

HIS 222-01 EUROPE 1350-1789: FROM RENAISSANCE TO REVOLUTION

Spring Semester 2016
Tuesdays and Thursdays 11:00-12:15
SOEB 204

Contact Information:

Instructor: Jodi Bilinkoff
Office: MHRA 2127
Office Hours: Tues, Thurs 1:00-1:45 PM and by appointment
E-Mail: jebilink@uncg.edu

Graduate Assistant: Amanda Holland
E-Mail: ajhollan@uncg.edu

History Department Office: (336) 334-5992
[to leave messages for Dr. Bilinkoff or Ms Holland]

Required Reading for Course:

This course is heavily based upon a set of primary source documents. The documents are available via hyperlinks to the internet or pdfs, as I will explain. You will need to print out these documents and bring the hard copies to class with you.

For purposes of reference I have ordered the textbook by Jonathan W. Zophy, *A Short History of Renaissance and Reformation Europe: Dances over Fire and Water*, 4th edition. Upper Saddle River: NJ: Pearson Prentice Hall, 2009. ISBN: 978-0-13-605628-7. This book is available for purchase at the UNCG Bookstore, but buying books via the internet usually results in considerable savings.

Course Syllabus:

T	1/12	Introduction to Course; W. Europe in 1350: An Ordered Society? Zephy 9-12
Th	1/14	W. Europe in 1350: An Ordered Society? Zephy 12-17, 23-25
T	1/19	Christianity Comes to Europe: A Brief History
Th	1/21	W. Europe in 1350: A Christian Society
T	1/26	Petrarch and Humanism Zephy 71-73 "The Ascent of Mont Ventoux" [Primary Source]
Th	1/28	Quiz 1 ; Discussion Student Introductions
T	2/2	Humanism and Politics; Machiavelli Zephy 55-57, 80-81 <i>The Prince</i> , excerpts (e-reserves) Epistle Dedicatory (Dedicatory Letter), chs.14, 15, 17, 18, 23, 25, 26 [Primary Source]
Th	2/4	Machiavelli <i>The Prince</i> chs. 14, 15, 17, 18, 23, 25, 26 [Primary Source]
T	2/9	Quiz 2 ; Discussion; Response Paper Assigned
Th	2/11	1492 and Beyond; "The Columbian Exchange" Zephy 129-137
T	2/16	Discovery and Self-Discovery Zephy 157-158, 278-279

Th	2/18	Response Paper Due; Discussion
T	2/23	Erasmus and Christian Humanism "The Shipwreck" [Primary Source] Zophy 158-161 Take-Home Midterm Exam Assigned
Th	2/25	Martin Luther Preface to the first volume of Latin Writings [Primary Source] Zophy 164-171
T	3/1	Luther and the Reformation Zophy 126-27, 171-79, 183-89, 195-97
Th	3/3	John Calvin and Reformed Culture Zophy 214-226 Take-Home Midterm Exam Due
F	3/4	Last Day to Drop Classes
T	3/8-Th 3/10	Spring Break
T	3/15	Ignatius Loyola and Catholic Reform Excerpt from his <i>Autobiography</i> [Primary Source] Zophy 254-266, 299-300
Th	3/17	Quiz 3; Discussion
T	3/22	Science, Reason Authority Zophy 301-305
Th	3/24	Galileo on Science and Scripture "Letter to Castelli" [Primary Source]
T	3/29	Absolutism, Reason, and the State Zophy 274-280, 313-315

Th 3/31 **Quiz 4; "Versailles,"**

T 4/5 The Age of Enlightenment; Voltaire
Zephy 286-291, 309-312

Th 4/7 Religion Questioned, Religion Affirmed
Voltaire, "Fanaticism," from his *Philosophical
Dictionary* [Primary Source]

T 4/12 Consent and Slavery

Th 4/14 Thomas Jefferson
"Declaration of Independence" [Primary Source]

T 4/19 **Quiz 5; Discussion**

Th 4/21 Mary Wollstonecraft and "The Woman Question"
Excerpts from *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman*
[Primary Source]
Take-Home Final Exam Assigned

T 4/26 The Promise of Progress on the Eve of
Revolution

M 5/2 **Take-Home Final Exam Due in Mailbox next to
Dr. Bilinkoff's Office Door, MHRA 2127.**

**Students may hand in their exams earlier if
they wish.**

Guidelines and Responsibilities

1. **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 are not prepared to attend consistently, come on time, and stay until the end of the class period, please drop the course. A student may miss **no more than 4 classes**, for any reason. After that he/she will be dropped from the course at the sole discretion of the instructor. A student who misses 3 classes in a row will definitely be dropped. In case of an emergency, contact the Dean of Students office and they will contact all of your instructors: deanofstudents@uncg.edu; (336) 334-5514
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. Please do not pack up your belongings until the class period is over; this can be very

distracting.

3. Laptop computers are not permitted in the classroom, except in documented cases of need. In those cases, students will be required to seat themselves so as not to distract others. Cellphones and other electronic equipment must be silenced during the class period and used **only** to access primary source documents. I **strongly advise**, however, that you bring hard copies when we are examining documents so that 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.
4. 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, just ask me for another.
5. Grades will be based upon 5 quizzes administered during discussion periods, as well as a response paper and take-home midterm and final essay exams. I will describe these assignments in more detail during the course of the semester. The response paper and take-home essays must be word-processed, double-spaced, spell-checked, with standard 1" margins and 12-point font. I require hard copies of assignments; e-mail attachments will only be accepted with prior permission and in exceptional cases. I expect 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. I will factor in class participation when assigning grades, including, 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. I will formulate grades according to the following rough formula: Midterm Exam 30%, Final Exam 30%, Quizzes and Response Paper 30%, Participation 10%.
6. All assignments are due on the days specified in the syllabus.

RESPONSIBILITY CLAUSE: If for **ANY** reason you are unable to take a quiz or hand in an assignment 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 contact information.

7. 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 Friday March 4. 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, and analytical skills, please stay in the course!