

**The Age of Reformation**  
Department of History  
Rutgers University  
510:319  
Monday/Thursday 10:20-11:40  
Hickman Hall 127

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**Course Description –**

The Protestant Reformation is considered one of the most significant turning points in western civilization. What began as a philosophical disagreement among clerics and scholars ended by transforming the political, social, and economic foundations of Early Modern Europe. The course will examine the complex theological arguments that began the Reformation and then treat the consequences as they manifested themselves throughout European society.

**Required Texts –**

Hans Hillerbrand, Ed. *The Protestant Reformation*. (Harper, 1968).  
Carter Lindberg, *The European Reformations*. (Blackwell, 1996).  
Carter Lindberg, *The European Reformations Sourcebook*. (Blackwell, 2000).  
Steven Ozment, *The Burgermeister's Daughter*. (Harper, 1997)

All texts have been ordered through the Rutgers University Book Store and New Jersey Books.

**Assignments –**

Grades will be assigned on the basis of one mid-term examination, one final examination, and two papers. The midterm and final examinations will test your knowledge of both lecture material and assigned readings from the texts. They will be divided into two sections. The first section will require you to identify and describe the historical significance of a selection of people, places, dates or concepts. This section is designed to test the level of detailed knowledge you have acquired in the course. The second part of the examination will require you to answer essay questions that deal with a general theme in the course. In answering such a question, you should be able to display independent, analytic thought about broad historical developments in the period covered by the course. You should also be able to integrate material from lectures and assigned readings and develop a consistent argument that addresses the issues raised in the essay question. The

papers are designed to allow you to analyze historical arguments in a systematic fashion. This will require a critical perspective of the primary sources you are reading that will help you analyze the complexities of the arguments raised by Reformation writers.

### **Attendance-**

Regular and punctual attendance is required. Missing more than two classes can result in the loss of one full grade. Exceptions will be made only for extended medical or personal problems that can be satisfactorily documented. Therefore, students are expected to attend all classes; if you expect to miss one or two classes please use the University absence reporting website: <https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra/> to indicate the date and reason for your absence. An email will automatically be sent to me.

### **Schedule of Lectures and Required Reading**

September 6-	An introduction to church history
September 10-	The Threshold of the Reformation Reading : Lindberg, <i>The Late Middle Ages</i>
September 13-	The <i>Devotio Moderna</i> Reading: Lindberg (Sourcebook); -Ludolph of Saxony, <i>Vita Jesu Christi</i> -Thomas a' Kempis, <i>The Imitation of Christ</i>
September 17-	The World of the Humanists Reading: Lindberg (Sourcebook); - Francois Rabelais, <i>On Education</i> - Lorenzo Valla, <i>The Donation of Constantine</i> - Desiderius Erasmus, <i>Praise of Folly</i>
September 20-	Indulgences and the Path to Salvation Reading: Hillerbrand; -John Tetzel, <i>A Sermon</i> -Frederick the Wise, <i>The Wittenberg Book of Holies</i>
September 24-	The Luther Affair Reading: Lindberg; <i>The Dawn of a New Era</i> Hillerbrand; Martin Luther, <i>The Freedom of a Christian</i>

- September 27- Luther's Reforms  
Reading: Lindberg; *Wait for No One*  
Lindberg (Sourcebook)  
-Martin Luther, *The Estate of Marriage*  
-Martin Luther, *Against the Heavenly Prophets*
- October 1- Peasants and Princes in Luther's Germany  
Reading: Hillerbrand;  
-Martin Luther, *Concerning Governmental Authority*  
-Martin Luther, *Friendly Admonition to Peace*  
Lindbergh (Sourcebook)  
-Martin Luther, *Against the Robbing and Murdering Hordes of Peasants*
- October 4- Faith and Works, Free Will and Bondage, Luther and Erasmus
- October 8- Zwingli and the Swiss Reformation  
Reading: Lindberg, *The Swiss Connection*
- October 11- The Diet of Worms  
Reading: Lindberg, *Augsburg 1530 to Augsburg 1555*  
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- October 15- Midterm Examination
- October 18- Calvin and the Institutes  
Reading: Lindberg, *"The Most Perfect School of Christ"*
- October 22- Calvinism and the Capitalist Experience  
Reading: Hillerbrand; John Calvin, *Ecclesiastical Ordinances of Geneva*
- October 25- The Most Hated Radicals  
Reading: Lindberg, *"The Sheep Against the Shepards"*  
Hillerbrand, Elizabeth, *A Letter*
- October 29- Paris is Worth A Mass  
Reading: *Refuge in the Shadow of God's Wings*

- November 1- The Printing Press, Propaganda, and Art During the Protestant Reformation
- November 5- Analytic Book Review Due: Steven Ozment, *The Burgermeister's Daughter*
- November 8- The King's Great Matter  
Reading: Lindberg, *The Reformations in England and Scotland*
- November 12- The Tudors  
Reading: Lindberg (Sourcebook)  
*The Act of Supremacy*  
*The Thirty Nine Articles*  
*Eyewitness Account of the Execution of Mary Stuart*
- November 15- The Book of Common Prayer  
Reading: Hillerbrand;  
Thomas Cranmer: *Preface to the Bible*
- November 19/26 Film: *Elizabeth* (1998) director, Michael Hirst  
Reading: Hillerbrand: *The Six Articles Act*
- November 29- The Dutch Revolt  
Reading: Lindberg, *The Blood of the Martyrs*
- December 3- The Counter Reformation  
Reading: Lindberg, *Catholic Renewal and the Counter Reformation*
- December 6- St. Ignatius of Loyola
- December 10- The Second Great Revolution  
Reading: Lindberg, *Legacies of the Reformation*