

Catherine Hinchliff
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Johns Hopkins University
Reformation and Counter-Reformation Europe AS.100.216
Tuesdays/Thursdays, 3:00 PM-4:15 PM Eastern Time, Online
Office Hours: Tuesdays, 11:00AM -1:00 PM Eastern Time, Online
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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. The emphasis of the course and course discussion is discussion of the assigned primary source materials. 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, Müntzer, Zwingli.

Mid-term exam—exam will consist of several short-answer, identification prompts (sometimes called “IDs”) and one small timed 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%

Johns Hopkins University has announced the default grading for the term will be S/US (satisfactory/unsatisfactory), unless requested otherwise by students. Please let me know if you are seeking a letter grade for the course.

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 11:59 PM Eastern on the days they are due.

Late submission of term papers will be penalized. For those taking the class S/U, papers will receive an automatic US if students have not gotten in touch with me before deadline about why paper is late and when student expects to submit paper. 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.

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.

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

9/1 Discussion of syllabus and course; introduction to the medieval Church and Europe on the eve of the Reformation

- Lindberg, 23-40
- Look at Primary Source: <https://luna.folger.edu/luna/servlet/s/q3r1y3>
A partial transcription of the source is available on Blackboard
- *Encouraged, but optional if you're already familiar*: The Bible, King James Version: Genesis 1-4; the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, John)

9/3 Anticlericalism

- Desiderius Erasmus, *In Praise of Folly*, selections (Check Blackboard for link)
<https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.proxy1.library.jhu.edu/lib/jhu/reader.action?docID=1973837&ppg=115>
Students will read all selections (around 40 pages total) and prepare a briefly lead discussion for one of the sections below.
 - Preface: Desiderius Erasmus to His Friend Thomas More (pages 1-6)
 - Why She Praises Herself Sections [1]-[3](pages 7-11 end before [4])
 - Folly Maintains Procreation Section [5] (pages 13-16)
 - Madness, Gamblers Section [18-19] (pages 51-56)
 - Foolish Devotions Section [20] (pages 56-59)
 - Good Works of Monks Section [30] (pages 85-88)
 - Bishops, Cardinals, Pope Section [33] (pages 97-102)
 - Fortune Favors Fools Section [34] (pages 103-104)
 - Learned Commentators End of Section [36] (113-114)
 - The Summum Bonum Section [39-end] (pages 122-125)
- Lindberg, 40-52

Week Two Martin Luther and the German Reformation

9/8 Luther and the Ninety-Five Theses

- Martin Luther, *The Ninety-Five Theses* in Wengert, Timothy, ed. *Martin Luther's Ninety-Five Theses*, Augsburg Fortress Publishers, 2015, (pages 1-26)
- Lindberg, Ch. 3 (Read closely pages 67-72, 78-85; the rest of the chapter can be skimmed)

9/10 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, pages 17-42.
- Lindberg, Ch. 4 (Read closely 92-105; can skim the rest)

Week Three Peasants War and Luther v. Erasmus

9/15 The Peasants' War

- Thomas Müntzer, "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, pages 104-115.
- "Twelve Articles of the Swabian Peasantry," pages 288-295
<https://muse.jhu.edu/chapter/2018218>
- Luther "Admonition to Peace," can skip first part and read pages 309-332
<https://muse.jhu.edu/chapter/2018218>
- Lindberg, Ch. 6 pages 138-143, 147-159 ONLY (can be skimmed if short on time)

9/17 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

9/22 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

9/24 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

9/25 Short Response Paper Due Friday, 11:59 PM Eastern Time

Week Five John Calvin and the Genevan Reformation

9/29 John Calvin and the Genevan Reformation

- John Calvin, *Institutes of the Christian Religion*, short excerpt
<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, pages 234-250

10/1 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, pages 250-258

Week Six Marriage, the Holy Household, and Gender Order

10/6 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

10/8 The “New” Protestant Gender Order

- Katharina Zell, *Letter to the Suffering Women of the Community of Kentzingen, who believe in Christ, sisters with me in Jesus Christ*, 1524
- Roper, *The Holy Household*, Chs. 4-7

Week Seven Mid-Term and the English Reformation

10/13 Mid-Term Exam

10/15 English Reformation and the Tudors

- William Tyndale, *Obedience of a Christian Man*, excerpts
- Thomas More, *Confutation of Tyndale’s Answer*, excerpts
- Lindberg, Ch. 13, pages 293-306

Week Eight English Reformation Continued and Fall Break

10/20 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, pages 306-320

10/22 NO CLASS—Fall Break

Week Nine The Council of Trent and Martyrdom

10/27 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

10/29 Council of Trent

- Pope Pius VI, *The Tridentine Creed*
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 Ch. 14, pages 338-345

Week Ten Jesuits

11/3 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>
- Lindberg, 321-338

11/5 The Jesuit Mission to China

- Francis Xavier, Letters to the Society of Jesus, three letters below
<https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/mod/1543xavier1.asp>
<https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/mod/1551xavier3.asp>
<https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/mod/1552xavier4.asp>
- Liam Brockey, “An Uneasy Foothold” Ch. 1, pages 25-56

Week Eleven The Wars of Religion in France

11/10 Huguenots

- Natalie Zemon Davis, “Strikes and Salvation at Lyon” (15 pages)
<https://hdl-handle-net.proxy1.library.jhu.edu/2027/heb.01638>
- Lindberg Ch. 11

11/12 NO CLASS—Instructor at a Conference

Week Twelve Wars of Religion in France Continued and Witches

11/17 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/>
- Suzanne Desan, "Crowds, Community, and Ritual in the Work of E.P. Thompson and Natalie Davis," 24 pages
[https://hdl-handle-net.proxy1.library.jhu.edu/2027/heb.04844](https://hdl.handle-net.proxy1.library.jhu.edu/2027/heb.04844)

11/19 Witches and Witchcraft

- *Malleus Maleficarum*, excerpts

Thanksgiving Break

Week Thirteen Confessionalization and Saints

12/1 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
- 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, pages 347-355

12/3 Counter-Reformation Saints and Teresa of Avila

- 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.
- Teresa of Avila. *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

Week Fourteen Dutch Toleration

12/8 Toleration and Conflict in the Netherlands

- Christine Kooi, "Converts and Apostates," pages 130-174
- Lindberg, pages 282-292, 361-367

Final Paper Due 11:59 PM Eastern, TBD.