

University of Arkansas - Fort Smith
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General Syllabus

HIST 31333 The Renaissance

Credit Hours: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Laboratory Hours: 0

Prerequisite: HIST 11203 Civilizations of the World since 1500

Effective Catalog: 2019-2020

I. Course Information

A. Catalog Description

The study of European history from 1350-1550, concentrating on art, literature, music, science, political development and the close of the Middle Ages

II. Student Learning Outcomes

A. Subject Matter

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Identify the major cultural transformations taking place in Europe, beginning with Italy and extending through the northern countries to 1550.
2. Analyze and relate how the significant cultural changes extended throughout European society from peasants through the nobility, and how the economic impact led to the Age of Discovery.
3. Explain how new forms of art, literature, science, and invention brought new inspiration to Western Civilization

B. University Learning Outcomes

This course enhances student abilities in the following areas:

Analytical Skills

Critical Thinking Skills

Students will draw conclusions and solve problems.

Communication Skills (written and oral)

Students will communicate effectively with a variety of audiences in any setting.

Global and Cultural Perspectives

Students will reflect upon cultural differences and their implications for interacting with people from cultures other than their own.

III. Major Course Topics

- A. The origins of the Italian economic rebirth—the Crusades
- B. Evolution of the Italian city-state
- C. Development of Humanism
- D. Renaissance Art
- E. Political Despotism—Machiavelli
- F. Ecclesiastical Breakdown in the Roman Church
- G. The genius of Da Vinci and Michelangelo
- H. The Black Death
- I. Close of the 100 Years War
- J. Renaissance in the Low Countries and Germany
- K. England cultural advancement
- L. The economic decline of Italy and the coming Age of Discovery