

I. COURSE TITLE: RENAISSANCE AND REFORMATION EUROPE

II. LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION: ENGLISH

III. AUDIENCE: VERITAS CHRISTIAN STUDY ABROAD STUDENTS

IV. CONTACT HOURS: 45

V. COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

Course Description

This course is a study of the Renaissance and the Reformation movements / revolutions, including such prominent leaders as Luther, Calvin, Zwingli, and Knox.

Course Objectives

This course is designed with the History major in mind, but all other disciplines are included in the structure and pedagogy. At the end of this class, students should be familiar with the Renaissance and Reformation periods in Europe, which ended (what was generally considered) the “Dark Ages.” The period we will, as an academic community, describe / analyze ranges from approximately 1300 A.D. to the mid 1500’s. Our zero bubble for historical timelines is based on the life of Christ and, as such, we will identify dates as either B.C. or A.D. In light of the course description and purpose, Veritas’ educational goals and student outcome objectives, the course is structured to challenge and encourage the student to:

- Gain a deeper understanding of the underlying philosophies that guided both the Renaissance and Reformation movements
- Gain a deeper understanding of the how both movements are contextualized by the Great Conversation that moves between Athens and Jerusalem
- Gain a deeper understanding of how both movements have shaped the central ideas in both modernity and postmodernity
- Gain a deeper understanding of how both movements have shaped your own worldview
- Become familiar with central figures, ideas and concepts in both movements
- Become familiar with the geography that framed both movements
- Identify and incorporate your personal world view (with particular emphasis given to the Biblical perspective) in your critical analysis and adequately support proffered opinions and interpretations
- Respect the value of diverse opinions and incorporate these opinions in a re-evaluation of a personal position – both oral and written
- Incorporate components of effective writing such as clarity of thought, organization, appropriate vocabulary, proper mechanics, etc., in writing formal papers and informal written assignments

VI. COURSE PRE-REQUISITES: NONE

VII. Required Reading and Texts

- Augustine. *City of God*. New York: Doubleday, 1958.
- Estep, William. *Renaissance and Reformation*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1986.
- Musa, Mark. *The Portable Machiavelli*. London: Penguin, 1979.
- Ross, James. *The Portable Renaissance Reader*. London: Penguin, 1977.

VIII. EVALUATION CRITERIA

Class Participation	50 points
Journal Entries	100 points
Mid-Term Exam	100 points
Final Exam	100 points
Essay	150 points
Total	500 points

Grading Scale

Percentage	Grade	Percentage	Grade
100-94%	A	79-78%	C+
93-90%	A-	77-74%	C
89-88%	B+	73-70%	C-
87-84%	B	69-60%	D
83-80%	B-	59-0%	F

IX. ATTENDANCE POLICY

The in-class participation of the individual and the combined experiences of the group are two of the primary means of instruction in this course; therefore, **attendance is mandatory**. Only three absences for whatever reason (illness, personal or work emergency, school-related activity, traffic, etc.) are permitted during the semester. One letter grade will be subtracted from a student's point total for each absence recorded beyond those permitted.

X. DESCRIPTION OF SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS/ACTIVITIES