

GLOBAL EARLY MODERN EUROPE: EXCHANGES & TRANSITIONS

Instructor: Dr. Julia Gossard

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Office Hours: Tuesdays, 10:30-12:30

& by appointment

Class Time(s): MWF, 10-10:50AM

Classroom: GAR 1.126

Office: GAR 4.106

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Historians use the term “early modern” to describe the period in European history between the end of the Middle Ages in the fifteenth century and the Age of Revolutions in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. In many ways, the early modern period was a time of transition. States were in the process of solidifying their power; religious reformations were redefining beliefs, cultures, and practices among the people; the exploration of the globe was intensifying, resulting in the creation of empires; and the economy was undergoing a transition to capitalism.

At the same time that Europe was undergoing major social, political, and economic transitions, Europe was also expanding westward and eastward, exchanging with new cultures. This survey course will pay special attention to the expansion of Europe to the New World, the Mediterranean, Africa, Asia, and Southeast Asia, exploring how Europe exchanged goods, people, ideologies, and culture with these societies.

Topics covered include: Renaissance(s); the Reformation(s); State-Building; the Scientific Revolution; Global Expansion and Exchange; Impact of Slavery, Smuggling, and Spices on Europe; the Enlightenment; French Revolution.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

By the end of the course, students will:

- 1) Have a solid grounding in the history of early modern global Europe (1400-1800), preparing them for upper-division courses.
- 2) Understand historical change along with historical continuity
- 3) Confidently cite and analyze (translated) primary source documents from early modern Europe
- 4) Identify “key” developments in global early modern European history including the Renaissance, the Reformation(s), the Scientific Revolution, the Enlightenment, and the French Revolution.

ASSIGNMENTS & ASSESSMENT

Class will be a combination of lecture and discussion. We will read and analyze both primary and secondary sources each week. Considerable time is spent developing students’ writing and analytical skills. Additional instructions on assignments will be distributed to students in class and via Canvas. The following is an overview.

- **10% Participation & Preparation-** Students are expected to attend *all* class meetings, well-prepared for the day’s discussion as active participants. Aim for *at*

least one contribution to our discussions daily. Attendance will be taken. The attendance policy is as follows:

- Excessive unexcused absences (more than 2) will negatively impact your grade. More than 6 absences will result in a final grade of an F. Excused absences are only granted in the case of documented medical illness or emergency.
- Since assignments will be submitted electronically via Canvas, all assignments are due at the start of class, even in the event of a student's absence.
- If a student misses an exam, they must provide documentation of their absence and contact Dr. Gossard as soon as possible.
- **20% Reflection Papers (4)-** On select weeks, students will submit a short (min-one page, max-two pages, double-spaced) writing exercise that analyzes **at least one** of that week's **required primary source documents**. You should not merely summarize what the author said, but include a thoughtful analysis of the text, relating it back to our secondary source readings and class discussions. Though there are seven opportunities to write these assignments, **students are only required to complete four (4) of these assignments**. Students may write one additional paper to replace their lowest single paper grade.
- **25% Mapping Early Modern European Exchanges (Digital Assignment)** – The class will be making a digital map of the early modern world, starting with Europe and branching out to the New World and the east. An interactive map that demonstrates how people, goods, and ideas flowed to/from Europe during the period will demonstrate the connectivity of the early modern globe as well as continuities and changes in history. Students are required to submit **4 entries** (each at 5%) to the digital assignment over the course of the semester. These entries will be ~150 - 200 words in length. At the end of the semester, students will reflect on the assignment in a two-page report (5%), demonstrating how this map acted as a supplemental learning tool.
- **20% Mid-Term Exam**
- **25% Final Exam**

All assignments, including exams, will be submitted electronically.

Required Books & Materials:

Books to Buy, Rent, or Check-Out from the Library:

- **Merry Weisner-Hanks, *Early Modern Europe, 1450-1789*** (2nd edition; ISBN: 978-1107643574) – There is a kindle edition of this book that is very good and reasonably priced.
- **Niccolò Machiavelli, *The Prince*** (ISBN: 978-0486272740 – Dover Thrift Edition; Though any copy will work).
- **All other readings will be posted on Canvas under the “Files” section.**

CONTACTING DR. GOSSARD, OFFICE HOURS, & HELP AT UT

If at any time during the semester you have a question, concern, or want to further discuss a topic that interested you in class, please come see me during office hours (Tuesdays, 10:30-12:30 in GAR 4.106) or email me (jgossard@utexas.edu). I try to answer emails as soon as possible (no more than 24 hours during the week; no more than 48 on weekends). If my office hours do not work for your schedule, email me to set up an appointment.

UT has a number of centers and resources available to students:

- Sanger Learning Center (<http://www.utexas.edu/ugs/slc>) - Tutoring, workshops, & additional academic support
- Undergraduate Writing Center (<http://uwc.utexas.edu/>) - Tutoring for writing and research
- UT Health Center (<http://healthyhorns.utexas.edu/>)
- UT Counseling and Mental Health Center (<http://www.cmhc.utexas.edu/>)

ADA, Honor Code, and Civility

- If you need any accommodation under the provisions of the ADA act, please inform Dr. Gossard as soon as possible.
- Students are expected to uphold irreproachable standards of academic integrity. In the event of any form of academic dishonesty (cheating, plagiarism, etc.) I will assign a score of 0 for the assignment. Repeated acts will result in failure of the course and a referral to the Dean of Students. Please be aware that every assignment you submit through Canvas goes through plagiarism software that will discover all forms of plagiarism. Should you have questions on what constitutes plagiarism please see UT Library's workshop on plagiarism and ask Dr. Gossard. The Office of the Dean of Students maintains an excellent website about academic honesty policies at UT. See: www.utexas.edu/depts/dos/sjs
- Students are encouraged to speak their mind in the classroom, support each other, and even disagree with each other. But remember to speak to each other and your instructor with respect, even if you don't agree with what the other has said.

CLASS, READING, & ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE:

- Dr. Gossard reserves the right to make changes as necessary to the readings, assignments, and class meetings schedule. **Check your email and Canvas regularly for announcements to changes made to this schedule.** Should you have questions, please ask!
- Reading is due the day under which it is listed. "Recommended" readings are not required, but can prove helpful in understanding the context of that day's lecture more thoroughly.
- **Assignments must be submitted to Canvas by the START of the class.** Assignments submitted after this time will be considered late. Since assignments are submitted electronically, if you must miss class on the day an assignment is due, you are still responsible for submitting it to Canvas.

****SUBJECT TO CHANGE – CHECK YOUR EMAIL & CANVAS REGULARLY****

WEEK 1: Setting the Stage: What is “global early modern Europe”?

Wednesday, 8/26: Introductions

Friday, 8/23: Defining Europe & Modernity

⇒ Required: “Introduction,” Weisner-Hanks, *EME* (CAN or your book if you have it by now)

Recommended: Peter Burke, “Did Europe Exist before 1700?” in *History of European Ideas* 1 (1980): 21-9. (CAN)



Petrarch

WEEK 2: The Renaissance

Monday, 8/31: Humanism & the Italian Renaissance

⇒ Required BEFORE you read the primary source: How to Read a Primary Source (CAN)

⇒ Required Primary Source: Petrarch, Letter to the Abbot of St. Benigno (CAN)

⇒ Recommended: Weisner-Hanks, Chapter 4 “Cultural and Intellectual Life” in *EME*

Wednesday, 9/2: The Northern Renaissance

⇒ Recommended: Margaret King, Chapter 10 “The Renaissance beyond the Alps” (CAN)

Friday, 9/4: Renaissance Art – Alberti

⇒ Required Primary Source: Selections of Alberti, *On Painting* (CAN)

⇒ **DUE: REFLECTION PAPER 1 – RENAISSANCE DOCS**

WEEK 3: Machiavelli’s *The Prince*

Monday, 9/7: Labor Day – NO CLASS

Wednesday, 9/9: Machiavelli *The Prince*, I

⇒ Required Primary Source: Chapters 1 – 13 of *The Prince*

Friday, 9/11: Machiavelli *The Prince*, II

- ⇒ Required Primary Source: Chapters 14 – 26 of *The Prince*
⇒ **DUE: REFLECTION PAPER 2 - MACHIAVELLI**



Martellus World Map (1490)

WEEK 4: Age of Exploration

****Due by end of week (Friday): First entry to our class's map****

Monday, 9/14: Conquest or Commerce: Spain & England

- ⇒ Required: J.H. Elliott "Introduction: Worlds Overseas" and "Intrusion and Empire" (CAN)

Wednesday, 9/16: European Ceremonies of Possession

- ⇒ Required: Patricia Seed, "Introduction," *Ceremonies of Possession* (CAN)

Friday, 9/18: Settlement, Migration, and Continued Exploration

WEEK 5: The Protestant Reformation

Monday, 9/21: Luther & Protestantism

- ⇒ Required Primary Source: Luther's 95 Theses (CAN)

Wednesday, 9/23: The Reformation in England

- ⇒ Required: Weisner-Hanks, Chapter 5, "Religious Reform & Consolidation"

Friday, 9/25: The Geneva Consistory Records

- ⇒ Required Primary Source: Selections from the Geneva Consistory (CAN)
⇒ **DUE: REFLECTION PAPER 3 - GENEVA CONSISTORY RECORDS**

WEEK 6: The Counter (Catholic) Reformation

Monday, 9/28: The French Wars of Religion

- ⇒ Required: Philip Benedict, "The Wars of Religion, 1562-1698," in *Renaissance and Reformation France* (CAN)

Wednesday, 9/30: The Council of Trent

⇒ Required Primary Source: Selections from the Council of Trent

Friday, 10/2: Baroque Culture & Art



Louis XIV

WEEK 7: State-Building & Absolutism

Monday, 10/5: Absolutism: The Case of Louis XIV

- ⇒ Required Primary Source: Duc de Saint-Simon, The Court of Louis XIV (CAN)
- ⇒ Recommended: Weisner-Hanks, Chapter 9 “Politics & Power,” especially the sections Absolutism in theory and practice; France

Wednesday, 10/7: The British Isles & Constitutionalism

- ⇒ Required Primary Source: Commonwealth Instrument of Government, 1653 (CAN)
- ⇒ Recommended: Weisner-Hanks, Chapter 9 “Politics & Power,” section on The British Isles

Friday, 10/9: Other European States

- ⇒ Recommended: Weisner Hanks – sections: The Dutch Republic; Sweden and Poland; Hapsburg Lands; and Russia in Chapter 9 “Politics & Power”
- ⇒ **DUE: REFLECTION PAPER 4 - ONE STATE-BUILDING DOC**

WEEK 8: The Scientific Revolution

**** Due by end of week (Friday): Second entry to our class’s map****

Monday, 10/12: Scientific Revolution

- ⇒ Required Primary Sources: Galileo’s Letter to the Grand Duchess Christina of Tuscany, 1615 and Galileo’s Indictment and Abjuration of 1633 (CAN)

Wednesday, 10/14: Scientific Revolution Cont’d & Review for Midterm

Friday, 10/16: MIDTERM

WEEK 9: Europe & the World

Monday, 10/19: Missionaries & Merchants in Asia

⇒ Required: Weisner, Hanks, “Europe in the World, 1450-1600”

Wednesday, 10/21: French & British Eastern Attempts

Friday, 10/9: Early Euro-African Commerce

⇒ Required: John Thornton, Chapter 2 in *Africa and Africans in the Making of the Atlantic World* (CAN)

WEEK 10: Rise of Global Consumerism

Monday, 10/26: Industrious Revolution

⇒ Required: Jan de Vries, “Between purchasing power and the world of goods: understanding the household economy in early modern Europe” in *Consumption and the World of Goods* (CAN)

Wednesday, 10/28: The Impact of Slavery, Smuggling, and the Spices

⇒ Recommended: Weisner-Hanks, Ch. 13 “Europe in the World, 1600-1789”

Friday, 10/30: European Global Consumption

⇒ Required: Kwass, Chapter 1 “The Globalization of European Consumption” (CAN)

WEEK 11: Consumer Revolution Case Studies

Monday, 11/2: Tulipmania – A Case of Speculation

⇒ Required: Chapters 1 & 13 in *Tulipmania: The Story of the World’s Most Coveted Flower & The Extraordinary Passions it Aroused* by Mike Dash (CAN)

⇒ Required Primary Source: Image/Painting: Jan Brueghel the Younger, “Satire on Tulip Mania,” c. 1640 (CAN)

Wednesday, 11/4: British Consumerism – Identity through Purchasing

⇒ Required: T.H. Breen, “The meaning of things: Interpreting the consumer economy in the eighteenth century” (CAN)

⇒ Required Primary Source: Images of eighteenth-century British consumer goods (CAN)

Friday, 11/6: Guest Lecture – Alexis Harasemovitch Truax

⇒ **DUE: REFLECTION PAPER 5 - ONE CONSUMER CASE STUDY DOC**

WEEK 12: The Enlightenment

**** Due by end of week (Friday): Third entry to our class’s map ****

Monday, 11/9: Rise of Salon Culture

⇒ Required: Weisner-Hanks, Chapter 10 “Cultural and Intellectual Life, 1600-1789”

Wednesday, 11/11: Enlightenment Thought

⇒ Required Primary Source: Rousseau, *The Social Contract*, 1763 (CAN)

Friday, 11/13: What is the Enlightenment?

⇒ Required Primary Source: Kant, “What is Enlightenment?,” 1784

Salonnières, 1785



WEEK 13: Europe & the World in the Age of Revolution

Monday, 11/16: Europe's Colonies on the eve of Revolution

Wednesday, 11/18: The Economics of Revolution

⇒ Required Primary Source: Adam Smith, excerpts from *The Wealth of Nations*, 1776 (CAN)

Friday, 11/20: The American Revolution – The Loyalist Colonies

WEEK 14: The French Revolution

Monday, 11/23: The Coming of the French Revolution

⇒ Required: Doyle, “The Parlements” in Keith Baker, *The French Revolution* (CAN)

Wednesday, 11/25: The Third Estate

⇒ Required Primary Source: Abbé Sieyès “What is the Third Estate?” (CAN)

⇒ **DUE: REFLECTION PAPER 6 – SIEYES**

Friday, 11/27 – NO CLASS (Thanksgiving)

WEEK 15: The French Revolution Continued & Conclusion
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****Due by end of week (Friday): Fourth (last) entry to our class’s map!****

Monday, 11/30: The Cultural Origins of the French Revolution

⇒ Required: Robert Darnton, “The High Enlightenment and Low-Life on Literature” (CAN)

Wednesday, 12/2: Declaration of Rights of Man

⇒ Required Primary Source: Declaration of the Rights of Man, 1789 (CAN)

Friday, 12/4 – LAST CLASS DAY – The King’s Trial and the Fall of the Ancien Régime

⇒ Required Primary Source: The Constitution of 1791 (CAN)

⇒ **DUE: REFLECTION PAPER 7 – RIGHTS OF MAN**

⇒ **DUE: All FOUR entries to the map must be submitted today by 11:59PM.**

FINAL: TBA

DUE ON DAY OF FINAL: 2-page map report

