

MEM 3301

Course Syllabus

Fall 2018

Will Hasty

[Jump to Today](#)

I. Description.

In this course you will learn how cities and palaces become the hubs, or “engines,” of cultural developments in the early modern period. You will become familiar with the operant principle, or “fuel,” that increasingly drives cultural developments as structured from Cities and Palaces, which is the primacy of individuality, the assumption that individuals and various individual cultural domains -- such as religion, politics, poetry, economics, etc. -- have to be understood first and foremost as functioning according to intrinsic principles. In readings and course assignments, you will observe how such cultural developments play out in religious, philosophical, and scientific thinking, art, architecture, engineering, poetry, music, and other ways in which people organize their lives in the early modern period.

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II. Due Dates of Assignments.

Module #	Module material opens	Discussion Posts and Timeline Post Confirmations are Due	Discu other
Module 1	Monday, August 22, 12:05 am	Friday, August 31, 10:00 pm	Sunda
Module 2	Monday, September 3, 12:05 am	Friday, September 7, 10:00 pm	Sunda
Module 3	Monday, September 10, 12:05 am	Friday, September 14, 10:00 pm	Sunda
Module 4	Monday, September 17, 12:05 am	Friday, September 21, 10:00 pm	Sunda
Module 5*	Monday, September 24, 12:05 am	Friday, September 28, 10:00 pm	Sunda pm
Module 6	Monday, October 1, 12:05 am	Friday, October 5, 10:00 pm	Sunda
Module 7	Monday, October 8, 12:05 am	Friday, October 12, 10:00 pm	Sunda
Module 8	Monday, October 15, 12:05 am	Friday, October 19, 10:00 pm	Sunda

Module 9	Monday, October 22, 12:05 am	Friday, October 26, 10:00 pm	Sunda
Module 10**	Monday, October 29, 12:05	Friday, November 2, 10:00 pm (*Note this is Homecoming; you may want to get this work done sooner)	Sunda
Module 11	Monday, November 5, 12:05 am	Friday, November 9, 10:00 pm (Homecoming)	Sunda
Module 12	Monday, November 12, 12:05 am	Friday, November 16, 10:00 pm	Sunda
Module 13	Monday, November 19, April 9, 12:05 am	Friday, November 30, 10:00 pm	Sunda
Module 14***	Monday, December 3, 12:05 am	deadlines vary - see module	deadl

Discussions are due Fridays by 10:00 pm. Discussions posted between Friday 10:00 and Sunday 11:59 are late and will receive only half credit at best. No discussions will be considered after the Sunday deadline. Comments are due by the Sunday deadline.

All other assessments and quizzes (i.e. questions on the readings, videos, the "Virtual Visits," etc.) are due by Sunday 11:59.

If you need walk-in help from the UF Computing Helpdesk (392-HELP) with hardware, software, or any e-learning interface issues, make sure you take care of this in a timely way during the work week so that you will be able to submit by the Friday due date. You can receive help by phone from the UF Computing Helpdesk 24/7.

* Test #1 will be available from Friday, Sept. 28, 12:05 am to Sunday, September 30, 11:59 pm.

**Test #2 will be available from Thursday, November 1, to Sunday, November 4, 11:59 pm.

*** Test #3 will be available to take between Monday, December 3, to Friday, December 7, 11:59 pm.

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III. Texts.

1. Joseph and Frances Gies, *Life in a Medieval City* (New York: Harper & Row, 1969).
2. Michael Hughes, *Early Modern Germany, 1477-1806* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1992).
3. [Dante Alighieri, The New Life \(Links to an external site.\)Links to an external site.](#)

4. [Niccolo Machiavelli, The Prince \(Links to an external site.\)](#)[Links to an external site.](#)
5. [Jacob Burckhardt, The Civilization of the Renaissance in Italy \(Links to an external site.\)](#)[Links to an external site.](#)
6. [Martin Luther, Concerning Christian liberty \(Links to an external site.\)](#)[Links to an external site.](#)
7. [Martin Luther, To the Christian Nobility of the German Nation \(Links to an external site.\)](#)[Links to an external site.](#)
8. First [log on for off-campus access \(Links to an external site.\)](#)[Links to an external site.](#) to the UF Library: [The Damnable Life and Deserved Death of Dr. John Faustus \(selections\).](#) [\(Links to an external site.\)](#)[Links to an external site.](#)
9. Baroque Poetry (selections linked in Module 11)
10. [Gottfried Leibniz, "Explanation of Binary Arithmetic," \(Links to an external site.\)](#)[Links to an external site.](#)
11. [Immanuel Kant, Essay: "What is Enlightenment? \(Links to an external site.\)](#)[Links to an external site."](#)
12. [Friedrich Schiller, Poem: "Ode to Joy" \(Links to an external site.\)](#)[Links to an external site.](#)
13. [Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, Poem: "Prometheus" \(Links to an external site.\)](#)[Links to an external site.](#)

Optional resources:

[Professor Giuseppe Mazzotta \(Yale University\) lecture on Dante's Vita Nuova \(Links to an external site.\)](#)[Links to an external site.](#).

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IV. Assignments.

1. Three Tests. The three timed tests are the most challenging tasks in this course. You will do best if you familiarize yourself with the module materials as closely as possible. You will respond to questions in a 60-minute period, with an additional 30 minute review period allowed (i.e. total of 90 minutes), so you will need to make sure you feel in command of the material when you start your test. There will be short answer type questions in which you briefly discuss the significance of passages from the literary texts. There will be true-false, multiple-choice and multiple answer type questions about

the content of my module lectures. [Accessibility score: Medium Click to improve](#)[Click here for some example quiz questions](#)

Settings

. I will randomly draw some questions from those on the books by Gies (*Life in a Medieval City*) and Hughes (*Early Modern Germany*) -- these are the questions you have already seen and to which you have already responded, so it should be relatively easy to prepare for this part of the test.

2. Midterm and Final Projects. Together with your Group members, you will complete collaboratively a midterm and a final project. Links in the course modules to the [Midterm](#) and [Final Project](#) provide additional information.

3. Discussions and Comments. Most modules have discussion prompts, which ask you to think both critically and creatively about the texts you are reading and other topics of interest in this course. **You will be graded both for the quality of your thinking and for the quality of your writing**, so might want to consider beginning the textual part of your discussions (and possibly even your comments) in a Word document and working on it there as a draft until you are sure it is ready to submit in the course. You will also be graded for completeness, so make sure you have addressed all parts of the discussion prompt and, as necessary, provided any illustrative visual material (i.e. such as pictures). In most cases you should be able to respond to discussion prompts with about 1-2 typescript pages of text (ca. 300-500 words), which of course should be your own writing. Try to not to go too far over 500 words. All of the aforementioned applies, though to a lesser degree (because they will be briefer), to the comments that you will make on one of your peer's Discussions. Comments have no word-limits, but make sure your comments are substantive, i.e. that you are not merely parroting something in the discussion, but that you are thinking some aspect of the discussion through and showing that you are able to understand and appreciate the implications and add a new perspective, however subtle it might be. **You will not automatically receive full points merely for the submission of discussion and comments; only very good ones will receive full points.** Consult the Discussion and Comment Rubric for details on the grading of Discussions and Comments.

4. Questions on the main secondary Texts: Gies' *Life in a Medieval City* and Hughes' *Early Modern Germany*

For each reading assignments in these texts (which are indicated in the "to do" lists in the individual modules) you will answer a number of graded content questions. If you do the reading carefully, you should not have much difficulty answering all of these questions correctly. Some questions in the three Tests will be drawn randomly from these study questions, so if you are familiar with these questions and their answers, you will be well prepared for this part of the tests.

5. Virtual Visits. As part of the course you will take "Virtual Visits" to individual sites of interest in this course, particularly sites connected to cathedrals and palaces. The aim of these visits is to provide some immediate impressions of the sights and sounds associated with these important historical buildings and their modern urban settings. You should find the questions associated with the Virtual Visits quite straightforward.

6. Video material and questions. This course employs a substantial amount of video material to complement and embellish the module topic. Students are responsible for watching the videos carefully, and then responding as necessary to any associated questions or tasks. Figures, events, artistic works, etc. that you see in the videos would be entirely appropriate material to use for your Dipity Timeline posts, by the way.

7. Timeline entries and posts in MyHistro, and final Timeline synthesis paper: [Click here for information.](#)

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V. Grade percentages.

Tests= 25%

Projects= 20% (10% each for Midterm and Final Project)

Comments/Discussions= 30%

Questions on readings in Gies and Hughes/Virtual Visits/Questions on Videos= 15%

Timeline entries, posts, and final synthesis paper= 10%

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VI. Grading Scale.

A 93

A- 90

B+ 87

B 83

B- 80

C+ 77

C 73

C- 70

etc.

Course Summary:

Date	Details
Sun Feb 25, 2018	Midterm Project Upload Here Modules 1-7 Timeline Link Post
Fri Apr 27, 2018	Final Timeline Link Post Individual Timeline Synthesis Discussion
Fri Aug 31, 2018	Module 1 Discussion Module 2 Timeline Post Confirmation
Sun Sep 2, 2018	Building the Great Cathedrals

Date	Details
Fri Sep 7, 2018	Gies: Chapter 1 Gies: Prologue Virtual Visit to Vatican City
Sun Sep 9, 2018	Module 2 Discussion Gies: Chapter 2 Gies: Chapter 3 Gies: Chapter 4 Gies: Chapter 5 Medici - Episode 1 Virtual Visit to Paris and Wissembourg
Fri Sep 14, 2018	Module 3 Discussion Module 3 Timeline Post Confirmation
Sun Sep 16, 2018	Gies: Chapter 6 Gies: Chapter 7 Gies: Chapter 8 Medici - Episode 2 Virtual Visit to the Imperial Cathedral - Kaiserdom - in Speyer
Fri Sep 21, 2018	Module 4 Discussion Module 4 Timeline Post Confirmation
Sun Sep 23, 2018	Gies: Chapter 10 Gies: Chapter 11 Gies: Chapter 9

Date	Details
	Medici - Episode 3
	Virtual Visit to the Cathedrals in Siena and Pisa
Fri Sep 28, 2018	Module 5 Comments
	Module 5 Discussion
Sun Sep 30, 2018	Gies: Chapter 12
	Gies: Chapter 13
	Gies: Chapter 14
	Test 1
	Who's Afraid of Machiavelli?
Fri Oct 5, 2018	Module 6 Comments
	Module 6 Discussion
	Module 6 Timeline Post Confirmation
Sun Oct 7, 2018	Gies: After 1250
	Gies: Chapter 15
	Gies: Chapter 16
	Medici - Episode 4
Fri Oct 12, 2018	Module 7 Timeline Post Confirmation
Sun Oct 14, 2018	Virtual Visit to the Medici Palace
	Hughes: Chapter 2
	Hughes: Introduction
	Hughes: Preface

Date	Details
Fri Oct 19, 2018	Module 8 Comments
	Module 8 Discussion
	Module 8 Timeline Post Confirmation
Sun Oct 21, 2018	Hughes: Chapter 3
	Martin Luther - Driven to Defiance
	Virtual Visit to the Palace of Albrecht von Wallenstein
Fri Oct 26, 2018	Module 9 Comments
	Module 9 Discussion
	Module 9 Timeline Post Confirmation
Sun Oct 28, 2018	Hughes: Chapter 4
	Martin Luther - The Reluctant Revolutionary
	Virtual Visit to the Buckingham Palace
Fri Nov 2, 2018	Module 10 Comments
	Module 10 Discussion
Sun Nov 4, 2018	Hughes: Chapter 5
	Test 2
	Virtual Visit to Versailles Palace
Fri Nov 9, 2018	Module 11 Comments
	Module 11 Discussion
	Module 11 Timeline Post Confirmation
Sun Nov 11, 2018	Hughes: Chapter 6

Date**Details**

	<u>Virtual Visit to the Palaces of Mannheim and Karlsruhe</u>
Fri Nov 16, 2018	<u>Module 12 Comments</u>
	<u>Module 12 Discussion</u>
	<u>Module 12 Timeline Post Confirmation</u>
Sun Nov 18, 2018	<u>Hughes: Chapter 7</u>
	<u>Virtual Visits to the Palaces of Schönbrunn and Sans Souci</u>
Fri Nov 30, 2018	<u>Module 13 Comments</u>
	<u>Module 13 Discussion</u>
	<u>Module 13 Timeline Post Confirmation</u>
Sun Dec 2, 2018	<u>Hughes: Chapter 8</u>
	<u>Virtual Visit to the Dolmabahce Palace in Istanbul</u>
Fri Dec 7, 2018	<u>Test 3</u>
	<u>Final Project Upload Here</u>
	<u>Modul 6 comments</u>
	<u>Module 14 Timeline Post Confirmation</u>
	<u>Module 2 Comments</u>
	<u>Module 3 Comments</u>
	<u>Module 4 Comments</u>
	<u>Virtual Visit to Biltmore Estate in Asheville, N.C.</u>
	<u>Virtual Visit to Kensington Palace in London</u>

Prev month **Next month** **August 2018**

Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 Previous month	30 Previous month	31 Previous month	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24 Today	25
26	27	28	29	30	31 Click to view event details	1 Next month
2 Next month Click to view event details	3 Next month	4 Next month	5 Next month	6 Next month	7 Next month Click to view event details	8 Next month

Assignments are weighted by group:
