HISTORY 373-L01 (2014-03)
THE EUROPEAN WITCH HUNTS

INSTRUCTOR:
Dr. Yvonne Petry
Luther College, Room 205, phone: 585-5039
e-mail: yvonne.petry@uregina.ca

TIME: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1:00-2:15, Luther College 215.

TEXTBOOKS:

PREREQUISITES: One history course or completion of 30 credit hours.

DESCRIPTION:
Why were people tried for witchcraft in early modern Europe? The answer is complex. This course will examine the origins, development and decline of the witch hunts in Western Europe from 1400-1700. We will consider the witch hunts from a variety of angles, including: gender and society, religion and magic, health and medicine, and politics and law. Students will be introduced to the primary source materials - including trial documents – that historians use to interpret this period. Students will also be made aware of the ways in which historians draw on other fields—psychology, sociology, anthropology and feminist theory—in order to understand the history of persecution from an interdisciplinary perspective.

ASSIGNMENTS AND EXAM:

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<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mid-Term Examination</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper Proposal</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term Paper</td>
<td>35%</td>
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<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Examination</td>
<td>30%</td>
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DUE DATES:

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<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mid-Term Exam</td>
<td>Thursday, October 16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper Proposal due</td>
<td>Thursday, October 30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term Paper due</td>
<td>Tuesday, December 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>Thursday, December 18 at 2:00 p.m.</td>
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If there is any student in this course, who, because of a disability, may have a need for accommodations, please contact the Coordinator of the Centre for Student Accessibility at 306-585-4631, RC 251.
Expectations

- All students are expected to attend class, submit written assignments on time, and prepare for and participate in class discussions. The quality of the notes you take in class will be a determining factor in your success in the course. Poor class attendance can result in a written warning and subsequent barring from the final exam.

- Cell phones need to be turned off during class time, except in a case of emergency.

- If you need to leave class early on a given day, please inform me at the start of the class.

Textbooks

- Your textbook, *The Witch Hunt in Early Modern Europe*, is an excellent companion volume to this course and is written by one of the leading experts in the field. You will be responsible for the material in this book, and should plan on reading one to two chapters per week during the course of the semester. You will also find it to be an excellent resource when planning your term paper. Levack’s bibliography is extensive and up-to-date.

- The other required text, *The Witchcraft Sourcebook*, contains primary source material that will form the basis of our classroom discussions. Readings will be assigned from this book approximately one week in advance. It is vital that you read this discussion material ahead of time, as you will be expected to comment on it in a small group setting. Participation in these group discussions will contribute to your participation mark.

UR Courses

- There is a UR Course website for this course, accessible from the U of R homepage. Our website will house copies of most assignments, handouts and power point presentations, as well as additional materials not distributed in class, such as the course bibliography and a glossary of terms. You will also be submitting your paper proposal and your term paper through the course website.

- If you need to email me, please use my university email address: (yvonne.petry@uregina.ca), not the email option through the course website.

Written Assignments

- All written assignments will be submitted electronically through the UR course website. Instructions on how to do so will be provided in class and on the website.

- Essay style must conform to that outlined in the Department of History Guidelines for Footnotes and Bibliography, which will be distributed in class and is available on the course website. This is based on the Chicago Style for the humanities. **Essays submitted without proper citations will be not graded, but returned to you without a grade.** Failure to submit a term paper will result in a grade of NP for the course.

- You must pass the final exam in order to pass the course.
• Plagiarism (the unacknowledged use of another scholar's words or ideas, in whole or in part) is considered academic misconduct and is a serious offence that can result in disciplinary action. All cases of plagiarism will be reported to the Dean of Luther College. If you are in doubt about how to properly research your paper and cite your sources, please ask me to help you with this.

• The penalty for late submission of written assignments (without the prior consent of the instructor) = 3% per day.

Learning Outcomes

The study of history increases one’s knowledge of the past, but also enhances one’s understanding of the ways in which cultural, religious, and philosophical context has framed beliefs and practices. It is always useful to discover that others have thought and believed differently than we do. The study of primary sources allows the history student to practice critical analysis and interpretation of written texts. The research and writing of a history paper teaches students how to ask relevant questions, frame problems, find and collect source materials, read and interpret source material, and write and edit a coherent, analytical paper. All of these skills are relevant to and useful in life beyond the classroom.