

HIST 5320

The European Renaissance

Kristine Wirts

Fall 2016

ARHU 311

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GRADING POLICY and PREREQUISITES: HIST 5320 this Fall 2016 will cover the history of the European Renaissance. There are no prerequisites for this course although students are strongly encouraged to have taken HIST 3340, HIST 4370 or HIST 4375 prior to enrolling in HIST 5320. Students should have also completed a course in historical methods either at the undergraduate or graduate level before enrolling in HIST 5320. Professor Wirts assumes that students enrolled in HIST 5320 are well versed in basic historical methods and understand the concept of historiography. Grades for the Fall term will be based on weekly discussions and attendance, an analytical essay on Natalie Davis' *The Return of Martin Guerre*, a document analysis project, one major historiographical essay, and a final presentation.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS and GRADE BREAK DOWN:

Discussion / Class Participation & Attendance	20%
<i>The Return of Martin Guerre</i> Essay (6 pages, double-spaced, 12 point font)	20%
Historiographical Essay (6 pages , double-spaced, 12 point font)	20%
Document Analysis Project (6 pages , double-spaced, 12 point font)	20%
Final Presentation	20%
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	100%

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Jacob Burckhardt. *The Civilization of Renaissance Italy* (1961).

Natalie Zemon Davis. *The Return of Martin Guerre* (1983).

Robert C. Davis. *The War of the Fists: Popular Culture and Public Violence in Late Renaissance Venice* (1994).

Jonathan Dewald. *The European Nobility, 1400-1800* (1996).

J.H. Elliot. *Imperial Spain: 1469-1716* (1963).

R. Po-chia Hsia. *Trent 1475: Stories of a Ritual Murder Trial* (1992).

Joseph Klaitis. *Servants of Satan: The Age of the Witch Hunts* (1985).

Peter Musgrave. *The Early Modern European Economy* (1999).

Charles G. Nauert, Jr. *Humanism and the Culture of Renaissance Europe* (1995).

Geoffrey Parker. *The Military Revolution: Military Innovation and the Rise of the West, 1500-1800* (1996).*

*Note: All books required for this course are available at the Campus Bookstore and can be purchased vis-à-vis online vendors. As most of these texts are classics, any edition is acceptable.

DISCUSSION TOPICS AND ASSIGNED READINGS

- Sept. 1 **Introduction to the Course (Brownsville)**
- Sept. 8 **Individual Consultations (Brownsville)**
- Sept. 15 **Individual Consultations (Edinburg)**
- Sept. 22 **The Italian Renaissance / Renaissance Humanism (Brownsville)**
Jacob Burckhardt. *The Civilization of Renaissance Italy* (1961).
Charles G. Nauert, *Humanism and the Culture of Renaissance Europe* (2006)
- Sept. 29 **The Renaissance Economy/ Renaissance Spain (Edinburg)**
Peter Musgrave, *The Early Modern European Economy* (1999).
J.H. Elliot, *Imperial Spain: 1469-1716* (1963).
- Oct. 6 **The Renaissance State (Brownsville)**
Geoffrey Parker, *The Military Revolution: Military Innovation and the Rise of the West, 1500-1800* (1996).
R. Po-chia Hsia. *Trent 1475: Stories of a Ritual Murder Trial* (1992).
- Oct. 13 **The European Nobility / The Witch Craze (Edinburg)**
Jonathan Dewald, *The European Nobility, 1400-1800* (1996).
Joseph Klaitis. *Servants of Satan: The Age of the Witch Hunts* (1985).
- Oct. 20 **Popular Culture (Brownsville)**
Robert C. Davis, *The War of the Fists: Popular Culture and Public Violence in Late Renaissance Venice* (1994).
Natalie Zemon Davis. *The Return of Martin Guerre* (1983).
- Oct. 27 **Viewing of the film *The Return of Martin Guerre* (Brownsville)**
- Nov. 3 ***Document Analysis Due**
- Nov. 10 ***Student Presentations (Brownsville)**
- Nov. 17 ***Historiographical Essay Due**
- Nov. 24 **Thanksgiving (no class)**
- Dec. 1 ***Student Presentations (Edinburg)**
- Dec. 8 ***Analytical Essay on *The Return of Martin Guerre* Due**

CAMPUS MEETING DATES IMPORTANT DUE DATES:

Campus Meeting Dates: Sept. 22 (Brownsville)
Sept. 29 (Edinburg)
Oct. 6 (Brownsville)
Oct. 13 (Edinburg)
Oct. 20 (Brownsville)

Student Presentations: **Nov. 10 (Brownsville) & Dec. 1 (Edinburg)**

Individual Consultations: Sept. 8 (Brownsville) & Sept. 15 (Edinburg)

Viewing of the film, *The Return of Martin Guerre*: Oct. 27 (Brownsville)

IMPORTANT DUE DATES:

Document Analysis Due: **Nov. 3**
Historiographical Essay Due: **Nov. 17**
Martin Guerre Essay Due: **Dec. 8**

OFFICE HOURS: Dr. Wirts will be holding online office hours during the Fall on Mondays and Tuesdays 2:30 - 4:30 p.m. Dr. Wirts is also available for individual office appointments and conference calls. Students seeking an appointment with Dr. Wirts are encouraged to contact her vis-à-vis Blackboard email. Please note that Dr. Wirts will be out of town attending conferences Nov. 2 - 6 (Western Society for French History) and Nov. 16 -20 (Social Science Historical Association).

CLASS DISCUSSION and ATTENDANCE: There are five formal discussion sessions scheduled for HIST 5320, with each session lasting approximately 2 1/2 hours. Students are expected to keep abreast of the readings schedule for each class session and come prepared to class. Students will receive a discussion grade for each session. The discussion grade is based on the quality of one's class discussion and one's preparation. **Attendance at all discussion sessions and class presentations is required.**

DOCUMENT ANALYSIS, ANALYTICAL ESSAY ON NATALIE DAVIS' RETURN OF MARTN GUERRE and HISTORIOGRAPHICAL ESSAY: Each seminar participant will write three papers, each six pages in length with twelve point font: **A document analysis, an analytical essay of Natalie Davis' *The Return of Martin Guerre*, and an historiographical essay** on an assigned topic. For their analytical essay on Natalie Davis' *The Return of Martin Guerre*, seminar participants will be provided a question, which they must address. Their response will be the basis of their seminar paper. Each student will also be required to write a paper on an early modern document. Each student will locate a primary source (letter, autobiography, journal, court record, political treatise, etc.) and write an analysis of the document explaining its provenance and how the selected document has influenced or shaped our understanding of history. Students are additionally asked to identify the historiographical school the document supports. Each document analysis should be properly cited with secondary sources and include a bibliography. Finally, each student is required to submit an historiographical essay. Students will assess a minimum of **four** secondary sources related to a critical

theme in the European Renaissance. Please note that this project is an *historiographical essay*, not merely a string of book reviews. For this project, each student should address the major historiographical theme(s) that relate to the selected topic. Note that only papers that follow the Chicago or Turabian form will be accepted. Also, a single form of either footnotes or end notes is acceptable.

Students may suggest a theme or choose from the following historiographical categories: *Crime and Punishment in Early Modern Society, Witchcraft and Popular Magic/ The Witch Craze, Religious Conflict and Violence, the Enlightenment, the Scientific Revolution, Early Modern Empire, Early Modern Economies/Capitalism/Atlantic Trade/Rise of Consumer Culture, Popular Rebellion, English Civil War, the Glorious Revolution, the French Revolution, Absolutism, Studies in Early Modern Women, the Renaissance or Reformation as an historical period.*

TURABIAN and CHICAGO STYLE FORMS:

Guidelines for citing sources may be accessed from the following web addresses:

Chicago Style Guidelines: <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/717/01/>

Turabian Guidelines: <http://www.libs.uga.edu/ref/turabian2009.pdf>

CLASS PRESENTATIONS: Each seminar participant will give a formal presentation on their document to the class on a prescheduled date near the end of the term. The formal presentation will last 15 minutes with 15 minutes permitted for audience question and comment (30 minutes total). The formal presentation will be on the seminar participant's document analysis project. In the seminar presentation the student should 1) identify the document, 2) explain the document's provenance, 3) explain the document's historical significance, and 4) if possible, place it within its historiographical category.

ONLINE ETIQUETTE (NETIQUETTE): At all times, students should keep in mind that the online environment is a public space. Students are asked to exercise common courtesy and professional standards appropriate for an academic setting. Students are asked to write in standard English (in both formal writing assignments and online discussions) and respect their fellow students in all email, chat, and group discussion. In online discussions and chats, students are additionally asked to communicate in complete sentences.

TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES: Students experiencing technical difficulties are encouraged to contact UTRGV's Center for Online Learning, Teaching, and Technology (COLTT). COLTT can be reached either by phone at (956) 665-5327 (Edinburg Campus) or (956) 882-6792 (Brownsville Campus). Students may also submit an outline ticket at <http://colttapps.utrgv.edu/helpme>. COLTT's Website address is <http://utrgv.edu/online> and E-Mail address is coltthelp@utrgv.edu. The IT helpdesk can also assist in resolving technical issues and can be reached by phone at (956) 665-2020. The IT helpdesk is located at Visit ACSB 1.102. If any student still cannot access the Blackboard system due to technical difficulties, then he or she may contact Professor Wirts for the needed course materials. Please note that it is incumbent upon the student to address his or her technical difficulties. The Professor will not continue to email course materials to students throughout the course of the semester.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

EMAIL COMMUNICATION: Per UTRGV policy, all email communication between the UTRGV faculty and staff and students must be conducted through the students' official University supplied Email account. Therefore, please use your UTRGV assigned Bronc Mail for any correspondence with UTRGV faculty and staff. Other emails may be blocked by the spam filter. Students are responsible for the consequences of an undelivered or delayed email blocked by the spam filter. For online courses students should use the email system in Blackboard.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: If you have a documented disability (physical, psychological, learning, or other disability which affects your academic performance) and would like to receive academic accommodations, please inform your instructor and contact Student Accessibility Services to schedule an appointment to initiate services. It is recommended that you schedule an appointment with Student Accessibility Services before classes start. However, accommodations can be provided at any time.

Brownsville Campus: Student Accessibility Services is located in Cortez Hall Room 129 and can be contacted by phone at (956) 882-7374 (Voice) or via email at accessibility@utrgv.edu. **Edinburg Campus:** Student Accessibility Services is located in 108 University Center and can be contacted by phone at (956) 665-7005 (Voice), (956) 665-3840 (Fax), or via email at accessibility@utrgv.edu.

MANDATORY COURSE EVALUATION PERIOD: Students are required to complete an ONLINE evaluation of this course, accessed through your UTRGV account (<http://my.utrgv.edu>); you will be contacted through email with further instructions. Students who complete their evaluations will have priority access to their grades.

ATTENDANCE: Students are expected to attend all scheduled classes and may be dropped from the course for excessive absences. UTRGV's attendance policy excuses students from attending class if they are participating in officially sponsored university activities, such as athletics; for observance of religious holy days; or for military service. Students should contact the instructor in advance of the excused absence and arrange to make up missed work or examinations.

SCHOLASTIC INTEGRITY: As members of a community dedicated to Honesty, Integrity and Respect, students are reminded that those who engage in scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and expulsion from the University. Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to: cheating, plagiarism, and collusion; submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person; taking an examination for another person; any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student; or the attempt to commit such acts. Since scholastic dishonesty harms the individual, all students and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced (Board of Regents Rules and Regulations and UTRGV Academic Integrity Guidelines). All scholastic dishonesty incidents will be reported to the Dean of Students.

Plagiarism is prohibited and will not be tolerated. Any student who plagiarizes will receive a zero for the writing assignment on which he or she has plagiarized and a grade of F for the course. Professor Wirts will additionally recommend that UTRGV take appropriate disciplinary action. Professor Wirts does not consider group study or consulting a tutor (or the professor) as academic misconduct. In writing your papers, keep in mind that all written material should be properly cited. If the idea is not yours, cite the source from which you found the material. If you are using a direct quote, put the quote in quotations and cite the source. If you are not sure what constitutes academic dishonesty or plagiarism, ask the professor. Finally, students are also required to work independently when taking their online exams. Collaboration conducted in the course of an online exam or quiz is strictly prohibited.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT, DISCRIMINATION, and VIOLENCE: In accordance with UT System regulations, your instructor is a “responsible employee” for reporting purposes under Title IX regulations and so must report any instance, occurring during a student’s time in college, of sexual assault, stalking, dating violence, domestic violence, or sexual harassment about which she/he becomes aware during this course through writing, discussion, or personal disclosure. More information can be found at www.utrgv.edu/equity, including confidential resources available on campus. The faculty and staff of UTRGV actively strive to provide a learning, working, and living environment that promotes personal integrity, civility, and mutual respect in an environment free from sexual misconduct and discrimination.

COURSE DROPS: According to UTRGV policy, students may drop any class without penalty earning a grade of DR until the official drop date. Following that date, students must be assigned a letter grade and can no longer drop the class. Students considering dropping the class should be aware of the “3-peat rule” and the “6-drop” rule so they can recognize how dropped classes may affect their academic success. The 6-drop rule refers to Texas law that dictates that undergraduate students may not drop more than six courses during their undergraduate career. Courses dropped at other Texas public higher educational institutions will count toward the six-course drop limit. The 3-peat rule refers to additional fees charged to students who take the same class for the third time.