

HIST 515
Early Modern Europe

Fall 2019, Wednesdays 6-9pm

Course Description

This course serves as a graduate-level introduction to the most important sub-areas and historiographical trends within the large field of Early Modern European history. Weekly readings will acquaint students with a mix of classic and more recent scholarship, and will familiarize students with some of the ongoing historiographical questions, methods, and theoretical framings in Early Modern European history.

Early Modern Europe is traditionally defined roughly the fifteenth- through the eighteenth-centuries, with some scholars pushing these parameters further. For the purposes of this class, we will keep these dates in mind, though we will not rigidly adhere to them. Does “Early Modern” equate with “Renaissance”? What are the pros and cons of each term? We will also consider another way the early modern period has been sometimes defined: the age “between two crises.” That is, is there something unique about the European world and experience between the black death and the wars of religion? What defines this period? Gunpowder and the printing press, or other less tangible factors? How do episodes of upheaval, population destruction, violence, and social dislocation affect how Europeans organized themselves, looked for meaning in their lives, excluded or included on another, and interacted with other people in the emerging global world?

Needless to say, this course is not comprehensive, nor does it replicate a reading list for an exam field. Rather, it will help students begin to narrow down topic areas, as well as to build their own reading lists. Students planning to sit for an exam in Early Modern history are encouraged to choose to write a historiography paper for the final assignment.

Assessment

- **Participation** (25%) – *including attendance and participation in class discussion. Students will also be required to lead discussion twice throughout the semester.*
- **Book Reviews** (25%) – *a 750-1000-word book review of each week’s principle reading, due by email by the beginning of class.*
- **Final Paper** (50%) – *a 20-25-page research or historiography paper, on a topic chosen in consultation with the professor, including a prospectus and bibliography due in November.*

Academic Integrity

Students are required to abide by the University’s policies on academic integrity.

Cheating and plagiarism are serious, and they rarely go uncaught. It's not worth it to risk your academic and professional careers, so don't even think about trying it. If you have any questions about how to properly use sources and cite references, I will be more than happy to help you.

Changes to the Syllabus

The professor reserves the right to make alterations to the syllabus throughout the semester. Students will be given ample notification should any changes be made.

Course Calendar

28 August

Starting Points

Andrew Pettegree, *Europe in the Sixteenth Century* (Oxford: Blackwell, 2002), chapters 1 and 2 only.

David Herlihy, *The Black Death and the Transformation of the West* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1997).

Laura Smoller, "'Popular' Religious Culture(s)," in John Arnold, ed., *The Oxford Handbook of Medieval Christianity*, pp. 340-56 (Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press, 2014).

** Professor will lead discussion today.

Assignment:

1. Survey the abstracts and tables of contents for dissertations available in the Digital Dissertations database (ProQuest). What have PhD students been writing in the last ten years? Pick out the trends (i.e. identify the "hot" and "cold" topics) for a region of Early Modern history and bring a list of titles and summaries to discuss at our meeting.
2. Over the course of the semester we will make use of some of the major journals published on Early Modern history. Pick two of the following and familiarize yourself with the following major publications and come to class with some generalizations or categorizations of their content (think about period, themes, geographic regions, type of history, disciplinary tendencies, format, etc. Are you able to identify any grad student written articles?): *Renaissance Quarterly*, *Sixteenth Century Journal*, *Archive for Reformation History*, *Journal of Early Modern History*, *Journal of Modern History*, *Church History*, *Catholic Historical Review*, *Renaissance Studies*, *Gender and History*, *Journal of Italian Studies*, *Journal of French Historical Studies*, *Journal of Social History*, *Past & Present* (other journals are acceptable too, just ask).

4 September

Women, Men, and Work in Early Modern Europe

Martha Howell, *Commerce Before Capitalism* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010)

Natalie Zemon Davis, "Women in the Crafts in Sixteenth-Century Lyon" *Feminist Studies*, 8 n.1 (1982): 46-80

Merry Wiesner-Hanks, "Wandervogels and Women: Journeymen's Concepts of Masculinity in Early Modern Germany" *Journal of Social History*, 24 n. 4 (1991): 767-782

Additional reading suggestions:

Martha C. Howell, *Women, Production, and Patriarchy in Late Medieval Cities* (Chicago: Chicago University Press, 1986).

Sheilagh Ogilvie, *The European Guilds: An Economic Analysis* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2019).

Sheilagh Ogilvie, *A Bitter Living: Women, Markets, and Social Capital in Early Modern Europe* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2003).

11 September

Sex, Kin, and Gender Relations

Stanley Chojnacki, *Women and Men In Renaissance Venice: Twelve Essays on Patrician Culture* (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2000), chapters Intro, 1, 2, 5, 7, and 8.

Christiane Klapisch-Zuber, *Women, Family, and Ritual in Renaissance Italy* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1985), chapters 4, 6, 7, 8, 10, and 13 (recommended 5 and 14 if interested in children).

Julius Kirshner, "Family and Marriage: A Socio-Legal Perspective," in *Italy in the Age of the Renaissance*, ed. John M. Najemy (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2009), 82-102.

Additional reading suggestions:

Joan Kelly-Gadol, "Did Women Have a Renaissance?" in *Becoming Visible: Women in European History*, ed. Renate Bridenthal et. al (Boston: Houghton-Mifflin, 1977).

Merry Weisner-Hanks, *Women and Gender in Early Modern Europe, 4th Edition* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2019).

Thomas Kuehn, *Family and Gender in Renaissance Italy, 1300-1600* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2017).

Daniel Bornstein, ed., *Women and Religion in Medieval and Renaissance Italy* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1996).

Gene Brucker, *Giovanni and Lusanna: Love and Marriage in Renaissance Italy* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1986).

Ian MacLean, *The Renaissance Notion of Woman* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1980).

Judith Brown and Robert Davis, eds., *Gender and Society in Renaissance Italy* (London and New York: Longman, 1998).

Thomas Kuehn, *Law, Family and Women: Toward a Legal Anthropology of Renaissance Italy* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1991).

Eukene Lacarra Lanz, ed., *Marriage and Sexuality in Medieval and Early Modern Iberia* (New York: Routledge, 2002).

18 September

Dislocation and Disruption

Eamon Duffy, *The Stripping of the Altars: Traditional Religion in England 1400-1580* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1992) (read part I only)

John Bossy, "The Counter-Reformation and the People of Catholic Europe," *Past and Present* 47 (May 1970), pp. 51-70

John Van Engen, "The Christian Middle Ages as an Historiographical Problem," *The American Historical Review* 91 (June 1986), pp. 519-552.

Additional reading suggestions:

Eamon Duffy, *The Voices of Morebath: Reformation and Rebellion in an English Village* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2001).

Thomas Robisheaux, *Rural Society and the Search for Order in Early Modern Germany* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1989).

Jeanne de Jussie, *The Short Chronicle*, edited and translated by Carrie F. Klaus (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2002).

Robert Scribner, "The Reformation, Popular Magic, and the 'Disenchantment of the World,'" *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 23 (1993): 475-94.

Lyndal Roper, *The Holy Household: Women and Morals in Reformation Augsburg* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1991).

Elizabeth Rapley, "Women and Religious Vocation in Seventeenth Century France," *French Historical Studies* 18 n.3 (1994): 613-34.

25 September

Reformation, Print, and Oral Culture

Andrew Pettegree, *Brand Luther* (New York: Penguin Books, 2015).

Additional reading suggestions:

Elizabeth L. Eisenstein, *The Printing Press as an Agent of Change: Communications and Cultural Transformations in Early Modern Europe* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1979).

Lucien Febvre, *The Coming of the Book: The Impact of Printing, 1450-1800* (New York: Verso, 1997).

Elizabeth L. Eisenstein, *The Printing Revolution in Early Modern Europe*, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1983).
Andrew Pettegree, *Reformation and the Culture of Persuasion* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2005).
Alison Shell, *Oral Culture and Catholicism in Early Modern England* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006).
Fernando Bouza, *Communication, Knowledge, and Memory in Early Modern Spain*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2004.
Davis McKitterick, *Print, Manuscript and the Search for Order, 1450-1830* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2003).
R. Chartier, *The Cultural Uses of Print in Early Modern France* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1987).
Keith Whinnom, "The problem of the 'best-seller' in Spanish Golden-Age literature," *Bulletin of Hispanic Studies*, 57 n. 3 (2007): 189-198.
Sara Nalle, "Literacy and Culture in Golden-Age Castile," *Past and Present* 125 (1989): 67-98.

2 October

Early Modern Catholicism and Religious Authority

Lu Ann Homza, ed., *The Spanish Inquisition: An Anthology of Sources* (Indianapolis: Hackett, 2007), Intro and Docs. 3-6, 10, 12, 16, 22, and 25.
Robert Bireley, "Redefining Catholicism: Trent and Beyond," in *The Cambridge History of Christianity: Reform and Expansion, 1500-1660*, ed. R. Po-Chia Hsia (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007).
Wolfgang Reinhard, "Reformation, Counter-Reformation, and the Early Modern State a Reassessment," *Catholic Historical Review*, 75 n. 3 (1989): 383-404.
Robert Bireley, "Early-Modern Catholicism as a Response to the Changing World of the Long Sixteenth Century," *Catholic Historical Review*, 95 n.2 (April 2009): 219-39.

Additional reading suggestions:

Henry Kamen, *The Phoenix and the Flame: Catalonia and the Counter Reformation* (New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 1993).
Celeste McNamara, "Challenges to Episcopal Authority in Seventeenth-Century Padua" in *Episcopal Reform and Politics in Early Modern Europe*, ed. Jennifer Mara DeSilva, 173-193 (Kirksville, MO: Truman State University Press, 2012).
William Monter, *Frontiers of Heresy: The Spanish Inquisition from the Basque Lands to Sicily* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1990).
Sara T. Nalle, *God in La Mancha: The People of Cuenca and the Council of Trent* (Baltimore, MD: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1992).
Allyson M. Poska, *Regulating the People: The Catholic Reformation in Seventeenth-Century Spain* (Leiden: Brill, 1998).

Ulrike Strasser, "'The First in Form and Grace': Ignatius of Loyola and the Reformation of Masculinity," *Masculinity in the Reformation Era*, 45-69. ed by Scott H. Hendrix and Susan C. Karant-Nunn (Truman, MO: Sixteenth Century Essays and Studies, 2008).

John Patrick Donnelly, ed. *Jesuit Writings of the Early Modern Period, 1540-1640* (Indianapolis, Hackett, 2006).

Marc Forster, *The Counter-Reformation in the villages : religion and reform in the Bishopric of Speyer, 1560-1720* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1992).

9 October

(In)Tolerance and the Wars of Religion

Barbara Diefendorf, *Beneath the Cross: Catholics and Huguenots in Sixteenth Century Paris* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1991).

Benjamin Kaplan, *Divided By Faith: Religious Conflict and the Practice of Toleration in Early Modern Europe* (Cambridge, MA: Belknap Press, 2007), 1-12.

Additional suggested readings:

Alexandra Walsham, *Charitable Hatred: Tolerance and Intolerance in England, 1500-1700* (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2006).

Stuart Schwartz, *All Can be Saved: Toleration and Salvation in the Ibero-Atlantic World* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2004).

16 October

The Military Revolution in Early Modern Europe

Jan Glete, *War and the State in Early Modern Europe: Spain, the Dutch Republic and Sweden as Fiscal-Military States* (New York: Routledge, 2001)

Additional reading suggestions:

Julius Kirshner, ed., *Origins of the State in Italy, 1300-1600* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1995).

Eugene Rice and Anthony Grafton, *Foundations of Early Modern Europe, 1460-1559*, second edition (New York: Norton, 1994)

Geoffrey Parker, *The Military Revolution: Military Innovation and the Rise of the West 1500-1800* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1988)

Geoffrey Parker, *The Grand Strategy of Phillip II* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2000)

Geoffrey Parker, *Global Crisis: Global crisis: war, climate change and catastrophe in the seventeenth century* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2013).

23 October

The Witch-hunts

Lyndal Roper, *Witchcraze* (New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 2004).
Christina Lerner, "Crimen Exceptum? The Crime of Witchcraft in Europe", in *Crime and the Law* ed. V. A. Gatrell et. al (London: Europa, 1980): 49-75.

Additional reading suggestions:

Brian Levack, *The Witch-hunt in Early Modern Europe*, fourth edition (New York: Routledge, 2015)

Alan Kors and Edward Peters, ed., *Witchcraft in Europe, 400-1700* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2000)

Robin Briggs, *Witches and Neighbors: The Social and Cultural Context of European Witchcraft* (New York: Penguin, 1997).

Alison Rowlands, ed., *Witchcraft and Masculinities in early modern Europe* (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2009)

Willem de Blècourt, "The Making of the Female Witch: Reflections on Witchcraft and Gender in the early modern period", *Gender and History* 12.2 (July 2000): 287-309.

Stuart Clark, *Thinking with Demons: The Idea of Witchcraft in Early Modern Europe* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2005).

Keith Thomas, *Religion and the Decline of Magic* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1971).

Erik Midelfort, *Witch Hunting in Southwestern Germany, 1562-1684: The Social and Intellectual Foundations* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1970).

Malcolm Gaskill, *Witchfinders: A Seventeenth-Century English Tragedy* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2007)

30 October

Honor, Gender, and Disruptive Masculinity

Scott Taylor, *Honor and Violence in Golden Age Spain* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2008).

Edward Behrend-Martínez, "Taming Don Juan: Limiting Masculinity in Counter Reformation Spain," *Gender and History* 24, n.2 (2012): 333-352.

Additional reading suggestions:

Alexandra Shepard, *Meaning of Manhood in Early Modern England* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2003)

Derek Neal, *The Masculine Self in Late Medieval England* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2008).

Androniki Dialeti, "Defending Women, Negotiating Masculinity in Early Modern Italy," *The Historical Journal* 54, n.1 (2011): 1-23.

Androniki Dialeti, "Patriarchy as a Category of Historical Analysis and the Dynamics of Power: The Example of Early Modern Italy," *Gender and History* 30, n. 2 (2018): 331-342.

Allyson M. Poska, "A Married Man is a Woman: Negotiating Masculinity in Early Modern Northwestern Spain," *Masculinity in the Reformation Era*, 3-19, edited by Scott H. Hendrix and Susan C. Karant-Nunn (Truman, MO: Sixteenth Century Essays and Studies, 2008).

Amanda L. Scott, "Bullfighting, the Basque Clergy, and Tridentine Reform," *Renaissance Quarterly* (forthcoming March 2020).

Renato Barahona, *Sex Crimes, Honour, and the Law in Early Modern Spain: Vizcaya, 1528–1735* (Buffalo, NY: University of Toronto Press, 2003).

Michelle Armstrong-Partida, *Defiant Priests, Domestic Unions, Violence and Clerical Masculinity in Fourteenth-Century Catalonia* (Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 2016).

6 November

NO CLASS

Prospectus and Bibliography Due
 Schedule individual meetings with professor this week (bring hard copies)

13 November

Ritual, Popular Culture, and the Topsy-Turvy World

David Underdown, *Revel, Riot, and Rebellion: Popular Politics and Culture in England, 1603-1660* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1987).

Peter Burke, *Popular Culture in Early Modern Europe* (Burlington, VT: Ashgate, 2007), chapters 1, 4, and 7.

Additional reading suggestions:

Edward Muir, *Civic Ritual in Renaissance Italy* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1986).

Edward Muir, *Ritual in Early Modern Europe* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2005).

Richard Trexler, *Public Life in Renaissance Florence* (Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 1991).

Emmanuel Le Roy Ladurie, *Carnival in Romans: Mayhem and Massacre in a French City*, reprint (New York: Phoenix Press, 2003).

James A. Palmer, "Piety and Social Distinction in Late Medieval Roman Peacemaking," *Speculum* 89, no. 4 (October 2014): 974-1004.

20 November

Crossing Cultures

Natalie Rothman, *Brokering Empire: Trans-Imperial Subjects between Venice and Istanbul* (Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 2011).

Francesca Trivellato, ed., *Religion and Trade: Cross-Cultural Exchanges in World History, 1000-1900* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014), chapters 1 and 2.

Additional reading suggestions:

Eric R. Dursteler, *Renegade Women: gender, Identity, and Boundaries in the Early Modern Mediterranean* (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2013).

Eric R. Dursteler, *Venetians in Constantinople: nation, Identity, and Coexistence in the Early Modern Mediterranean* (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2013).

Andrew C. Hess, *The Forgotten Frontier: A History of the Sixteenth-Century Ibero-African Frontier* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1978).

Natalie Zemon Davis, *Trickster Travels: A Sixteenth-Century Muslim Between Worlds* (New York: Hill and Wang, 2006).

27 November

NO CLASS – *Thanksgiving Break*

4 December

Atlantic Worlds

Henry Kamen, *Empire: How Spain Became a World Power, 1492-1763* (New York, 2002)

Chapters from: Jack P. Greene and Philip D. Morgan, eds., *Atlantic History: A Critical Appraisal* (Oxford, 2008)

Additional reading suggestions:

J.H. Elliott, *Empires of the Atlantic World* (New Haven, 2007)

Bernard Baylin, *Atlantic History: Concepts and Contours* (Cambridge, MA, 2005)

Christine Daniels and Michael Kennedy, eds., *Negotiated Empires: Centers and Peripheries in the New World, 1500-1820* (New York, 2002)
Peter Hulme, *Colonial Encounters: Europe and the Native Caribbean, 1492-1797* (London, 1986)
Nicholas Griffiths and Fernando Cervantes, eds., *Spiritual Encounters: Interactions between Christianity and Native Religions in Colonial America* (Lincoln, 1999)
Nan A. Rothschild, *Colonial Encounters in a Native American Landscape: The Spanish and Dutch in North America* (Washington D.C., 2003)
Lynette Russell, ed., *Colonial Frontiers: Indigenous-European Encounters in Settler Societies* (Manchester, England, 2001)
Patricia Seed, *American Pentimento: The Invention of Indians and the Pursuit of Riches* (Minneapolis, 2001)
Patricia Seed, *Ceremonies of Possession in Europe's Conquest of the New World, 1492-1640* (Cambridge, 1995)
Lauren Benton, *Law and Colonial Cultures: Legal Regimes in World History, 1400-1900* (Cambridge, 2001)
Lauren Benton, *A Search for Sovereignty: Law and Geography in European Empires, 1400-1900* (Cambridge, 2009)

11 December

Science, Authority, and Empire

Surekha Davies, *Renaissance Ethnography and the Invention of the Human* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2016).
Paula De Vos, "The Science of Spices: Empiricism and Economic Botany in the Early Spanish Empire," in the *Journal of World History*, 17 n. 4 (2006): 399-427

Additional reading suggestions:

Londa Schiebinger and Claudia Swan eds., *Colonial Botany: Science, Commerce, and Politics in the Early Modern World* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2004).
Paula Findlen, *Possessing Nature: Museums, Collecting and Scientific Culture in Early Modern Italy* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1994).
Mario Biagioli, *Galileo, Courtier: The Practice of Science in the Age of Absolutism* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1993).
Daniela Bleichmar, et al., *Science in the Spanish and Portuguese Empires 1500-1800* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2009).
Tara Nummedal, *Alchemy and Authority in the Holy Roman Empire* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2007).
Lorraine Daston and Katharine Park, *Wonders and the Order of Nature, 1150-1720* (New York: Zone Books, 1998).

Neil Safier, *Measuring the New World* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2004).

Jorge Cañizares-Esguerra, *How to Write the History of the New World* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2002).

Antonio Barrera-Osorio, *Experiencing Nature: The Spanish American Empire and the Early Scientific Revolution* (Austin: University of Texas Press, 2010).

María Portuondo, *Secrete Science: Spanish Cosmography and the New World* (Chicago: University of Chicago, 2009).

Exam Period

Papers due, date TBA