

Renaissance and Reformation
Early Modern Europe: 1450-1600

Tuesday/Thursday 11-12:20pm
Room: ATG 109

Professor Mokhberi
Office: 429 Cooper Street #205
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Office Hours: 10:30-11; 12:20-1:20 Tuesdays and Thursdays



This course covers Europe during the Renaissance and Reformation from 1300-1600. During this time, Europe underwent tremendous cultural, political, religious, technological, and military change. Students will explore humanist thought, the rise of new military and printing technology, European explorations, court culture, the arts, witchcraft trials, and new religious ideas.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Midterm Exam: 20%

Paper 1*: 20%

Paper 2*: 25%

Final Exam: 25% (There are NO MAKEUP EXAMS for the midterm or final.)

Attendance: 10% (You are allowed TWO absences. I do not need to know why you are absent. After two absences, your attendance grade will drop.

* Each paper will be 4-pages in length. There will be a total of FOUR topic choices and you MUST choose TWO. One of your papers must be written prior to the midterm. NO LATE PAPERS ACCEPTED.

READING: The four books that are for purchase at the bookstore are listed below. Shorter readings will be posted online. You must do all the reading to do well on the exams and the papers.

TEXTBOOKS FOR PURCHASE:

Erasmus, *In Praise of Folly*

Castiglione, *The Book of the Courtier*

Machiavelli, *The Prince*

Thomas More, *Utopia*

The Foundations of Early Modern Europe by Eugene Rice Jr. and Anthony Grafton

NOTE: All other Readings will be posted online.

ETIQUETTE: Please come on time, silence cell phones, and refrain from surfing the Internet during class. It is your responsibility to obtain any missing notes from a fellow student. Feel free to email me with a respectful, formal email and I will try my best to reply as promptly as possible.

PLAGIARISM will be taken very seriously and will be reported. Feel free to discuss the course material and your paper ideas with other students but you can only hand in your own individual work.

Week 1

Sept. 6: Life in the 16th Century

Sept. 8: The Plague and New Luxuries

Read: Selections from Rabelais, *Pantagruel* and *Gargantua* and
Selections from Leon Battista Alberti's *The Family in Renaissance
Florence*

Week 2

Sept. 13: Carnival

Sept. 15: Technology: Printing Press and the New Warfare

Read: Erasmus, In Praise of Folly
The Foundations of Early Modern Europe, 1-18

Week 3

Sept. 20: Renaissance Humanism

Sept. 22: European Economic Expansion

Read: The Foundations of Early Modern Europe, 77-90

Week 4

Sept 27: Origins of Modern Science

Sept 29: Voyages of Exploration

Read: Vasco de Gama's *Round Africa to India*; Copernicus, Selection
From the Revolutions of the Heavenly Bodies; Montaigne's *On the
Cannibals*
The Foundations of Early Modern Europe, 18-44

Paper Due Sept. 29: The Praise of Folly

Week 5

Oct. 4: Renaissance Courts and Manners

Oct. 6: Renaissance Art

Read: Selections from Castiglione, Book of the Courtier
The Foundations of Early Modern Europe, 90-104

Week 6

Oct. 11: Patrons and Artists

Oct. 13: Formation of the Early Modern State

Read: Selections from Giorgio Vasari's *Lives of the Artists*
The Foundations of Early Modern Europe, 110-124

Week 7

Oct. 18: Italian State System, International Rivalry
Oct. 20: The Ottoman Empire
Read: The Foundations of Early Modern Europe, 124-140

*** Paper Due Oct. 18 Book of the Courtier ***

Week 8

Oct. 25: **Midterm Exam**
Oct. 27: The Prince and the State: Theories of Sovereignty
Read: Machiavelli, The Prince
The Foundations of Early Modern Europe, 140-145

Week 9

Nov. 1: German Reformation Part I
Nov. 3: German Reformation Part II
Read: The Foundations of Early Modern Europe, 146-161

Week 10

Nov. 8: German Reformation Part III
Nov. 10: John Calvin and Zwingli
Read: Martin Luther excerpt and John Calvin excerpt
The Foundations of Early Modern Europe, 161-169

*** Paper Due Nov. 8 The Prince ***

Week 11

Nov. 15: Catholic Reformation and the Jesuits
Nov. 17: English Reformation
Read: Thomas More, Utopia
The Foundations of Early Modern Europe, 169-177; 200-202

Week 12

Nov. 22: "A Man For All Seasons"
Nov. 24: Thanksgiving
Read: The Massacre of Saint Bartholomew's Day

Week 13

Nov. 29: French Wars of Religion

Dec. 1: Dutch Revolt

*** Paper due Nov. 29 Utopia ***

Week 14

Dec. 6: Witchcraft

Dec. 8: Rise of Skepticism

Read: Select Documents on Witchcraft

Week 15

Dec. 13: Final Exam Review

Final Exam: Dec. 19th 2-4pm

All students must take the exam on the specified time/date.

There are no makeup exams!

Note: You will have **TWO** hours to complete the exam

(Note: Syllabus is subject to change by the Instructor.)