

SYLLABUS FOR POPULAR CULTURE IN EARLY MODERN EUROPE /2024

Professor John Marshall Office Gilman 330E Office Hours M W 1.30-2.30 and by appointment

Email jmarsha2@jhu.edu

This course is devoted to understanding popular culture in early modern Europe, which was a largely oral and ritual culture. It will examine topics including witchcraft, magic, fertility rites, carnivals, riots, insurrections, executions, gender roles, and folktales.

Requirements:

This course is a seminar-style course, based on discussions of assigned readings. You MUST attend class regularly and participate in the discussions. Paper Topics will be based on the readings done for class. There will be NO examinations. Grading is based on class participation, participation in one group presentation, and paper(s). Failure to attend regularly will cause a failing grade for the entire course.

Class Participation and presentation: 40%. Paper(s): 60%.

You need to write one short paper c3-4 pp by about the middle of the semester (20%) and either a 6-8pp paper, or 2 3-4pp papers (at your choice) by the end of the semester (40%) Suggested Paper Topic questions will be given out as term progresses.

The schedule below is approximate in the sense that we may, as term goes on, spend more or less time on a topic and adjust the syllabus slightly as a result.

Week One:

Mo Aug 26 Introduction

Wed Aug 28 Lecture and discussion of Burke Popular Culture in early modern Europe, c2, 3 (ebook in library)

Week Two

Mo: Labor Day: No classes

Wed: September 4 Burke Popular Culture in early modern Europe, c6, 7.

Week Three:

Mo September 9: Ginzburg, Night Battles, c1 and appendix. Read the appendix first. (Penguin ISBN 0-14-007688-3)

Wed Sep 11: Ginzburg Night Battles c 3-4

Week Four:

Mon Sept 16: Religion and the Decline of Magic, section on 'Magic' (Penguin, 014-013744-0) book loaned.

Wed Sep 18 Lecture: Witchcraft

Week Five:

Mo Sept 23 Thomas, Religion and the Decline of Magic, section 5 “Witchcraft” (Penguin, 014-013744-0) book loaned

Wed Sep 25: Roper, Witchcraze (Yale ISBN 0-300-11983-6) Introduction and c1,3. Book loaned.

Week Six:

Mo Sept 30: Roper Witchcraze (contd) book loaned

Wed Oct 2: Roper, Witchcraze (contd) book loaned

Week Seven:

Mo Oct 7: Movie in class

Wed Oct 9 Movie in class and discussion

Week Eight:

Mo Oct 14 Student directed discussions from readings in library on witchcraft, magic, demonism, and fairies.

Wed Oct 16: Student directed discussions from readings in library on witchcraft, magic, demonism, and fairies.

Week Nine:

Mo Oct 21 No class: short paper #1 Due

Mo Oct 23 Davis, Society and Culture in early modern France c3,5 (‘women and the reformation’; ‘women on top’)(Stanford, ISBN 0-8047-0972-6) library ebook

Week Ten:

Mo Wed October 28 Roper Holy Household c1-3 (Oxford, ISBN 0-19-820280-6) ebook

Wed October 30: Roper, Holy Household c4-5

Week Eleven:

Mo Nov 4: Roper, Holy Household c6-7

Wed Nov 6: Davis, Society and Culture c4,6 (‘Reasons of misrule’, ‘rites of violence’) library ebook

Week Twelve:

Mo Nov 11: Lacqueur (on library ereserve) on executions and carnival; Berce (on library ereserve) on riots and rebellions

Wed Nov 13: D.Sabean Power in the Blood(Cambridge, ISBN0-521-34778-5), selections, book loaned

Week Thirteen:

Mo 18: D.Sabean Power in the Blood(Cambridge, ISBN0-521-34778-5), selections, book loaned

Wed 20: Folktales (by handout)

Thanksgiving

Week Fifteen:

Mo Wed December 2, 4: Folktales, continued (by handout)