

# Hist 620-301 European Intellectual History 1300-1600

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Fall 2006

Th 1:30-4:30

## 1. Sept 7 Introduction

Reading: Marcia L. Colish. *Medieval Foundations of the Western Intellectual Tradition, 400-1400*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1997.

This week's reading will serve to provide a common background and orientation to the topics for the semester. If you have already read Colish, please read another text from the category "Later Middle Ages General" and bring it along. Our discussion will include a comparison of synthetic studies and "textbooks," the topics they choose to cover, and the points of agreement and dissent among them.

## 2. Sept. 14 Scholastic Thought: via moderna

Reading: Heiko Oberman. *The Harvest of Medieval Theology: Gabriel Biel and Late Medieval Nominalism*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1963.

Online copy: <http://hdl.library.upenn.edu/1017.12/23973>

William Courtenay, "Fruits of the *Harvest*," *The work of Heiko A. Oberman. Papers from the symposium on his seventieth birthday*, Ed. Thomas A. Brady, Jr, Katherine G. Brady, Susan Karant-Nunn and James D. Tracy, 133-45. Leiden–Boston: Brill, 2003.

Recommended: Alister McGrath, *The Intellectual Origins of the European Reformation*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., Part 1. Oxford; Malden, MA: Blackwell, 2004.

## 3. Sept. 21 Natural Philosophy and Medicine

Reading: Nancy Siraisi, *Medieval and Early Renaissance Medicine: An Introduction to Knowledge and Practice*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1990.

Online copy: <http://hdl.library.upenn.edu/1017.12/216952>

Nancy G. Siraisi, "Some Current Trends in the Study of Renaissance Medicine," *Renaissance Quarterly* 37.4 (Winter 1984): 585-600.

Nancy G. Siraisi, "The Fielding H. Garrison Lecture : Medicine and the Renaissance World of Learning," *Bulletin of the History of Medicine* 78.1 (Spring 2004): 1-36.

Johannes Thijssen, "Late-Medieval Natural Philosophy: Some Recent Trends in Scholarship," *Recherches de théologie et philosophie médiévales*, 67 (2000): 169-201.

## 4. Sept. 28 Humanist Movement: Origins

Reading: Ronald G. Witt. *In the Footsteps of the Ancients: the Origins of Humanism From Lovato to Bruni*. Leiden: Brill, 2000.

James Hankins, "Renaissance Humanism and Historiography Today," and Robert Black, "The Renaissance and Humanism: Definitions and Origins, both in *Palgrave Advances in Renaissance Historiography*, edited by Jonathan Woolfson. Houndmills, Basingstoke, Hampshire; New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2005, pp. 73-96, 97-117.

**5. Oct. 5 Humanist Movement: Intellectual Communities**

Reading: John F. D'Amico, *Renaissance Humanism in Papal Rome: Humanists and Churchmen on the Eve of the Reformation*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1983. Online copy: <http://hdl.library.upenn.edu/1017.12/216803>

William Bouwsma, Paula Findlen, Kenneth Gouwens, Anthony Grafton, Randolph Starn, "AHA Forum: The Persistence of the Renaissance," *American Historical Review* 103.1 (Feb. 1998): 50-124.

**6. Oct. 12 Humanist Movement: Northern Europe**

Reading: Erika Rummel, *The Confessionalization of Humanism in Reformation Germany*. Oxford; New York: Oxford University Press, 2000. Online copy: <http://hdl.library.upenn.edu/1017.3/0195137124>

James Overfield, "Germany." *The Renaissance in National Context*, ed. Roy Porter and Mikulas Teich, pp. 92-122. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1992.

Lewis W. Spitz, "Humanism in Germany." *The Impact of Humanism on Western Europe*, ed. Anthony Goodman and Angus MacKay, pp. 202-19. London and New York: Longman, 1990.

**7. Oct. 19 Platonism**

Reading: James Hankins, *Plato in the Italian Renaissance*. 2 vols. Leiden: Brill, 1990. (vol. 1)

James Hankins, "The Myth of the Platonic Academy of Florence," *Renaissance Quarterly* 44.3 (1991): 429-75.

Arthur Field, "The Platonic Academy of Florence," *Marsilio Ficino: His Theology, His Philosophy, His Legacy*, 359-376. Leiden; Boston: Brill, 2002.

**Fall Break**

**8. Oct. 26 Women and Gender**

Reading: King, Margaret L. *Women of the Renaissance*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1991.

Joan Kelly, "Did Women Have a Renaissance?" [f.p. 1977], and Lisa Jardine, "Women Humanists: Education for What?" [f.p. 1986] both in *Feminism & Renaissance Studies*, ed. Lorna Hutson. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1999. <http://hdl.library.upenn.edu/1017.3/0198782446>

Judith C. Brown, "Gender," *Palgrave Advances in Renaissance Historiography*, ed. Jonathan Woolfson, pp. 177-93. Houndmills, Basingstoke, Hampshire; New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2005.

### **9. Nov. 2 Christianity and Religious Thought**

Reading: Frazier, Alison Knowles. *Possible Lives: Authors and Saints in Renaissance Italy*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2005.

Charles Trinkaus. The Religious Thought of the Italian Humanists: Anticipation of the Reformers or Autonomy?" *The Scope of Renaissance Humanism*, pp. 237-62. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 1983.

### **10. Nov. 9 Print and Publishing**

Reading: Martin Lowry, *The World of Aldus Manutius: Business and Scholarship in Renaissance Venice*. Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press, 1979.

Anthony Grafton, "The Scholarship of Poliziano and Its Context," *Defenders of the Text*, pp. 47-75. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1991.

Anthony Grafton, "Printers' Correctors and the Publication of Classical Texts," *Bring out Your Dead: The Past as Revelation*, pp. 141-55. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2001.

### **11. Nov. 16 Universities/Aristotelianism**

Reading: Charles Schmitt. *Aristotle and the Renaissance*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1983.

William A. Wallace, "Aristotle and Aristotelianism;" Craig Kallendorf, "Aristotle and cinquecento poetics," both in *Encyclopedia of the Renaissance*, vol. 1., pp. 107-113, 113-117. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1999.

Paul Grendler, "Natural Philosophy," *The Universities of the Italian Renaissance*, pp. 267-313. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2002.

### **Nov. 23 No class: Thanksgiving**

**12. Nov. 30 Science/Natural Philosophy: Renaissance to Early Modern**

Reading: Mario Biagioli, *Galileo, Courtier: The Practice of Science in the Culture of Absolutism*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1993.

At least two of the following:

Peter Dear, "Cultural History of Science: An Overview with Reflections," *Science, Technology, & Human Values* 20.2 (Spring 1995): 150-170.

Paula Findlen, "The Two Cultures of Scholarship?" *Isis* 95 (2004):420-430.

Nicholas Jardine, "Review: A Trial of Galileos," *Isis* 85.2 (1994): 279-283.

Christoph Luthy, "What To Do With Seventeenth-Century Natural Philosophy? A Taxonomic Problem," *Perspectives on Science* 8.2 ( Summer 2000): 164-195.

**13. Dec. 7 Learned and Vernacular Culture; Histories of Reading**

Reading: Eamon, William. *Science and the Secrets of Nature: Books of Secrets in Medieval and Early Modern Culture*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1994.

Ann Blair, "Focus: Scientific Readers: An Early Modernist's Perspective," *Isis* 95 (2004):420-430.

Anthony Grafton. "Renaissance Readers and Ancient Texts." *Defenders of the Text*, pp. 23-46. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1991.

Adrian Johns, "Historiographical Reviews: Identity, Practice, and Trust in Early Modern Natural Philosophy," *The Historical Journal*, 42.4 (Dec. 1999): 1125-1145.

In this course we will examine major scholarship, themes, issues, and approaches in the study of European intellectual history 1300-1600, that are essential for both research and teaching. Each cluster of topics has an additional bibliography appended, including (as available) a list of major and/or current works of synthesis as well as reference works. These are intended as practical, topical bibliographies of major scholarship, and should be considered works in progress; suggestions for additions are more than welcome. Those in the course may have varying levels of familiarity with this field; if you have already read the assigned work on any given week, you are invited to read something else from the bibliography and bring it into the week's discussion.

Assignments will have two parts; first, you will be asked to choose one of the weekly readings to present to the class in order to begin our discussion. Second, you will write a historiographic essay, topic to be negotiated, of ca 20-30 pages.