History 601M

READING SEMINAR IN EUROPEAN HISTORY:

Protestantism, Politics, and Gender in the Atlantic World, 1550-1800

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Office hours: Wednesdays, 10:30-11:30 or by appointment

Spring 2012

Monday, 3:40-6:30
University Hall 319

Course Description

This graduate reading seminar focuses around the historiographical debates over religious and political conflict in the British Isles and transatlantic world in the early modern era. Topics include: late medieval Catholicism and the impact of the Protestant and Catholic Reformations on politics, culture, and society in sixteenth-century England, Scotland, Ireland and the Americas; gender and violence in England and Ireland in the early seventeenth century; Puritanism in early Stuart England and radical sectarianism during the Civil Wars; the religious diversity in North America; the role of women in the religious controversies of the seventeenth century in England, Scotland and abroad; and the impact of empire, nationalism, and religious pluralism in eighteenth-century Britain.

Required Texts

Eamon Duffy, *The Voices of Morebath: Reformation and Rebellion in an English Village* (Yale, 2001)
Requirements

Throughout the semester, students will hand in two-page critiques of the assigned readings. On most occasions, these short essays will address the author’s thesis, methodology, sources, and contributions to the field. In addition, students will be asked to prepare short bibliographies, present oral reviews of their readings, and participate in class discussions.

Final Grades will be determined as follows:  
- Written assignments: 60%
- Oral presentations: 20%
- Class participation: 20%

Rules of the Game

Students must attend all classes, arriving on time. Late papers will be penalized. Students need to turn off their cell-phones once they enter the class room. Students may use a laptop or i-pad during class so long as they are using a word processing program. They may not access the internet.

Students are encouraged to use proper email etiquette in any e-communication with me and with all their professors (e.g., an email should begin with a salutation such as “Dear Professor X,” and end with a proper closing, such as “Sincerely” or “Yours.”).

I take plagiarism extremely seriously. If you use someone else’s words or ideas without proper citation you may consider your graduate career at an end.

Schedule of Readings & Discussions

January 9  
**Introduction to the Course**

January 16  
**No Class: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**

January 23  
**The Old Faith & the King’s Great Matter**  
Doreen Rosman, *The Evolution of the English Churches, 1500-1600*, Chapters 1 & 2 (handed out in class)  
And, Pestana, *Protestant Empire*, Introduction & Chapter 1
January 30

**Reformation & Counter Reformation**


February 6  
**The Impact of Religious Change**  
Discuss Duffy, *The Voices of Morebath*

February 13  
**British Isles, Reformation, & the New World**  
Pestana, *Protestant Empire*, Chapter 2


February 20  
**Gender, Law, and Order the Early Stuarts**
Discuss Herupp, *A House in Gross Disorder*

February 27  
**The Hotter Sort of Protestant: The Puritan’s World**
Discuss Paul Seaver, *Wallington’s World*

March 5  
**The Civil Wars & the Rise of Sectarianism**
Doreen Rosman, *The Evolution of the English Churches, 1500-1600*, Chapter 5 (handed out in class)
And, Pestana, *Protestant Empire*, Chapters 3-5

Ranters
Muggletonians
The Family of Love (or Familists)
Quakers
Presbyterians
Independents
Seekers
Baptists
Fifth Monarchists

March 12  
**Spring Break**

March 19  
**Women & Religion**


J. K. Gardiner, “Margaret Fell Fox and Feminist Literary History: A ‘Mother in Israel’ Calls to the Jews,” in The Emergence Quaker Writing, eds. T. Corns & D. Loewenstein (Frank Cass, 1996)

Hilary Hinds, God’s Englishwomen: Seventeenth-century radical sectarian writing and feminist criticism (Manchester University Press, 1996)

Elaine Hobby, “‘Come Live a Preaching Life’: Female Community in the Seventeenth-Century Radical Sects,” in Female Communities, 1600-1800, eds. Rebecca D’Monte and Nicole Pohl (New York: St. Martin’s Press, 2000), 76-91

Katharine Gillespie, Domesticity and Dissent in the Seventeenth Century (Cambridge University Press, 2004)


March 26 Gender, the British Isles, & The New World


April 2   Colonial Experiences & Transatlantic Connections

Increase Mather
William Penn
Edward Whalley and William Goffe
Hugh Peters
Samuel Gordon
William and Jane Hooke
Mary Dyer
Elizabeth Hooten
April 9      **Nationalism and Identity Formation**


April 16      **Empire & British Nationalism in the Eighteenth Century**
Discuss Colley, *Britons: Forging a Nation*
And, Pestana, *Protestant Empire*, Chapters 6-conclusion

April 23      **Review**