Unit Code

H7350

Unit Name

The Reformers and the Reformation

Unit Weighting

9 cps

Type of Unit

Specialised unit

Prerequisite

9 History credit points

Academic Staff

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Curriculum Objectives

This course unit introduces students to the European Reformations of the sixteenth century as a development in history of universal importance. It also introduces students to the leading figures, theological concerns and key events of the period, and helps them to recognise the complexity of interpreting events shaped by differing religious, economic, social and political contexts.

Learning Outcomes

At the end of this unit students will be able to:

- 6) explain the key details, themes and concepts of this period of the Christian Church
- 7) demonstrate an understanding of the genesis of reform and renewal movements in the history of the Church
- 8) compare and contrast the various reformations in their national contexts
- 9) utilise a broad range of primary sources
- 10) demonstrate an appreciation of how the main differences amongst Christian churches today had origins in the Reformation Period

Threshold concept to be acquired in this unit

Students need to be able to grasp the concept that history is not just a chronological description of events but involves an interpretive element and a range of methodological approaches.

Content

- 1. Defining the Reformations
- 2. Medieval background to the Reformation
- 3. Luther and the German Reformation
- 4. Zwingli and the Swiss Reformation
- 5. Calvin and Calvinism
- 6. The Radical Reformation
- 7. The Reformation in Scotland and England
- 8. The Catholic Reformation
- 9. The Legacy of the European Reformation

Teaching Methods

Classroom, intensive and extensive learning modes.

Required Specialist Facilities or Equipment

Nil

Assessment Profile

Assessments tasks are designed both to help students attain the unit outcomes and to enable teachers to assess student attainment. In this unit, assessment of student achievement with respect to the Unit Outcomes will be based on:

1) Analysis of a primary source document (in English translation) using an accepted methodology (750 words, 20%) - outcomes 1 and 4.

- 2) An essay that deals with an historical question pertinent to one of the Reformation movements listed in the Course Content showing its national context and significance for the subsequent history of Christianity (1500 words, 40%) – outcomes 1, 2, 3, and 5.
- 3) An historiographical essay that discusses the way a particular phase of the sixteenth century has been interpreted by a range of historians (1500 words, 40%) outcomes 1, 2 and 3.

Representative References

Collinson, Patrick. The Reformation. London: Weidenfeld and Nicolson, 2003.

Heinze, Rudolph W. *Reform and Conflict: From the Medieval World to the Wars of Religion. A.D.* 1350-1648. Oxford: Monarch, 2006.

Hillerbrand, Hans J. *The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Reformation.* vols I-IV, New York: Oxford University Press, 1996.

Hsia, Ronnie Po-Chia, A Companion to the Reformation World. Oxford: Blackwell, 2002.

Hsia, Ronnie Po-Chia, *Reform and Expansion 1500-1660*. Cambridge History of Christianity vol. 6. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 2007.

Janz, Denis. A Reformation Reader. Philadelphia: Augsburg Fortress, 2008.

Lindberg, Carter. The European Reformations. Malden, MA: Blackwell, 2005.

MacCulloch, Diarmaid. The Reformation. London: Penguin, 2005.

Nexon, Daniel H. The Struggle for Power in Early Modern Europe: Religious Conflict, Dynastic

Empires, and International Change. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2009.

Pettegree, Andrew. *The Reformation of the Parishes: The Ministry and the Reformation in Town and Country*. Manchester: Manchester University Press, 1993.

Stjerna, Kirsi. The Women of the Reformation. Malden, MA: Blackwell, 2009.

Weisner-Hanks, Merry E. *Early Modern Europe, 1450-1789*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 2006.