

21H.141
Spring 2015

First Short Paper: Revision

Requirements

- 1) Revise your first essay following the prompts below. If you wrote on the *Unam Sanctum* topic, you must respond to the first prompt. If you wrote about Petrarch as a reader, you must respond to the second prompt. Your paper must be 1250 words (around five pages) long, using 12-point font and one inch margins. Please hand in hard copy to me at the start of class during Session 9. At that time, please also turn in the hard copy of your first paper with my remarks.
- 2) Your paper must be computer-processed. Please give your paper a title, and write your name on the back of the last page. Do not write your name elsewhere on the paper. All pages should be numbered. Refer to the Editing Suggestions document in the Assignments section or to Strunk and White, *The Elements of Style*, for further editing suggestions. You may also consult with tutors at the [Writing Center](#) or with me about your paper.
- 3) Citations to texts read in this course should be made in parentheses in your paper. For example, if you refer to a passage on page 13 of Erasmus' *Paraclesis*, indicate this in the following manner at the end of your sentence, after the period: (*Paraclesis*, 13). Full citations to any work not assigned in class should be made in footnote or endnote form, but for this paper you do not need to consult any outside readings.

Topics

1. In your first paper, you considered the extent to which at least two authors we have read in class endorse or dispute papal claims of spiritual and temporal authority as they are stated the 1302 Papal Bull *Unam Sanctum*. In your revision, focus exclusively on authors who clearly challenged papal supremacy in spiritual or temporal affairs. You must consider at least one of the following two excerpts: Lorenzo Valla *Discourse on the Forgery of the Alleged Donation of Constantine*; Nicholas Copernicus, *The Revolutions of the Celestial Spheres*. You must also consider the excerpt from Martin Luther's response to Erasmus in their debate over the freedom of the will (the reading for Session 8). How are their challenges to the papacy similar? In what ways, if any, do they differ?
2. In your first paper, you considered whether the Petrarch of *The Ascent of Mount Ventoux* was more of a medieval or a humanist reader, as historians Michael Clanchy and Anthony Grafton defined those categories. In your revision, consider the continuities and discontinuities between the way Petrarch read his Augustine at the summit of Mount Ventoux and Erasmus, in *The Paraclesis*, wanted Christians to read the Bible. You may bring in Clanchy or Grafton's categorizations of readers if you wish.

MIT OpenCourseWare
<http://ocw.mit.edu>

21H.141 Renaissance To Revolution: Europe, 1300-1800
Spring 2015

For information about citing these materials or our Terms of Use, visit: <http://ocw.mit.edu/terms>.