

Franciscan University
Honors 301
Studies in the Renaissance
Dr. Alexander

Texts:

Eric Voegelin, The New Science of Politics
Shakespeare, Oxford Shakespeare--Histories
Machiavelli, The Prince
Teresa of Avila, Interior Castle
Ignatius Loyala, His Own Story
John Milton, Political Writings
Thomas More, Last Letters
Cervantes, Don Quixote
Francis de Sales, Introduction to the Devout Life
Descartes, Discourse on Method
Montaigne, Selected Essays (handouts)
Pascal, selected excerpts

Readings:

Aug 29-31—Shakespeare, Richard II, acts I-III

Sept. 5-7-- Shakespeare, Richard II, acts IV-V; Henry IV, Pt. 1, acts I-III;
Outside: Don Quixote and Devout Life

Sept. 12-14—Shakespeare, Henry IV, Pt. 1, acts III-V; Eric Voegelin, Introduction, New Science of Politics, pp
Outside: Don Quixote and Devout Life

Sept. 19-21—cont. discussion Voegelin, New Science, first papers, some of which will be given in class, Henry IV, Pt. II, acts I-III,
Outside: Don Quixote and Devout Life

Sept. 26-28— Henry IV's deathbed speech and counsel scenes, Henry IV, Pt. II, relevant chapters of Voegelin,
New Science; Henry V, acts I-III;
Outside: Don Quixote and Devout Life

Oct. 3-5—Henry V, acts iv-v, Voegelin, "Gnosticism: the Nature of Modernity" in New Science; second class
essays due related to Machiavelli's Prince;
Outside: Don Quixote and Devout Life

Oct. 10-12—Essay "Spanish Catholicism" the Spanish counter Reformation/ Renaissance: St. Teresa of Avila,
Interior Castle, Preface, xi-xix, 33-84;
Outside: Don Quixote and Devout Life

Oct. 17-19-- Interior Castle, 85-126; St Ignatius, His Own Story; mid term in class essays on Thurs. Outside:
Don Quixote and Devout Life

Oct. 24-26—Shakespeare, All is Well (Henry VIII); More, Last Letters of Thomas More
Outside: Don Quixote and Devout Life

Oct. 31-Nov. 2—cont. More, Last Letters of Thomas More; Outside: Don Quixote and Devout Life; essay due on More

Nov. 7-9—Voegelin, “Gnosticism: the Puritan Case”; John Milton as polemicist for revolution; selected political writings;
Outside: Don Quixote and Devout Life; outside questions given on Cervantes and de Sales

Nov. 14-16—cont. discussion of Milton; Outside: Don Quixote and Devout Life

Nov. 21—Maritain, “Three Reformers” (hand-out); essays due on Cervantes and de Sales

Nov. 28-30-- Michel de Montaigne, selected essays given out; Descartes, Discourse on Method

Dec. 5—cont. discussion, Descartes; selections from Pascal