

Europe or Western Christendom as it was more generally known underwent a major transformation following the fall of Constantinople – the capital of the Byzantine Empire or Eastern Christendom in 1453. It was a crucial time – a life or death moment for Europe. Faced with the real prospect of conquest by the overwhelming power of the Ottomans and their allies, European Society, riven by dissension and crippled by mediocrity faced an existential crisis. Yet against the odds, individual personalities at different times such as, for example, Isabel de Castilla, Pope Julius II, Armand Cardinal Richelieu of France, Friedrich-Wilhelm von Brandenburg, and Maria Theresa and Wenzel von Kaunitz of Austria emerged to give serious leadership in politics, culture, military strategy and diplomacy. The impact of the political and legal ideas of Machiavelli, Vittoria, Erasmus, Hotman de Villiers, Montesquieu, Lipsius and Spinoza for example, upon the exercise of power will be assessed. This module examines who the great personalities of the age were, and who and what formed their mindsets and inspired them to the significant achievements that reversed the rot, rescued their peoples and brought about the rise of the nation-states as great powers with political and cultural influence on the world stage from the sixteenth to the twentieth centuries.

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<div style="text-align:center;"><p>Curricular information is subject to change</p></div>

What will I learn?

Learning Outcomes:<p>On completion of this module students should be able to:

Demonstrate knowledge and critical understanding of the History of Early Modern Europe, especially concerning the tremendous political, cultural, social and economic changes that took place in the periods of the Renaissance, the Age of Exploration and Discovery, the Reformation and Counter Reformation, the Early Enlightenment in Europe.

Assess the fundamental importance of the force and influence of personalities on politics, culture and military and diplomatic strategies, and thereby gain greater insights into the qualities of leadership and the requisites for functional and vibrant societies.

Acquire a fully informed appreciation of European historical and cultural heritage and identity based upon empirical evidence, and to understand the relevance of this module for the times in which we live.

Present aspects of the historical debates concerning the political, cultural, religious, scientific and military changes, impacts and legacies that created the foundations of the modern age

</p>Indicative Module Content:<p>Through studying the experiences of significant personalities and the examination of the interplay between conquest, integration, legitimization, identity-formation and coalescence in statecraft, state-formation and reformation in Early Modern Europe, this module examines that crucial period in world history in which the cultural, political, economic, social, intellectual, scientific and strategic foundations of our present world were established. It focuses upon the great events, personalities and movements of the period that shaped human development such as Renaissance Humanism, Religious, Cultural and Social Reformations, Exploration, Discovery, Scientific Development, Baroque Art & Neo-Classicism and the rise of Political Absolutism, Modern Military and Diplomatic Strategy and the emergence of the modern power-state, of the nation-state, of overseas dominions, and of supra- national institutions.</p>

How will I learn?

Student Effort Hours:

| Student Effort Type | Hours |
|-------------------------------|-------|
| Lectures | 11 |
| Seminar (or Webinar) | 11 |
| Specified Learning Activities | 45 |
| Autonomous Student Learning | 45 |
| Total | 112 |

Am I eligible to take this module?

<div class="subHeadCB">Requirements, Exclusions and Recommendations</div>

<p>Not applicable to this module.</p>

<div class="subHeadCB">Module Requisites and Incompatibles</div>

Incompatibles:

HIS30670 - Birth of the modern world

How will I be assessed?

Assessment Strategy

| Description | Timing | Open Book Exam | Component Scale | Must Pass Component | % of Final Grade |
|------------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Essay: 1,500 word essay (see Handbook) | Week 7 | n/a | Graded | No | 30 |
| Attendance: Active seminar participation | Throughout the Trimester | n/a | Graded | No | 10 |
| Essay: end of semester essay | Unspecified | n/a | Graded | No | 60 |

<div class="row">
<div class="col-sm-6">Carry forward of passed components
No</div>
</div>

What happens if I fail?

| Resit In | Terminal Exam |
|----------|---------------|
| Autumn | No |

Assessment feedback

<div class="subHeadCB">Feedback Strategy/Strategies</div>
<p>* Feedback individually to students, post-assessment</p>
<div class="subHeadCB">How will my Feedback be Delivered?</div>
<p>Feedback on the mid-term Essay Assignment is given in writing on the returned hard-copy. Feedback on the two-hour examination will be given by appointment in one-to-one meetings.</p>

Reading List

<div class="pageBreak"><nav class="white-box no-left-arrow zero-top-margin">
<h1 class="printOnly"> UCD Course Search
European Statecraft, Strategy & Culture, c. 1470-c.1770: Personalities & Power (HIS20950) </h1><h3 class="printOnly">Academic Year
2019/2020</h3><p class="printOnly">The information contained in this document is, to the best of our knowledge, true and accurate at the time of publication, and is solely for informational purposes. University College Dublin accepts no liability for any loss or damage howsoever arising as a result of use or reliance on this information.</p>
<h4 class="noPrint">European Statecraft, Strategy & Culture, c. 1470-c.1770: Personalities & Power (HIS20950)</h4>
<dl>
<dt>Subject:</dt>
<dd>History</dd>
<dt>College:</dt>
<dd>Arts & Humanities</dd>
<dt>School:</dt>

<dd>History</dd>
<dt>Level:</dt>
<dd>2 (Intermediate)</dd>
<dt>Credits:</dt>
<dd>5.0</dd>

<dt>Trimester:</dt>
<dd>Spring</dd>
<dt>Module Coordinator:</dt>
<dd>Dr Declan Downey</dd>
<dt>Mode of Delivery:</dt>
<dd>Face-to-Face</dd>
<dt>Internship Module:</dt><dd>No</dd>

<dt>How will I be graded?</dt>
<dd>Letter grades </dd>

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<div class="noPrint" style="text-align:center; margin-top:10px;"><button class="menubutton" onclick="window.print()"><i class="fa fa-print fa-fw"> Print
Page</button>
(Google Chrome is recommended when printing
this page)</div>

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