

History 315 Witchcraft and Magic in European History
Spring Semester 2002
Tues,Thurs 2:00-3:15 McIver 323

Jodi Bilinkoff McIver 211
Office Hours: Tues, Thurs 10:00-10:45, and by appointment

Phone Numbers:

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Feel free to call me at home, if necessary I will accept a collect call or call you right back.

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Required Reading for Course:

Jeffrey Russell, A History of Witchcraft

Alan C. Kors and Edward Peters, eds., Witchcraft in Europe, 400-1700 (K&P)

Christopher Marlowe, Dr. Faustus

Course Syllabus:

T	1/15	Introduction to Course
Th Th	1/17	What is Magic? Myth, Magic, Law in Greco-Roman Antiquity Russell 8-36
T	1/22	Christian Origins
Th	1/24	Christianity and the Concept of Evil K&P 6-12
T	1/29	The Book of Revelation [online reserve]
Th	1/31	Christians and Pagans in Early Medieval Europe Russell 37-54; K&P 40-44, 60-63
T	2/5	Defining Heresy Russell 55-63; K&P 58-59, 78-81
Th	2/7	Heresy, Scholasticism and Reversing

The Canon Episcopi
Russell 63-71; K&P 87-90, 103-105, 169-172

T 2/12 Christians and Jews
EXAM 1 ASSIGNED

Th 2/14 The Malleus Maleficarum
K&P 112-114, 176-180, 181-229

T 2/19 The Malleus Maleficarum
K&P 181-229
EXAM 1 DUE

Th 2/21 The Reformation
K&P 259-260

T 2/26 Reformers and the Devil
K&P 261-270

Th 2/28 Witchcraft, Law and State-building
Russell 72-103; K&P 290-302

T 3/5 Witch Hunts and Witch Trials
K&P 302-308

Th 3/7 Witch Hunts and Witch Trials
K&P 359-367

T 3/12-Th 3/14 SPRING BREAK

T 3/19 Witch Hunts and Witch Trials
K&P 318-322, 345-348

W 3/20 LAST DAY TO DROP CLASSES

Th 3/21 Witch Hunts and Witch Trials
K&P 348-353

T 3/26 Demonic Possession
Russell 103-108, 118-121
K&P 355-359, 367-370, 436-437
EXAM 2 ASSIGNED

Th 3/28 The Making of the Faust Legend
Russell 55-58

T 4/2 Marlowe Dr Faustus
EXAM 2 DUE

Th 4/4 Marlowe Dr Faustus

T 4/9 The Legend: Now and Then

Th 4/11 Witchcraft and Medical Mysteries

T 4/16 Why Women?
Russell 109-118; K&P 17-19, 275-277

Th 4/18 Why Women?
[readings to be announced]

T 4/23 The Decline of Magic: Science
Russell 122-131

Th 4/25 The Decline of Magic: Skepticism and Toleration
K&P 280-289, 314-317, 392-394, 402-406, 429-435

T 4/30 Persistence of Belief: Students' Stories
[on the "New Witchcraft" Russell 148-171]
EXAM 3 ASSIGNED

Th 5/2 Persistence of Persecution: Twentieth Century
"Witchhunts" (Who will be next?)

Th 5/9 EXAM 3 DUE BY 3:00 PM IN DR. BILINKOFF'S
MAILBOX IN HISTORY DEPT OFFICE (MCIVER 221)

GUIDELINES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. This is not a "how-to" course, or a joke.
2. I require regular attendance for this course. We cover a lot of material and one absence could mean missing out on a hundred years or more of European history! If you are not prepared to consistently come on time and stay until the end of the class period, please drop the course. I take attendance and class participation (in the form of questions, comments, mental alertness and intellectual engagement with and curiosity about the material) into account when formulating final grades. If you miss more than 3 classes you may be dropped from the course at the sole discretion of the instructor; if you miss 3 consecutively you will definitely be dropped. If you miss the first two class sessions you will be dropped from the course.
3. Please read the material specified for a given class period or periods before coming to class. It is essential to keep up with the syllabus. Please let me know if you misplace your syllabus and I will be happy to supply you with another copy.
4. Please bring to class the book(s) designated for that day. This is particularly important in the case of primary source material such as Kors & Peters and Dr. Faustus, for we will be examining the texts together in class.

5. Grades will be based mainly upon three take-home exams assigned during the course of the semester. Please wordprocess these assignments, double-spaced and spell-checked and hand in a hard copy. I am looking here for correctness and clarity of exposition in written essays, as well as an understanding of course content. To me history, and the ways in which it is expressed are not two different things, but are rather, intimately connected.

All assignments are due on the days specified in the syllabus.

RESPONSIBILITY CLAUSE: If you are unable to hand in assignments on time because of illness or family emergency it is YOUR responsibility to contact me. Alas, despite years of reading this material I have failed to develop the skill of telepathy! If I am not contacted directly or by message I will not accept late assignments. See front page of syllabus for ways of contacting me.

6. If you do not think you will be able to abide by these responsibilities, please drop the course so that someone else can take it. The last day to drop the course without academic penalty is Wednesday March 20.