

Hist 80020 Literature of European History I **5 credits**

Fall 2021

Mondays 4.15-6.15pm

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Office hours by appointment

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This course is an introduction to the literature of European history from the Late Middle Ages through the eighteenth century. It introduces students to the main debates and themes of the scholarship on that period and prepares them for the end-of-semester comprehensive examination and further study of European history.

Requirements:

Attendance and Participation (40%).

Students are expected to contribute substantially to the weekly discussions; attendance is therefore essential.

Weekly Response Papers (30%).

Every week students must submit a one to two-page (double-spaced, 12 point font) critical essay on the assigned readings. The point here is not necessarily to summarize each reading, but to find a common theme and discuss the different approaches taken to the same/similar subject. How and what can we learn about the topic under consideration from reading these different perspectives and sources? What do they tell us about ‘the state of the scholarship’ on that particular topic/theme? Students should email this essay to me **by 9 am on the day of the class.**

One Historiographical Paper (30 %).

Students will also write an 8-10 page (double-spaced 12 point font) historiographical paper on a major theme of the course.

Schedule and Readings:

1. August 30: Periodization Issues: What do we mean by “The Middle Ages”, “The Renaissance,” “The Enlightenment” and “Early Modern European History”?

Anthony Molho, “The Italian Renaissance, Made in the USA” in *Imagined Histories*, Princeton University Press, Anthony Molho and Gordon Wood, eds., chapter 13.

Randolph Starn, Review Article: “The Early Modern Muddle,” *Journal of Early Modern History*, Vol 6, no. 3, Jan 2002, pp. 296–307

Paul Freedman and Gabrielle Spiegel, "Medievalisms, Old and New: The Rediscovery of Alterity in North American Medieval Studies," *American Historical Review*, Vol. 103, no. 3 (June 1998): pp. 677-704.

Sebastian Conrad, "Enlightenment in Global History: A Historiographical Approach," *The American Historical Review*, vol 117, no 4 (October, 2012)
or watch Conrad's online lecture at
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZdU_mX2K0QM

Merry E. Wiesner-Hanks, "Do Women Need the Renaissance?," *Gender & History*, vol. 20, No 3 (November, 2008), pp. 539-557.

2. September 13. Boundary Issues: What is "Europe" and what is a "European"?

Eric Dursteler, "On Bazaars and Battlefields: Recent Scholarship on Mediterranean Cultural Contacts," *Journal of Early Modern History* 15 (2011), pp. 413-434.

Maartje van Gelder and Tijana Krstic, "Introduction: Cross-Confessional Diplomacy and Diplomatic Intermediaries in the Early Modern Mediterranean," *Journal of Early Modern History* 19 (2015), pp. 93-105.

Larry Wolff, *Inventing Eastern Europe: The Map of Civilization on the Mind of the Enlightenment* (Stanford University Press, 1994, Introduction and chapter 1.

Olivette Otele, *African Europeans: An Untold History* pages TBD

3. September 20: Religion and Authority

R.I. Moore, *Formation of a Persecuting Society: Authority and Deviance in Western Europe 950-1250*, Introduction and chapter 5.

Guy Lazure, "Possessing the Sacred: Monarchy and Identity in Philip II's Relic Collection at the Escorial," *Renaissance Quarterly* 60, no. 1 (Spring 2007), pp. 58-93.

Marc Bloch, *The Royal Touch. Monarchy and Miracles in France and England*, Introduction and chapter 3.

Christopher Hill, *The World Turned Upside Down*, Introduction, chapters 2, 13 and 14.

4. September 27: Power and Patriarchy

Sarah Hanley, "Engendering the State: Family Formation and State Building in Early Modern France" *French Historical Studies*, Spring, 1989, vol. 16, no 1 (Spring 1989), pp. 4-27.

David Underdown, "The Taming of the Scold: The Enforcement of Patriarchal Authority in Early Modern England" in Anthony Fletcher and John Stevenson eds. *Order and Disorder in Early Modern England* (CUP, 1985), pp. 116-136.

Lyndal Roper, *The Holy Household: Women and Morals in Reformation Augsburg* (Oxford, 1989), Introduction, chapters 1 and 7.

Steven Ozment, *When Fathers Ruled. Family Life in Reformation Europe*, chapters 1 and 2.

5. October 4: Race in the Middle Ages/Early Modern Europe

Geraldine Heng, *The Invention of Race in the European Middle Ages*, pages TBD

Joyce Chaplin, "Race" in David Armitage, ed, *The British Atlantic World, 1500- 1800*, 2002.

David Harvey, *The French Enlightenment and its Others*, chapter 5: "The Varieties of Man: Racial Theory between Climate and Heredity."

6. October 18: Intellectual history approaches to the Renaissance

Margaret King, Introduction, *Renaissance Humanism: An Anthology of Sources* (Hackett, 2014), pp. ix-xx

Margaret King, Introduction, *A Short History of the Renaissance in Europe* (University of Toronto Press, 2017), pp. xvii-xxvii

William Bouwsma, "Eclipse of the Renaissance," *American Historical Review*, vol 103, No 1, Feb 1998, pp. 115-117

7. October 25: Socio-cultural approaches to the Renaissance

Michael Rocke, *Forbidden Friendships: Homosexuality and Male Culture in Renaissance Florence* (Oxford, 1998), Introduction and chapter 5.

Jerry Brotton, *The Renaissance Bazaar: From the Silk Road to Michelangelo* (Oxford University Press, 2002), Introduction.

Paula Findlen, "Possessing the Past: The Material World of the Italian Renaissance" *American Historical Review* Vol. 103, No. 1 (February 1998), pp. 55-114.

8. November 1: Reformations

Geoffrey Parker “Success and Failure during the First Century of the Reformation,” *Past & Present* 136 (August, 1992), pp. 43-82.

Wolfgang Reinhard, “Reformation, Counter-Reformation and the Early Modern State. A Reassessment,” *The Catholic Historical Review*, vol LXXV, no 3 (July 1989), pp. 383-404.

Walsham, Alexandra, 'Miracles and the Counter-Reformation Mission to England', *The Historical Journal* 46:4 (2003), pp. 779-815

Alexandra Walsham, “‘Domme Preachers’? Post-Reformation English Catholicism and the Culture of Print,” *Past & Present* 168 (August, 2000), pp. 72–123.

Alexandra Walsham, “Reformation and the ‘Disenchantment of the World’ Reassessed”, *Historical Journal*, vol 51, no 2 (June, 2008), pp. 497-528.

9. November 8: Science

William R. Newman, “A Preliminary Reassessment of Newton’s Alchemy,” in *The Cambridge Companion to Newton*, ed. Rob Iliffe and George E. Smith, pp. 454-484.

Margaret Jacob “The Anglican Origins and metaphysical foundations of the Whig Constitution” *Isis*, vol 71, no 2 (June, 1980), pp. 251-267

Londa Schiebinger, “The Philosopher’s Beard: Women and Gender in Science,” in *The Cambridge History of Science*, ed. Roy Porter, vol 4, pp. 184-210

Richard Westfall, “Science and Patronage: Galileo and the Telescope,” *Isis* 76 (1985), pp. 11-30.

10. November 15: War and the Construction of the State

Mack Holt, *The French Wars of Religion, 1562-1629* (Cambridge University Press, 2005.), chapter 8, “Conclusions: economic impact, social change, and absolutism”

Linda Colley, *Britons: Forging the Nation 1707-1837* (Yale University Press, 2009), Introduction and Conclusion.

David Bell, *The Cult of the Nation in France*, Introduction.

SJ Gunn, “War and the Emergence of the State: Western Europe, 1350-1600, in D. Trim and F. Tallet eds, *European Warfare, 1350-1750*, pp. 50-73.

11. November 22: Economics

De Vries, "The Industrial Revolution and the Industrious Revolution," *Journal of Economic History*, 54 (1994), pp. 249-70.

Sven Beckert, *Empire of Cotton: a Global History* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2015) Introduction and chapters 1-5.

Joel Mokyr, "The Intellectual Origins of Modern Economic Growth," *Journal of Economic History* 65, 2 (2005), pp. 285-351

Joel Mokyr, "The Institutional Origins of the Industrial Revolution," in *Institutions and Economic Performance*, ed. Elhanan Helpman, Cambridge University Press (2008), pp. 64-119.

Jennifer Jones, "Repackaging Rousseau: Femininity and Fashion in France," *French Historical Studies* vol 18, no 4 (Autumn, 1994), pp. 939-967.

12. November 29: Approaches to the Body

Caroline Walker Bynum, *Holy Feast and Holy Fast: The Religious Significance of Food to Medieval Women* (Berkeley, 1987), Introduction and chapters 6-8.

Londa Schiebinger, "Skeletons in the Closet. The First Illustrations of the Female Skeleton in Eighteenth-Century Anatomy," *Representations*, no 14 (Spring 1986), pp. 42-82.

Lynn Hunt, *Inventing Human Rights* Introduction, chapters one and two.

Lynn Hunt, "The Many Bodies of Marie Antoinette: Political Pornography and the Problem of the Feminine in the French Revolution," in Dena Goodman (ed.), *Marie Antoinette: Writings on the Body of the Queen* (Routledge, 2013), pp. 117-138.

13. December 6: The Enlightenment I

Jonathan Israel, *A Revolution of the Mind: Radical Enlightenment and the Intellectual Origins of Modern Democracy* (Princeton University Press, 2010).

Dorinda Outram, *The Enlightenment* (Cambridge University Press, 2013), chapter one.

14. December 13: The Enlightenment: II

Roger Chartier, *The Cultural Origins of the French Revolution*, especially chapters 2, 5 and 6.

Robert Darnton, "The Enlightenment and the Low-Life of Literature" in Robert Darnton, *The Literary Underground of the Old Regime*, chapter 1, pp. 1-40.

David Harvey, *The French Enlightenment and its Others*, chapter 5: “The Varieties of Man: Racial Theory between Climate and Heredity”