

HIS 210-40 Early Modern Civilization

Online

Missouri Western State University College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Department of History and Geography

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****You must familiarize yourself with the syllabus as soon as possible. Be sure to watch the
"Introduction to HIS 210" videos before you begin the course****

Course Description: This course examines the major cultural, social, and political developments in Europe from the Renaissance through the French Revolution (c. 1400-1800). Our exploration of this period will be guided by three interrelated concepts: expansion, conflict, and identity. While expansion often led to conflict, both influenced, and were influenced by, individual and collective identities. Throughout the course, we will explore various types of "expansion," ranging from the expansion of state authority, to colonial expansion, to the expansion of knowledge and the printed word. Expansion rarely went uncontested, and thus we will also seek to understand how the history of early modern Europe was driven by conflicts, ranging from wars, to popular rebellions, to intellectual debates. Finally, expansion and conflict during this period cannot be properly understood without an in-depth study of the mentalities of historical figures. Thus, considerable attention will be given to the nature of individual and collective identities, especially as they relate to religious belief, social status, gender norms, and the exchange of ideas.

The first half of the course (c.1500-1648) will focus especially on the nature and significance of the cultural rebirth of antiquity, religious reform, technological advancement, and geographic discovery. In the second half of the course (c. 1648-1800), after a careful examination of the political and social landscape of Europe, we will explore various sources of social change (including the rise of commercialism and the gradual growth of the bourgeoisie) as well as sources of cultural change (including the Scientific Revolution, the Enlightenment, and the dissemination of printed works). We will conclude with an examination of the French Revolution, which proved to be as bloody as it was unprecedented.

Course Format: This course consists of 14 modules. Students will be required to complete 1 module per week (all assignments except for the final exam will be due on Sunday). Each module consists of:

1. Lectures: Each module contains 2 or 3 video lectures. Each lecture is approximately 30-50 minutes. Each module will contain between 1 ½ and 2 ½ hours of lecture material.

2. Primary source readings: Most modules contain primary source readings (texts that were written during the period we are studying). These readings will form the basis of the reading responses. In modules with no reading response due, content from readings will appear in quizzes.

3. One assignment: Each module has a corresponding quiz, exam, or reading response.

Online Requirements: This course is taught 100% online. All material must be covered and work completed in a timely manner. Thus, it is vital that you manage your time carefully. You will be required to complete certain lectures, assignments, and readings before proceeding to the next week's topics. Although you can get ahead in the course, you cannot fall behind. This course is not self-paced. Quizzes have a due date when the quiz will close. Reading responses also have firm due dates. I will not remind you of due dates. All due dates are listed on the syllabus. Be sure to keep up with the reading and lectures. No extra credit or make-up assignments will be available. Extensions will be granted only in the event of extenuating circumstances and only in advance of the due date. When in doubt, contact the instructor.

Internet problems could be detrimental to your success in an online course. It is your responsibility to complete or post all assignments on time. To prevent late penalties, never wait until the last minute to complete assignments. I will not accept internet trouble as a legitimate excuse for tardy assignments. It is your responsibility to have access to a reliable internet source for the duration of the course. This is not an attempt on my part to be unreasonable, but it is vital that you understand that you must have daily and reliable access to the internet in order to succeed in this course. Be sure to check Canvas and your Missouri Western e-mail daily.

Contact: Because this is an online course, course interaction will take place largely on Canvas and through email exchanges. If students have any questions, problems, or concerns whatsoever, they are highly encouraged to contact the instructor. The most effective way to discuss problems and concerns is in person during my office hours, if possible. If you are unable to make it to my office during these hours, you may make an appointment to chat through Gmail.

E-mail is also an effective mode of contact. You can write me either through the messenger in Canvas or directly to my university e-mail address posted at the top of the syllabus. I will do my best to respond to e-mails within 24-48 hours on weekdays when school is in session. If you write me and do not receive a response within 48 hours, please feel free to send me a reminder.

Since we will not be able to interact in a face-to-face classroom setting, it is important that you take the time to introduce yourself by posting a short biography of yourself on the "meet your classmates" thread. Additionally, if you have any questions or concerns throughout the course, or if you require further clarification on any aspect of the course please feel free to contact me at any time.

Course Objectives: This course will introduce students to the major social, cultural, political, and economic changes that took place in Europe between c. 1400 and c. 1800. In order to achieve an understanding of the complexity of this period, students will study a variety of texts and convey their interpretations through writing. Special emphasis will be placed on the examination of primary sources, which will allow students to assume the role of historian as they interpret early modern texts for themselves. The broader objective of the course is to improve students' abilities to convey their own ideas clearly in writing.

General Studies Goals and Competencies: This course fosters students' ability 1.) to write and speak clearly and effectively, 2.) to think critically and reason analytically, and 3.) to gain a greater awareness of the present by understanding other cultures and times. By the end of this course, students will demonstrate the ability 1.) to compare and contrast historical and cultural ethical perspectives and belief systems, 2.) to recognize conflicts within and between value systems and recognize and analyze ethical issues as they arise in a variety of contexts, and 3.) to defend conclusions using relevant evidence and reasoned argument.

Thematic Standards for Social Studies Education Majors: For those students intending to teach History and the Social Sciences at the secondary level, please be aware that the National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS) requires the promotion of ten thematic standards that are designed especially to assist students who are preparing for such a teaching career. These ten thematic standards are:

1. Culture and cultural diversity
2. Time, continuity, and change
3. People, places, and environments
4. Individual development and identity
5. Individuals, groups, and institutions
6. Power, authority, and governance
7. Production, distribution, and consumption
8. Science, technology, and society
9. Global connections
10. Civic ideals and practices

Each of these thematic standards will be integrated into this course. In this course, standards 1-10 will be emphasized. The syllabus indicates in brackets which standards are associated with each reading and assignment.

Texts: There are no required textbooks for this course. Readings will be posted on Canvas. Students are responsible for checking the syllabus and Canvas for readings. I recommend that you print the readings, if possible. This makes them easier to read and comprehend since you can take notes on the paper as you progress. This will also make it easier to prepare for quizzes, exams, and reading responses.

Each week's page has a list of "key terms" at the bottom. This list provides links to optional readings that expand upon certain concepts, historical figures, or events.

Although no textbook is required, students may find it useful to consult Euan Cameron, ed., *Early Modern Europe: An Oxford History*, which is available as an online resource through the library here: <http://towers.searchmobius.org/record=b2291859~S2>.

Grading Scale:

90-100	A
80-89	B
70-79	C
60-69	D
59 and below	F

Assignments:

Reading Responses (5)	7% each; 35% total
Quizzes (8)	5% each; 35% total (lowest quiz grade will be dropped)
Mid-Term Exam	15%
Final Exam	15%

No extra credit will be available.

Lectures: Much of the content you must learn to succeed on quizzes, exams, and reading responses will be found in the lectures. Because there is no textbook for this course it is extremely important that you listen to these lectures regularly. Although you will be able to review the lectures later in the semester in preparation for exams, it is crucial that you take notes the first time you listen to them. Feel free to pause and rewind the lectures as necessary. These notes will make it much easier to prepare for the quizzes, mid-term and final exams. Avoid having to return to the lectures more than once if possible. Viewing lectures multiple times will be time consuming. Good note-taking habits will help you to avoid this.

Reading Responses: Students are required to complete 5 reading responses of 600-900 words each (approximately 2-3 pages, double-spaced). You may find it difficult to cover all the material in 600 words, however, so be sure to focus more on completing the assignment's requirements than on simply meeting the minimum word count.

The content for these reading responses will be drawn from particular lectures and readings that will be listed in the reading response guidelines. STUDENTS ARE NOT PERMITTED TO USE OUTSIDE INFORMATION TO COMPOSE THEIR READING RESPONSES. ALL INFORMATION MUST BE DRAWN FROM THE LECTURES AND COURSE READINGS.

Reading responses must be uploaded to the link provided on Canvas. The link will stay active for one week after the due date. During this period students can hand in the assignment late but will receive a 10% grade penalty.

Grades will be based upon effort and insight (AKA there is not necessarily one correct answer for any given question). Your responses should show that you have completed and understood each of the readings. Be sure to draw on various parts of the reading. Don't focus on a few pages of one text, for example. The goal is to read the materials closely, to answer the question completely, and to provide your own insight. Additionally, be sure to make direct references to each of the readings (using page numbers to designate the source of your information).

Reading Response Rubric: Students will lose 2 points for each of the criteria below they fail to meet.

To receive all 20 points, reading responses must fulfill the following 10 criteria:

1. Response directly addresses the questions presented in the prompt. Be sure not to focus too heavily on a single question. You must show that you have completed all the readings, which will be very difficult if you focus on a single question.

2. Ideas presented in the response are defended with specific and detailed evidence from the texts. Do not draw information from the lectures alone. Responses must focus primarily on the texts. Use of outside information is not permitted.
3. Response makes direct references to the texts by providing **page numbers**. Cite the source of your information (even when not quoting) using a brief citation with the author's last name and page number, for example: (Luther, 22). Quotations must always be cited.
4. Response shows that the student has considered various possible responses. Be sure to address the complexity of the issue at hand. For example: address both sides of an issue before taking a stance.
5. Response displays original insight and does not simply reiterate information presented in the texts or lectures. In other words, student analyzes the texts rather than simply summarizing them.
6. Response shows that the student comprehended the basic meaning of the texts. Although a slight misunderstanding of certain parts of the text will not substantially affect your grade, a fundamental misunderstanding of the main points of the readings suggests that you have not read the texts closely and/or you have not watched the video lectures, which provide context for the readings.
7. Response draws information from all of the assigned texts.
8. Response is spell-checked and grammatical.
9. Response was on time.
10. Response met the minimum word count.

Quizzes: There will be a mandatory quiz on weeks in which there is no other assignment due. Quizzes will consist of several multiple choice and matching questions that will address details from the readings and lectures. The lectures and readings that will be covered in the quizzes will be listed under the quiz description. Quizzes are designed to give due credit to students who complete the reading and lectures regularly. Students who are dissatisfied with their initial quiz grade are permitted to take it again for a maximum of 2 times. Quizzes are timed and length is adjusted based on how many questions are in the quiz. All quizzes are due on Sundays at 11:59 p.m. Once a quiz closes, it will not be opened again. The lowest quiz grade will be dropped from the overall course grade.

Map Quiz: Quiz 1 will contain one question that is a brief map quiz in addition to other short-answer questions. A study guide for this portion of Quiz 1 is posted on Canvas along with the quiz.

Mid-Term Exam: The mid-term exam will be due on **October 13** at 11:59 p.m. CT. The exam will consist of multiple-choice, matching, and short-answer questions. Questions will focus especially on those lectures not covered in the quizzes. Some questions from earlier quizzes will also appear. A mid-term exam review guide will be posted in advance. Unlike the quizzes, students will only be given one attempt to take the exam.

Final Exam: The final exam will cover the second half of the course. The exam will consist of multiple-choice, matching, and short-answer questions (**due December 13** at 5 p.m. CT). Questions will focus especially on those lectures not covered in the quizzes. Some questions from earlier quizzes will also appear. A final exam review guide will be posted in advance. Unlike the quizzes, students will only be given one attempt to take the exam.

Academic Honesty, Due Process, and Grade Appeal: "Academic honesty is required in all academic endeavors. Violations of academic honesty include any instance of plagiarism, cheating, seeking credit

for another's work, falsifying documents or academic records, or any other fraudulent classroom activity." (MWSU Student Handbook)

"Violations of academic honesty may result in a failing grade on the assignment, failure in the course, or expulsion from school. When a student's grade has been affected, violations of academic honesty will be reported to the Provost or the designated representative." (MWSU Student Handbook).

In this course, **violations of academic honesty will result in a zero on the assignment.** Repeat offenders will receive a failing grade in the course. For more details concerning Departmental Grade Appeal Procedure, see "GRADE APPEAL PROCEDURE MATERIALS" which is filed in Popplewell 115. See the MWSU Student Handbook for more details.

Disability Accommodation: Students seeking accommodations must first provide documentation of needed accommodations to the Accessibility Resource Center (ARC) located in Eder Hall, Suite 203. Once accommodations have been approved by the ARC, students are responsible for notifying their instructors of those accommodations. This should be done within the first two weeks of classes. Accommodations are not retroactive.

Additional Academic Support: Students who find themselves struggling in this class should always feel free to contact the instructor. Additional support, including content and writing tutors, is available through the Center for Academic Support (Hearnes 213). If you feel that you are falling behind or struggling with writing or reading requirements, seek support as soon as possible.

Mid-Term Grade Reports: MWSU policy requires the reporting of midterm grades to students so that they may make informed withdrawal decisions. If you receive a "D" or an "F" on your midterm report, you should set up a meeting to discuss your grade.

Assistance with Stress Management/Personal Problems: Students wishing to talk with a trained professional regarding relationship issues, mental health, stress, etc. are encouraged to contact the Counseling Center at (816) 271-4327, which is located in Eder Hall room 209 and is open from 8 a.m to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. More information can be found here:
<https://www.missouriwestern.edu/student-services/counseling/>

Meeting Basic Needs: Any student who has difficulty affording groceries or accessing sufficient food to eat every day, or who lacks a safe and stable place to live, and believes this may affect their performance in the course, is urged to contact the Dean of Students, 226 Blum Student Union, for a list of resources and support. The Campus Cupboard is a free resource with pantry and hygiene items, located at 214 Blum Student Union. The pantry is typically open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2-4 pm and by appointment. You can stop by the Vice President for Student Affairs Office, Blum 228, or contact the Dean of Students with questions or concerns.

MWSU Course Materials Policy: Course materials including, but not limited to, PowerPoint slides, Panopto recordings, Canvas screen shots, class hand-outs, web-based and social media content, and course syllabi, are the intellectual property of the instructor and are protected by copyright law. Students in the course may download and make copies of course materials for the course student's own use. Students are not allowed to publicly reproduce or distribute these materials or enable others to do so without the express written consent of the instructor. Failure to comply with this direction may

constitute a violation of the Student Code of Conduct as outlined in the Student Handbook and result in disciplinary action by the University.

A Note on Harassment, Discrimination and Sexual Misconduct: Consistent with its mission, Missouri Western seeks to assure all community members learn and work in a welcoming and inclusive environment. Title VII, Title IX and University policy prohibit harassment, discrimination and sexual misconduct. Missouri Western encourages anyone experiencing harassment, discrimination or sexual misconduct to talk to someone from the Campus and Local Resources list found in the Student Handbook (<https://www.missouriwestern.edu/studentaffairs/wp.../handbook.pdf>) about what happened so they can get the support they need and Missouri Western can respond appropriately.

There are both confidential and non-confidential resources and reporting options available to you. Missouri Western is legally obligated to respond to reports of sexual misconduct, and therefore we cannot guarantee the confidentiality of a report, unless made to a confidential resource. Responses may vary from support services to formal investigations. As a faculty member, I am required to report incidents of sexual misconduct and thus cannot guarantee confidentiality. I must provide our Title IX coordinator with relevant details such as the names of those involved in the incident. For more information about policies and resources or reporting options, please visit the following website: <https://www.missouriwestern.edu/titleix/sexual-misconduct-policy/>

Students have received information via email regarding training regarding Title IX. Student employees may have additional required training. Please follow the link in the email sent to your MWSU student account to complete the training. Students who do not complete the training will receive a hold on their account, prohibiting future semester enrollment until the training is complete. These training courses will ensure that all students are appropriately educated about these important regulations.

Course Schedule:

Consult this schedule and Canvas regularly. Students are responsible for keeping track of due dates

WEEK 1: INTRODUCTION TO EARLY MODERN EUROPE

Lectures: Lecture 1, "Life and Death in Early Modern Europe, c. 1400-1800."
Lecture 2, "Church, State, and Society."

Reading: Select excerpts on medicine in early modern Europe [3, 8]

Assignment: **Meet Your Classmates Post**
Syllabus Quiz
Quiz 1 [3, 5, 6, 8]

9-1 Quiz 1 due at 11:59 p.m. CT

WEEK 2: THE RENAISSANCE

Lectures: Lecture 3, "Introduction to the Renaissance."

Lecture 4, "The Renaissance: Art and Architecture."
Lecture 5, "The Renaissance: Texts and the Printed Word."

Reading: Leonardo da Vinci, *Art, Science, and Nature* (c. 1519)
Giorgio Vasari, *Leonardo da Vinci* (1550) [4, 5, 7, 8]

Assignment: Reading Response 1 [4, 5, 7, 8]

9-8 Reading Response 1 due at 11:59 p.m. CT

WEEK 3: CONFLICTS IN EUROPE AND THE WORLD

Lectures: Lecture 6, "Europe and Global Exploration."
Lecture 7, "Struggles for Religious and Secular Authority."

Reading: Hernan Cortés, *Second Letter to Charles V* (1520) [1, 3, 6, 9]
Lorenzo Valla, *Discourse on the Forgery of the Donation of Constantine* (1440) [2, 5, 6]

Assignment: Quiz 2 [1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 9]

9-15 Quiz 2 due at 11:59 p.m. CT

WEEK 4: THE PROTESTANT REFORMATION IN GERMANY

Lectures: Lecture 8, "Introduction to the Protestant Reformation."
Lecture 9, "Martin Luther's Reform"
Lecture 10, "Conflict in the Holy Roman Empire"

Reading: Martin Luther (1483-1546), *On the Interpretation of the Bible and the Nature of the Priesthood.*
The Twelve Articles of the Peasants (1525)
Thomas Müntzer, *Sermon to the Princes* (1524)
Martin Luther, *Against the Thieving, Murderous Hordes of Peasants* (1525) [3, 4, 5, 6, 10]

Assignment: Reading Response 2 [3, 4, 5, 6, 10]

9-22 Reading Response 2 due at 11:59 p.m. CT

WEEK 5: THE REFORMATION SPREADS AND MULTIPLIES

Lectures: Lecture 11, "The Protestant Reformation: Calvinism"
Lecture 12, "The Catholic Reformation"

Reading: Excerpts from Jean Calvin, *A Treatise on Relics* (1543) [2, 4, 5, 6]
Excerpts from *The Proceedings of the Twenty-Fifth Session of the Council of Trent* (1559-63) [2, 4, 5, 6]

Assignment: Quiz 3 [2, 4, 5, 6]

9-29 Quiz 3 due at 11:59 p.m. CT

WEEK 6: THE "WARS OF RELIGION"

Lectures: Lecture 13, "Political and Religious Reform in England."
Lecture 14, "The Dutch Revolt."
Lecture 15, "Civil War in France."

Assignment: Quiz 4 [1, 5, 6, 10]

10-6 Quiz 4 due at 11:59 p.m. CT

WEEK 7: THE WITCH TRIALS

Lectures: Lecture 16, "Witch Trials I"
Lecture 17, "Witch Trials II"

Reading: Excerpt from the *Malleus Maleficarum* (1487) [1, 3, 5, 6]

Assignment: Mid-Term Exam

10-13 Mid-Term Exam due at 11:59 p.m. CT

WEEK 8: EUROPE IN CRISIS I

Lectures: Lecture 18, "The Thirty Years War, 1618-1648."
Lecture 19, "European States and State Expansion."

Reading: Excerpts from Hans Medick and Benjamin Marschke, eds., *Experiencing the Thirty Years War: A Brief History with Documents* (Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2013). [1, 3, 5, 6, 8]

Assignment: Reading Response 3 [1, 3, 5, 6, 8]

10-20 Reading Response 3 due at 11:59 p.m. CT

WEEK 9: EUROPE IN CRISIS II

Lectures: Lecture 20, "Growing Pains in the Spanish Empire."
Lecture 21, "The English Civil Wars, 1642-51."
Lecture 22, "The Fronde in France."

Assignment: Quiz 5 [5, 6, 9, 10]

10-27 Quiz 5 due at 11:59 p.m. CT

WEEK 10: STATE AND GLOBAL EXPANSION

Lectures: Lecture 23, "The Age of Louis XIV of France, c. 1650-1715."
Lecture 24, "Europe Expands across the Globe."

Reading: Duc de Saint-Simon (d. 1755), "On the Court of Louis XIV" [1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10]
Charter of the Dutch East India Company (1621) [1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9]

Assignment: Quiz 6 [1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9]

11-3 Quiz 6 due at 11:59 p.m. CT

WEEK 11: THE SCIENTIFIC REVOLUTION

Lectures: Lecture 25, "The Scientific Revolution I."
Lecture 26, "The Scientific Revolution II."

Reading: Documents on the Trial of Galileo Galilei [4, 5, 6, 8]

Assignment: Reading Response 4 [4, 5, 6, 8]

11-10 Reading Response 4 due at 11:59 p.m. CT

WEEK 12: THE ENLIGHTENMENT

Lectures: Lecture 27, "Enlightenment Philosophy."
Lecture 28, "Commerce and Society."
Lecture 29, "The Public Sphere."

Reading: Excerpt from Immanuel Kant, "What is Enlightenment?" (1784). [1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 10]

Assignment: Quiz 7 [1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10]

11-17 Quiz 7 due at 11:59 p.m. CT

WEEK 13: THE IMPACT OF THE ENLIGHTENMENT

Lectures: Lecture 30, "Life and Death in the Enlightenment."
Lecture 31, "Enlightened Absolutism."

Reading: Frederick II of Prussia, *Political Testament* (1752).

Assignment: Quiz 8 [2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10]

11-24 Quiz 8 due at 11:59 p.m. CT

11-25 – 12-1 Fall Break—No classes

WEEK 14: THE FRENCH REVOLUTION

Lectures: Lecture 32, "The French Revolution I."
Lecture 33, "The French Revolution II."
Lecture 34, "The French Revolution III."

Reading: "The Cataclysm of Revolution, 1789-1799," in *Sources of the Making of the West*, Volume II: Since 1500, ed. Katharine J. Lualdi (Bedford/Saint Martin's 2012), 112-132. [4, 5, 6, 10]

Assignment: Reading Response 5 [4, 5, 6, 10]

12-8 Reading Response 5 due at 11:59 p.m. CT

12-13 Final exam due at 5 p.m. CT