Reading List for a Field in Early Modern European History

This list is both too long for a field and not even close to being comprehensive. So it is a starting point, a set of titles that each student will modify, adding and removing books, or sections, according to their particular goals and interests.

N.B. – this list focuses on northern and western Europe. See also my list for Mediterranean history, which focuses on this period as well.

General Surveys


Wiesner, Merry E. *Women and Gender in Early Modern Europe*

Wiesner, Merry, ed. *Early Modern Europe, 1450-1789* (Cambridge, 2006)

Renaissance


Bowsma, William J. *The Interpretations of Renaissance Humanism*.


Mazzocco, Angelo, ed. *Interpretations of Renaissance Humanism* (Brill’s Studies in Intellectual History)


*Renaissance Civic Humanism (Ideas in Context)*, James Hanks, Quentin Skinner, Lorraine Daston, eds.


Schiffman, Zachary Sayre. *Humanism and the Renaissance (Problems in European Civilization)*


**The Two Reformations**


Dixon, C. Scott. *The German Reformation: The Essential Readings*


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Luebke, David M. *The Counter-Reformation: The Essential Readings*


McGrath, Alister. *The Intellectual Origins of the European Reformation*


Pettegree, Andrew. *Reformation and the Culture of Persuasion*

Puff, Helmut. *Sodomy in Reformation Germany and Switzerland, 1500-1600 (The Chicago Series on Sexuality, History, and Society)*


Soergel, Philip. Wondrous in his Saints: counter-Reformation propaganda in Bavaria (Berkeley, 1993)


History of Science


Jacob, James. The Scientific Revolution


Shapin, Steven and Simon Schaffer. *Leviathan and the Air Pump*


**Patronage/Civility**


Elias, Norbert. *The Civilizing Process*


**Collecting, Curiosity, Wonder, and the Fact**

Daston, Lorraine. *Things that Talk*


Paula Findlen. *Possessing Nature: Museums, Collecting, and Scientific Culture in Early Modern Italy (Studies on the History of Society and Culture, No. 20)*


Poovey, Mary. *The History of the Modern Fact*

**Hermeticism and Alchemy**

*Hermeticism and the Scientific Revoultion*, ed. by Robert Westman and J.M. McGuire


Newman, William R. and Lawrence M. Principe. *Alchemy Tried in the Fire: Starkey, Boyle, and the Fate of Helmontian Chymistry*

Newman, William R. *Promethean Ambitions: Alchemy and the Quest to Perfect Nature*


Yates, Frances. *Giordano Bruno and the Hermetic Tradition*

**Artisan Knowledge/ Commerce**


Eamon, William. *Science and the Secrets of Nature*

Foucault, Michel. *The Order of Things*

Smith, Pamela. *The Body of the Artisan: Art and Experience in the Scientific Revolution*

Smith, Pamela. *Merchants and Marvels*

**Witchcraft**

Behringer, Wolfgang. *Shaman of Oberstdorf: Chonrad Stoeckhlin and the Phantoms of the Night*

Ginzburg, Carlo. *The Night Battles: Witchcraft and Agrarian Cults in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries*


Waite, Gary K. *Heresy, Magic and Witchcraft in Early Modern Europe (European Culture and Society)*

Wunderli, Richard. *Peasant Fires: The Drummer of Niklashausen*

**Economy**


**Intellectual History**


Grafton, Anthony. *What was History? The Art of History in Early Modern Europe*
Grafton, Anthony. *The Footnote*


**Cultural History**


Davis, Robert C. *The War of the Fists: Popular Culture and Public Violence in Late Renaissance Italy* (New York, 1994)


Ozment, Stephen. *When Fathers Ruled: Family Life in Reformation Europe*


**Enlightenment/French Revolution**

Goodman, Dena. *The Republic of Letters*

Kates, Gary. *Monsieur d'Eon is a Woman*


**Marriage and family**


**Women and gender**


**Microhistory**

Davis, Natalie Zemon. *The Return of Martin Guerre*

Ginzburg, Carlo. *The Cheese and the Worms*

Ginzburg, Carlo. *Clues, Myths and the Historical Method*

Greenblatt, Stephen. *Renaissance Self-Fashioning*

Muir, Edward and Guido Ruggiero. *Microhistory and the Lost Peoples of Europe*

Ozment, Stephen. *The Burgermeister’s Daughter*

**Critiques of Microhistory**


Lacapra, Dominick, “The Cheese and the Worms: The Cosmos of a Twentieth-Century Historian” in *History and Criticism*

**Atlantic World, Empire, and Expansion**


Bailyn, Bernard. *Atlantic History: Concept and Contours*

Banks, Kenneth J. *Chasing Empire Across the Sea: Communication and the State in the French Atlantic, 1713-1763*
Bender, Thomas, ed. *The Antislavery Debate: Capitalism and Abolitionism as a Problem in Historical Interpretation*

Dubois, Laurent. *Avengers of the New World: The Story of the Haitian Revolution*


Greene, Jack P. *Peripheries and Center: Constitutional Development in Extended Polities of the British Empire and the United States, 1607-1788*

Greenblatt, Stephen. *Marvelous Possessions: The Wonder of the New World*


Katzew, Ilona. *Casta Paintings: Images of Race in Eighteenth-Century Mexico*

Lepore, Jill. *New York Burning: Liberty, Slavery, and Conspiracy in Eighteenth-Century Manhattan*

Pagden, Anthony. *Peoples and Empires: A Short History of European Migration, Exploration, and Conquest, from Greece to the Present* (selections)

Pagden, Anthony. *Lords of All the World*

Schmidt, Benjamin. *Innocence Abroad: The Dutch Imagination and the New World, 1570-1670*


Tracy, James D. *Emperor Charles V, Impresario of War* (Cambridge, 2002)