

## **HIEU 144: EARLY MODERN GERMANY: RELIGION, POLITICS & CULTURE**

### **General Information**

Time: T/Th 11.00-12.20

Place: Sequoyah Hall 147

### **Professor:**

Ulrike Strasser

Office: HSS 6086B

Office Hours: Tuesday 2.00pm to 3.30pm & by appt.

Email: [ustrasser@ucsd.edu](mailto:ustrasser@ucsd.edu)

Telephone: 858. 822 2544

### **Course Description:**

This course explores the history of the Holy Roman Empire from around 1500 to the end of the Old Regime. We will pay particular attention to the religious divisions that, together with the great political diversity of the German lands, shaped the German cultural landscape on the eve of the modernity. Topics include: the Protestant Reformation, the German Peasant War, the Catholic Reformation, Conflicts with the Ottoman Empire, the Witch-Hunts, the Thirty Years War, German Jewish Life, Absolutism and the German Enlightenment.

### **Electronics Policy:**

While electronic communication and resources will play an important role in this course, their use will be limited to the time outside the classroom. The classroom itself will be an electronics-free student environment so that we can focus better on the material and each other. This means that you need to turn off and stow away all electronic devices at the beginning of class and abstain from using them while we are in session. You will have access to my lecture outlines via TED so there is no need to take detailed notes of your own.

### **Contact and Communication:**

You must use your UCSD e-mail account for this course and make sure it is always in working order. Important messages about assignments and exams will come via e-mail.

I want to answer people's questions and needs outside of class, but I get many emails from many different people everyday. In order to allow me to most quickly get to your email, please follow these steps.

Your Subject Line **MUST** be:

HIEU144 Student Question

Copy and paste the lines below into the body of your email and fill them in:

Student Name:

PID:

My question is about (place an X on the appropriate line):

A grading issue

An assignment not yet due

Requesting an exception (for a deadline, an exam, etc.)

Something else

Dr. Strasser,

<Put your email here -- be concise, but professional!>

Thank You!

<Put your name here>

Constant email checking decreases productivity and therefore I limit my times on email to twice per day, and rarely log on in the evenings or weekends. I enjoy meeting with students face-to-face and find it much more effective for quality instruction. Please use email only for scheduling appointments and other very brief communications.

Otherwise, please come to speak with me in person before or after class or during office hours.

Email is especially tricky when it comes to substantive questions that may arise as you prepare for an exam. Plan on an office visit to raise such questions. To protect both you and me from the dangers of last-minute exam preparation and email miscommunication, *I stop answering emails pertaining to the exam 48 hours before the exam.*

**Academic Integrity:**

It is your responsibility to know and observe all the UCSD rules concerning [academic integrity and plagiarism](#). You should familiarize yourself with your responsibilities and rights under the [UCSD Student Conduct Code](#).

It is required that all work submitted will be a student's own. In addition, it is forbidden to submit the work of another writer as one's own. Finally, it is forbidden to submit work that you completed prior to this class to the current course without consulting with your professor and receiving explicit authorization.

Any student found to have committed a substantial violation of the university rules concerning academic integrity will be subject to penalties ranging from failed the assignment to suspension and expulsion from the university. If you have any questions about what constitutes plagiarism talk to me. Any claim of ignorance of these standards will not be accepted as justification for their violation so make sure to understand and abide by them.

### **Academic Integrity**

All work in this class must be your own. **Plagiarism is a serious academic offense** and will result in a failing grade assignment and a disciplinary report.

**It is your responsibility to know what constitutes plagiarism.** You are expected to educate yourself by consulting the UCSD website on academic integrity:

**<https://students.ucsd.edu/academics/academic-integrity/about/index.html>**

[Students further agree that by taking this course all required papers will be subject to submission for textual similarity review to Turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. Use of the Turnitin.com service is subject to the terms of use agreement posted on the Turnitin.com site]

### **Office for Student Disabilities**

Students requesting accommodations and services for this course due to a disability need to provide a current Authorization for Accommodation (AFA) letter issued by the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) prior to eligibility for requests. Receipt of AFAs in advance is necessary for appropriate planning for the provision of reasonable accommodations. OSD Academic Liaisons also need to receive current AFA letters if there are any changes to accommodations. For additional information, contact the Office for Students with Disabilities: 858-534-4382 (V); 959.534.9709 (TTY) – reserved for people who are deaf or hard of hearing; or email: [osd@ucsd.edu](mailto:osd@ucsd.edu). OSD Website: <http://disabilities.ucsd.edu>.

### **Course Readings:**

The following books are available for purchase at the UCSD bookstore:

- \* Michael Hughes, *Early Modern Germany, 1477-1806* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 1992)
- \* Erasmus - Luther: *Discourse on Free Will*, translated and edited by Ernst F. Winter (Continuum, 2005)
- \* *The Life of Glückl of Hameln Written by Herself*, translated by Beth-Zion Abrahams (Jewish Publications Society, 2010)
- \* Gotthold Ephraim Lessing, *Nathan the Wise: A Dramatic Play in Five Acts* (Bedford/St. Martin's Press, 2004)

All other readings will be made available in pdf on the course website at least one week ahead of the due date. The due dates are listed on the schedule below

All other readings are listed on the syllabus and available in pdf on the course website on TED

**Course Requirements:**

1. All readings for the week need to be finished by Tuesday before our first meeting.
2. Regular attendance and readiness to participate in various in-class activities 10%. You will be asked to sign in with your personal signature and the date to document your attendance. You get two free passes on this requirement in the course of the quarter in case you run late or have to miss the class for some reason.
3. An in-class midterm, worth 30% of total course grade
4. A take-home final, worth 30% of total course grade
5. A series of blog entries (details below), worth 30% of total course grade

Missed exams will receive a failing grade unless you provide me with convincing evidence of a serious extenuating circumstance (e.g. emergency medical problems or death in the family). There will be no make-up exams. Please make sure you can live with the set exam dates before continuing with this class. In addition, plan ahead to avoid last-minute glitches like parking or printing problems or having to take out your roommate's dog (yes, I have heard that one before!). These are **not** acceptable excuses.

If you are registered with the Office for Students with Disabilities and require different accommodations, please see the section above.

**Blog Entries:**

You will be asked to write six very short and fairly easy blog assignments. You will receive a prompt describing each assignment that will ask you to post a 100 to 200-word blog on the course Ted site; in addition to your post, you are also required to comment on one other student's post. This is a low-stakes writing activity graded by the following rubric:

- A = answered the question correctly, met word-limit requirement, and posted a relevant comment to another post
- B = answered question correctly and either did not meet word-limit requirement or did not post a relevant comment
- C = answered question correctly; did not meet word-limit requirement and did not post a relevant comment
- D = answered question incorrectly and did not meet word-limit requirement or did not post a relevant comment
- F = no post

All blogs will be graded by the end of the quarter. Due dates for each blog are noted below. All blog entries are due by 5pm on the date listed.

Final Note:

The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the syllabus as warranted by the evolving needs of the class.

**SCHEDULE AND TOPICS**

**WEEK 0 (Oct 2) Introductions & Logistics**

Exercise: Mapping the HRE

**WEEK 1 (Oct 7 & 9) Protestant Reformation, Act I : Martin Luther, Media Man**

Readings: Hughes, Early Modern Germany, 1-29  
Erasmus & Luther, 1-84

**WEEK 2 (Oct 14 & 16) Protestant Reformation, Act II: Burghers, Peasants, Women and the Settlement of 1555**

Readings: Hughes, Early Modern Germany, 30-60  
Erasmus & Luther, 85-119  
Twelve Articles, 1525 (pdf)  
Peace of Augsburg, 1555 (pdf)

*Blog #*

**WEEK 3 (Oct 21& 23) The (Catholic) Empire Strikes Back**

Readings: Exercise on the Spiritual Exercises (pdf)  
Loyola, Excerpt "Spiritual Exercises" (pdf)  
Ronnie Po-Hsia, Excerpt "World of Catholic Renewal" (pdf)

**WEEK 4 (Oct 28 & 30) A Common Enemy: Hunting Witches in the Holy Roman Empire & A Brewing Storm**

Readings: Excerpt "Malleus Maleficarum" (pdf)

Roper, Witchcraft and Fantasy (pdf)  
Labouvie, Men in Witchcraft Trials (pdf)  
Hughes, Early Modern Germany, 61-84.

*Blog #*

**WEEK 5 (Nov 4 & 6) Experiences of Violence: The Thirty Years War, Act I**

Readings: Heberle, Swabian Cobbler-Family Survives the Thirty Years War ( pdf)

*November 4: In-Class Midterm*

**WEEK 6 (Nov 13) Experiences of Violence: The Thirty Years War, Act II**

Readings: Hughes, Early Modern Germany, 85-113  
Rublack, Wench and Maiden: Women, War and the Pictorial Function of the  
Feminine (pdf)  
Peace of Westphalia, 1648 (pdf)

*November 11: Veterans Day Holiday*

*Blog #*

**WEEK 7 (Nov 18 & 20) Living with and Lives of Religious "Others", Act I**

Readings: Life of Glückl of Hameln (with particular emphasis on select parts)

*Blog #*

**WEEK 8 (Nov 25) -- Living with and Lives of Religious "Others", Act II**

Readings: Life of Glückl of Hameln (with particular emphasis on select parts)  
Hughes, Early Modern Germany, 114-138

*November 27: Thanksgiving Holiday*

**WEEK 9 (Nov 2 & 4) -- New Beginnings: German Enlightenment and Jewish Berlin**

Readings: Nathan the Wise, 1-22 (Introduction; *Spoiler Alert!* You may wish to skip the section "The Plot of *Nathan the Wise*", 10-12)  
Nathan the Wise, 121-164 (Part 3, Related Documents)  
Hughes, Early Modern Germany, 139-167

*Blog #*

**WEEK 10 (Dec 9 & 11) – The Question of Religious Tolerance and the End of the Empire**

Readings: Nathan the Wise, 23-118 (Part 2, play itself)  
Nathan the Wise, 166, (Questions for Consideration; be prepared to answer!)  
Hughes, Early Modern Germany, 139-190.

*Blog # 6*

**TAKE-HOME FINAL DUE WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 17 AT NOON**