

History 315 Witchcraft and Magic in European History

Spring Semester 2006

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 1:00-1:50 McIver 225

Jodi Bilinkoff McIver 211

Office Hours: MWF 10:00-10:45, and by appointment

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Required Reading for Course:

Brian Levack, The Witch-Hunt in Early Modern Europe (2nd ed.)

Alan C. Kors and Edward Peters, eds., Witchcraft in Europe, 400-1700 (2nd ed.) [K&P]

Christopher Marlowe, Dr. Faustus

These books have also been placed on reserve at Jackson Library. Selected readings are available via e-reserves. Readings in brackets are optional for undergraduates, required for graduate students.

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| M | 1/9 | Introduction to Course |
| W | 1/11 | What is Magic?
Jeffrey Russell, <u>A History of Witchcraft</u> 8-29
(e-reserves) |
| F | 1/13 | Myth, Magic, and Law in Greco-Roman Antiquity
Russell 29-36 (e-reserves) |
| M | 1/16 | MARTIN LUTHER KING HOLIDAY |
| W | 1/18 | The Trial of Suzanne Gaudry
K&P 359-367 |
| F | 1/20 | Religion and Politics in the Roman World |
| M | 1/23 | Christian Origins |
| W | 1/25 | Christianity and the Concept of Evil
K&P 6-12; Mark 5:1-21 (e-reserves) |

F 1/27 The Book of Revelation (e-reserves]

M 1/30 Book of Revelation: Discussion
1 PAGE RESPONSE + 3 QUESTIONS DUE

W 2/1 Christians and Pagans in Early Medieval Europe
Russell 37-52 (e-reserves); K&P 41-44; "Pope Gregory's
Letter to Mellitus" (e-reserves)

F 2/3 Christians and Pagans in Early Medieval Europe
Russell 52-54(e-reserves); K&P 60-63

M 2/6 Heresy in Medieval Europe
Russell 55-63 (e-reserves); K&P 58-59, 78-81
Levack 29-38

W 2/8 Heresy in Medieval Europe
Russell 63-71(e-reserves);K&P 87-90,103-105,169-172
Levack 38-50

F 2/10 The Malleus Maleficarum: Establishing Authority
K&P 112-114, 176-180; Levack 50-59, 64-67

M 2/13 The Malleus Maleficarum
K&P 181-229

W 2/15 The Malleus Maleficarum: Discussion

F 2/17 The Reformation
K&P 259-260; Levack 100-103

M 2/20 Reformers and the Devil
K&P 261-270; Levack 103-120 [Levack 185-191]

W 2/22 Law, Politics, State-Building
K&P 290-302; Levack 68-84
TAKE-HOME MIDTERM EXAM ASSIGNED

F 2/24 Law, Politics, State-Building
Levack 84-99 [Levack 222-232]

M 2/27 Trials: Chelmsford
K&P 275-277, 302-308; Levack 125-133, 149-152
[Levack 160-164]

W 3/1 Trials: Chelmsford
K&P 302-308
TAKE-HOME MIDTERM EXAM DUE

F 3/3 Trials: Suzanne Gaudry Revisited
K&P 359-367; Levack 141-149

M 3/6-F 3/10 SPRING BREAK

- M 3/13 Trials: Marie Cornu
K&P 345-348; Levack 152-156
- W 3/15 Trials: Scotland
K&P 318-322; Levack 200-206
LAST DAY TO DROP CLASSES
- F 3/17 Trials: Bamberg
K&P 348-353; Levack 191-200
- M 3/20 Demonic Possession: Loudun
K&P 355-359;
"The Possessions at Loudun, 1634" (e-reserves)
- W 3/22 Possession and Puritanism: Salem
K&P 367-370, 436-437
"The Salem Witch Trials, 1692" (e-reserves)
- F 3/24 Trials: Discussion
1 PAGE RESPONSE + THREE QUESTIONS DUE
- M 3/27 The Making of the Faust Legend
Acts 8:9-25 (e-reserves); Russell 55-58 (e-reserves);
"Of the Knight Henry" (e-reserves)
- W 3/29 Marlowe Dr Faustus
- F 3/31 Marlowe Dr Faustus
- M 4/3 Marlowe Dr Faustus
- W 4/5 The Legend: Now and Then
Discussion
- F 4/7 Explaining the Craze: Medicine
- M 4/10 Explaining the Craze: Fantasy and Fertility
Lyndal Roper Witch Craze 127-159 (e-reserves)
- W 4/12 Explaining the Craze: Social Change
Levack 133-141, 156-159
- F 4/14 GOOD FRIDAY
- M 4/17 The Decline of Magic: Science
- W 4/19 The Decline of Magic: Skepticism and Toleration
K&P 280-289, 314-317; Levack 60-64, 233-246
- F 4/21 The Decline of Magic: Skepticism and Toleration
K&P 392-394, 402-406, 429-435

Levack 120-124, 246-250

M 4/24 Persistence of Belief: Students' Stories

W 4/26 Persistence of Belief: Students' Stories/Neo-Paganism
TAKE-HOME FINAL EXAM ASSIGNED

F 4/28 History Graduate Student Conference; NO CLASS

M 5/1 Persistence of Persecution: Modern "Witchhunts," or
Who will be Next?
Levack 250-260

T 5/2 NO CLASS

F 5/5 TAKE-HOME FINAL EXAM DUE IN DR. BILINKOFF'S
MAILBOX IN HISTORY DEPT OFFICE (MCIVER 221)
BY 2:00 PM. YOU MAY HAND IT IN EARLIER IF YOU WISH.

GUIDELINES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. I require regular attendance for this course. We cover a lot of material and one absence could mean missing out on a 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. If you miss more than 3 classes you may be dropped from the course at the sole discretion of the instructor; if you miss 3 classes in a row you will definitely be dropped. Students who miss the first two class sessions and do not notify me will be dropped from the course.

2. Please read the material specified for a given class period or periods before coming to class. It is essential to keep up with the syllabus. Please let me know if you misplace your syllabus and I will be happy to supply you with another copy. Course syllabi are also available on the History dept website: www.uncg.edu/his

3. Please bring to class the book(s) and other readings designated for that day. This is particularly important in the case of primary source material such as Kors & Peters and Dr. Faustus, for we will be examining the texts together in class.

4. Grades will be based primarily upon several take-home assignments, which will be described in detail during the course of the semester. Please word-process these assignments, double-spaced and spell-checked. You must hand in a hard copy; I will not accept work sent as an e-mail attachment without prior arrangement. I look for correctness and clarity of exposition in written essays, as well as an understanding of course content. To me history, and the ways in which it is expressed are not two different things, but are rather, intimately connected. In other words: writing counts!

I also take attendance and class participation into account when formulating grades. Participation may be manifested in various ways: questions, comments, mental alertness, intellectual engagement with and curiosity about the material. I will formulate grades according to the following rough formula: Midterm and Final Exams, 30% each, Response Papers, 15% each, Participation, 10%.

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

RESPONSIBILITY CLAUSE: If for any reason you are unable to hand in assignments on time it is YOUR responsibility to contact me beforehand. Alas, despite years of reading this material I have failed to develop the skill of telepathy! If I am not contacted directly or by message I will not accept late assignments. See front page of syllabus for ways of contacting me.

5. If you do not think you will be able to abide by these guidelines, please drop the course so that someone else can take it. The last day to drop the course without academic penalty is Wednesday March 15.

