

EARLY MODERN EUROPE
TOPIC: LEGACIES OF THE REFORMATIONS

HIST 5394.01, Monday 6-8:50pm
CRN #83985, credit hours: 3
SHSU – Main Campus, Fall 2017
Prof. David Mayes

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Description of the Course

The Reformations of the sixteenth century have been intensely studied and debated for centuries now. The opportunity to consider their legacy this semester is particularly special. The date October 31, 2017 marks the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther's posting of the Ninety-Five Theses and the onset of a reform movement that swept much of Europe in the subsequent years and decades. The occasion is being commemorated throughout the calendar year in Europe, North America, and elsewhere in a host of ways—museum exhibitions, theatre pieces, academic conferences, music performances, art exhibitions, and seemingly countless publications. We will be reading a sampling of those fresh publications as well as seminal works of the past and a sprinkling of stimulating journal articles. They will concern not only the so-called Protestant Reformation but also the Roman church's response, commonly called the Catholic Counter-Reformation (but the name for which is much disputed among scholars). By the end of the semester, we should come away with a renewed appreciation for why the Reformations stand as a crucial juncture in Western history and, indeed, in World history.

Required Books

1. Mark Greengrass, *Christendom Destroyed: Europe 1517-1648*. Penguin, 2015. ISBN 978-0141978529.
2. Carlos Eire, *Reformations: The Early Modern World, 1450-1650*. Yale University Press, 2016. ISBN 978-0300111927.
3. Heiko Oberman, *Luther: Man between God and the Devil*. Yale University Press, 2006. ISBN 9780300103137.
4. Lyndal Roper, *Martin Luther: Renegade and Prophet*. Penguin/Random House, 2017. ISBN 978-0812996197.
5. Eamon Duffy, *The Stripping of the Altars: Traditional Religion in England 1400-1580*. Yale University Press, 2005. ISBN 978-0300108286.
6. Peter Marshall, *Heretics and Believers: A History of the English Reformation*. Yale University Press, 2017. ISBN 978-0300170627.
7. David Luebke, *Hometown Religion: Regimes of Coexistence in Early Modern Westphalia*. University of Virginia Press, 2016. ISBN 978-0813938400.
8. Brad S. Gregory, *Rebel in the Ranks: Martin Luther, the Reformation, and the Conflicts That Continue to Shape Our World*. HarperOne, 2017. ISBN 978-0062471178.

Objectives for the Course

Students will learn:

- factual knowledge of the subject matter
- fundamental principles, generalizations, & theories pertaining to the Reformations' legacies

- to develop skill in expressing oneself in writing
- to analyze and critically evaluate ideas, arguments & points of view

Academic Dishonesty, Holy Days Policy, Students with Disabilities Policy, Visitors in the Classroom

For the University's policies regarding these: www.shsu.edu/syllabus

Attendance Policy

Attendance and participation account for 40% of the grading, so being present each week and prepared to discuss the readings is required. Please notify me if you expect to be absent for a class session. In the event you miss class for some emergency, you can provide official documentation to explain why you were absent.

Short Papers

Four short papers will be due during the semester. Each is to be a brief, 600-700 word historiographical essay that analyzes and compares the books (or book) that we will have recently read by that point in the semester. The due dates for the short papers are:

- **Sept. 18:** Greengrass, *Christendom Destroyed* and Eire, *Reformations*
- **Oct. 2:** Oberman, *Luther* and Roper, *Martin Luther*
- **Oct. 23:** Duffy, *Stripping* and Marshall, *Heretics and Believers* (utilizing Haigh and Shagan, too)
- **Nov. 13:** Gregory, *Rebel in the Ranks*

Prospectus for Research Paper

Each student is to write a 15-20 page research paper. The topic of your paper will be one selected by you and can be anything pertaining to the subject of our course. The paper is to be based on primary sources and incorporate works of secondary literature. It is not required that you work with materials in a foreign language(s); however, if you have those skills, then I strongly recommend you to pursue a topic that will enable you to put them to good use. To help things along, you are to do two things: (1) by/before **Sept. 30**, come by my office during office hours or by appointment to discuss your topic interests and the direction of your research paper, and (2) upload a Prospectus for your research paper by **Oct. 25**.

Research Paper

The due date for the completed research paper itself is Wednesday, **December 6 at 12:00 p.m.**

Presentation

Students are to give an in-class presentation based on their research paper. Each presentation is to be approximately 20 minutes in length, with 5-10 minutes of question-and-answer to follow.

Grading

40%	Attendance, participation in the discussion of the assigned readings
20%	Short Papers (4)
5%	Prospectus for Research Paper
5%	Presentation of Research Paper
30%	Research Paper

OUTLINE

- Monday, Aug. 28: Introduction, Historiographical Background

NOTE: these four works are all available as attachments via the corresponding course Blackboard link:

- Leopold von Ranke, *German History in the Age of the Reformation* (German original: 1839-47). Read only pp. 1-83 and 496-545.
- Friedrich Engels, *The Peasant War in Germany* (German original: 1850)
- Max Weber, *The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism* (German original: 1905)
- Ernst Troeltsch, *Protestantism and Progress* (German original: 1912)

- Monday, Sept. 4: No Class, University Holiday

- Monday, Sept. 11: Christendom

- Mark Greengrass, *Christendom Destroyed: Europe 1517-1648*
- NOTE: four videos are posted on the “September 11” link on our course Blackboard. It is not required that you watch them. They are there in case you are interested.

- Monday, Sept. 18: Reformation or Reformations?

- Carlos Eire, *Reformations: The Early Modern World, 1450-1650*

- Monday, Sept. 25: Luther (1)

- Heiko Oberman, *Luther: Man Between God and the Devil*

- Monday, Oct. 2: Luther (2)

- Lyndal Roper, *Martin Luther: Renegade and Prophet*

- Monday, Oct. 9: England (1)

- (Note: Haigh's article is available via JSTOR)
Christopher Haigh, "The Recent Historiography of the English Reformation." *The Historical Journal*, Vol. 25, No. 4 (1982): 995-1007.
- Eamon Duffy, *Stripping of the Altars*

- Monday, Oct. 16: No Class → Attend Coffey Symposium

Speakers for the Symposium, which will be held during our usually scheduled class time, are:

- Amy Nelson Burnett, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- William Bradford Smith, Oglethorpe University

If possible, I would like to arrange for a time in the morning or early afternoon on Monday, Oct. 16 when Profs. Burnett and Smith and our class can meet and chat informally. And if so, I may have us read a sample or two of their work in advance. More on this later.

- Monday, Oct. 23: England (2)

- (Note: Shagan's book is available in both hard copy and e-Book via Newton Gresham Library.)
Read the "Introduction" and Chapter 5 "Selling the Sacred: Reformation and dissolution at the Abbey of Hailes" in: Ethan Shagan, *Popular Politics and the English Reformation*. Cambridge University Press, 2003.
- Peter Marshall, *Heretics and Believers*

- Monday, Oct. 30: Division at the Local Level (1)

- (Note: Spohnholz's article is available via JSTOR)
Jesse Spohnholz, "Multiconfessional Celebration of the Eucharist in Sixteenth-Century Wesel." In: *The Sixteenth Century Journal* Vol. 39, No. 3 (2008): 705-729.
- (Note: Kaplan's article is available via JSTOR)
Benjamin J. Kaplan, "Fictions of Privacy: House Chapels and the Spatial Accommodation of Religious Dissent in Early Modern Europe." In: *The American Historical Review* Vol. 107, No. 4 (2002): 1031-1064.
- David Luebke, *Hometown Religion*

- Monday, Nov. 6: Division at the Local Level (2)

For this week's session I'd like to introduce you to my own research. Access and read the following attachments on the corresponding Blackboard link:

- Introduction, Chapter 1 and Chapter 3, *Communal Christianity: The Life & Loss of a Peasant Vision in Early Modern Germany*. Brill, 2004.
- "Divided By Toleration: Paradoxical Effects of the 1648 Peace of Westphalia and Multiconfessionalism." In: *Archiv für Reformationsgeschichte* Vol. 106 (2015): 290-313.
- "Triplets: The Holy Roman Empire's Birthing of Catholics, Lutherans, and Reformed in 1648." Current draft of an essay that is due to appear in an edited volume.

- Monday, Nov. 13: A Catholic Critique of Luther and the Protestant Reformation

- Brad S. Gregory, *Rebel in the Ranks*

- Monday, Nov. 20: Student Presentations

Student presentations of research papers. Each presentation is to be approximately 20 minutes in length, with 5-10 minutes of question-and-answer to follow.

- Monday, Nov. 27: Student Presentations

Student presentations of research papers. Each presentation is to be approximately 20 minutes in length, with 5-10 minutes of question-and-answer to follow.

- Wednesday, Dec. 6: Research Paper due

We do not meet for class during this week. Students are to upload their research paper by 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 6 onto the Research Paper Turnitin link via Blackboard.