



Department of History

## HIST 601: READING SEMINAR: EARLY MODERN ENGLAND & EUROPE

### Dr. Melinda Zook

Phone: 494-4134

Email: [mzook@purdue.edu](mailto:mzook@purdue.edu)

Office: University Hall 327

Office hours: between 2:00 and 3:00 & by appointment

Spring 2021

Classroom: UNIV 217

Wednesdays, 3:30-6:00

### Course description

This graduate reading seminar focuses on the history and historiography of the Long Seventeenth Century in early modern England and Europe. It also speaks to how this era might be presented in the classroom. Our topics include religious and political crises; treason, magic, heresy, and witchcraft as well as household politics and gender constructions in the British Isles and Europe. While our special focus will be early modern England, we will also broaden our view on several occasions to bring in continental Europe and the Atlantic world.

### Recommended Reading

Diarmaid MacCulloch, *The Reformation: A History*. Penguin, 2005.

Doreen Rosman, *The Evolution of the English Churches, 1500-2000*. Cambridge, 2003.

Blair Worden, *The English Civil Wars: 1640-1660*. Phoenix, 2010.

### Required Reading

Peter Matheson, *The Imaginative World of the Reformation*. Fortress Press, 2001.

Richard Wunderli, *Peasant Fires: The Drummer of Niklashausen*. Indiana University Press, 1992.

Frances Timbers, *Magic and Masculinity: Ritual Magic and Gender in the Early Modern Era*.

Bloomsbury, 2020.

Ann Hughes, *Gender and the English Revolution*. Routledge, 2011.

D. Alan Orr, *Treason and the State: Law, Politics and Ideology in the English Civil War*. Cambridge, 2002.

### Requirements:

- 1) **Short essays:** students will write short (2 page) essays nearly every week
- 2) **Class participation:** attendance and participation is mandatory.

**Grades** will be based on the student's participation and presentations in class (30%) and short essays (70%).

## Rules of the Game:

While I will accommodate students who are officially quarantined, please understand that this is an in-class seminar and not designed for distance learning.

Silence your cell-phone once you enter the class room. No laptops please.

Use proper email etiquette (an email should begin with a salutation such as “Dear Professor Zook;” and end with a proper closing, such as “Sincerely” or “Yours.”).

Students who plagiarize any portion of their written assignments will be removed from this course and the incident will be reported to the Dean of Graduate Programs.

## Calendar

**Jan. 20**                      **Introduction to the Class**

**Jan. 27**                      **The Reformation in Europe, part 1**

Wunderli, *Peasant Fires: The Drummer of Niklashausen*

MacCulloch, *The Reformation: A History*, chapter 1, “The Old Church, 1490-1517”

**Feb. 3**                        **The Reformation in Europe, part 2**

Matheson, *The Imaginative World of the Reformation*

MacCulloch, *The Reformation: A History*, chapter 2, “Hopes and Fears, 1490-1517”

**Feb. 10**                     **Reformation in one country**

Doreen Rosman, *The Evolution of the English Churches*, pages, 1-85

MacCulloch, *The Reformation: A History*, chapter 3, “New Heaven: New Earth, 1517-24”

**Feb. 17**                     **Reading Day**

**Feb. 24**                     **English Reformation: historiography**

Bernard, G.W., *The Late Medieval English Church: Vitality and Vulnerability before the Break with Rome*. Yale, 2012.

Bernard, G.W. *The King’s Reformation: Henry VIII and the Remaking of the English Church*. Yale, 2005.

Duffy, Eamon. *Saints, Sacrilege and Religion*. Bloomsbury, 2012.

Duffy, Eamon. *The Voices of Morebath*. Yale, 2003.

Duffy, Eamon. *Fires of Faith: England under Mary Tudor*. Yale, 2010.

Duffy, Eamon, *Reformation Divided: Catholics, Protestants and the Conversion of England*. Bloomsbury, 2017.

Heath, Felicity. *The Reformation in Britain and Ireland*. Oxford, 2005.

Jones, Norman. *The English Reformation: Religion and Cultural Adaption*. Blackwell, 2002.

MacCulloch, Diarmaid. *The Reign of Henry VIII: Politics, Policy and Piety*. Palgrave, 1995.

March, Christopher. *Popular Religion in sixteenth-century England*. Palgrave, 1998.

Marshall, Peter. *Beliefs and the Dead in Reformation England*. Oxford, 2002.  
Marshall, Peter. *Heretics and Believers: A History of the English Reformation*. Yale, 2018.  
Milner, Matthew. *The Senses and the English Reformation*. Ashgate, 2011.  
Ryrie, Alec. *The Gospels and Henry VIII*. Cambridge, 2008.  
Shagan, Ethan H. *Popular Politics and the English Reformation*. Cambridge, 2003.  
Wabuda, Susan. *Preaching during the English Reformation*. Cambridge, 2008.  
Walsham, A. ed., *Memory and the English Reformation*. Cambridge, 2020.  
Watt, Tessa. *Cheap Print and Popular Piety*. Cambridge, 1993.

### **March 3      Welcome to the Seventeenth-Century Crisis**

E. J. Hobsbawm, "The General Crisis of the European Economy in the 17th Century," *Past & Present*, 5 (1954): 33-53.  
E. J. Hobsbawm, "The Crisis of the Seventeenth Century, II," *Past & Present*, 6 (1954): 44-65.  
Hugh Trevor-Roper, "The General Crisis of the Seventeenth Century," *Past and Present*, 16 (1959): 31-64.

Peter Burke, "The Crisis in the Arts of the Seventeenth Century: A Crisis of Representation?" *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, 40/2 (Autumn 2009): 239-261.  
Jan de Vries, "The Economic Crisis of the Seventeenth Century after Fifty Years," *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 40/2 (Autumn 2009):151-194.

Michael Roberts, "Queen Christina and the General Crisis of the Seventeenth Century," *Past & Present*, 22 (July 1962): 36-59.  
Sheilagh C. Ogilvie, "Germany and the Seventeenth-Century Crisis," *The Historical Journal*, 35/2 (June 1992): 417-441.

Edward Bever, "Witchcraft Prosecutions and the Decline of Magic," *The Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, 40/2 (Autumn 2009): 263-293.  
Maurice Lee, Jr., "Scotland and the 'General Crisis' of the Seventeenth Century," *The Scottish Historical Review* 63/176, Part 2 (October 1984): 136-154.

Geoffrey Parker, "The Genesis of 'Global Crisis,'" *Journal of World History*, 26/1 (March 2015):143-147.  
Carla Gardina Pestava, "The Afterlife of 'Global Crisis,'" *Journal of World History*, 26/1 (March 2015): 169-180.

Randolph Starn, "Historians and 'Crisis,'" *Past & Present*, 52 (August 1971): 3-22.  
John H. Elliott, "The General Crisis in Retrospect: A Debate without End," in *Early Modern Europe from Crisis to Stability*, eds. Philip Benedict and Myron Gutmann (Newark: University of Delaware, 2005), 31-51.

### **March 10      The Witchcraft Craze**

Norman Cohn, *Europe's Inner Demons: The Demonization of Christians in Medieval Christendom*. Chicago, 2001.  
Orna Alyagon Darr, *Marks of an Absolute Witch: Evidentiary Dilemmas in Early Modern England*. Routledge, 2011.  
Carol Karlsen, *The Devil in the Shape of a Woman: Witchcraft in Colonial New England*. Norton, 1998.  
Brian P. Levack, *The Witch-Hunt in Early Modern Europe*. Routledge, 2015.  
Brian P. Levack, *Witch-Hunting in Scotland: Law, Politics and Religion*. Routledge, 2007.

Alison Rowlands, ed. *Witchcraft and Masculinities in Early Modern Europe*. Palgrave, 2009.  
 James Sharpe, *Instruments of Darkness: Witchcraft in Early Modern England*. Pennsylvania, 1996  
 Paul B. Moyer, *Detestable and Wicked Arts: New England and Witchcraft in the Early Modern Atlantic World*. Cornell, 2020.  
 Walter Stephens, *Demon Lovers: Witchcraft, Sex, and the Crisis of Belief*. Chicago, 2003.  
 Laura Patricia Stokes, *Demons of Urban Reform: Early European Witch Trials and Criminal Justice, 1430-1530*. Palgrave, 2011.  
 Deborah Willis, *Malevolent Nurture: Witch-Hunting and Maternal Power in Early Modern England*. Cornell, 1995.

**March 17      Witchcraft, magic and gender constructions**

Read Frances Timbers, *Magic and Masculinity*

**March 24      Gender Trouble**

Bernard Capp, *When Gossips Meet: Women, Family, and Neighbourhood in Early Modern England*. Oxford, 2003.  
 Anthony Fletcher, *Gender, Sex, and Subordination in England, 1500-1800*. Yale, 1999.  
 Dan Herzog, *Household Politics: Conflict in Early Modern England*. Yale, 2013.  
 Ruth Mazo Karras, *Sexuality in Medieval Europe: Doing Unto Others*. Routledge, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed., 2017  
 Kim Hall, *Things of Darkness: Economies of Race and Gender in Early Modern England*. Cornell, 1995.  
 Linda Peck, *Women of Fortune: Money, Marriage, and Murder in Early Modern England*. Cambridge, 2018.  
 Cynthia Herrup, *A House in Gross Disorder: Sex, Law and the Second Earl of Castlehaven*. Oxford, 2001.  
 Laura Gowing, *Domestic Dangers: Women, Words, and Sex in Early Modern London*. Oxford, 1996.  
 Eleanor Hubbard, *City Women: Money, Sex, and the Social Order in Early Modern London*. Oxford, 2012.  
 John A. Lynn II, *Women, Armies, and Warfare in Early Modern Europe*. Cambridge, 2008.

**March 31      The Road to War**

**Causes:**

Edward Vallance, "Preaching to the Converted: Religious Justifications for the English Civil War," *Huntington Library Quarterly*, Vol. 65, No. 3/4 (2002): 395-419.

Tim Harris, "Revisiting the Causes of the English Civil War," *Huntington Library Quarterly*, 78/4 (Winter 2015): 615-635.

Derek Hirst, "Unanimity in the Commons, Aristocratic Intrigues, and the Origins of the English Civil War," *The Journal of Modern History*, 50/1 (March 1978): 51-71.

Conrad Russell, "The British Problem and the English Civil War," *History*, 72/236 (October 1987): 395-415.

John Morrill, "The Religious Context of the English Civil War," *Transactions of the Royal Historical Society*, 34 (1984):155-178.

Ann Hughes, "The King, the Parliament, and the Localities during the English Civil War," *Journal of British Studies*, 24/2 (April 1985): 236-263.

**Charles I:**

Mark Kishlansky, "Charles I: A Case of Mistaken Identity," *Past & Present*, 189 (Nov. 2005): 41-80.

Martin J. Havran, "The Character and Principles of an English King: The Case of Charles I," *The Catholic Historical Review*, 69/2 (April 1983):169-208.

Michael B. Young, "Charles I and the Erosion of Trust, 1625-1628," *Albion: A Quarterly Journal Concerned with British Studies*, 22/2 (Summer 1990): 217-235.

**Culture:**

David Cressy, "Conflict, Consensus, and the Willingness to Wink: The Erosion of Community in Charles I's England," *Huntington Library Quarterly*, 61/2 (1998): 131-149.

Thomas Cogswell, "The Politics of Propaganda: Charles I and the People in the 1620s," *Journal of British Studies*, 29/3 (July 1990):187-215.

Mark Kishlansky, "Martyrs' Tales," *Journal of British Studies*, 53 (April 2014): 334-355.

**April 7      The Civil War**

Read Ann Hughes, *Gender and the English Revolution*

**April 14      Reading Day**

**April 21      Seditious Talk and Treason**

Read D. Alan Orr, *Treason & the State: Law, Politics and Ideology in the English Civil War*

**April 28      Reading and Teaching the History of Early Modern England (primary sources)**

Mary Astell, *A Serious Proposal to the Ladies*

Mary Astell, *Reflections upon Marriage*

Francis Bacon, *Novum Organum*

Richard Baxter, *Saints Everlasting Rest*

John Bunyan, *Grace Abounding to the Chief of Sinners*

John Bunyan, *Pilgrim's Progress*

Aphra Behn, *The Roundheads*

Aphra Behn, *The Widow Ranter*

Aphra Behn, *Oroonoko*

Margaret Cavendish, *The Description of a New World, Called the Blazing World*

Daniel Defoe, *A Free Born English Man*

Daniel Defoe, *Robinson Crusoe*

Daniel Defoe, *A Journal of the Plague Year*

Daniel Defoe, *Moll Flanders*

John Dryden, *Absalom and Achitophel* (to the reader, parts 1 and 2)

Margaret Fell Fox, *Women's Speaking Justified*

Thomas Hobbes, *Leviathan*

Ben Jonson, *The Alchemist*

Ben Jonson, *Bartholomew Fair*

John Milton, *Samson Agonistes*

Thomas More, *Utopia*

John Locke, *A Letter Concerning Toleration*

John Locke, *Two Treatises of Government*

Algernon Sidney, *Court Maxims*

Jonathan Swift, *Gulliver's Travels*

John Wilmot, earl of Rochester, *A Satyr Against Reason and Mankind*