

Module Code:	HUM561
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Module Title:	Culture and Belief in Renaissance Europe, c.1400 - 1600
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Level:	5	Credit Value:	20
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Cost Centre(s):	GAHN	JACS3 code:	V141
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Faculty:	Arts, Science And Technology	Module Leader:	Peter Bolton
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Scheduled learning and teaching hours	30 hrs
Guided independent study	170 hrs
Placement	0 hrs
Module duration (total hours)	200 hrs

Programme(s) in which to be offered (not including exit awards)	Core	Option
BA (Hons) Social & Cultural History	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>
BA (Hons) Social & Cultural History & English	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓
BA (Hons) Social & Cultural History & Creative Writing	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓

Pre-requisites
N/A

Office use only

Initial approval: 25/09/2018

Version no:1

With effect from:01/09/2020

Date and details of revision: 15/12/20 APSC approved Post Covid 19 temporary assessment change, valid for 20/21 only

Version no:2

24/09/2021 Reversion to pre Covid assessment

Module Aims

This module aims to:

- Develop students' awareness of the major cultural and intellectual changes taking place during this period
- Encourage an understanding of the way in which ancient and mediaeval influences impact upon the 'early modern' period

Intended Learning Outcomes

Key skills for employability

- KS1 Written, oral and media communication skills
- KS2 Leadership, team working and networking skills
- KS3 Opportunity, creativity and problem solving skills
- KS4 Information technology skills and digital literacy
- KS5 Information management skills
- KS6 Research skills
- KS7 Intercultural and sustainability skills
- KS8 Career management skills
- KS9 Learning to learn (managing personal and professional development, self-management)
- KS10 Numeracy

At the end of this module, students will be able to

Key Skills

At the end of this module, students will be able to		Key Skills	
1	Explore the major political, cultural and religious changes in the period c.1400 – 1600	KS1	KS6
		KS3	KS7
		KS5	
2	Evaluate the nature and impact of classical and humanistic thought	KS1	
		KS4	
		KS6	
3	Critique the concept of an 'early modern' period	KS1	
		KS3	
		KS6	
4	Analyse the importance of contemporary art and literature	KS3	KS5
		KS4	KS6
		KS9	

Transferable skills and other attributes

Students will be able to develop and demonstrate:

- The ability to synthesise information and construct arguments in writing
- The ability to reflect critically on texts
- Self-direction and self-study

Derogations

N/A

Assessment:

Indicative Assessment Tasks:

Assessment One will be an essay designed to test student understanding of early modern themes and debates.

Assessment Two is an examination covering the broad themes of the course.

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Weighting (%)	Duration (if exam)	Word count (or equivalent if appropriate)
1	3,4	Essay	50%		2000
2	1,2	Examination	50%	2 hours	

Learning and Teaching Strategies:

The module comprises lectures, seminar sessions and in-class group work. These sessions make full use primary and secondary sources to stimulate discussion and encourage understanding.

Syllabus outline:

- The 'Pleasure Principle' Humanism and the recovery of the classical world
- Power in Renaissance Europe: 'new' monarchies and old oligarchies
- Florence and Rome – centres of Renaissance culture and thought
- Machiavelli and political theory
- The art of the Renaissance
- Reformation thought before the Reformation
- Hatching the 'hen's egg': Erasmus and Luther
- The search for truth: Scientific advances in the later Renaissance period

Indicative Bibliography:

Essential reading

Machiavelli, N., *The Prince*, trans. George Bull, new edition (London: Penguin, 1999)
(*nb: other translations are widely available and are also useful*)

Greenblatt, S., *The Swerve: How the Renaissance Began* (London: Vintage, 2012)

Other indicative reading

Collinson, P., *The Reformation* (London: Phoenix, 2005)

Englander, D., *et al* (eds.), *Culture and Belief in Europe 1450 – 1600: An Anthology of Sources* (Oxford: Blackwell, 1998)

Najemy, John M. (ed.), *Italy in the Age of the Renaissance* (Oxford: OUP, 2004)

Rice, E.F. & Grafton, A., *The Foundations of Early Modern Europe, 1460-1559* (London: Norton, 1994)

Journals

Renaissance Quarterly
The Journal of Interdisciplinary History
The Sixteenth Century Journal

Electronic Sources

[Society for Renaissance Studies](#)