The Making of Modern Europe, 1500-1815

This course surveys the cultural, intellectual, social, political, and economic changes in Europe between 1492 and 1815. Central themes are changes in the understanding of the human person—both body and mind—and of the universe, in the organization of economy and politics. Students will explore the emergence of a global economy and its repercussions for different social groups in Europe, the Americas, and Asia, of the modern phenomenon “public opinion” and its role in politics, and of the modern sense of self.

Requirements:
- attendance at lecture
- participation in weekly discussion section
- completion of weekly reading assignment in advance of discussion
- two three-page essays, topics to be assigned, due in lecture
  - Thursday, September 25
  - Tuesday, November 25
- in-class midterm exam, Thursday, November 6
- final exam, December 14, 12:25 p.m.

Books: the books for the course are packaged with the textbook:
Brian Levack et al, *The West: Encounters and Transformations*
Teresa of Avila, *The Life of Teresa of Jesus* (Penguin)
Corneille, *Le Cid* (Penguin)
Descartes, *Discourse on Method* (Penguin) [B1848 E5 C73 1993]
The textbook will give you online access as well to a number of required texts
Lectures and Readings:

Introduction
September 2  Of Evidence and Narratives
September 4  Orientations

Read: *The West: History Toolkit: How to Analyze Primary Sources*

The Human Landscape of Late Medieval Europe
September 9  Villages and Forests
September 11  Courts and Towns

Reading: *The West, Bookshelf: 19: The Prince*
  or [http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/basis/machiavelli-prince.html](http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/basis/machiavelli-prince.html)
View: [http://historic-cities.huji.ac.il/historic_cities.html](http://historic-cities.huji.ac.il/historic_cities.html)

Sixteenth-Century Europe
September 16  Merchants and Navigators
September 18  Conquistadores and Peasants

Reading: *The West, Documents, Chapter 12*
View: [http://www.libs.uga.edu/darchive/hargrett/maps/neworld.html](http://www.libs.uga.edu/darchive/hargrett/maps/neworld.html)

September 23  From Feudal Christianity to Bourgeois Christianity
September 25  Collars and Sleeves: Consumption and Piety

THREE-PAGE ESSAY DUE

Reading: *The West, Documents, Chapter 13*
View: [http://www.rijksmuseum.nl/aria/aria_assets(SK-C-6)?lang=en](http://www.rijksmuseum.nl/aria/aria_assets(SK-C-6)?lang=en)
  [http://www.rijksmuseum.nl/aria/aria_artists(00017083)?lang=en](http://www.rijksmuseum.nl/aria/aria_artists(00017083)?lang=en)

September 30  The Baroque
October 2  Spain, the Society of Jesus, and Globalizing Christianity

Reading: Teresa, *The Life of Teresa of Jesus*, Table of Contents, Preface, Chapters 1-4, 8-11, 17-18, 20, 25, 27-29
View: [http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/baro/hd_baro.htm](http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/baro/hd_baro.htm)
  [http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/vatican/toc.html](http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/vatican/toc.html)
  [http://www.metmuseum.org/TOAH/hd/bern/hd_bern.htm](http://www.metmuseum.org/TOAH/hd/bern/hd_bern.htm)
**Seventeenth-Century Europe**

October 7    Nature and Revelation
October 9    Mapping the Heavens and the Earth

Reading: *The West*, Documents, Chapter 16
http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/telesio1565.html
View: http://es.rice.edu/ES/humsoc/Galileo/

October 14    Monarchs
October 16    From Courts to Capitals

Reading: Corneille, *Le Cid*
View: http://www.geocities.com/beatlefan83/history/escorial.html

October 21    Revolution
October 23    “Commonwealth”

pp. 2-5, Chapters 1-5, 10-11, 13-15, 17-18, 21, 24
View: http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/civil_war_revolution/

October 28    “Mind” & “Body”
October 30    The Instrument of Reason

Reading: Descartes, *Discourse on Method*

November 4    Harvey and the Systems of the Body
November 6    Midterm

Reading: http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/1628harvey-blood.html
http://history.hanover.edu/texts/Bacon/novorg.html
View: http://vesalius.northwestern.edu/index.html

Special Collections: Vesalius

**Eighteenth-Century Europe**

November 11    Law & Violence
November 13    Property & Liberty

View: http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/civil_war_revolution/brighter_lights_01.shtml
November 18  Orientalism
November 20  Absolutism

Reading: Montesquieu, *Persian Letters*, entire

Memorial Library Special Collections: copies of the *Encyclopédie*

November 25  The Project of Enlightenment

THREE-PAGE ESSAY DUE

no sections this week

THANKSGIVING

December 2  Mercantilism
December 4  Capitalism and the Organization of Labor

Reading: *The West*, Documents, Chapters 18 & 19
View:  [http://www.euratlas.net/cartogra/Rocque/index.html](http://www.euratlas.net/cartogra/Rocque/index.html)
[http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/empire_seapower/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/empire_seapower/)

1789-1815

December 9  Public Opinion & Revolution
December 11  Napoleon & the Modern Self

Reading: Diderot, *Rameau’s Nephew*
View:  [http://www.pbs.org/empires/napoleon/](http://www.pbs.org/empires/napoleon/)

December 14, 12:25: Final