

The Age of Reformation
Department of History
Rutgers University
510:319
Tuesday/Thursday: 2:00-3:20
Murray Hall – Room 204

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Office Hours: Thursday 12:00-2:00, and by appointment.

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 all facets of 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).

All texts have been ordered through the Rutgers University Book Store

Assignments –

Grades will be assigned on the basis of one mid-term examination (20%), one final examination (30%), one analytic research paper (35%), one short analytic paper (5%) and participation/preparation (10%). 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 (Identifications) will require you to identify and describe the historical significance of a selection of people, places, 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 (Essay) 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 analytic research paper is designed to allow you to analyze historical arguments in a systematic fashion. This will require a critical perspective of the questions surrounding the careers and impact of Thomas More and Thomas Cromwell and various historiographical interpretations of their lives. 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. More detailed descriptions of both the analytic book review assignment and the short paper will be provided in class.

Class Meetings-

I will provide a Study Guide for each of our meetings that contains a variety of information to help you assimilate the lecture and readings for that day. These outlines as well as the power points and primary source documents will also be posted to the class Sakai site. Class discussion is an essential part of the course, and will focus on broadening and clarifying your understanding of the various themes of medieval history that we will discuss.

Attendance-

Regular and punctual attendance is required. Missing more than one class will result in the loss of credit towards your final 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 8-	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 15- The World of the Humanists
 Reading: Lindberg (Sourcebook);
 - Francois Rabelais, *On Education*
 - Lorenzo Valla, *The Donation of Constantine*
 - Desiderius Erasmus, *Praise of Folly*
- September 20- Indulgences and the Path to Salvation
 Reading: Hillerbrand;
 -John Tetzel, *A Sermon*
 -Frederick the Wise, *The Wittenberg Book of Holies*
- September 22- The Luther Affair
 Reading: Lindberg; *The Dawn of a New Era*
 Hillerbrand; Martin Luther, *The Freedom of a Christian*
- 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*
- September 29- 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- Debate: Faith and Works, Free Will and Bondage, Luther and Erasmus.
- October 6- The Diet of Worms
 Reading: Lindberg, *Augsburg 1530 to Augsburg 1555*
- October 11- Zwingli and the Swiss Reformation
 Reading: Lindberg, *The Swiss Connection*

- October 13 - No class scheduled
- October 18- Midterm Examination
- October 20- Calvin and the Institutes
Reading: Lindberg, *"The Most Perfect School of Christ"*
- October 25- Calvinism and the Capitalist Experience
Reading: Hillerbrand; John Calvin, *Ecclesiastical Ordinances of Geneva*
- October 27- The Most Hated Radicals
Reading: Lindberg, *"The Sheep Against the Shepards"*
Hillerbrand, Elizabeth, *A Letter*
- November 1- Paris is Worth A Mass
Reading: Linberg, *Refuge in the Shadow of God's Wings*
- November 3- The King's Great Matter
Reading: Lindberg, *The Reformations in England and Scotland*
- November 8- The Printing Press, Propaganda, and Art During the Reformation
- November 10- Paper Review Editing Session
- November 15- The Problem of Thomas More.
Research Paper Due
- November 17- The Tudors
Reading: Lindberg (Sourcebook)
The Act of Supremacy
The Thirty Nine Articles
Eyewitness Account of the Execution of Mary Stuart
- November 22- The Dutch Republic
Reading: Lindberg, *The Dutch Experiment*
- November 29/ December 1- Film: *Elizabeth* (1998) director, Michael Hirst
Reading: Hillerbrand: *The Six Articles Act*

Thanksgiving Recess

- December 6 - The Counter Reformation
 Reading: Lindberg, *Catholic Renewal and the Counter
 Reformation*
- December 8- St. Ignatius of Loyola
 Reading: Lindberg, *Spiritual Exercises*
- December 13 - The Witches
 Reading: Stacy Schiff, *The Diseases of Astonishment*

Final Examination (Date and time according to the university schedule)