

The Rise of European History

Dr. Megan Moran
Maybank Hall, Office # 214
Office Hours: Tuesday 9am-12pm
Thursday 10am-12pm
And by appointment:
moranmc@cofc.edu
Office phone #: (843) 953-3033

History 101, 006 and 011
Fall 2008
MWF, 11-11:50am, 2-2:50pm
Maybank 306, 304

Purpose of the course:

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the beginnings of European history from the ancient world to the early modern period. This class examines political, economic, social, cultural, gender, and religious history in a thematic as well as chronological format. The class particularly concentrates on examining the lives, experiences, and perspectives of a variety of peoples from all social levels, places, and backgrounds throughout early European history to enable students to see these time periods through the eyes of historical actors from kings and queens to peasants, merchants, philosophers, artists, women, and children. It also examines how interactions with surrounding cultures influenced the development of European history. The class is designed to have students understand the past on its own terms to see the differences as well as to draw similarities with issues found in the world today. To this end, the class concentrates on reading primary sources in depth to examine the perspectives of a variety of people and issues throughout European history.

Required Texts:

The Western Experience, vol. 1 to the Eighteenth Century, 9th edition. Edited by Mortimer Chambers and Barbara Hanawalt. New York: McGraw Hill, 2007.
Sources of the West, Readings in Western Civilization, vol. 1 From the Beginning to 1715. Edited by Mark Kishlansky. New York: Pearson Longman, 2006.
Plutarch. Fall of the Roman Republic. Translated by Rex Warner. New York: Penguin Books, 1958.
Joan of Arc. In Her Own Words. Translated by Willard Trask. New York: Turtle Point Press, 1996.
Niccolo Machiavelli. The Prince. Edited and Translated by David Wootton. Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing Company, 1995.
Catalina De Erauso. Lieutenant Nun. Translated by Michele Stepto and Gabriel Stepto. Boston: Beacon Press, 1996.

Course Requirements:

Response Paper # 1 : 10 % 2-3 pages
Response Paper # 2: 10 % 2-3 pages
Response Paper # 3: 20 % 4-6 pages
Midterm: 20 %

Final: 25 %

Participation (includes attendance, oral presentations, in-class assignments): 15 %

Your papers and exams will be assessed according to your ability to demonstrate critical thinking, textual analysis, clear use of evidence, and an understanding of the course material. Your grades will be based on your ability to construct a clear thesis and support the argument with relevant evidence from the text. This also requires that each student produce his or her own individual and original work. You should work individually unless authorized by an instructor. Plagiarism, such as borrowing from Internet sources, scholarly writing, or other student's papers without citation, will not be tolerated. I will be happy to address any questions or concerns you might have about writing papers, citing sources, etc...both in class or in office hours. There is also a writing lab available on campus at the Center for Student Learning for any questions you have about citation or style, grammar, and how to craft an argument for papers.

Grading Scale:

A = 93-100	C = 73-76
A- = 90-92	C - = 70-72
B+ = 87-89	D + = 67-69
B = 83-86	D = 63-66
B- = 80-82	D - = 60-62
C+ = 77-79	F = 59 or less

Turn your papers in to me on the day that they are due. Late papers are not tolerated and will result in half a percentage point drop in the grade for every day that they are late. I will accept papers via email only in exceptional circumstances with prior approval obtained first.

Policies

Absences: Since this class is heavily focused on discussion, you are expected to attend every class. You are allowed two unexcused absences before it counts against your participation grade. In case of illness or emergency, please let me know as soon as possible. You will need to obtain a doctor's note. For absences due to illness, scheduled athletic events or other school sponsored trips where you miss class or intend to miss class please visit the Absence Memo Office on 67 George Street (next to the Stern Center) to fill out the appropriate documentation.

Honor Code: There is an honor code at the College of Charleston that is taken very seriously. Any evidence of academic dishonesty such as plagiarism or other forms of cheating will be reported to Academic Affairs. You will be given an F for the assignment and possibly an F for the course. If you have questions about proper behavior with class assignments please see me or check the student handbook website:
http://www.cofc.edu/studentaffairs/general_info/studenthandbook.html

Classroom conduct: Please turn off your cell phones during class. I understand that everyone forgets to turn it off at some point, but please make every effort to have it turned off as you arrive in class. This is a discussion oriented class where everyone's opinions and ideas are valued so please respect your fellow students. Late arrival is discouraged as it is disruptive to the class. More than three late arrivals will result in one unexcused absence.

The College has accommodations in place for students with documented disabilities from the Center for Disability Services/SNAP in the Lightsey Center. Please come talk to me in office hours as soon as possible to make any arrangements needed.

I encourage you to use office hours throughout the semester to discuss any questions, comments, or concerns you might have about the class. I hold five hours of office hours every week so I am around a lot and I encourage you to stop by with questions, drafts of papers, and any ideas, issues, or concerns that you want to talk about. The most effective way to reach me is through email. My office phone number is also on the syllabus. I am willing to meet outside office hours either after class or at another time by appointment. I look forward to working with you throughout the semester!

Course Schedule:

Week One

Wednesday (Aug. 27th) Introduction, How would you define European history?

Friday (August 29th) Early History and the Rise of Cities

Read Chambers: Chapter one, p. 4-8

Read Kishlansky: The Creation Epic

Week Two: Early Civilizations

Monday (Sept. 1) Mesopotamia

Read Chambers: Ch.1, p. 8-13

Read Kishlansky: The Epic of Gilgamesh, Code of Hammurabi

Wednesday (Sept. 3) Egypt

Read Chambers: Ch. 1, 13-20

Read Kishlansky: The Book of the Dead

Friday (Sept. 5th) Hebrew Society and Persia

Read Chambers: Ch.1, p. 20-29

Read Kishlansky: Book of Genesis, Book of Exodus

Week Three: Greece

Monday (Sept. 8th): Early Greece

Read Chambers: Chapter 2, p. 33-47

Read Kishlansky: Homer, Iliad

Wednesday (Sept. 10th) Classical Greece

Read Chambers: Ch. 2, p. 47-63

Read Kishlansky: Herodotus and Thucydides

Friday (Sept. 12th) Classical Greece

Read Chambers: Ch. 3, p. 66-76
Read Kishlansky: Plato's Apology, Aristotle's Politics

Week Four – Rome

Monday (Sept. 15th) Alexander the Great and Early Rome

Read Chambers: Ch. 3, p.76-87, p.92-104

Read Kishlansky: Polybius, The Roman Constitution

Wednesday (Sept. 17th) Roman Republic

Read Chambers: Ch. 4, p.104-114

Discussion of Plutarch, Life of Cicero and Caesar

Friday (Sept. 19th) Roman Empire

Read Chambers: end of Ch. 4, Ch. 5, p.120-134

Read Suetonius, Life of Augustus

Week Five – Late Antiquity

Monday (Sept. 22nd) Rise of Christianity

Response Paper # 1 Due

Read Chambers: p. 139-153

Read Kishlansky: St. Paul, Epistle to the Romans, Augustine, City of God

Wednesday (Sept. 24th) Late Antiquity

Read Chambers: p. 133-139

Read Kishlansky: Eusebius, In Praise of Constantine

Friday (Sept. 26th) Germanic Peoples, Fall of Rome

Read Chambers, p.158-164

Read Kishlansky: Tacitus, Germania

Week Six - "Heirs of the Roman Empire"

Monday (Sept. 29th) Byzantium

Read Chambers, p. 164-168, p.191-196

Read Kishlansky: Procopius and Justinian

Wednesday (Oct. 1st) Rise of Islam

Read Chambers, p.182-190

Read Kishlansky: The Koran

Friday (Oct. 3rd) New Kingdoms in the West

Read Chambers: p.168-170, p.196-205

Read Kishlansky: Einhard, Life of Charlemagne

Week Seven – Early Middle Ages

Monday (Oct. 6th) Early Middle Ages, Social Life

Read Chambers: p.170-172, p. 216-229

Read Kishlansky: Feudal Documents, The Song of Roland

Wednesday (Oct. 8th) Early Middle Ages, Politics and Religion

Read Chambers, p. 172-179, 229-238

Read Kishlansky: Benedict of Nursia

Friday (Oct. 10th) **Midterm**

Week Eight – Crusades

Monday (Oct. 13th) Fall Break

Wednesday (Oct. 15th) Crusades

Read Chambers, p.238-245

Friday (Oct. 17th) Crusades

Read Kishlansky: Fulcher of Chartres and Ibn Al-Qalanisi, The Damascus Chronicle

Week Nine – High Middle Ages

Monday (Oct. 20th) High Middle Ages, Popular Religion and the Church

Read Chambers, p. 250-263, p. 272-277

Read Kishlansky: Bernard of Angers, Francis of Assisi, Thomas Aquinas, Catherine of Siena

Wednesday (Oct. 22nd) High Middle Ages, City Life: Towns, Universities, Commerce

Read Chambers: p.280-287

Friday (Oct. 24th) High Middle Ages, Political and Social Life

Response Paper # 2 Due

Read Chambers, p.263-272, p.287-295

Read Kishlansky: Magna Carta

Week Ten – Late Middle Ages and Renaissance

Monday (Oct 27th) Late Middle Ages, Times of Trouble: War and Plague

Read Chambers, p. 306-326

Read Boccaccio's Decameron (on-line source)

Wednesday (Oct. 29th) Late Middle Ages

Discussion of Joan of Arc

Friday (Oct. 31st) Renaissance

Read Chambers, p. 326-329, p.338-357

Read Kishlansky: Vasari

Week Eleven – Renaissance and Reformation

Monday (Nov. 3rd) Renaissance

Discussion of Machiavelli

Wednesday (Nov. 5th) Protests and Protestants

Read Chambers, p. 295-301, p. 357-363, p. 366-374

Read Kishlansky: Erasmus

Friday (Nov. 7th) Reformation

Read Chambers, p. 374-381

Read Kishlansky: Luther

Week Twelve – Reformation and European Encounters

Monday (Nov. 10th) Reformation(s)

Read Chambers, p. 381-393

Read Kishlansky: Calvin, Loyola, Teresa of Avila

Wednesday (Nov. 12th)

Friday (Nov. 14th) European Encounters

Read Chambers, Ch. 14, p. 396-407

Read Kishlansky: Columbus, Bartolome de Las Casas, Bernal Diaz

Week Thirteen – Early Modern Europe

Monday (Nov. 17th) European Encounters, **Discussion of Lieutenant Nun**

Wednesday (Nov. 19th) Early Modern State Building (Growth of Nation States)

Read Chambers, Ch. 14, p. 407-427

Read Kishlansky: Letters of Magdalena and Balthasar Paumgartner

Friday (Nov. 21st) Wars of Religion, Thirty Years War

Read Chambers, p. 430-457

Read Kishlansky: Edict of Nantes, Cardinal Richelieu

Week Fourteen – Early Modern Europe

Monday (Nov. 24th) Early Modern State Building, Limited Monarchy and Absolutism

Read Chambers: p. 492-518

Response Paper # 3 Due

Wednesday (Nov. 26th) Thanksgiving Holiday

Friday (Nov. 28th) Thanksgiving Holiday

Week Fifteen – Early Modern Europe

Monday (Dec. 1st) Scientific Revolution

Read Chambers, p. 460-488

Read Galileo excerpt

Wednesday (Dec. 3rd) The Witchcraze

Read Kishlansky: Witchcraft Documents and other sources

Friday (Dec. 5th) Beginnings of the Enlightenment

Read Chambers: p.518-525

Kishlansky: Hobbes and Locke

Week Sixteen – Review and Exams

Monday (Dec. 8th) Review and Wrap-Up

Tuesday (Dec. 9th) Reading Day

History 101 006, MWF 11am class, final exam: Wednesday, December 17th 12-3pm

History 101 011, MWF 2pm class, final exam: Friday, December 12th 12-3pm

College policy dictates that final exam dates are not subject to change unless the student is ill or has a conflicting schedule in which case they need permission from the instructor and the Registrar's office. Permission must be obtained before the first day of the exam period begins at the end of the semester.