

Europe in the Age of Renaissance & Reformation
HIST 308 – AS01
Fall 2016

Instructor: Sean Hannan, PhD

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Office Hours: W 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Lecture Time: TR 9:30-10:50 a.m.

Lecture Room: 7-126

Course Credits: 3

Course Pre-requisite: Minimum grade of C- in one of HIST 100, 101, 205, or 209.

Course Description:

This intermediate-level course explores some of the major themes in the history of Europe from the late fourteenth to the early seventeenth century. Its focus is on cultural, intellectual, and religious history, including the rise of humanism, developments in education, arts and literature, the Protestant and Catholic Reformations, and philosophical and scientific innovations. This exploration of key moments in European history is set within the appropriate political and social contexts of these developments, including the emergence of the nation state, the rise of printing, significant demographic change, and the beginnings of European overseas empires.

In this rendition of HIST 308, we will aim to situate the religious movements collectively known as the Reformation alongside the set of intellectual conversations commonly referred to as the Renaissance. Doing so should allow us to appreciate the ties that bound Northern and Southern Europe together in surprising ways throughout this period. In order to achieve this contextually rich interpretation of the past, readings from our textbooks will be supplemented with selections from primary documents authored by figures such as Petrarch, Martin Luther, and John Calvin.

Course Objectives:

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

Differentiate between intellectual, artistic, political, and social developments during the Renaissance and Reformations in Europe.

Explain and analyze how historical developments shaped cultural, social, political and intellectual movements in Europe during the Renaissance period.

Analyze and assess the processes involved in both the Protestant and Catholic reformations.

Differentiate between the various reform programs initiated by Church and State leaders in the late medieval and early modern periods.

Differentiate between the intellectual, doctrinal, political and social impetus behind both the Protestant and Catholic reformations.

Discuss, critique, and analyze historical writing on a selected topic related to the Renaissance and Reformations in Europe.

Research and write an analytical essay based on a combination of secondary and published primary evidence.

Communicate and think in a manner that demonstrates critical ability and intellectual curiosity.

Reflect consciously and responsibly upon the nuances of religious difference, the factors bridging religion to philosophy, and the nature of religious violence.

Textbooks and Other Learning Resources:

Cameron, Euan. *The European Reformation*. 2nd Ed. Oxford UP, 2012.

Bartlett, Kenneth R. *A Short History of the Italian Renaissance*. U of Toronto Press, 2013.

Primary source selections will be scanned from: Heiko Oberman, *Forerunners of the Reformation* (Fortress, 1981); Ernst Cassirer et al., *Renaissance Philosophy of Man* (U of Chicago Press, 1948); John Calvin, *Selections from His Writings* (HarperCollins, 2006); Martin Luther, *Selected Political Writings* (Fortress, 1974); Michael Baylor, *Revelation & Revolution: Basic Writings of Thomas Müntzer* (Toronto: Associated University Press, 1993); or convenient but academically reliable online archives. (Students will not be expected to purchase any texts other than Cameron and Bartlett.)

Grade Evaluation:

Participation & Presentations	10%
Short Writing Assignment	10%
Research Paper	40%
Final Exam	40%
	100%

Assignment and Exam Dates:

Seminar Presentations: Distributed over the course of the semester.

Short Writing Assignment (2-page Annotated Bibliography): Oct. 13

Research Paper (2500-3000 words): Nov. 3

Final Exam: (see below)

Final Exam Schedule:

The date, time and location will be available online at MacEwan.ca/Exams later in the term.

Assignment Descriptions:

Seminar Presentations: Over the course of the semester, students will be asked to present their critical reflections to their peers. Presentations should aim to last for twenty minutes. They may take the form of a prepared set of remarks or a digital presentation (via PowerPoint, Prezi, or another appropriate medium). Their focus should be on a theme from our readings that is relevant to the particular week during which the presentation is made.

Annotated Bibliography: In preparation for a longer writing assignment, students will be asked to prepare an annotated bibliography. Its length should be no more than two pages (double-spaced, in 12-point Times New Roman font). Students will list at least five distinct secondary sources (books, articles, or academically reliable websites) which bear upon their area of interest. In addition to listing the sources, students will write brief descriptions of each item, being sure to indicate the relevance of the item to the broader theme under discussion. These bibliographies shall serve as stepping stones to the eventual completion of the research paper.

Research Paper: Later in the semester, students will submit a research paper (2500-3000 words) on a topic of their choosing. While the choice of topic is free, it should be made known to the instructor well in advance of the paper's due date. Students should make their selection of a theme clear in their annotated bibliographies, which will be submitted earlier in the course.

Final Exam: Our course will culminate with a final examination at the end of the semester. It will be cumulative, which means it will cover all of the material discussed in the textbooks (Cameron and Bartlett), the primary sources, and the lectures.

Final Grade:

The official grading system at MacEwan University is the 12-point letter grade system. While instructors may use percentages to aid in their grade development, percentages are not part of MacEwan University's official grading system. Policy [C2020: Grading](#).

Grade	Percentage	Grade Point	Descriptor
A+	96-100	4.0	Outstanding
A	88-95	4.0	Excellent
A-	82-87	3.7	
B+	78-81	3.3	Good
B	74-77	3.0	
B-	71-73	2.7	
C+	66-70	2.3	Satisfactory
C	63-65	2.0	
C-	58-62	1.7	
D+	53-57	1.3	Poor
D	48-52	1.0	
F	0-47	0.0	Fail

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

Students are expected to be aware of their academic responsibilities as outlined in Policy [E3101: Student Rights and Responsibilities](#). Policies are available online at MacEwan.ca/policymanual.

- 1. ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:** Policy [C1000: Academic Integrity](#). All incidents of academic dishonesty, as outlined in the policy, are reported and recorded by the [Academic Integrity Office](#).
- 2. SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS:** Policy [E3400: Student with Disabilities](#). Students who require special accommodation in this course due to a disability are advised to discuss their needs with [Services to Students with Disabilities \(SSD\)](#).
- 3. PREREQUISITES:** Students who do not have the appropriate prerequisite may be removed from the course and may be responsible for any tuition costs up to the date of removal.
- 4. FINAL EXAMS:** Policy [C2005: Final Assessment](#) and Policy [C2020: Grading](#). Students are responsible for confirming the date, time, duration and location of the final exam. Students may apply for a deferred final exam to the [Faculty of Arts and Science Program Services Office](#). **Applications must be received within two business days of the final exam** (\$50 per exam to a maximum of \$100 per scheduled exam period).
- 5. APPEALS:** Policy [E3103: Student Appeals](#). Students may contact [Student Affairs](#) for assistance.

INSTRUCTOR COURSE POLICIES:

Students must communicate with their instructors using their myMacEwan email accounts.

1. **Late penalties/policy:** Students must submit all assignments by the stated deadlines in order to for their grade to receive full consideration. Late submissions will have their grades docked at a rate of 5% per day. No assignments will be accepted more than one week after their stated deadline. Exceptions may be made in the case of compelling medical circumstances. In that case, it will be necessary to provide documentation in the form of a doctor's note.
2. **Attendance:** Attendance at and attention during class are expected of all students in this course. Failure to attend will put students at a disadvantage when it comes to understanding the material and succeeding with their assignments. This is especially true of in-class presentations!

DISCLAIMER:

The information in this course outline is subject to change and any changes will be announced in class or in writing.

COURSE TOPICS AND SCHEDULE

Week One: Reform & Rebirth

Thursday, Sept. 8: Cameron, Introduction; Bartlett, Ch. 1.

Week Two: Christianity & Europe

Tuesday, Sept. 13: Cameron, Ch. 1-3.

Thursday, Sept. 15: Cameron, Ch. 4;

Thomas Bradwardine, *The Cause of God Against the Pelagians*. (selections)

Week Three: Dante to Petrarch

Tuesday, Sept. 20: Bartlett, Ch. 2-3.

Thursday, Sept. 22: Bartlett, Ch. 4;

Petrarch, *Ascent of Mont Ventoux*. (selections)

Week Four: Humanism & Florence

Tuesday, Sept. 27: Bartlett, Ch. 5-6.

Thursday, Sept. 29: Lorenzo Valla, *Dialogue on Free Will*. (selections)

Week Five: Orthodoxies & Heterodoxies

Tuesday, Oct. 4: Bartlett, Ch. 7; Cameron, Ch. 5-6.

Thursday, Oct. 6: Jan Hus, *The Church*; Pius XII, *Execrabilis*. (selections)

Week Six: Philosophy, Theology, Theocracy

Tuesday, Oct. 11: Bartlett, Ch. 10-12.

Thursday, Oct. 13: Marsilio Ficino, *Five Questions Concerning the Mind*. (selections)

Annotated Bibliography due.

Week Seven: The First Reformers

Tuesday, Oct. 18: Cameron, Ch. 7-9.

Thursday, Oct. 20: Gabriel Biel, *The Circumcision of the Lord*. (selections)

Week Eight: Messages from the Reformation

Tuesday, Oct. 25: Cameron, 10-13.

Thursday, Oct. 27: Luther, *Bondage of the Will*. (selections)

Week Nine: Reforming Politics I

Tuesday, Nov. 1: Cameron, Ch. 14-15.

Thursday, Nov. 3: Luther, *To The Christian Nobility*. (selections)

Research Paper due.

Week Ten: Reforming Politics II

Tuesday, Nov. 8: Cameron, Ch. 16-17;

Calvin, *Reply to Sadoleto*. (selections)

Thursday, Nov. 10: **No Class – Reading Break.**

Week Eleven: Radical Reformation

Tuesday, Nov. 15: Cameron, Ch. 18-19 & Conclusion.

Thursday, Nov. 17: Müntzer, *Prague Protest*. (selections)

Week Twelve: Art Refigured

Tuesday, Nov. 22: Bartlett, Ch. 14.

Thursday, Nov. 24: Bartlett, Ch. 15.

Week Thirteen: Machiavelli

Tuesday, Nov. 29: Bartlett, Ch. 13 & Conclusion.

Thursday, Dec. 1: Final Review.