

HIS 315 WITCHCRAFT AND MAGIC IN EUROPEAN HISTORY

Spring Semester 2013
Tuesdays and Thursdays 2:00-3:15 PM
MHRA 2211

Instructor: Jodi Bilinkoff
Office: 2127 MHRA
Office Hours: Tues, Thurs 10-10:45 AM and by appointment

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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REQUIRED READING FOR COURSE:

Michael D. Bailey, *Magic and Superstition in Europe*
Brian Levack, *The Witch-Hunt in Early Modern Europe* (3rd edition)
Alan C. Kors and Edward Peters, eds. *Witchcraft in Europe, 400-1700* (2nd edition) [K&P]
Christopher Marlowe, *Dr. Faustus*

These books are available for purchase at the UNCG Bookstore. Internet purchases will often result in considerable savings. The books have also been placed on reserve at Jackson Library. Selected readings are available via e-reserves.

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| T | 1/15 | Introduction to Course
What is Magic?
Levack 4-12; Bailey 1-7 |
| Th | 1/17 | Myth and Magic in Greco-Roman Antiquity
Bailey 9-35 |
| T | 1/22 | Student Introductions, Course Guidelines, etc.
The Trial of Suzanne Gaudry
K&P 359-367 |
| Th | 1/24 | Religion and Politics in the Roman World
Christian Origins
Bailey 43-59
1-2 PAGE RESPONSE PAPER + 3 QUESTIONS ASSIGNED |

- T 1/29 Christianity and the Problem of Evil
Bailey 38-42, 46-53; K&P 6-12
Mark 5:1-21 (e-reserves)
Book of Revelation (e-reserves)
- Th 1/31 Book of Revelation: Discussion
1-2 PAGE RESPONSE PAPER + 3 QUESTIONS DUE
- T 2/5 Christians and Pagans in Early Medieval Europe
Bailey 59-70; K&P 41-44
"Pope Gregory's Letter to Mellitus" (e-reserves)
- Th 2/7 Christians and Pagans: the Canon Episcopi
Bailey 70-75; K&P 60-63
What is Heresy?
Bailey 96-119
- T 2/12 Heresy and Demonology in Medieval Europe
Bailey 119-140; Levack 32-51
K&P 58-59, 78-81, 87-90, 103-105, 169-172
- Th 2/14 The Malleus Maleficarum
Levack 51-61; K&P 176-180; 181-229
- T 2/19 The Malleus Maleficarum: Discussion
- Th 2/21 The Reformation
Levack 109-120; Bailey 193-200; K&P 259-260
TAKE-HOME MIDTERM EXAM ASSIGNED
- T 2/26 Martin Luther and the Devil
Levack 120-130; K&P 261-265
- Th 2/28 Witchcraft, the Law, and the State
Levack 13-24, 74-103; Bailey 35-38, 110-119
K&P 290-302
- T 3/5 Trials: Chelmsford
Levack 141-165, 217-223; Bailey 166-167
K&P 302-308
TAKE-HOME MIDTERM EXAM DUE

Th 3/7 Suzanne Gaudry and Marie Cornu
Bailey 141-152, 162, 174-177
K&P 359-367; 345-348

F 3/8 LAST DAY TO DROP CLASSES

T 3/12-Th 3/14 SPRING BREAK

T 3/19 Scotland
Levack, 65-67, 175-188; Bailey 167-168
K&P 318-322

Th 3/21 TBA

T 3/26 Bamberg
Levack 188-199; K&P 348-353
1-2 PAGE RESPONSE PAPER + 3 QUESTIONS ASSIGNED

Th 3/28 Demonic Possession: Loudun and Salem
Levack 184-186; Bailey 168-169
K&P 355-359; 367-370; 436-437
"The Possessions at Loudun, 1634" (e-reserves)
"The Salem Witch Trials, 1692" (e-reserves)

T 4/2 Trials: Discussion
1-2 PAGE RESPONSE PAPER + 3 QUESTIONS DUE

Th 4/4 The Making of the Faust Legend
Levack 37; Bailey 114-115
Acts 8:9-25 (e-reserves)
"Of the Knight Henry" (e-reserves)
Russell 55-58 (e-reserves)
Christopher Marlowe, *Dr. Faustus* Act I, scene 1

T 4/9 *Dr. Faustus*

Th 4/11 *Dr. Faustus*
The Legend Now and Then: Discussion

T 4/16 The Decline of Magic
Levack 61-65, 128-130, 206-213, 253-281; Bailey 170-174
K&P 280-289, 314-317, 392-394, 402-406, 429-435

Th 4/18 Persistence of Belief: Students' Stories
TAKE-HOME FINAL EXAM ASSIGNED

T 4/23 Persistence of Belief: Students' Stories

Th 4/25 Persistence of Persecution: Future Witch Hunts?
Levack 289-294, 299-305

W 5/1 READING DAY, EXTRA OFFICE HOURS TBA

FRIDAY 5/3 TAKE-HOME FINAL EXAM DUE IN ONE OF DR. BILINKOFF'S TWO MAILBOXES, IN MHRA 2118A OR NEXT TO HER OFFICE DOOR (2127 MHRA) BY 2:00 PM. YOU MAY HAND IT IN EARLIER IF YOU WISH.

GUIDELINES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Attendance Policy: 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 at the 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 so that others may add.
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 a way that distracts me or the other students I will require them to change their seats. I do not allow laptop computers in the classroom, except in documented cases of 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 the class period. If I catch a student texting during class I will deduct points off his or her next written assignment.
3. Please read the material specified for a given class period or periods before coming to class. It is **essential** to keep 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 at the History Department website: <http://www.uncg.edu/his>
4. 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 and Peters and *Dr. Faustus*, for we will be examining the texts together in class.
5. Grades will be based primarily upon several take-home assignments, which I will describe in greater detail during the course of the semester. All assignments must be word-processed, double-spaced, spell-checked and use a 12-point font and standard 1" margins. 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 rather, intimately connected. In other words: writing counts!

I will 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 an assignment 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 before the due date I will NOT accept late assignments. See 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 so that someone else can take it. The last day to drop courses without academic penalty is Friday March 8.