

Dr. Donald K. Mitchener
Office: Wooten Hall Room 228
e-mail: donald.mitchener@unt.edu

Required Textbooks:

MacCulloch, Diarmaid. *The Reformation: A History*
McGrath, Alister. *Reformation Thought: An Introduction*, 4th ed.

Purpose of this Course:

This course covers European political, social, intellectual, and cultural history ca. 1490-1700. These were the years of the Lutheran, Calvinist, and English Reformations, the Catholic Reformation and Counter-Reformation, and the Wars of Religion. Out of these various conflicts - religious, political, and cultural - emerged a transformed Europe. The ideas that began to develop during the Renaissance gave birth to that which the early humanists called the "modern," but not in the way that many of them envisioned at the time. Upon this political and cultural foundation would be built absolutism, the Enlightenment, and much else of what we have come to know as "Europe." It is hoped that this course will provide the student with a better understanding of this important and formative period of World Civilization.

Course Requirements and Grading Policies:

Students will take three (3) major exams. In addition, they will write two (2) book reviews. All will be graded on a strict 100-point scale. The final will **NOT** be comprehensive.

The grades will be assigned as follows:

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

Exams, and Papers (percentage of grade)

Exam 1 (25%)	Thursday, Feb. 25
Exam 2 (25%)	Thursday, March 31
Two Book Reviews Due (25%)	Thursday, April 7
Final (25%)	Thursday, May 12 (8 – 10 am)

Lectures:

1. Introduction to the Reformation
2. Social, Intellectual, and Cultural Conditions of the Late Medieval Period and the Renaissance
3. Luther (the Reformation in Germany)
4. Zwingli (the Reformation in Zürich)
5. Calvin (the Reformation in Geneva)
6. The English Reformation
7. The Radical Reformation
8. The Catholic Reformation and Counter-Reformation
9. France 1559-1598
10. Spain Under Philip II
11. Economic and Social Issues of the 16th – 17th Centuries
12. Science, Art, and Music during the Age of the Reformation
13. The Thirty-Years War (1618-1648)

No extra credit work will be assigned or accepted.

Readings:

The instructor will assign readings in the textbooks as the semester progresses.

Structure of Major Exams:

A review for each of the major exams will be given out three (3) weeks prior to the date on which each exam will be given. Four (4) of the questions on the review will be chosen by the instructor to include in the exam upon which the review is based. The chosen questions will be divided into Two (2) pairs. The instructor will determine the pairings. Each student must select one question from each of the three pairs of questions for a total of three essays. Students are expected to use the list of possible essay questions on each review to prepare for the particular test for which that review has been prepared.

Book Reviews:

Each student must complete two (2) book reviews. Each review must be five (5) pages long. Students must meet with the instructor in order to choose the books to be reviewed. The books to be reviewed **MUST** be approved by the instructor. In each review, the student must state the author's thesis and provide a concise description of the author's argument. In addition, the student must reference two (2) scholarly reviews and concisely relate the reviewers' critiques of the work as part of their own review. The student must print out both of the scholarly reviews and attach them to their own five-page review of the work. Both five-page reviews with two referenced scholarly articles attached must be handed in on the date specified above.

Punctuality and attendance:

Students are expected to be on time for all class meetings and examinations. Attendance will be taken at each class meeting. Students who miss more than five (5) class meetings during the semester will be dropped one letter grade. In addition, attendance will be used, at the instructor's discretion, to determine whether or not the student receives the instructor's "benefit of the doubt" when grades are assigned at the end of the semester.

Office Hours:

MW 12 noon – 4 pm

Contacting Your Instructor:

It is best to contact your instructor via email. I am not in my office outside of office hours very often, but I check my email regularly. I will get back with you as soon as possible.

Information Concerning Grades:

FERPA rules require that information concerning grades be communicated directly to students by the instructor. This means that **I cannot communicate information concerning a student's grades via email or telephone.** The instructor and student must meet face-to-face.

Handout and Test Return Policy:

Those students missing class when instructional items and graded tests are distributed can pick up missed materials and graded tests during office hours.

Class Notes:

The instructor will ***not*** furnish class notes or copies of the presentations to students. If you miss a lecture, get the notes from one of your fellow students in the class.

Student Behavior:

Students are expected to act like responsible adults in class. This means no talking or engaging in any other disruptive activity once class has begun. Students may speak when called upon by the instructor or, within reason, when reacting to something done or said by the instructor. Students who fail to comply

with this standard of behavior will receive two warnings. If a third warning proves necessary, then the offending student/students will be told to leave the classroom.

Persons who are late getting to class on the day of a test or on the day of the final will not be allowed to take the test/final if they arrive after any students have completed and handed in their tests. Know what day your exams are being given and get to class on time.

Students may not leave class while an exam is being administered. If you have special circumstances, you will need to meet with the instructor before the first exam so that arrangements can be made.

Cell Phones:

Cell phones will be turned **completely off**. If a student needs to have the cell phone on vibrate for some reason, he or she must see the instructor before class for permission.

During tests, cell phones must be put away so that they are not visible to the student. No text messaging allowed. Sending or receiving text messages during an exam will be considered prima facie evidence of cheating and will be handled accordingly.

Use of Computers in Class:

Students may use computers to take notes in class. However....

While the instructor understands the popularity and convenience of laptops for this purpose, he also knows that far too often students use their computers to play games and surf the Internet. The misuse of a computer during class in this manner not only harms the student engaged in the activity, but it also is a distraction to others around the student who might actually be in class for the purpose of taking notes in preparation for the tests. To protect the studios, students who misuse their computers in this way will, when caught, be told to shut off their computer.

Make-up Policy for Major Exams

A student missing the First or Second Exam must make up the exam by the beginning of class the following week. A make-up exam will be placed in the History Help Center for students who **meet with the instructor** and arrange to take the make-up. Make-up exams will not be automatically placed in the Help Center. It is the student's responsibility to make sure that a missed exam is made up within the specified one-week period. Unless other arrangements are made with the instructor, all students who do not make up a test within the one-week make-up period will receive a "0" ["zero"] for that exam.

Disability Accommodation (ADA):

“The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see

the Office of Disability Accommodation website at <http://www.unt.edu/oda>. You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323.” The ODA liaison for the Department of History is Dr. Pomerleau (Wooten Hall Room 234; phone 940-565-4214).

Academic Ethics (Cheating and Plagiarism):

Students will be held accountable for acts of cheating, dishonesty, or plagiarism as defined in the student handbook. This includes, by the way, the use of cell phones to text answers to one another during an exam. Any student found to be engaging in any form of dishonest conduct during the taking of an exam will be expelled from that particular class period and will receive a “0” [“zero”] for that exam. A student who are found to have committed plagiarism in the writing of his or her paper will receive a "0" ["zero"] on the paper.

History Help Center:

Located in Wooten Hall, Room 220, the History Help Center provides assistance to students enrolled in history courses at UNT.

The Instructor reserves the right to add to or to make changes to any and all of the forgoing descriptions, instructions and/or information at his discretion.