

History 33-10: Themes in European Civilization I

Georgetown University, Summer 2008

Mon.–Fri., 3:15–4:45 p.m., White-Gravenor 204

Instructor: Dr. Mark Stoneman

Georgetown username: stonemam

Office Hours: Tues. & Thurs., 1:30–2:30, and by appointment

Description

This course offers an overview of European History from the late Middle Ages to the eve of the French Revolution. Rather than attempt to cover many centuries chronologically, however, it focuses on key themes in separate units. These are *Historical Thinking*, *Homo Oeconomicus*, *Social Order and Identity*, *Religion and Society*, *State-Building*, and *Tales of the Eighteenth Century*. To help students come to terms with this history, the course emphasizes critical reading, critical thinking, writing, and group discussions.

Website

This course has a website that contains more detailed information than this syllabus. You are expected to study it closely, bookmark it, and consult it regularly.

<http://homepage.mac.com/markstoneman/hist03310summer2008/>

Grading

Grades for the course will be determined by the following four components, each of which is explained in detail on the course website: Class Participation 25%, Paper 1 (3-4 pages) 20%, Paper 2 (3-4 pages) 25%, Paper 3 (3-4 pages) 30%.

Email

You are expected to check your Georgetown email regularly, in case the university or your professors sends you an important announcement. I will, for my part, try to keep such notices to a minimum, but sometimes they are unavoidable. Also, when you email me, please use your Georgetown account, so that I can give your message higher priority.

Policies

ATTENDANCE in class is mandatory and will count towards your class participation grade. If you are sick or are participating in a school-sponsored sporting event, please present me with documentation so that you do not get penalized for your absence. Make sure you also get notes from someone in class for the material you missed. Please note that your work or training schedule is not a legitimate reason for missing class.

LATE WORK submitted during the semester will be marked down by as much as five points per day; however, no late work will be accepted after classes are over.

ACADEMIC HONESTY is essential not only to the success of the course, but also to your academic and professional careers. Hence, you are expected to know and abide by the GU Honor System at http://www11.georgetown.edu/programs/gervase/hc/honor_system.html.

STUDENTS REQUIRING A SPECIAL ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION should see me immediately and also contact Academic Resource Center (<http://ldss.georgetown.edu/>), which is located in the Leavy Center, suite 335. Telephone: 202-687-8354.

Books

There are seven required books for this course. You can find them in the Georgetown University bookstore or online via links on the course website. If you order any books online, please take into account availability and delivery time.

Aberth, John. *The Black Death: The Great Mortality of 1348-1350: A Brief History with Documents*. Boston and New York: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2005. [ISBN 031240087X]

Davis, Natalie Zemon. *The Return of Martin Guerre*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard UP, 1983. [ISBN 0674766911]

Miller, Maureen C. *Power and the Holy in the Age of the Investiture Conflict: A Brief History with Documents*. Boston and New York: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2005. [ISBN 0312404689]

Lessing, Gotthold Ephraim. *Nathan the Wise. With Related Documents*. Translated and edited by Ronald Schechter. Boston and New York: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2004. [ISBN 0312442432]

The Song of Roland. Translated and edited by Glyn Burgess. New York: Penguin Classics, 1990. [ISBN 0140445323]

Rousseau, Jean-Jacques. *The Social Contract*. Translated and edited by Maurice Cranston. New York: Penguin Classics, 1968. [ISBN 0140442014]

Voltaire. *Candide*. Translated and edited by Daniel Gordon. Boston and New York: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2004. [ISBN 0312148542]

You will also need a good dictionary, a style manual, and possibly a textbook for reference. You probably have the first two things from your English class. Any relatively recent textbook will do, so you can borrow one from the library.

Class Schedule

See the course website for full details on reading and writing assignments.

WEEK ONE

- M 6/2 Historical Thinking
- Lecture: Course Mechanics; Introduction to History
 - Reading: online articles
- T 6/3 Historical Thinking
- Primary source workshop
 - Reading: Handouts from class on this day. Make sure readings are done from 6/3.
- W 6/4 Historical Thinking
- Discussion
 - Aberth, *The Black Death*
- R 6/5 Homo Oeconomicus
- Lecture: Economic Practice
- F 6/6 Homo Oeconomicus
- Lecture: Economic Thought
 - Reading "Transformations in Economic Thought" (online)

WEEK TWO

- M 6/9 Homo Oeconomicus
 Discussion: Culture
 Reading: E. P. Thompson articles (online)
- T 6/10 Social Order and Identity
 Film: "The Return of Martin Guerre" (first 90 mins.)
 Reading: Begin reading Davis, *Return of Martin Guerre*.
 Reading: Sharon Howard's film review (online)
☞ **Paper 1** is due at the beginning of class
- W 6/11 Social Order and Identity
 Discussion: film and book
 Film: "The Return of Martin Guerre" (first 90 mins.)
 Reading: Finish reading Davis, *Return of Martin Guerre*.
 Reading: Sharon Howard's film review (online)
- R 6/12 Social Order and Identity
 Primary source workshop
 Readings: to be announced (online)
- F 6/13 Social Order and Identity
 Lecture: Social Order and Identity in Early Modern Europe

WEEK THREE

- M 6/16 Religion and Society
 Discussion
 Reading: Miller, *Power and the Holy*
- T 6/17 Religion and Society
 Lecture: Protestant and Catholic Reformations
- W 6/18 Religion and Society
 Primary source workshop
 Readings: to be announced (online)
- R 6/19 Religion and Society
 Lecture: Wars of Religion
☞ **Paper 2** is due at the beginning of class
- F 6/20 Religion and Society
 Discussion
 Reading: Lessing, *Nathan the Wise*

WEEK FOUR

- M 6/23 State-Building
 Discussion
 Reading: *Song of Roland*
- T 6/24 State-Building
 Lecture: Absolutism
- W 6/25 State-Building
 Lecture: Constitutionalism
- R 6/26 State-Building
 Primary source workshop
 Readings: to be announced (online)
- F 6/27 State-Building
 Discussion
 Reading: Rousseau, *Social Contract*

WEEK FIVE

- M 6/30 Eighteenth Century Tales
 Discussion
 Reading: Voltaire, *Candide*
- T 7/1 Eighteenth Century Tales
 Film: "Barry Lyndon," part 1
- W 7/2 Eighteenth Century Tales
 Film: "Barry Lyndon," part 2
- R 7/3 Eighteenth Century Tales
 Discussion: "Barry Lyndon"
 Discussion: Stocktaking
☞ **Paper 3** is due at the beginning of class
- F 7/4 *Independence Day: No Class*