

**Saints and Scoundrels:
The Jesuits from Renaissance to Revolution**

History 113

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Course Purpose

This course will examine one of the most prominent, notorious, talented, and despised groups in the modern world – the Jesuits. In the past they have been portrayed as the “light cavalry of the papacy.” In the present day some see them as representing a progressive attitude to theology and the Church. We will seek to clarify the historical and cultural significance of the Society of Jesus, the largest religious order in the Catholic Church. This will include study of their founder, Ignatius of Loyola and their place in the world of Renaissance and Reformation learning and culture, the works of the Jesuits in Asia and Latin America during the period of European expansion in the sixteenth to the eighteenth centuries, the roles played by the Jesuits during the Enlightenment and French Revolution, the suppression of the Society of Jesus in the eighteenth century, the place of the Society in the nineteenth century, particularly the reaction to Liberalism in Western society, and the role of the Society of Jesus in the *aggiornamento* of the Catholic Church called for by the Second Vatican Council (1962-1965). Students will also become aware that the Jesuits have been an international organization from their foundation. Therefore, the history of the Jesuits intersects with the broader history of Europe, Asia, Latin America, and North America from the sixteenth century to the present.

This course fulfills requirements in the core for divisions II and S and is designated as a Catholic Studies Course.

Course Requirements

Required Texts:

N.B. Please do assigned readings prior to the class for which they are assigned. I encourage you to take notes on the readings themselves for reference later.

Burke, S.J., Kevin and Burke-Sullivan, Eileen. *The Ignatian Tradition*. Collegeville: Liturgical Press, 2009.

Donnelly, S.J., John Patrick. *Jesuit Writings of the Early Modern Period*. Boston: Hackett, 2006.

Wright, Jonathan. *God's Soldiers: Adventure, Politics, Intrigue and Power – A History of the Jesuits*. New York: Doubleday, 2004

Reserve Readings:

Arrupe, S.J., Pedro. *Pedro Arrupe: Essential Writings*. Edited by Kevin Burke, S.J. Maryknoll: Orbis Books, 2004.

Pascal, Blaise. *The Provincial Letters. Letters V and IX*. (Selections. Hand-out)

Voltaire. *The Philosophical Dictionary*. (Selections. Hand-out)

Hufton, O. "The Early Jesuits and their Female Patrons." *Renaissance Studies* 15 (2001), 328-353.

O'Malley, S.J., John W. *The First Jesuits*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1993.

Attendance:

Students are expected to attend all class sessions and participate actively and respectfully in all discussion. The course is organized with both lectures and discussions of primary source materials as well as occasional hand-outs from the instructor. On the days set aside for discussion, be prepared to speak on the significance of the primary source documents.

There is one event outside of class-time attendance which is **mandatory** for this course. On Monday, January 31 at 12:15, Most Rev. George Murry, SJ, Bishop of Youngstown, will speak in the LSC Conference Room on "The Legacy of Archbishop John Carroll and the Mission of the University Today."

Writing Assignments

There are two four-page papers required for this course. Each of them is an analysis of primary source documents from Jesuit history. Students are to analyze the primary sources in terms of their relationship to broader cultural and religious forces. A Central question for both essays is this: How do the thought and activities of the Jesuits, in a given place and time, conform to or differ from conventional European and Catholic views? The primary sources assigned in the syllabus will be the focus of the papers.

The first of these papers is to focus on Ignatius of Loyola, the early Society of Jesus, and its ministries as examined in the syllabus through February 18. It is due on February 21. The Second paper should address the works of the Jesuit outside of Europe in their missions in Asia or Latin America. It is due on March 21.

Grading:

The course grade will be determined by a mid-term examination (30%), two 4 page papers that analyze primary source documents (15% each), a final examination (30%), and class participation (10%). The Final Examination is scheduled for Monday, May 9 at 8:00a.m. No exceptions will be made for the dates of exams.

For Students with Disabilities:

In accordance with University policy, if you have a documented disability, you may be eligible to receive accommodations from the office of Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD). Students with disabilities are entitled to reasonable accommodations and should have equal access to learning. Please contact the SSD coordinator at (216) 397-4967 or come to the office located in room 7A, in the Garden Level of the Administration Building. After your eligibility for accommodations is determined, you will be given a letter which, when presented to instructors, will help them know best how to assist you. Please keep in mind that accommodations are not retroactive so it is best to register at your earliest convenience.

Schedule of Lectures and Topics

Part One: Ignatius of Loyola and the Founding of the Jesuits

- 1/19: "What must I do to enter the Kingdom of God?": Ministry and Spirituality in Christian History I.
- 1/21: No Class. Class attendance fulfilled by attendance at Bishop Murry lecture on 1/31 at noon, LSC Conference Room.
- 1/24: Ministry and Spirituality in Christian History II
- 1/26: The Cultural Context of 16th Century Europe: The Renaissance
The Classical Tradition: Quintilian and Cicero (Handout)
Renaissance Humanism: Pico, Oration on the Dignity of Man at <http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/med/oration.html>
- 1/28: The Religious Context of Early Modern Europe: The Reformation.
Wright, Introduction.
John W. O'Malley, S.J., "Was Ignatius of Loyola a Church Reformer? How to Look at Early Modern Catholicism." *Catholic Historical Review*, Vol. 77, no. 2, April, 1991, pp 177-193. (Available through JSTOR)
- 1/31: Ignatius of Loyola. Early Life and Conversion.
Wright, 13-27;
Donnelly, pp. 1-8;
Burk and Burke-Sullivan, xvii-xxxi, 3-9.

- 2/2: "Finding God in All Things." The Spiritual Exercises of Ignatius I.
Donnelly, pp. 8-16; Burke and Burke-Sullivan, xxxi-xliv.
- 2/4: The Spiritual Exercises of Ignatius II.
Donnelly, 166-179
- 2/7: "Friends in the Lord": the First Jesuits at the University of Paris
and the Foundation of the Society of Jesus.
- 2/9: The Constitutions of the Society of Jesus.
Loyola, *The Formula of the Institute*.

Part Two: The Jesuits and Early Modern Catholicism

- 2/11: The Jesuits and the Church in the Age of the Council of Trent. "Storm Troopers of the Papacy"?
Wright, 27-63
- 2/14: Jesuits as Ministers of the Word. Preaching and Spiritual Direction.
Burke and Burke-Sullivan, pp. 25-41.
- 2/16: Jesuits and Education: the Colleges.
Donnelly, Chapter 2
- 2/18: Jesuits and the Marginalized in Europe. Rural Missions, Women, and Jews.
Donnelly, pp. 189-198;
Hufton, O. "The Early Jesuits and their Female Patrons." *Renaissance Studies* 15 (2001), 328-353;
Burke and Burke-Sullivan, pp. 16-23 (on Mary Ward).
- 2/21: Confronting the Protestant Reformation in Germany and England.
Donnelly, pp. 131-155 and 251-256.
- 2/23: The Jesuits and the Scientific Revolution: the Galileo Case.
FIRST PAPER DUE.
- 2/25: Political and Cultural Conflict in France of the Ancien Regime. Casuistry and Jansenism.
Wright, 133-171
Donnelly, pp. 208-221 and 241-251.
Pascal, *Provincial Letters, Letters V and IX* (Hand-out)
- 2/28: "There is no one like the Jesuits for doing pirouettes." The Jesuits and the Arts in Early Modern Europe.
Bailey, Gauvin Alexander. " 'Le style jesuite n'existe pas': Jesuit

Corporate Culture and the Visual Arts,” in *The Jesuits. Cultures, Sciences, and the Arts, 1540-1773*, Edited by John W/ O’Malley, SJ., Gauvin Alexander Bailey, Steven Harris, and T. Frank Kennedy, SJ, pp. 38-73.
On reserve on Grasselli Library.

3/2: Mid-Term Examination on Material through 2/23

3/4: First Jesuit Missions in Asia. Francis Xavier.
Wright, 65-132
Donnelly, pp. 64-88;
Burke and Burke-Sullivan, pp. 43-47.

3/5-3/13: Spring Break

3/14: Jesuits and Inculturation in China and India. Matteo Ricci, and Roberto de Nobili.
Donnelly, pp. 88-111;
Burke and Burke-Sullivan, pp. 48-52.

3/16: Jesuit Missions in the Americas. The “Paraguay Reductions.”
Donnelly, pp. 111-130;
Burke and Burke-Sullivan, pp. 53-60

3/18: “Ecrasez l’Infame.” Encounter with the Enlightenment.
Wright, 173-218
Voltaire, *Philosophical Dictionary*, excerpts.

3/21: The Suppression of the Society. SECOND PAPER DUE.

Part Three: The Challenge of the Modern World

3/23: The French Revolution and European Religion

3/25: Europe of the Nineteenth Century.

3/28: The Restoration of the Jesuits, 1814.
Wright, 219-255

3/30: The Church in the Nineteen Century. Liberalism, Conservatism, and Religious Resurgence.

4/1: The Papacy in the Nineteenth Century

4/4: The Jesuits in the Nineteenth Century. *La Civiltà Cattolica* and Gerard Manley Hopkins.
Hopkins poems in Burke and Burke-Sullivan, pp. 104-110.

- 4/6: The Jesuits in the United States: Foundations
- 4/8: The Jesuits in the United States: Growth
- 4/11: The Crisis of the Twentieth Century. Politics, Religion and Culture.
Wright, 257-282
Burke and Burke-Sullivan, pp. 67-73.
- 4/13: Vatican Council II and the Renewal of the Church.
- 4/15: The “Second Foundation of the Jesuits: Fr. General Pedro Arrupe.
Burke and Burke-Sullivan, pp. 121-128.
- 4/18 A Jesuit Voice
- 4/20: Friday Classes Meet. The Jesuits after Vatican II: Karl Rahner and John
Courtney Murray. Burke and Burke-Sullivan, pp. 93-97,140-145
- 4/22: **Good Friday. No Class**
- 4/25: **Easter Monday. No Class**
- 4/27: “The Service of Faith and the Promotion of Justice.” Jesuits in the midst
of Latin American Revolution.
Burke and Burke-Sullivan, pp. 74-80.
- 4/29: “Creative Fidelity”: Fr. General Peter Hans Kolvenbach. Jacques Dupuis
and Inter-religious Dialogue
- 5/2: The Jesuits and a Global Church in the Twenty-First Century. Fr. General
Aldolfo Nicolas. “Depth, Universality, and Learned Ministry: Challenges
to Jesuit Higher Education Today.”
<http://www.jcu.edu/mission/NicolasSJ-1.JHE.April23.2010.pdf>
- 5/4: Conclusions