

## History 119: Europe and the World, 1400-1815

Lecture: TR 11:00 am-12:15 pm

Location: 1111 Mosse Humanities

Instructor: Dr. Ben Shannon

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Office: 5269 Mosse Humanities

Office Hours: T, 1:00-3:00 pm (and by appt.)

### **Course Description**

The period from 1400 to 1815 witnessed the emergence of many ideas and institutions that shaped the world of today. During that time, the rediscovery of Greco-Roman culture placed new emphasis on the power of human achievement, the development of Protestant Christianity transformed religious thought and practice, acts of exploration revealed people and places unknown to Europeans and paved the way for new economic practices, the birth of the national state began the process of centralizing governmental power, and scientific and philosophical discoveries revealed astounding insights into the natural world and the place of individual human beings within it. Through an examination of the political, cultural, and intellectual history of Early Modern Europe, this course will demonstrate how the developments of that time period continue to influence our understanding of the present.

### **Course Objectives**

Upon completing this course, students should be able to:

- Identify key concepts and themes in the history of Europe, 1400-1815
- Analyze primary sources related to European history and understand their significance
- Construct arguments by comparing two or more primary source documents
- Clearly communicate information, both verbally and through the written word

### **Student Workload**

This 4-credit course meets as a group for 4 hours per week (according to UW-Madison's credit hour policy, each 75-minute class counts as 1.5 hours). The course also carries the expectation that you will spend an average of at least 2 hours outside of class for every hour in the classroom. In other words, in addition to class time, plan to allot an average of at least 8 hours per week for reading, writing, preparing for discussions, and/or studying for quizzes and exams for this course.

### **Grades**

Grades are based on the following scale:

100-93 = A  
92-88 = A/B  
87-83 = B  
82-77 = B/C  
76-70 = C  
69-60 = D  
59-0 = F

Final grades will be calculated accordingly:

Source Analysis (500 words) = 5%  
Comparative Analysis (750 words) = 10%  
Final Paper (1200 words) = 15%  
Midterm Exam = 25%  
Final Exam = 25%  
Discussion = 25%

(For the full version of this syllabus, please contact me at [btshannon@wisc.edu](mailto:btshannon@wisc.edu))