History 234-01
Later Medieval and Early Modern Europe, 1350-1650
Fall 2008
MWF 3:15-4:05pm
ARH 314

Professor John Wei
Mears Cottage 210
x9268
Office Hours: MWF 10-11am, 2-3pm
weijohn@grinnell.edu

Course Webpage: https://pioneerweb.grinnell.edu

Course Description
This survey course provides an introduction to the later Middle Ages and early modern Europe. It will focus on two questions: What were the Middle Ages? And when did modernity begin? We will devote particular attention to two supposed harbingers of the modern world: the cultural movement known as the Renaissance and the religious movement known as the Protestant Reformation.

Course Goals
1. To develop a general understanding of what happened in Europe in the period 1350-1650.
2. To gain an understanding of the most significant historiographical problems of these periods.
3. To learn how to analyze primary sources.
4. To improve reading and writing skills.

Assignments and Grading
Students’ grades will be based on the following criteria:
1. Class participation (10%)
2. One 3 page document analysis papers (10%).
3. 10-minute presentation on a book by a modern historian (10%)
4. Review and critique of the book you presented, approximately 6-8 pages (20%)
5. Notes to 3 other panel discussions (15% total, 5% each)
6. Midterm Exam (10%)
7. Final Exam (25%)

Class Participation
Students are expected to come to class on time having already read the assigned reading. Since you cannot participate if you are not present, missing more than two classes will begin to have a detrimental effect on your grade. Be forewarned.

Exams
Both the Midterm and the Final exam will consist of three parts: a map quiz, a short identification section, and a short essay section. About a week before each exam, I will hand out a list containing the places/geographical landmarks and terms from which the map and short
identification sections will be drawn. The short essay question(s) will not be distributed in advance. They will all deal, however, with larger issues discussed in the readings and in class (including the book presentations).

**Presentation**
The 10-minute presentation will serve as the basis of your second paper. You will be asked to explain the argument and methodology of your book. About two days before the presentation, you and the other members of your panel will be required to meet with me to go over the details of the presentation and to discuss the relationship between your respective books. You should prepare for this meeting by discussing with the other panel members what the larger issues and questions of your topic are.

**Notes to 3 other panel discussions**
In addition to your own panel presentation, you will need to submit a brief paragraph by 7pm the day before 3 of the other panel presentations. In your paragraph, you should identify what you think the key issues for the panel are. You should also include 3 questions that you have about the topic.

**Document Analysis Paper**
In the document analysis paper, you will be asked to analyze/compare one or more primary sources and to discuss your interpretation in light of contemporary events and ideas. The paper should have a clear thesis statement (which you must underline) and a concluding paragraph.

**Book Review**
The book review will be based on your in-class presentation. In the paper, you will critique a book by a modern scholar. You will need to demonstrate an understanding of the scholar’s argument, methodology, and process of argumentation. You will also be asked to evaluate your book in light of class readings and the books assigned to other members of your panel.

**Resubmissions and Regrading**
Students can submit revised versions of their papers for regrading. The grade for the revised paper will be final, regardless of whether it is higher or lower. The grade of the revised paper can be at most 1 letter grade higher. The deadline for submitting revised papers is two weeks after the original, corrected paper is returned.

**Accommodations**
If you have specific physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities and require accommodations, please let me know early in the semester so that your learning needs may be appropriately met. You will need to provide documentation of your disability to the Dean for Student Academic Support and Advising, Joyce Stern, who is located on the third floor of the JRC (x3702).

**Required Texts**
Julia Conway Bondanella and Mark Musa, eds., *The Italian Renaissance Reader*.
Daniel Waley and Peter Denley, *Later Medieval Europe, 1250-1520*.

**Schedule**

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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<tr>
<td>Aug. 29</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
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<td><strong>Narratives of the Later Middle Ages</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Week 1: The Waning of the Middle Ages</strong></td>
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<td>Monday Black Death and Great Famine Waley, chapter 5</td>
<td>Wednesday Great Schism Waley, chapter 6 (to p. 122)</td>
<td>Friday Hundred Years’ War Waley, chapter 7; <a href="#">Excerpts from Froissart</a></td>
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<td><strong>Weeks 2-4: The Renaissance</strong></td>
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<td>Monday Trecento Italy Waley, chapter 8</td>
<td>Wednesday Life in Fourteenth-century Florence Renaissance Reader 60-61, 90-118, 124-132, 146-161 (Boccaccio)</td>
<td>Friday Early Italian Humanism Renaissance Reader 1-22 (Petrarch)</td>
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<td>Monday Quattrocento Italy Waley, chapter 10</td>
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<td>Wednesday Later Italian Humanism Renaissance Reader 164-96 (Alberti, Mirandola, Da Vinci)</td>
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<td>Friday Court Culture Renaissance Reader 197-220 (Castiglione)</td>
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<td>Monday Renaissance Art Renaissance Reader 382-93 (Vasari)</td>
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<td>Wednesday Northern Humanism</td>
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<td>Document Analysis Assignment handed out</td>
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<td>Document Analysis Paper Due</td>
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*Erasmus, “The Shipwreck” (from the Colloquies)*
Friday Sept. 26  Interpretations of the Renaissance – PRESENTATIONS  
Kelly-Gadol, “Did Women Have a Renaissance?” (Burling Reserve)

**Weeks 5-6: Prelude to the Reformation**

**Monday**  
Sept. 29  Church Finance  
[Poem criticizing the papacy; Extract from a letter by Petrarch]

**Wednesday**  
Oct. 1  Religious devotion and late medieval theology  
Lindberg, chapter 1.18, 24-27

**Friday**  
Oct. 3  Printing and Biblical scholarship  
Lindberg, chapter 1.5, 1.20

**Monday**  
Oct. 6  Reformations before the Reformation  
Waley, pp. 122-128

**Wednesday**  
Oct. 8  Germany on the Eve of the Reformation  
Lindberg, chapter 1.3  
Waley, chapters 4, 13

**Friday**  
Oct. 10  **Midterm Exam**

**Early Modern Europe**

**Weeks 7-9: Protestant Reformation**

**Monday**  
Oct. 13  Martin Luther  
Lindberg, chapter 2

**Wednesday**  
Oct. 15  Response to Luther  
Lindberg, chapter 3-4

**Friday**  
Oct. 17  The Reformation in Germany  
Lindberg, chapters 5 and 8

-------------------Oct. 18-26: Fall Break-------------------

**Monday**  
Oct. 27  Zwingli and the Swiss Reformation  
Lindberg, chapter 6

**Wednesday**  
Oct. 29  The Radical Reformation  
Lindberg, chapter 7

**Friday**  
The Reformation as a Social Movement – PRESENTATIONS
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading/Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 31</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Calvin and the Reformed Tradition</td>
<td>Lindberg, chapter 9-10</td>
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<td>Nov. 3</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>The Church of England</td>
<td>Lindberg, chapter 12</td>
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<td>Nov. 7</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>The Reformation’s Effect on Women – PRESENTATIONS</td>
<td>Peter Matheson, “Breaking the Silence: Women, Censorship and the Reformation” (JSTOR)</td>
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<td>Week 10-11</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Early Attempts at Catholic Renewal</td>
<td>Lindberg, chapter 13.1-8</td>
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<td>Nov. 10</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>New Religious Orders</td>
<td>Lindberg, 13.10-13</td>
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<td>Nov. 14</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Council of Trent</td>
<td>Lindberg, 13.14-20</td>
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<td>Nov. 17</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Colonization and Evangelization</td>
<td>Las Casas on the destruction of the Indies</td>
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<td>A letter by Francis Xavier from India</td>
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<td>Nov. 19</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Inquisition</td>
<td>Kamen, “Toleration and Dissent in Sixteenth-Century Spain” (JSTOR)</td>
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<td>Nov. 21</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Evangelizing the Masses – PRESENTATIONS</td>
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<td>Week 12: Witch Craze</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Magic and Witchcraft in the Middle Ages and Early Modern Europe</td>
<td>Begin reading Ginzburg, Night Battles</td>
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<td>Nov. 24</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Witch Hunts</td>
<td>Continue Ginzburg, Night Battles</td>
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<td>Nov. 28</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Break – No Class</td>
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Week 13: Finishing the Witch Craze; Religious Violence
Monday Dec. 1 Interpretations of the Witch Craze – PRESENTATIONS
        Finish Ginzburg, Night Battles

Wednesday Dec. 3 French Wars of Religion
        St. Bartholomew’s Day Massacre

Friday Dec. 5 Thirty Years’ War
        Treaty of Westphalia

Week 14: Towards Modernity
Monday Dec. 8 The Scientific Revolution
        Galileo’s Letter to the Duchess Christina of Tuscany (1615)
        Bellarmine’s Letter on Galileo’s Theories

Wednesday Dec. 10 Capitalism and the World Economy
        Immanuel Wallerstein, “From Feudalism to Capitalism” (JSTOR)

Friday Dec. 12 Review and EOC Evaluations

Thursday Dec. 18 Final Exam

Sept. 26 – Interpretations of the Renaissance
Hans Baron, The Crisis of the Early Italian Renaissance: Civic Humanism and Republican Liberty in an Age of Classicism and Tyranny, 1955. (Read Parts 1-3, Part 5, ch. 16 + Epilogue)
DG537 .B37

Oct. 31 – The Reformation as a Social Movement
Peter Blickle, Communal Reformation: The Quest for Salvation in Sixteenth-Century Germany, 1992. BR305.2 .B37
Thomas Brady, Ruling Class, Regime and Reformation at Strasbourg, 1978. HN438.S87 B7
Steve Ozment, The Reformation in the Cities: The Appeal of Protestantism to Sixteenth-Century Germany and Switzerland, 1975. BR305.2 .O9

Nov. 7 – The Reformation’s Effect on Women
Steve Ozment, When Fathers Ruled, 1983. HQ611 .O97 1983
Nov. 21 – Evangelizing the Masses
Jean Delumeau, *Catholicism between Luther and Voltaire*, 1977. (Interlibrary Loan)

Dec. 1 – Interpretations of the Witch Craze