

HIS 391-01 HISTORICAL SKILLS AND METHODS

THE AGE OF REFORMATIONS, 1500-1700

Spring Semester 2020
Tues, Thurs 2:00-3:15 pm
MHRA 1211

Instructor: Jodi Bilinkoff
Office: MHRA 2127
Office Hours: Tues, Thurs 12:30-1:45pm, occasional Fridays (TBA), and by appointment

Contact Information:

History Department Office: 336-334-5992 (for leaving phone messages)
E-Mail: jebilink@uncg.edu

Please email me directly; do **NOT** use Canvas for this purpose.

Required Reading for Course:

Carlos Eire, *Reformations: The Early Modern World, 1450-1650*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2016. ISBN: 978-0300240030

This book is available for purchase or rental at the UNCG Bookstore. Using the Internet to purchase or rent books can result in considerable savings. Eire's book is also accessible as an eBook using the Jackson Library online catalog. Use is limited to three students at a time.

In addition, some brief supplementary materials will be available as pdfs on Canvas.

COURSE SYLLABUS

- T 1/14 Introduction to Course
History and Historiography
[Eire, Preface vii-xv]
- Th 1/16 The Religion of Late Medieval Christians
Eire, 19-42
[Note: here and throughout, be sure to look at the
illustrations and read Eire's captions!]
- T 1/21 Identities and Categories of Analysis
- Th 1/23 Martin Luther
Eire, 131-157
- T 1/28 Luther, His Followers, Detractors, and Dissenters
Eire, 158-163, 168-178, 193-214
- Th 1/30 Whose Luther?
Heiko Oberman, *Luther, Man between God and the Devil*
Excerpt, to be assigned
Lyndal Roper, "Martin Luther's Body: The 'Stout Doctor' and his
Biographers," *American Historical Review* 115-2 (Apr 2010):351-384.
Available via Journal Finder, Jackson Library home page

Exercise 1 Assigned

- T 2/4 Reformation from the Top: Henry VIII
Eire, 318-329
- Th 2/6 The Church of England and the English People
Eire, 329-339

Exercise 1 Due

- T 2/11 Catholic Reform: Erasmus of Rotterdam
Eire, 89-113, 127-129

- Th 2/13 Distribution of Paper Topics
- Basic Data Collection Report Assigned**
- T 2/18 Writing Lab
Proof-Reading, Correction, Revision
- Th 2/20 The Radical Reformation
Eire, 248-251, 255-265, 268-277, 285
- Exercise 2 Assigned**
- T 2/25 Analyzing Primary Sources: Martyrdom in the Age of Reformations
Pdfs on Canvas
- Th 2/27 John Calvin and the Reformed City
Eire, 286-317
- Exercise 2 Due**
- T 3/3-Th 2/5 **SPRING BREAK, NO CLASSES**
- M 3/9 **LAST DAY TO DROP CLASSES**
- T 3/10 Library Searching: Secondary Sources
Workshop with Ms Maggie Murphy
177A Jackson Library
- Th 3/12 Counter-Reformation: the Jesuits
Eire, 369-372, 442-465
- T 3/17 Library Searching and Categories of Analysis
- Basic Data Collection Reports Due**
- Th 3/19 Library Searching: Primary Sources
- T 3/24 Building Bibliographies: Sources and Citation Techniques
- Exercise 3 Assigned**
- Th 3/26 Instructions for Final Research Reports

T 3/31 Oral Reports

Th 4/2 Oral Reports

Exercise 3 Due

T 4/7 Oral Reports

Th 4/9 Oral Reports

T 4/14 Oral Reports

Th 4/16 Writing Lab

Drafts of Bibliographies Due, bring 2 copies

T 4/21 Writing Lab

Drafts of Research Reports Due, bring 2 copies

Th 4/23 Art and Music in the Age of Reformations

T 4/28 Religious Change and Religious Violence: An Inevitable Outcome?
The Age of Reformations and Research Skills: Where do we go from here?
Eire, 717-718, 754-757

FRIDAY MAY 1 RESEARCH REPORTS AND BIBLIOGRAPHIES DUE IN MAILBOX NEXT TO DR. BILINKOFF'S OFFICE DOOR (MHRA 2127) NO LATER THAN 2:00 PM

STUDENTS MAY HAND IN THEIR REPORTS EARLIER IF THEY WISH

GUIDELINES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- 1. Attendance Policy:** This is a small, seminar-style course. Regular attendance and full participation by students are absolutely crucial to the success of the course. Please make every effort to attend each class meeting. If you are not prepared to come consistently, arrive on time, and stay until the end of the class, 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. I will drop registered students who do not attend the first 2 meetings of the semester or notify me. In case of an emergency, contact the Dean of Students Office and they will inform all your instructors: (336) 334-5514 deanofstudents@uncg.edu
- 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. I do not allow laptops in the classroom, except in cases of special need. In those cases I will require students to seat themselves so as not to distract others. Cellphones must be silenced during class periods, placed upon students' desks, and consulted only at the instructor's request.
- 3.** Please read the material and complete assignments for a given class period before coming to class. Be prepared to raise questions and engage in discussion. It is essential to keep up with the syllabus. If you lose your copy, just ask me for another or check Canvas.
- 4.** Grades will be based on a series of take-home writing assignments and an oral report. I will hand out a schedule of assignments and describe them in detail after the drop/add period is over. Assignments must be word-processed, double-spaced, spell-checked, with 12-point fonts and standard 1" margins. I require hard copies of written work; I will accept e-mail attachments only with prior permission. As always, I am looking for correctness and clarity of exposition in students' written work, as well as a demonstration of comprehension of course content. Put another way: writing counts! I will formulate grades according to this approximate distribution: Exercises 1-3=15%; Basic Data Collection Report=15%; Oral Report=20%; Bibliography=25%; Final Research Report=25%.

5. **Responsibility Clause:** If for **ANY** reason you are unable to hand in an assignment or make an oral presentation on time, it is **YOUR** responsibility to contact me so we can 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.

6. If you do not think you will be able to abide by these guidelines, please drop the course. The last day to drop courses without academic penalty is Monday March 9. 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, analytical, and research skills, please take this course!

LEARNING GOALS FOR HISTORY MAJORS: THINKING IN TIME

The History faculty hopes that by the time a History major graduates he/she will be able to:

1. Analyze historical duration, succession, and change in terms of human agency and larger systems or structures in a wide variety of places and periods. [Historical Comprehension]
2. Use historical thinking to contextualize and analyze primary and secondary sources representing different points of view. [Historical Analysis]
3. Conduct original research by investigating and interpreting primary and secondary sources. [Historical Analysis]
4. Use evidence-based reasoning to interpret the past coherently while developing and presenting an original argument, orally and in writing. [Historical Interpretation]

HIS 391 focuses on LGs 3 and 4.