Disclaimer: This is an indicative syllabus only and may be subject to changes. The final and official syllabus will be distributed by the Instructor during the first day of class.

The American University of Rome
Master’s Program in Religious Studies

Department or degree program mission statement, student learning objectives, as appropriate

Course Title: Reformation and Reform in Sixteenth-century Europe
Course Number: REL 513
Credits & hours: 3 credits
Pre/Co-Requisites: Enrolment in the MA Program in Religious Studies

Course description
In November 1517 Martin Luther nailed to the Cathedral door in Wittenberg ninety-five theses questioning the value of indulgences and criticizing the moral and doctrinal abuses of the Church. This course examines the causes that lead Luther to make his protest and explores the results of this dramatic action. Students will study the effects of the Reformation across Europe, noting the diversity of opinions, as well as the Catholic Church’s response. On-site visits will be used to re-animate the history.

Required Textbook (subject to change)

Recommended Readings (subject to change)
Reformation

Traditional religion and popular belief
Cameron, Euan. The European Reformation, chs. 1, 2 and 6. 1991.

The Early Reformation
Cameron, Euan. The European Reformation, chs. 7-12. 1991.

**The Radical Reformation**
Not forgetting, the historical novel:
Blissett, Luther. Q. 2003, 2004. The section recounting life in the Kingdom of Christ (Münster) is on pp. 231-323

**Calvin/Calvinism**
“Calvin, Jean” and “Calvinism” in Europe 1450 to 1789, vol. 1, edited by J. Dewald, 359-63 and 363-70.
Thomas Brady et. al., eds. The Handbook of European History, vol. 1, ch. 8.
Bonney, Richard. The European Dynastic State, 43-56.
Greengrass, Mark. The Longman Companion to the European Reformation c.1500-1618, 171-85. Useful collection of information, dates, etc.
Pettegree, Andrew. Europe in the Sixteenth Century, 140-45.

**Counter Reformation**
Bireley, Robert. The Refashioning of Catholicism, 1450-1700, (1999), esp. chs. 1, 3-5.
O’Malley, John W. Trent and All That. 2000 – the best available historiographical survey

**Missions/missionaries**

Bireley, Robert. Refashioning of Catholicism, ch. 5.
http://repositories.cdlib.org/ucwhw/wp/3

**Missions in the Old World**

Louis Châtellier, Religion of the poor: rural missions in Europe and the formation of modern Catholicism, (1997)

Course Learning Objectives
At the end of the course, students will be able to:

1. outline major events and themes of the history of the Religion in fifteenth and sixteenth-century Europe, as narrated and dramatized in some of the major writings of the period (in translation)
2. discuss the original cultural, theological and religious contexts in which these dramatic events took place, and critically evaluate and assess their effects upon society
3. relate these events to our own society
4. undertake research, formulate arguments and produce lucid written commentaries on historical and religious/theological topics

Course Learning Activities
- Out of class reading and writing assignments: Each week students will read the scheduled primary texts in translation (see attached schedule) in preparation for seminar discussion. Students will produce different drafts of their final paper. The final paper will consist of the development of a thesis, analysis of textual reference and use of textual evidence and conclusions. (LOs 1\3\4)
- In class analysis: students will read and analyze primary texts; they will become familiar with analytic methodology and critical terms; they will answer orally and in writing to questions stemming from the assigned readings. Critical and interpretive essays will also be subject to critical analysis. (LOs 2\4)
- In class/on-site discussions: students will participate in discussions, sustain their views and ideas by using new and specialized lexicon. (LOs 2\4)
- Oral presentations: students will choose a topic among the ones listed on the syllabus which they will prepare and present to the class, using elements of critical terminology already learned. (LOs 1\2)

Assessment tools
Oral Presentation 20%
Midterm Examination 30%
Independent Research Project 50%
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Brief Description</th>
<th>Readings</th>
<th>Remark</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| I    | Introductions | Class A: The Religious Year  
Class B: The Religious Day  
Required Reading: Class handouts | | |
| II   | Santa Maria del Popolo | Meeting place 9.00 Obelisk Piazza del Popolo | | On-site class |
| III  | Luther | Class A: Reformation voices  
Class B: ‘Concerning Christian Liberty’ | *Culture and Belief*, pp. 159-180  
*Culture and Belief*, pp. 181-195 | |
| IV   | Bible Translations | Class A: William Tyndale and the Principles of Protestantism.  
Class B: Erasmus and Biblical Criticism | *Culture and Belief*, pp. 201-212, Preface to the New Testament | |
| V    | Other Reforms | Class A: Calvin at Geneva  
Class B: Zwingli | Class handouts, class handouts | |
| VI   | Matters of Conscience | Class A: Pre-reformation England:  
Class B: Thomas More | *Culture and Belief*, pp. 219-230, Sir Thomas More, Dialogue Concerning Heresies | |
| VII  | The King's Great Matter | Class A: The Acts of Supremacy  
Class B: The Elizabethan Settlement | *Culture and Belief*, pp. 439-451 | |
| VIII | | Class A: Review  
Class B: Midterm Examinations | Midterm | |
| IX   | The Counter Reformation | Class A: Midterm Exam Feedback/ First Lateran Council  
Class B: Council of Trent | Council of Trent Decrees, extracts | Phase 1 of term paper due. |
| X    | Santa Maria in Trastevere | Meeting Place: 9.00 in front of the Church | | On-site class |
| XI   | New Orders | Class A: Ignatius of Loyola  
Class B: Crisis of Authority in France | *Culture and Belief*, pp. 233-269,  
*Culture and Belief*, pp. 393-438 | Annotated Bibliography due. |
| XII  | Inquisition and Witchcraft | Class A: Medieval Superstition  
Class B: Witch-Persecution | Class handouts, class handouts | |
| XIII | Europe and the Wider World I | Class A: Europe and the Wider World: East  
Class B: Europe and the Wider World: West | *Culture and Belief*, pp. 297-307,  
*Culture and Belief*, pp. 307-353 | |
| XIV  | New World Perspectives II | Class A: Europe and the Wider World: West  
Class B: Review | | Final Phase 3 of term paper due. |
|      | Final Examination | | | |
ATTENDANCE POLICY

AUR’s attendance policy requires that students attend a minimum of 70% of required course meetings in order to receive a passing grade. Failure to attend 70% of the course will result in an F grade. In order to maintain the academic integrity of the Master’s programs and to meet the learning objectives, students are expected to attend all classes, meet all deadlines and be present for examinations.

Absences will undermine the focus of class discussions and student interaction.

Absences may be excused in exceptional circumstances, on permission of the instructor. Socially accepted standards of civility are expected in class.

Grades

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GRADE</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>GPA</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>94 – 100 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>3.70</td>
<td>90 – 93.99 pts</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>Very Good</td>
<td>3.30</td>
<td>87 – 89.99</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>3.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>Satisfactory</td>
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<td>C</td>
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<td>C-</td>
<td>Less than Satisfactory</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>Poor</td>
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<td>60 – 69.99</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Failing</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>59.99 – 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUDIT (AU)</td>
<td>Only possible when the student registers for a course at the beginning of the semester as an audit student</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Students can obtain no more than 3 C grades (including C+, C and C-) on all courses. Students with four or more C grades will not qualify for submitting their M.A. thesis and completing the program. They will be allowed to repeat a course in order to qualify. Students must obtain at least B- for their M.A. thesis in order to complete the M.A. program.