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Reformation and Counter-Reformation Europe AS.100.216  
Tuesdays/Thursdays, 3:00 PM-4:15 PM, Bloomberg 276  
Office Hours: Tuesdays, 11:00AM -1:00 PM, Gilman 344  
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## **Reformation and Counter-Reformation Europe**

### **Course Overview and Objectives**

This course explores the religious and political conflicts of “The Reformation” in sixteenth-century Europe. Though the course analyzes the writing of some of the most important figures of sixteenth-century religious reform from Luther to Calvin to Loyola, it also examines the relationship between those theologians and the laity, the role of the state in adopting reform, popular movements and crowd action, and calls for radical social transformation. The Catholic Church responded to the growth of Protestantism with a “Counter-Reformation,” culminating in the Council of Trent and Catholic missions by new religious orders, like the Jesuits. The course examines what it meant to participate in confessional culture or to become a “Counter-Reformation” saint in sixteenth century Europe.

This course has four major objectives:

- Understand the major themes and developments in Reformation-era Europe.
- Interpret and analyze primary sources in their historical contexts.
- Identify the arguments, evidence, and perspective presented in secondary sources.
- Develop and defend an argument using historical evidence.

### **Required Texts**

Carter Lindberg, *The European Reformations*, Second Edition  
Lyndal Roper, *The Holy Household*  
Desiderius Erasmus and Martin Luther, *Discourse on Free Will*

All other course materials will be available on e-reserve.

### **Course Structure**

Students will meet twice a week for a hybrid of lecture and discussion of the week’s readings, so attendance and participation is vital. Each student will be expected to lead discussion of one reading during the semester by preparing questions for the class, but students should be prepared to raise and respond to questions and participate in discussion throughout the course.

## Assignments

Class attendance and participation

Leadership of discussion of one of the readings on an assigned week

Luther/Erasmus Debate

Short essay, 3-4 pages—students will write a short essay analyzing two of the following primary sources from the class: Erasmus, Luther, Muntzer, Zwingli.

Mid-term exam—exam will consist of several short-answer, identification prompts (sometimes called “IDs”) and one, in-class essay.

Final Essay, 7-10 pages—students will engage with primary source materials from the second half of the course and produce a longer, analytical and argumentative essay as their final assignment for the course. Prompts to be provided by instructor or original essay topics can be developed in consultation with the instructor.

## Grading

Final essay: 30%

Mid-term exam: 25%

Participation (including leading discussion): 20%

Luther/Erasmus debate assignment: 15%

Short paper: 10%

## **Course Policies**

### Readings

Assigned readings should be completed by the start of the week for which they were assigned. Ultimately, it is the students’ responsibility to obtain the texts for this class, either from the libraries, electronic reserves, Barnes & Noble, or other means. Any trouble accessing one or more of the readings should be communicated to me the preceding week.

### Participation:

Since this is a discussion-based class, I expect students to participate—that is, to raise questions as they have them; to respond to my questions and the questions and comments of colleagues; and to be alert and engaged. Students will also lead one class discussion and give a presentation of their final research papers. These forms of participation, in addition to punctuality and regular attendance, form 20% of the final grade.

### Papers:

Papers should be turned in to me electronically by 5 PM on the days they are due. Late submission of term papers will be penalized. For each day that the assignment fails to arrive, I will subtract half of a letter grade (e.g.: A- to B+). Extensions may be granted at my discretion, but students must contact me before the assignment is due. Plagiarism is a violation of academic integrity and is not tolerated in this course. For best practices on avoiding plagiarism, see [plagiarism.org](http://plagiarism.org).

### Ethical Requirements:

Here I endorse and apply the “Violations of Academic Integrity” paragraph of the KSAS and Whiting Undergraduate Academic Ethics Board:

Undergraduate students enrolled in the Krieger School of Arts and Sciences or the Whiting School of Engineering at the Johns Hopkins University assume a duty to conduct themselves in a manner appropriate to the University's mission as an institution of higher learning. Students are obliged to refrain from acts which they know, or under circumstances have reason to know, violate the academic integrity of the University. Violations of academic ethics include, but are not limited to: cheating; plagiarism; submitting the same or substantially similar work to satisfy the requirements of more than one course without permission; submitting as one's own the same or substantially similar work of another; knowingly furnishing false information to any agent of the University for inclusion in academic records; falsification, forgery, alteration, destruction or misuse of official University documents or seal.

Homewood Schools Policy on Disabilities:

If you are a student with a disability or believe you might have a disability that requires accommodations, please contact Student Disability Services at 410-516-4720 or in-person at 385 Garland Hall. Office of Student Disability Services, 385 Garland, (410) 516-4720 [studentdisabilityservices@jhu.edu](mailto:studentdisabilityservices@jhu.edu).

Counseling Center:

The University is aware that many students experience anxiety, depression, and other emotional challenges. If you would like to speak to a professional counselor, please visit the campus Counseling Center. Information is available on the Counseling Center's website: <https://studentaffairs.jhu.edu/counselingcenter/>.

## Course Schedule

### Week One the Medieval Church and Anti-Clericalism

8/31 Discussion of syllabus and course; introduction to the medieval Church and Europe on the eve of the Reformation

- The Bible, King James Version: Genesis 1-4; the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, John) *King James Bible*. [Cambridge, England]: Chadwyck-Healey Ltd., 1996. Collections.chadwyck.com

- Lindberg, 23-39

9/2 Anticlericalism

- Desiderius Erasmus, *In Praise of Folly*, selections  
<https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.proxy1.library.jhu.edu/lib/jhu/detail.action?docID=1973837>

- Lindberg, 40-52

### Week Two Martin Luther and the German Reformation

9/7 Luther and the Ninety-Five Theses

- Martin Luther, *The Ninety-Five Theses*  
<https://muse.jhu.edu/chapter/1687912>  
From Wengert, Timothy J. *Martin Luther's Ninety-Five Theses: With Introduction, Commentary, and Study Guide*, (Augsburg Fortress Publishers, 2015).

- Lindberg, Ch. 3

9/9 The Theology of the German Reformation

- Martin Luther, "On the Freedom of a Christian," in *On the Freedom of a Christian with Related Texts*, (Hackett Publishing Company, 2013), 17-42.  
<https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.proxy1.library.jhu.edu/lib/jhu/detail.action?docID=1355854>

- Lindberg, Ch. 4

### Week Three Peasants War and Luther v. Erasmus

9/14 The Peasants' War

- Thomas Muntzer, "A Highly Provoked Defense and Answer against the Spiritless, Soft-Living Flesh at Wittenberg" in *On the Freedom of a Christian with Related Texts*, (Hackett Publishing Company, 2013), 104-115.  
<https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.proxy1.library.jhu.edu/lib/jhu/detail.action?docID=1355854>

- "Twelve Articles of the Swabian Peasantry"
- Luther "Admonition to Peace"

These two are at

“Admonition to Peace: A Reply to the Twelve Articles of the Peasants in Swabia, 1525” in Hillerbrand, Hans J. *The Annotated Luther: Christian Life in the World*, Augsburg Fortress Publishers, 2017, 281-334

<https://muse.jhu.edu/chapter/2018218>

- Lindberg, Ch. 6

9/16 Luther v. Erasmus Debate on Free Will

- Erasmus and Luther, *Discourse on Free Will*; half the class will read Erasmus and half will read Luther in preparation for the in-class debate.

#### **Week Four The Radical Reformation**

9/21 Zwingli and the Radical Reformation in Zurich

- Zwingli, “Commentary on the True and False Religion” in *A Reformation Reader: Primary Texts with Introductions*, ed. Denis R. Janz, Ch. 4 Zwingli and the Anabaptists, Document 52
- Lindberg, Ch. 7

9/23 Anabaptists

- “The Beginnings of the Anabaptists” in *A Reformation Reader: Primary Texts with Introductions*, ed. Denis R. Janz, Ch. 4 Zwingli and the Anabaptists, Document 56.
- Melchior Hofmann, “IX. The Ordinance of God” in *Spiritual and Anabaptist Writers: Documents Illustrative of the Radical Reformation*, 1957, 182-203.

- Lindberg, Ch. 8

#### **Short Response Paper Due**

#### **Week Five John Calvin and the Genevan Reformation**

9/28 John Calvin and the Genevan Reformation

- John Calvin, *Institutes of the Christian Religion*, excerpts  
<https://www.ccel.org/ccel/calvin/institutes.html>

- Calvin, *The Geneva Ordinances* in *A Reformation Reader: Primary Texts with Introductions*, ed. Denis R. Janz, Ch. 4 Zwingli and the Anabaptists, Document 70
- Lindberg, Ch. 10

9/30 Predestination; The Servetus Affair

- Calvin, *Institutes of the Christian Religion*, excerpts—esp. “Eternal Election: the inscrutable Profundity of God’s Judgment”  
<https://www.ccel.org/ccel/calvin/institutes.html>

- “Letters from Servetus to the Geneva Council” in *A Reformation Reader: Primary Texts with Introductions*, ed. Denis R. Janz, Ch. 4 Zwingli and the Anabaptists, Document 75
- “Verdict for Michael Servetus” in *A Reformation Reader: Primary Texts with Introductions*, ed. Denis R. Janz, Ch. 4 Zwingli and the Anabaptists, Document 76
- Lindberg, Ch. 10 remaining

## **Week Six Marriage, the Holy Household and Gender Order**

### 10/5 Marriage and the Holy Household

- Anna Bijns, “Unyoked is Best! Happy the Woman Without a Man”

In Terpstra, Nicholas, *Lives Uncovered: A Sourcebook of Early Modern Europe*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2019, pages 112-114, doc. 7.14.

- Lyndal Roper, *The Holy Household*, Chs. 1-4

### 10/7 The “New” Protestant Gender Order

- Roper, *The Holy Household*, Chs. 4-7

- “Letter to the Women of Kentzingen” in CHURCH MOTHER: THE WRITINGS OF A PROTESTANT REFORMER IN SIXTEENTH-CENTURY GERMANY . By Zell, Katharina Schütz . Edited and translated by Elsie McKee. *The Other Voice in Early Modern Europe* . Chicago : University of Chicago Press , 2006  
Pages 47-56?

## **Week Seven Mid-Term and the English Reformation**

### 10/12 Mid-Term Exam

### 10/14 English Reformation and the Tudors

- William Tyndale, *Obedience of a Christian Man*, excerpts
- Thomas More, *Confutation of Tyndale’s Answer*, excerpts

Found at:

<http://citeseerx.ist.psu.edu/viewdoc/download;jsessionid=ECE78C1C07E53A5FAF50EE4EE270D0E6?doi=10.1.1.178.1449&rep=rep1&type=pdf>

- Lindberg, Ch. 13

## **Week Eight English Reformation Continued and Martyrdom**

### 10/19 English Reformation

- *Acts of Supremacy* (1534, 1558) in *A Reformation Reader: Primary Texts with Introductions*, ed. Denis R. Janz, Ch. 4 Zwingli and the Anabaptists, Documents 88 AND 94

- Preface to the *Book of Common Prayer*

<http://www.eskimo.com/~lhowell/bcp1662/intro/preface.html>

- *The Act of Uniformity* (1558)

<https://history.hanover.edu/texts/engref/er80.html>

- Lindberg, Ch. 13 remainder

10/21 Catholic and Protestant Martyrdom in Marian and Elizabethan England

- John Foxe, *Acts and Monuments*, selections

<http://www.johnfoxe.org/>

<https://www.ccel.org/ccel/foxe/martyrs/files/martyrs.html>

- Megan Hickerson “Gospelling Sisters “Goinge up and Downe”: John Foxe and Disorderly Women.” *Sixteenth Century Journal*. Vol. 35 No. 4 (Winter 2004). Pp. 1035-1051.
- Reading on Margaret Clitherow TBD

## **Week Nine The Council of Trent and Jesuits**

10/26 Council of Trent

- Pope Pius VI, *The Tridentine Creed*

[http://www.traditionalcatholic.net/Tradition/Prayer/Tridentine\\_Creed.html](http://www.traditionalcatholic.net/Tradition/Prayer/Tridentine_Creed.html)

- Reform Decrees of the Council of Trent

<https://history.hanover.edu/texts/trent.html>

- “Rules on Prohibited Books”

<https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/mod/trent-booksrules.asp>

- Lindberg, 338-345

10/28 Jesuits and Inquisition

- Ignatius Loyola, *The Spiritual Exercises*: “To Have the True Sentiment Which We Ought to Have in the Church Militant”

<https://www.ccel.org/ccel/ignatius/exercises.html>

- Francis Xavier, Letters to the Society of Jesus, excerpts

<https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/mod/1543xavier1.asp>

<https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/mod/1551xavier3.asp>

<https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/mod/1552xavier4.asp>

- Lindberg, 321-338

## Week Ten The Wars of Religion in France

### 11/2 Huguenots

- Natalie Zemon Davis, “Strikes and Salvation at Lyon”

In <https://hdl-handle-net.proxy1.library.jhu.edu/2027/heb.01638>

Davis, Natalie Zemon, *Society and Culture In Early Modern France: Eight Essays*. London: Duckworth, 1975, pages 1-16

- Lindberg Ch. 11

### 11/4 The Rites of Violence

- Letter from Marguerite de Valois re: St. Bartholomew’s Day Massacre

<https://www.gutenberg.org/files/3841/3841-h/3841-h.htm#letter5>

- Jacques Auguste de Thou account

<https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/mod/1572stbarts.asp>

- François Du Bois painting

<https://www.mcba.ch/en/collection/the-saint-bartholomews-day-massacre/>

- Davis, “the Rites of Violence”

In <https://hdl-handle-net.proxy1.library.jhu.edu/2027/heb.01638>

Davis, Natalie Zemon, *Society and Culture In Early Modern France: Eight Essays*. London: Duckworth, 1975, pages 152-188.

- Suzanne Desan, “Crowds, Community, and Ritual in the Work of E.P. Thompson and Natalie Davis” in Biersack, Aletta., and Lynn Avery Hunt. *The New Cultural History: Essays by Aletta Biersack ... [et Al.]*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1989.

<https://hdl-handle-net.proxy1.library.jhu.edu/2027/heb.04844>

## Week Eleven Witches and Confessional Culture

### 11/9 Witches and Witchcraft

- *Malleus Maleficarum*, excerpts

Kors, Alan Charles., Edward Peters, and Alan Charles Kors. *Witchcraft In Europe, 400-1700: A Documentary History*. 2nd ed. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2001

Chapter 34 *Malleus Maleficarum*, PAGES 180-229

[https://catalyst.library.jhu.edu/catalog/bib\\_2275612](https://catalyst.library.jhu.edu/catalog/bib_2275612)

### 11/11 Confessional Culture

- Excerpts from: *The Augsburg Confession* (1530), *The Heidelberg Catechism* (1563), *The Peace of Augsburg*

<http://bookofconcord.org/augsburgconfession.php>

<https://students.wts.edu/resources/creeds/heidelberg.html>

[http://ghdi.ghi-dc.org/sub\\_document.cfm?document\\_id=4386](http://ghdi.ghi-dc.org/sub_document.cfm?document_id=4386)



- Jodi Bilinkoff, “Soul Mates” in *Related Lives: Confessors and their Female Penitents, 1450-1750*, p. 76-95 Bilinkoff, Jodi, *Related Lives: Confessors and Their Female Penitents, 1450-1750*. Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press, 2005.

Lindberg, 347-355

## **Week Twelve Counter-Reformation Saints and Teresa of Avila**

11/16 Counter-Reformation Saints

- Burke, Peter. “How to Become a Counter- Reformation Saint.” In Burke, Peter. *The Historical Anthropology of Early Modern Italy: Essays On Perception and Communication*. Cambridge [Cambridgeshire]: Cambridge University Press, 1987, pages 130-142.

11/18 Teresa of Avila

Teresa of Avila, *The Life of Saint Teresa by Herself*

- Teresa, E. Allison Peers, and Silverio. *The Life of Teresa of Jesus: The Autobiography of Teresa of Avila*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Christian Classics Ethereal Library, 1999.

<http://search.ebscohost.com.proxy1.library.jhu.edu/login.aspx?direct=true&AuthType=ip,shib&db=nlebk&AN=2008327&site=ehost-live&scope=site>

## **Thanksgiving Break**

## **Week Thirteen Dutch Toleration and Jesuit Mission to China**

11/30 Toleration and Conflict in the Netherlands

- Christine Kooi, “Converts and Apostates” in Kooi, Christine *Calvinists and Catholics during Holland’s Golden Age: Heretics and Idolaters*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2012
- Lindberg, 282-292, 361-367

12/2 The Jesuit Mission to China and Discussion of Course

- Liam Brockey, “An Uneasy Foothold” Ch. 1 in Brockey, Liam Matthew. *Journey to the East: The Jesuit Mission to China, 1579-1724*. Cambridge, Mass.: Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2007.

**Final Paper Due 5 PM, XXXX.**