will prepare a seating chart and ask students to sit in their assigned seats each time; this is a mandatory policy for the purpose of contact tracing in case someone should test positive for COVID-19. Please do not pack up your belongings until the class period has ended; this can be very distracting.
4. I do not permit the use of laptops in the classroom except for accessing primary sources or in cases of documented need. Cellphones must be silenced during the class period and placed on top of students' desks and used only to access primary sources or at the instructor's request. **Texting during class is extremely rude and demonstrates disrespect for one's classmates and instructors.**
5. 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, you may download another from Canvas. All the handouts for the course are likewise posted on Canvas. Bring your binder containing course materials to the classroom. That way when we are examining the documents you can highlight significant words and passages and take notes. Students have found this method **extremely** helpful in assuring their success in this and other classes.

6. Grades will be based upon a series of take-home assignments, which I will describe in detail during the semester. Writing assignments must be word-processed, double-spaced, spell-checked, with standard 1" margins and 12-point font. I look at 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. In other words: writing counts! I also take regular attendance and class participation into account when formulating grades. Participation may be manifested in various ways: questions, comments, and responses to texts, videos, and other media. 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. Grades will be computed according to this rough breakdown: Midterm Exam 25%, Final Exam 30%, Response Paper 15%, Average of 7 brief assignments 20%, Participation 10%.
7. All assignments are due on the days specified on 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 beforehand to make alternative arrangements. 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.
8. If you do not think you will be able to abide by these guidelines, please drop the course. The last day to drop a course without academic penalty this semester is Friday October 8. **BUT:** if these guidelines seem reasonable 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!

General Education Historical Perspectives (GHP) or Minerva's Academic Curriculum (MAC: CRITICAL THINKING AND INQUIRY IN THE HUMANITIES)

Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs):

1. Use a historical approach to analyze and contextualize primary [and in some cases, secondary sources] representing divergent perspectives.
2. Use evidence to interpret the past coherently, orally and/or in writing.

ALL COURSE ASSIGNMENTS ARE DESIGNED TO GAUGE STUDENTS' ENGAGEMENT WITH THESE SLOS.