

# Early Modern Europe Movie Analysis

Due on Friday 1 December @ Midnight

Life in Early Modern Europe has been the inspiration for a seemingly countless number of films. Some filmmakers do a better job than others in representing the historical realities of this time period, but all provide enough facts to be valuable to watch. In this paper you will assess the historic accuracy of **ONE** film about life in Europe set at some point between 1300-1700 by comparing/contrasting it with what you have learned about Early Modern Europe during this course. To that end you will need to answer the following question in your paper:

**How accurate is the portrayal of life in Early Modern Europe in [insert film name here]?**

In particular, you will need to identify 2-3 characteristics/events/people presented in the movie to organize your paper around and discuss what historians have said about those topics. Depending on which film you watch and which topics you choose to focus on you may argue that people who watch the film will get an accurate image, while a classmate viewing a different movie may conclude the opposite. It is all a question of defending your viewpoint based on the criteria you are discussing.

Step #1: Watch a film about Early Modern Europe. Choice of movies will be first-come, first-served, so if there's a movie you particularly want to use for this assignment, e-mail Dr. Myers about it ASAP. If you need suggestions of a movie to watch, don't hesitate to ask.

Step #2: You must also reference **FIVE** historians of Early Modern Europe.

Step #3: Consider the primary source materials historians have available to learn the "truth" about Early Modern Europe. The strongest arguments for this assignment will be supported with not only a historian's impression of the people or events in question, but will also discuss how the historian arrived at their conclusions.

## **Technical Specifics:**

Papers must be 1250-1500 words long (so 4-5 pages in length). Papers should be double-spaced in 12 pt. font, with 1-inch margins. You must reference your sources with *Chicago Manual of Style* footnotes and not use the first person.

## **Reminder:**

As noted in your class syllabus, students at Monmouth are all expected to read and abide by the Scots Guide Student Handbook. In particular you should remember that plagiarism is *illegal*, so you must follow the guidelines for referencing your reading and class notes closely. And if you have any questions about how to properly cite your sources, ask!!!

## **Optional Proofreading Session:**

There is no class period set aside for in-class proofreading. However, if you would like to your classmates read through your paper we can arrange a proofreading session (and, therefore, an earlier deadline for a full draft) on a day and time that is convenient for everyone.

## **Writing Center:**

Students are also encouraged to make use of the Writing Center in the MLC. You can access their schedule at <http://www2.monm.edu/cac/writing-center/writing-center.htm>