Subject and Goal:

This course is designed to explore European History between 1450 and 1789. It covers the great events of history that contributed to the foundation of Western society, such as the Renaissance, the Protestant Reformation, The Scientific Revolution, and conflicts such as wars of religion. But also allows for discussion of the economy, the society, gender, the family, religion, and secularization in the context of these events.

In the context of this period, our special focus will be on the witch craze that grew in Europe and spread to American colonies. We’ll be discussing two recent scholarly books on this subject in class and this will also be the focus of our writing.

REQUIRED TEXTS:


ASSIGNMENTS AND REQUIREMENTS:

Attendance: You are required to attend every class function. Verification is required through the administration for all excused absences due to sickness or emergency. After four unexcused absences, your final grade may be dropped a full letter. After six absences for any reason, you may be asked to drop the course. I will assign an “L” grade to any student who disappears without word. In any case, you are responsible to make up all work within 7 days of returning to class.

Lectures, Readings, and Discussion:

Lecture: Each Tuesday class starts is devoted to lecture. Each lecture will develop some of the material you find in your textbook. Your textbook serves as the foundation for each lecture, so be sure to read each assignment. Please come to class on time! This year, all lectures are being revised, so I’ll post the title and subject on Blackboard the Monday before and load the PowerPoint slide show as well. Write it in the space provided on the syllabus if you care to.

Discussion: Each Thursday the class will be devoted to student discussions of assigned books. The division is as follows:

A. The first part of our discussion will cover reading material from Early Modern Europe. Each week particular pages are assigned for each chapter. In “Course Documents” on Blackboard, you find a study guide that details what you need to read each week. It has focus questions based upon these readings. When you participate in class discussion OR post on Blackboard, you will earn participation points.

B. The second part of our discussion will focus on our special topic: the Witch Trials. For this we will either be reading from Thurston or Robisheaux (but on our first Thursday, we’ll be talking about the Introductions in both). Material from this will not be discussed on Blackboard (I’ll explain why in class). In other words, you MUST participate in the discussion in class to earn points.
Participation Point Grading Scale:

A 400 or more (points keep accumulating)
B 350 or less
C 300 or less

Assignments and Activities

**Response Papers:** We have 14 discussions scheduled for this class. You are to write ten response papers covering any aspect of our assigned discussion readings on the witch hunts. These are to be typed and around two pages each. Please use 1 ½ spacing.

- Number each of your papers in sequence and date it
- Papers are due on the Tuesday following a Thursday discussion. No late work!
- Papers may only be on the special on witchcraft readings for THAT WEEK.
- Papers should quote from the text they are studying several times.
- Answer one or two of the focus questions in each paper.
- You may incorporate research material from outside sources if you document it properly. Most of you material MUST come from the assigned text.

Grading Percentiles

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participation in Discussions</th>
<th>40%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Response Papers (10)</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

5a. Students will understand and appreciate the diversity and interrelationship of cultures locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally.
5b. Students will better understand their own society through the study of different world intellectual, social, political, economic, or cultural perspectives and practices.

5d. Students will describe the nature of development, persistence, and change in the history of the human kind.

LECTURES AND READINGS

WEEK ONE

Jan 17 and Jan 19

Reading Assignment:
*Early Modern Europe*, "Introduction" pp. 1-13
Thurston, *The Witch Hunts*, Introduction (pp.1-23)
Robisheaux, *The Last Witch*, Preface (pp.11-18)

Tues Class Introduction

Thurs Discussion One
See Study Guides for Focus Questions

WEEK TWO

Jan 24 and Jan 26

Reading Assignment for Discussion Two
*Early Modern Europe*, Chapter One "Europe in the World of 1450"
Read the following subheadings:
Politics and Power pp.22-26
Individuals in Society pp. 26-30
Thurston, *The Witch Hunts*, Chapter One "New Fears in Europe 700-1500" (pp. 25-64)
WEEK THREE

Jan 31 and Feb 2

Reading Assignment
*Early Modern Europe*, Chapter Two "Individuals in Society, 1450-1600"
Read the following subheadings:
- The Body pp. 47-52
- The Life Cycle: Sexuality pp. 55-61
- The Life Cycle: Widowhood and Old Age pp. 65-70
Thurston, *The Witch Hunts*, Chapter Two "Towards the Witch's Pyres..." (pp. 65-109)

WEEK FOUR

Feb 7 and Feb 9

Reading Assignment
*Early Modern Europe*, Chapter Three "Politics and Power, 1450-1600"
Read the following subheadings:
- Military Technology and Organization pp. 82-85
- Standing Armies and Navies pp. 85-89
- Taxes, Bureaucracies and Marital Politics pp. 88-90
Thurston, *The Witch Hunts*, Chapter Three "The Spread of the Witch Trials" (pp. 110-160)

Tues  Lecture__________________________

Thurs  Discussion Four
       See Study Guides for Focus Questions

**WEEK FIVE**

Feb 14 and Feb 16

**Reading Assignment**

*Early Modern Europe*, Chapter Four "Culture and Intellectual Life, 1450-1600"

Read the following subheadings:

- Political Theory and Human Thought pp. 124-132
- Music and Art pp. 137-148

Thurston, *The Witch Hunts*, Chapter Four "Victims and Processes" (pp 161-212)

Tues  Lecture__________________________

Thurs  Discussion Five
       See Study Guides for Focus Questions

**WEEK SIX**

Feb 21 and Feb 23

Winter Break!

**WEEK SEVEN**

Feb 28 and Mar 1
Reading Assignment
*Early Modern Europe*, Chapter Five “Religious Reform and Consolidation”
Read the following subheadings:
The Early Reformation pp. 152-157
The Reformation in England pp. 157-160
The Radical Reformation pp. 160-163
Social Change and the Reformation pp. 163-165
Religious Wars pp. 165-169
Calvinism pp. 169-172
The Catholic Reformation pp. 172-177
Later Religious Wars pp. 177-181
Thurston, *The Witch Hunts*, Chapter Five, "Decline and end of the Hunts" (pp. 213-262); "Conclusion" (pp. 263-277)

Tues  Lecture__________________________

Thurs  Discussion Six
See Study Guides for Focus Questions

WEEK EIGHT

Mar 6 and Mar 8

Reading Assignment
*Early Modern Europe*, Chapter Six “Economics and Technology, 1450-1600”
Read the following subheadings:
Late Medieval Agriculture pp. 189-93
Rural Development in Western Europe pp. 193-197
Mining and Metallurgy pp. 199-202
Commerce and Banking pp. 202-207
Robisheaux, *The Last Witch*
Chapter I "Death on Shrove Tuesday" (pp. 23-38)
Chapter II "The Autopsy" (pp. 39-52)

Tues  Lecture__________________________

Thurs  Discussion Seven
See Study Guides for Focus Questions

WEEK NINE

Mar 13 and Mar 15

Reading Assignment
*Early Modern Europe*, Chapter Seven “Europe in the World, 1450-1600”
Read the following subheadings:
Indian Ocean Connections pp. 220-222
Chinese and Portuguese Voyages pp. 222-224
Europeans in Asia: Merchants and Missionaries pp. 232-242
Global Connections pp. 243-249
Robisheaux, *The Last Witch*
Chapter III "A Confusing and Suspicious Affair" (pp. 53-73)
Chapter IV "Warding Off Evil" (pp. 74-90)

Tues Lecture________________________________________

Thurs Discussion Eight
See Study Guides for Focus Questions

WEEK TEN

Mar 20 and Mar 22

Reading Assignment
*Early Modern Europe*, Chapter Eight "Individuals in Society 1600-1789"
Read the following subheadings:
Sources and Theories about the Body and the Body Politic pp. 255-260
The Analyzed Body: Anatomy and Medical Theory pp. 268-270
The Treated Body: Medicine and Public Health pp. 270-273
The Reproducing Body: Child birth And Contraception pp. 273-275
The Deviant Body: Infanticide, Prostitution
And Homosexuality pp. 275-281
Robisheaux, The Last Witch
Chapter V "A Secret Crime" (pp. 91-108)
Chapter VI "The Outsider" (pp. 109-132)

Tues Lecture__________________________
Thurs Discussion Nine
See Study Guides for Focus Questions

WEEK ELEVEN
Mar 27 and Mar 29 Spring Break

WEEK TWELVE
Apr 3 and Apr 5

Reading Assignment
Early Modern Europe, Chapter Nine "Politics and Power, 1600-1789"
Read the following subheadings:
Warfare and Alliances pp. 290-297
France pp. 297-301
The British Isles pp. 303-309
Robisheaux, The Last Witch
Chapter VII "Sorcery at the Mill" (pp. 133-153)
Chapter VIII "Wider Conspiracies" (pp. 154-177)

Tues Lecture__________________________
Thurs Discussion Ten
See Study Guides for Focus Questions
WEEK THIRTEEN

Apr 10 and Apr 12

Reading Assignment
*Early Modern Europe, Chapter Ten "Culture and Intellectual Life, 1600-1789"

Read the following subheadings:
- Introduction pp. 327-329
- Cultural Institutions pp. 329-333
- Reason, Knowledge and Property pp. 340-342
- Natural Rights and Their Limits pp. 342-348
- Art and Architecture pp. 352-357
- Robisheaux, *The Last Witch*
  - Chapter IX "Satan in the Heart" (pp. 178-192)
  - Chapter X "A Daughter's Betrayal" (pp. 193-212)

Tues  Lecture__________________________

Thurs  Discussion Eleven

See Study Guides for Focus Questions

WEEK FOURTEEN

Apr 17 and Apr 19

Reading Assignment
*Early Modern Europe, Chapter Eleven "Religious Consolidation and Renewal, 1600-1789"

Read the following subheadings:
- Introduction pp. 365-367
- Established Protestant State Churches pp. 368-371
- Church and State in Catholicism pp. 371-374
- Opposition to State Church Orthodoxy pp. 374-377
- Witchcraft pp. 386-393
- Robisheaux, *The Last Witch*
Chapter XI "A Mother's Revenge" (pp. 213-227)
Chapter XII "Corpus Delicti" (pp. 228-244)

Tues
Lecture______________________________

Thurs
Discussion Twelve
See Study Guides for Focus Questions

WEEK FIFTEEN

Apr 24 and Apr 26

Reading Assignment
Early Modern Europe, Chapter Twelve "Economics and Technology, 1600-1789"
Read the following subheadings:
Introduction pp. 403-405
Agricultural Change and Rural Protests pp. 405-413
Proto-industries and Manufactories pp. 418-423
Industry and the Industrial Revolution pp. 423-432
Commerce, Banking and Money pp. 432-435
Robisheaux, The Last Witch
Chapter XIII "A Question of Poison" (pp. 245-257)
Chapter XIV "Impasse" (pp. 258-270)
Chapter XV "Politics" (pp. 271-285)

Tues
Lecture______________________________

Thurs
Discussion Thirteen
See Study Guides for Focus Questions

WEEK SIXTEEN
May 1 and May 3

Reading Assignment
*Early Modern Europe*, Chapter Thirteen "Europe in the World 1600-1789"
Read the following subheadings:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subheading</th>
<th>Pages</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>pp. 439-442</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exploration</td>
<td>pp. 442-447</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade and Colonies in the Indian Ocean</td>
<td>pp. 447-452</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colonies Difference and Race</td>
<td>pp. 466-473</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robisheaux, <em>The Last Witch</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Chapter XVI &quot;A Vengeful Heart&quot; (pp. 286-301)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chapter XVII &quot;Poor Sinner&quot; (pp. 302-308)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chapter XVIII &quot;Ruin&quot; (pp. 310-325)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter XIX &quot;Stories&quot; (pp 326-338)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Tues  
Lecture______________________________

Thurs  
Discussion Fourteen
See Study Guides for Focus Questions

*Statement of Commitment*

As a member of the university, I pledge to
Pursue academic excellence,
Support open inquiry and civil expression,
Listen respectfully to the viewpoints of others,
Participate responsibly in the life of the community,
Conserve and enhance the beauty of the campus, and
Help members of the University realize their potential