

Course Syllabus

"Early Modern Literary Culture"/MEM 3301 "Palaces and Cities."

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I. Basic Information

Course: GET 3201 "Early Modern Literary Culture"/MEM 3301 "Palaces and Cities."

Instructor: Will Hasty <hasty@ufl.edu>. This is an online course. Be in touch with me if you would like to set up an appointment to talk in person. I'm in Dauer 263a. I will be available during this same time via zoom: <https://ufl.zoom.us/j/93367477254> ([Links to an external site.](#))

Office hours: Tuesdays 2:00pm-4:00pm, or by appointment in Dauer 263a.

II. 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 Due	Discussion Comments and all other Assessments Due
Module 1	Wednesday, January 5, 12:05 am	Sunday, January 16, 11:59 pm	Sunday, January 16, 11:59 pm
Module 2	Monday, January 17, 12:05 am	Friday, January 21, 10:00 pm	Sunday, January 23, 11:59 pm
Module 3	Monday, January 24, 12:05 am	Friday, January 28, 10:00 pm	Sunday, January 30, 11:59 pm
Module 4	Monday, January 31, 12:05 am	Friday, February 4, 10:00 pm	Sunday, February 6, 11:59 pm
Module 5*	Monday, February 7, 12:05 am	Friday, February 11, 10:00 pm	Sunday, February 13, 11:59 pm

Module 6	Monday, February 14, 12:05 am	Friday, February 18, 10:00 pm	Sunday, February 20, 11:59 pm
Module 7	Monday, February 21, 12:05 am	Friday, February 25, 10:00 pm	Sunday, February 27, 11:59 pm
Module 8	Monday, February 28, 12:05 am	Friday, March 4, 10:00 pm	Sunday, March 13, 11:59 pm (end of Spring Break)
Module 9	Monday, March 14, 12:05	Friday, March 18, 10:00 pm	Sunday, March 20, 11:59 pm
Module 10**	Monday, March 21, 12:05 am	Friday, March 25, 10:00 pm	Sunday, March 27, 11:59 pm
Module 11	Monday, March 28, 12:05 am	Friday, April 1, 10:00 pm	Sunday, April 3, 11:59 pm
Module 12	Monday, April 4, 12:05 am	Friday, April 8, 10:00 pm	Sunday, April 10, 11:59 pm
Module 13	Monday, April 11, 12:05 am	Friday, April 15, 10:00 pm	Sunday, April 17, 11:59 pm
Module 14***	Monday, April 18, 12:05	deadlines vary	deadlines vary

As a rule, 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 February 11, 12:05 am to February 13, 11:59 pm.

**Test #2 will be available from March 25, 12:05 am to March 27, 11:59 pm.

***Test #3 will be available to take between Thursday April 21, 12:05 am until Wednesday April 27 at midnight.

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IV. Texts.

1. Merry E. Wiesner-Hanks, *Early Modern Europe 1450-1789*, 2nd edition, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006.

3. [Dante Alighieri, *The New Life* \(Links to an external site.\)](#)

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

Optional resources:

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

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V. 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. [Click here for some example quiz questions](#)

Actions

. 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). Respond to discussion prompts with at least ca. 2 typescript pages of text (500 words), though ideally your discussions will be between ca. 600-800 word total, which of course should be your own writing. Remember that the discussions are one of your main chances to demonstrate your knowledge of the readings and (as applicable) the other module materials. Try to not to go over 800 words, unless you are carrying through with a tight and organized discourse (i.e. don't ramble). 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. You will be able to see correct answers for these questions only once when you submit the assignment.

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 individual module posts, group presentations, and final individual Timeline synthesis paper: [Click here for information.](#)

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VI. Grade percentages.

3 Tests= 25%

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

Comments/Discussions= 25%

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

Group Timeline posts, presentations, and final individual synthesis paper= 15%

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VII. Grading Scale.

A 93

A- 90

B+ 87

B 83

B- 80

C+ 77

C 73

C- 70

etc.

Course Summary:

Date	Details
Sun Jan 31, 2021	Assignment Upload your Modules 1-7 Group Timeline Presentation here
Fri Apr 2, 2021	Assignment Module 14 Timeline Post Confirmation
Sun Apr 4, 2021	Assignment Virtual Visit to Biltmore Estate in Asheville, N.C.
Fri Apr 9, 2021	Assignment Individual Timeline Synthesis Discussion

Date	Details
	Calendar Event University of Florida GatorEvals – Spring 2020
	Assignment Upload your Modules 8-14 Group Timeline Presentation here
Sun Apr 11, 2021	Assignment SONGS Extra Credit #1
	Assignment SONGS Extra Credit #2
Fri Jan 14, 2022	Assignment Module 1 Discussion
	Assignment Building the Great Cathedrals
	Assignment Virtual Visit to Vatican City
Sun Jan 16, 2022	Assignment Module 1 Comments
	Assignment Wiesner-Hanks, Chapter 1
	Assignment Wiesner-Hanks, Introduction
Fri Jan 21, 2022	Assignment Module 2 Discussion
	Assignment Module 2 Timeline Post Confirmation
	Assignment Medici - Episode 1
Sun Jan 23, 2022	Assignment Virtual Visit to Trier, Wissembourg, Paris.
	Assignment Module 2 Comments
	Assignment Wiesner-Hanks, Chapter 2
Fri Jan 28, 2022	Assignment Module 3 Discussion

Date	Details
	Assignment Module 3 Timeline Post Confirmation
	Assignment Medici - Episode 2
Sun Jan 30, 2022	Assignment Virtual Visit to the Imperial Cathedral - Kaiserdom - in Speyer
	Assignment Module 3 Comments
	Assignment Wiesner-Hanks, Chapter 3
Fri Feb 4, 2022	Assignment Module 4 Discussion
	Assignment Module 4 Timeline Post Confirmation
	Assignment Medici - Episode 3
Sun Feb 6, 2022	Assignment Virtual Visit to the Cathedrals in Siena and Pisa
	Assignment Module 4 Comments
	Assignment Wiesner-Hanks, Chapter 4
Fri Feb 11, 2022	Assignment Module 5 Discussion
	Assignment Test 1
Sun Feb 13, 2022	Assignment Module 5 Comments
	Assignment Who's Afraid of Machiavelli?
	Assignment Wiesner-Hanks, Chapter 5
Fri Feb 18, 2022	Assignment Module 6 Discussion

Date	Details
	Assignment Module 6 Timeline Post Confirmation
	Assignment Medici - Episode 4
Sun Feb 20, 2022	Assignment Module 6 Comments
	Assignment Wiesner-Hanks, Chapter 6
Fri Feb 25, 2022	Assignment Module 7 Timeline Post Confirmation
	Assignment Midterm Projects post here
Sun Feb 27, 2022	Assignment Virtual Visit to the Medici Palace
	Assignment Module 8 Discussion
Fri Mar 4, 2022	Assignment Module 8 Timeline Post Confirmation
	Assignment Martin Luther - Driven to Defiance
Sun Mar 13, 2022	Assignment Wiesner-Hanks, Chapter 7
	Assignment Module 8 Comments
Fri Mar 18, 2022	Assignment Module 9 Discussion
	Assignment Module 9 Timeline Post Confirmation
	Assignment Martin Luther - The Reluctant Revolutionary
Sun Mar 20, 2022	Assignment Virtual Visit to the Buckingham Palace
	Assignment Module 9 Comments

Date	Details
	Assignment Wiesner-Hanks, Chapter 8
Fri Mar 25, 2022	Assignment Module 10 Discussion
	Assignment Test 2
Sun Mar 27, 2022	Assignment Virtual Visit to Versailles Palace
	Assignment Module 10 Comments
	Assignment Wiesner-Hanks, Chapter 9
Fri Apr 1, 2022	Assignment Module 11 Discussion
	Assignment Module 11 Timeline Post Confirmation
	Assignment Virtual Visit to the Palaces of Mannheim and Karlsruhe
Sun Apr 3, 2022	Assignment Module 11 Comments
	Assignment Wiesner-Hanks, Chapter 10
Fri Apr 8, 2022	Assignment Module 12 Discussion
	Assignment Module 12 Timeline Post Confirmation
Sun Apr 10, 2022	Assignment Virtual Visits to the Palaces of Schönbrunn and Sans Souci
	Assignment Module 12 Comments
	Assignment Wiesner-Hanks, Chapter 11
Fri Apr 15, 2022	Assignment Module 13 Discussion

Date	Details
	Assignment Module 13 Timeline Post Confirmation Assignment Module 13 Comments
Sun Apr 17, 2022	Assignment Virtual Visit to the Dolmabahçe Palace in Istanbul Assignment Wiesner-Hanks, Chapter 12
Sun Apr 24, 2022	Assignment Final Projects post here Assignment Virtual Visit to Kensington Palace in London Assignment Wiesner-Hanks, Chapter 13
Wed Apr 27, 2022	Assignment Test 3 Assignment Virtual Visit to the Palace of Albrecht von Wallenstein Assignment Virtual Visit to the Palace of Albrecht von Wallenstein