

The University of Texas at Tyler
Spring Semester 2024
HIST 3353 – Reformation Europe
Professor: Dr. Edward Tabri, CAS 121
etabri@uttyler.edu
Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday, 11-12:30

Required Books:

Owen Chadwick, *The Reformation*
Carlo Ginzburg, *The Cheese and the Worms*
Andrew Cunningham and O.P. Grell, *The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse*

Course Overview:

This course is a comprehensive history of Europe from approximately 1500 to 1700. Our primary focus will be the huge range of transformations experienced by European societies following the disintegration of a traditional, united Christianity (Christendom) into various competing religious confessions (denominations).

Course Objectives (Learning Outcomes):

Students will develop knowledge and understanding of the following:

The teachings, practices and authority of the medieval Roman Catholic Church and how these are successfully challenged by various Protestant leaders and ideologies, most notably Lutheranism and Calvinism.

How these religious differences will lead to more than a century of religious conflict.

How European political, economic and social life will be affected by religious change and conflict and by the impact of early European conquests in the Americas.

How these various transformations are experienced at the microcosmic level of an individual peasant utilizing the text, *The Cheese and the Worms*, and at the macrocosm of European society as a whole with another text, *The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse*.

How by the late seventeenth century, religious conflict finally leads to a growing secularism resulting in the decline of religious conflict and a rise in scientific advancement, giving European society a critical advantage over other societies in Asia, Africa and the Americas.

As we pursue these studies, students will have the opportunity to enhance their analytical and writing skills.

Course Requirements:

The course will consist of lectures and discussions; regular attendance is essential. There will be a midterm exam, a final exam and a term paper of roughly 6-8 pages in length. Each of these will be worth 1/3 of the course grade. The exams will consist of choices of 5 terms chosen from a list of 10 terms taken from the lecture outlines, each worth 10 points for a total of 50 points along with a longer essay worth 50 points. The final exam will only cover material after the midterm. The paper, based on the two books *The Cheese and the Worms* and *The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse* is also worth 100 points.

Midterm Exam = 100 points

Final Exam = 100 points

Term Paper = 100 points

Grading Scale:

270 to 300 = A

240 to 269 = B

210 to 239 = C

189 to 209 = D

179 or less = F

Final Date to Withdraw without a Grade: Monday, March 25, 2024

Late papers will not be accepted nor will makeup exams be given, unless students present official documentation of a medical or family explanation.

Calendar of Topics, Readings and Due Dates for Assignments:

Subject to change at my discretion but with advance notice to students.

Week 1 (Jan. 16 and 18)

Introduction to the Course and to Early Modern Europe

Week 2 (Jan. 23 and 25)

The Medieval Roman Catholic Church: Domination and Decline

Readings: Chadwick, chapter 1

Week 3 (Jan. 30 and Feb. 1)

Martin Luther and the Reformation in Germany

Readings: Chadwick, chapter 2. Cunningham and Grell, chapter 1

Week 4 (Feb. 6 and 8)

Religious Conflict in Germany and the Global Empire of Charles V

Readings: Cunningham and Grell, chapter 2

Week 5 (Feb. 13 and 15)

Radical Reform in Germany and Switzerland; Lutheranism in Denmark and Sweden

Readings: Chadwick, chapter 6

Week 6 (Feb. 20 and 22)

The Reformation in England under Henry VIII

Readings: Chadwick, chapter 4

Week 7 (Feb. 27 and 29)

The Reformation in England, 1547-1558

Readings: Cunningham and Grell, chapter 3

Week 8 (March 5 and 7)

Midterm Exam, Thursday, March 7

Week 9 (March 12 and 14)

Spring Break – No Meetings

Readings – Ginzburg, *The Cheese and the Worms*

Week 10 (March 19 and 21)

John Calvin and the Reformed Church; Calvinism's International Appeal

Readings: Chadwick, chapters 3 and 5

Week 11 (March 26 and 28)

Calvinism in France and the French Wars of Religion

Readings: Chadwick, chapter 7; Cunningham and Grell, chapter 4

Week 12 (April 2 and 4)

The Catholic Reformation (Counter-Reformation)

Readings: Chadwick, chapters 8 and 9

Week 13 (April 9 and 11)

Religious War in the Netherlands and Germany

Readings: Chadwick, chapters 11 and 12; Cunningham and Grell, chapters 5 and 6

Week 14 (April 16 and 18)

Religious War in the Britain and Ireland

Term Paper Due, Thursday April 18

Week 15 (April 23 and 25)

The Dawn of a New Era

Readings: Chadwick, chapters 13 and 14

Week 16 – Final Exam, Thursday, May 2 from 12:30 to 2:30 pm

Other University Policies: <http://www.uttyler.eduacademicaffairs/syllabuspolicies.pdf>

Term Paper Directions – Macrohistory and Microhistory

After reading *The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse* and *The Cheese and the Worms*, you will write a paper, responding to the following questions:

How would you describe early modern European life in general – what are some of the major demographic, economic and social issues at this time? Why are war, famine and disease so widespread?

Why is there such an apocalyptic outlook at this time? What are some of the expressions of this outlook?

How would you describe Menocchio's social environment? Do his circumstances and everyday life reflect some of the larger trends in European life at this time?

How would you describe Menocchio's cultural and intellectual outlook? Do his ideas seem representative of European society as a whole? How might they have been influenced by some of the events of this time? Why is he coming under the scrutiny of the Catholic Church and the Inquisition?

In general, what can we say about the microcosm that is Menocchio, his experiences, his views of life and the cosmos and how they reflect and relate to the bigger picture (macrocosm) described by Cunningham and Grell?

Feel free to add any other insights or interpretations you wish to make. You may also draw upon class lectures and the book by Chadwick but no other research is necessary.

The paper should be approximately 6 to 8 pages, 12-point type, double spaced and stapled. Citations may be as footnotes, endnotes or within the text (MLA style).

The paper is due in class on Thursday, April 18. Late paper will not be accepted.