

## HUM 3GS: Renaissance, Reformation, and Early Modern Europe

\*\*\*The is a tentative syllabus. The readings and excursions are subject to change.\*\*\*

---

### Course Description

This course examines the dynamic transformation of Western culture across three centuries of social, religious, political, and commercial change. Starting with the Renaissance and the revival of classical learning and values, the course then delves into the intellectual and political consequences of the Age of Global Convergence, the Protestant Reformation, and the Scientific Revolution. Throughout the course we will pay special attention to the development of new forms of cultural expression in art, literature, and philosophy, and how these new forms of expression influenced Rome's urban environment and civic culture.

### Required Texts

William Shakespeare, *Julius Caesar* (Folger Shakespeare Library) 9781439196717

Other texts will be provided in digital format and uploaded to Canvas

- Erasmus, *Julius Excluded from Heaven*
- Letter of Dr. Chanca on the Second Voyage of Columbus
- Luther, *Ninety-Five Thesis*
- Galileo, TBD
- Montaigne, *Essays*

### Course Requirements:

Participation (30%)

Weekly Reading Responses (40%)

Final Essay (30%)

## Course Outline

\*\*\*The is a tentative syllabus. The readings and excursions are subject to change.\*\*\*

---

### Week 1 INTRODUCTION TO RENAISSANCE HUMANISM

- READ: Montaigne, *Essays*, TBD
- DUE: Reading Response #1

### Week 2 THE AGE OF GLOBAL CONVERGENCE

- READ: Letter of Dr. Chanca on the Second Voyage of Columbus
- READ: Montaigne, "On Cannibals"
- EXCURSIONS: Church of S. Ignazio di Loyola (El Gesu)
- DUE: Reading Response #2

- Week 3      RENAISSANCE THEATER
- READ: Shakespeare, *Julius Caesar*
    - Watch *Julius Caesar* (2018): Bridge Theater (National Theater London Collection)
  - **DUE: Shakespeare Reading Guide**
  - **DUE: Reading Response #3**
- Week 4      REFORMATION
- READ: Erasmus, *Julius Excluded from Heaven*
  - EXCURIONS: Tomb of Julius II in S. Pietro in Vincolo
  - READ: Luther, *Ninety-Five Thesis*
  - **DUE: Reading Response #4**
- Week 5      SCIENTIFIC REFORMATION
- READ: Galileo, TBD
  - EXCURIONS: Church of S. Maria sopra Minerva
  - **DUE: Reading Response #5**
  - **DUE: Final Essay**