

Renaissance and Reformation
Early Modern Europe: 1450-1600

50:510:315:01

Professor Mokhberi

Tuesday/Thursday 3-4:20pm

Office Hours: 2:00-3:00 Tuesdays and Thursdays or by appointment

Office: 429 Cooper Street #205



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 discourses.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Midterm Exam: 20%

Paper 1*: 20%

Paper 2*: 20%

Final Exam: 30% (Please note: There are NO MAKEUP EXAMS for the midterm or final.)

Attendance: 10% (More than 3 absences will result in a significantly lower grade. **You are expected to obtain notes from a fellow student and not from the instructor.**)

* 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

Week 1

Sept. 3: The Plague, Hundred Years' War and New Luxuries
Sept. 5: Life in the 16th Century
Read: Selections from Rabelais, *Pantagruel* and *Gargantua* and Selections from Leon Battista Alberti's *The Family in Renaissance Florence*

Week 2

Sept. 10: Carnival
Sept. 12: Technology: Printing Press and the New Warfare
Read: Erasmus, *In Praise of Folly*
The Foundations of Early Modern Europe, 1-18

Week 3

Sept. 17: Renaissance Humanism
Sept. 19: European Economic Expansion
Read: The Foundations of Early Modern Europe, 77-90

Week 4

Sept 24: Origins of Modern Science
Sept 26: Voyages of Exploration
Read: Vasco de Gama's First Voyage; 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. 24: The Praise of Folly

Week 5

Oct. 1: Renaissance Courts and Manners
Oct. 3: Renaissance Art
Read: Selections from Castiglione, *Book of the Courtier*
The Foundations of Early Modern Europe, 90-104

Week 6

Oct. 8: Patrons and Artists
Oct. 10: Formation of the Early Modern State
Read: Selections from Castiglione, *Book of the Courtier*
The Foundations of Early Modern Europe, 110-124

Week 7

Oct. 15: Italian State System, International Rivalry
Oct. 17: The Ottoman Empire
Read: The Foundations of Early Modern Europe, 124-140

*** Paper Due Oct. 15 Book of the Courtier ***

Week 8

Oct. 22: (Midterm)
Oct. 24: The Prince and the State: Theories of Sovereignty
Read: Machiavelli, The Prince
The Foundations of Early Modern Europe, 140-145

Week 9

Oct. 29: German Reformation Part I
Oct. 31: German Reformation Part II
Read: The Foundations of Early Modern Europe, 146-161

Week 10

Nov. 5: John Calvin and Geneva
Nov. 7: Zwingli and the Anabaptists
Read: Selections from Luther, Calvin and Loyola
The Foundations of Early Modern Europe, 161-169

Paper Due Nov. 5 The Prince

Week 11

Nov. 12: Catholic Reformation and the Jesuits
Nov. 14: English Reformation
Read: Thomas More, Utopia
The Foundations of Early Modern Europe, 169-177; 200-202

Week 12

Nov. 19: French Wars of Religion
Nov. 21: Dutch Revolt
Read: The Massacre of Saint Bartholomew's Day

Week 13

Nov. 26: No Class
Nov. 28: Thanksgiving

Week 14

Dec. 3: Witchcraft
Dec. 5: Rise of Skepticism
Read: Select Documents on Witchcraft

*** Paper due Nov. 26 Utopia ***

Week 15

Dec. 10: Final Exam Review

At my community college instructor is the lowest rank. Instructors are at the beginning of their career and are expected to focus on developing their teaching effectiveness. We do not expect them to provide much leadership with regards to committees and the like. Also important to note, it makes little difference if you are a student in their class. You will need to continue to do a lot of research, you will be expected to obtain grants, and you will be expected to serve on tenure committees to evaluate non-tenured faculty. Teaching Fellows and GTAs are still graduate students who may teach lower division courses or assist the more high-ranking professors in their research, but have little clout and no vote in faculty matters, typically. I expect students to prepare via reading, writing, and problem work. Classroom activity can then build directly on their preparation, with plenty of in-class feedback from fellow students and the instructor. Together these components—student preparation and active classroom learning—enable each student post-class to tackle higher-level homework. I call this integrated approach my “ABC method”, a paradigm that I have rene in sixteen dierent courses at all undergraduate and graduate levels. However, note that students are expected to attend lectures regularly. As noted, students are also advised to take extensive notes from lectures and discussions. Remember, material discussed in class will constitute a significant proportion of the mid-term and final exams. Papers and Extensions. It is possible to obtain an extension, but extensions will ONLY be granted because of serious extenuating circumstances (such as illness, accident, bereavement, religious obligation etc) for which you MUST supply a medical certificate or other documentation. Be aware that (as much as it might pain me at the time) I will ask for such documentation. Most students were unable to list 6 expectations for themselves or the instructor at the beginning of the course, but, at the end of the course, they indicated that at least 10 expectations had been met in each category. The results are discussed in light of their usefulness to instructors of introductory psychology. Discover the world's research. 20+ million members.