

Course Description

This course explores how the religious Reformations of the sixteenth century re-shaped the lives of Europeans. We start by trying to understand how late medieval Catholicism was experienced by both the clergy and common people and then consider how the “threat” of Protestantism re-defined the religious and the political landscape and sparked civil war in France, the Netherlands and Germany. Over the course of the semester, we investigate how religious change impacted society as a whole, transforming popular culture, personal piety, gender and family relationships, the persecution of minorities, and bonds between social groups. We also consider how Christianity became a global religion and deeply embedded in European colonialism.

Marking Scheme

Two 600-850 word essays	20%
One 3000 word research essay	35%
Participation	10%
Seminar Leadership	5%
Quizzes on the readings	15%
In-Class Final Test	15%