MODULE SPECIFICATION FORM

Module Title:	Culture and Belief in Renaissance Europe, c.1400 - 1600	Level:	5	Credit Value:	20

Module code:	HUM536	Cost Centre:	GAHN	JACS3 code:	V141

Trimester(s) in which to be offered:	2	With effect from:	September 2014

Office use only: To be completed by AQSU:	Date approved:	July 2014
	Date revised:	-
	Version no:	1

Existing/New:	New	Title of module being replaced (if any):	N/A

Originating Academic Department:	Creative Industries	Module Leader:	Peter Bolton

Module duration (total hours):	200	Status: core/option/elective (identify programme where appropriate):	Core for History and Optional for all other programmes
Scheduled learning & teaching hours	60		
Independent study hours	140		
Placement hours	0		

Programme(s) in which to be offered: BA (Hons) History BA (Hons) English & History BA (Hons) History & Creative Writing	Pre-requisites per programme (between levels):	None

Module Aims:

This module aims to:

- Develop students' awareness of the major cultural and intellectual changes taking place during this period

Encourage an understanding of the way in which ancient and mediaeval influences impact upon the 'early modern' period

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Intended Learning Outcomes:

At the end of this module, students will be able to:

1. Explore the major political, cultural and religious changes in the period c.1400 – 1600 (KS1, KS3, KS5, KS6, KS7)
2. Evaluate the nature and impact of classical and humanistic thought (KS1, KS4, KS6)
3. Critique the concept of an 'early modern' period (KS1, KS3, KS6)

Key skills (KS) for employability

1. Written, oral and media communication skills
2. Leadership, team working and networking skills
3. Opportunity, creativity and problem solving skills
4. Information technology skills and digital literacy
5. Information management skills
6. Research skills
7. Intercultural and sustainability skills
8. Career management skills
9. Learning to learn (managing personal and professional development, self-management)
10. Numeracy

Assessment:

Assessment One will be an essay designed to test student understanding of early modern themes and debates.

Assessment Two is an examination covering the broad themes of the course.

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Weighting	Duration (if exam)	Word count (or equivalent if appropriate)
1	1, 3	Essay	50%		2000
2	1, 2	Examination	50%	2 hours	

Learning and Teaching Strategies:

The module comprises lectures, seminar sessions and in-class group work. These sessions make full use primary and secondary sources and incorporate Q&A elements to stimulate discussion and encourage understanding.

Indicative Syllabus outline:

- How appropriate is the term 'early modern'?
- The 'Pleasure Principle' Humanism and the recovery of the classical world
- Power in Renaissance Europe: 'new' monarchies and old oligarchies
- Florence and Rome – centres of Renaissance culture and thought
- Machiavelli and political theory
- The art of the Renaissance:
- Reformation thought before the Reformation
- Hatching the 'hen's egg': Erasmus and Luther
- The search for truth: Scientific advances in the later Renaissance period

Bibliography:

Essential Reading

Machiavelli, N., *The Prince*, trans. George Bull, new edition (London: Penguin, 1999) *(nb: other translations are widely available and are also useful)*

Greenblatt, S., *The Swerve: How the Renaissance Began* (London: Vintage, 2012)

Indicative Reading

Collinson, P., *The Reformation* (London: Phoenix, 2005)

Englander, D., *et al* (eds.), *Culture and Belief in Europe 1450 – 1600: An Anthology of Sources* (Oxford: Blackwell, 1998)

Najemy, John M. (ed.), *Italy in the Age of the Renaissance* (Oxford: OUP, 2004)

Rice, E.F. & Grafton, A., *The Foundations of Early Modern Europe, 1460-1559* (London: Norton, 1994)

Journals

Renaissance Quarterly
The Journal of Interdisciplinary History
The Sixteenth Century Journal

Electronic Sources

Society for Renaissance Studies: www.rensoc.org.uk/