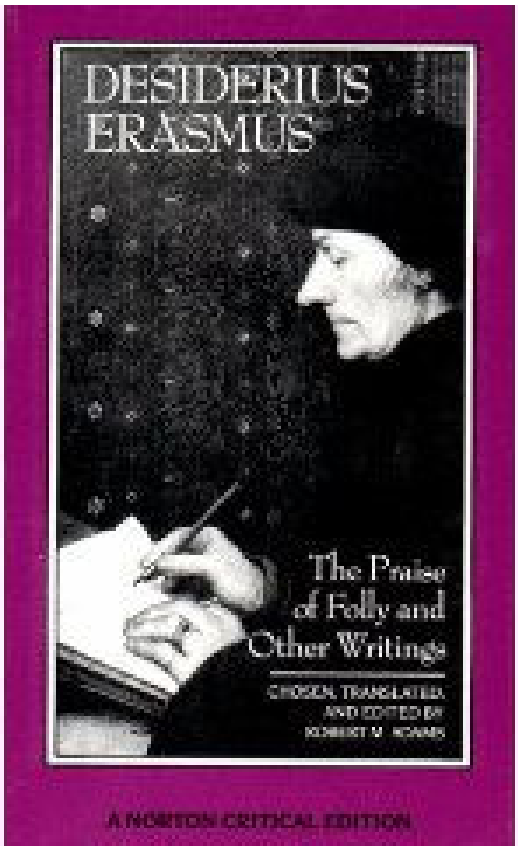
A.P. European History
BFUHS Summer Reading List
2009-2010

<u>The Praise of Folly and Other Writings</u> <u>(Norton Critical Editions)

-specifically must include *The Praise of Folly*, *The Complaint of Peace*, and *Julius Excluded from Heaven*

By: *Desiderius Erasmus* (Author), *Robert M. Adams* (Editor)

W. W. Norton (1989), 352 pages



*Mr. Divis has classroom copies of this book, so please see him to get a copy for yourself for the summer. If you decide to sign up for the class over the summer, then you will need to either get it at the library or purchase the book for yourself. This book is available in paperback editions and can be found at libraries (like the Rockingham Free Public Library), bookstores (like Borders, Toadstool Bookshop, or Brattleboro Books), and websites (like <u>www.half.com</u>, <u>www.amazon.com</u>, and <u>www.barnesandnoble.com</u>).

**If you have any questions, concerns, or difficulties, contact Mr. Divis via e-mail: <u>diviscm@hotmail.com</u>. This is the best form of contact with me as I will be out of the country this summer.

A.P. European History
Summer Reading Assignment

As a prerequisite to taking A.P. European History, students are required to complete a summer assignment to the teacher's discretion. The point of the summer assignment is to give the student an insight into concepts and details that will be recurring throughout the year. Also, some of the specifics of the books are meant to provide the student with necessary knowledge for the A.P. exam which, because of time constraints and the amount of material we need to cover, we will not be able to study as thoroughly in class.

If a student fails to complete the ***entire*** summer assignment at a satisfactory level, then that student will not be allowed to remain in the class. This assignment is due, *without question*, when you walk into class on the first day of school.

You are required to read selected sections of the book and not only be able to discuss it throughout the year in class, but also be able to write about it in exams and research papers. You **are also required to write one (1) essay**:

ESSAY:
The purpose of the paper is to explain what led Desiderius Erasmus to write *The Praise of Folly*, *The Complaint of Peace*, and *Julius Excluded from Heaven*, how they exemplified the concept of humanism, and how these ideas would radically change all of Europe specifically religiously, but also socially and politically. Specific details discussed later on.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PAPER:

-Title page (clearly present your name, date, title of the paper, title of the class, title of the book, and the author)

-Page numbers (starting on the first page of writing, not the title page)

-must be typed, using 12-point font size, Times New Roman font, and double-spaced

-must be a minimum of 8 pages of content, excluding the title and works cited page

-Specific in-text citations whenever you are using specific details and/or quotes from the book
+ go to the Social Studies department page on the BFUHS website, www.bfuhs.org, and at the top of the page you'll find a MLA Writing Guide to help you doing this correctly

-Works cited page set up alphabetically and annotated correctly following the MLA standard of all of the sources you cited in your paper
+ go to the Social Studies department page on the BFUHS website, www.bfuhs.org, and at the top of the page you'll find a MLA Writing Guide to help you doing this correctly

-Additional specifics can be found on the attached rubric

BOOK DETAILS AND QUESTIONS

This is not supposed to be a book report. It is supposed to be an analysis of the greater events that the book highlights.

It is highly encouraged that you take notes as you read. If you own the book, it is advisable to underline key passages or make notes in the margins as you read. Chronicling your reading in a journal, especially reading and writing about primary sources and developing coherent essays about them, will be a major part of the work for this course.

The following questions from the book are guiding points to see if you are understanding what you are reading. These should not all necessarily be answered in your essay, but you may want to refer to some of them. You will, however, be required to discuss each of these on the first few days of class, as well as throughout the year, so please take note of them.

Erasmus' Works:

-First, for all of the Erasmus works, start by researching what late 15th and early 16th century Europe was like politically, religiously, and socially, specifically in Northern Europe, and make sure you research humanism and have a grasp on it before you read
-Also, research what Desiderius Erasmus' life was like, especially his connections to the Brethren of the Common Life and his religious background

Praise of Folly:

-Who is Folly and what is she supposed to represent?
-What is her general outlook on the current affairs of Europe and the world?
-What are some of the things that Folly specifically lists that she loves? What are some of the things she hates?
-How does Folly feel about war? About government? About religion?
-Focus on religion mostly:
-What are her complaints about Christianity?
-Indulgences? Excommunication?
-Priests/Theologians/Monks/Papacy?
-Why is she so damning towards the present state of religion?
-How is this, as some claim, the preeminent piece of humanist literature?
-What is the underlying message of this piece?
-What changes would Erasmus like to see in Europe, as seen through this satirical piece?
-Why did Erasmus feel the need to write this as a satire?
-Some say this had more of an effect on people at this time than Luther's *95 Theses*…do you agree?
-How would the Catholic Church and political leaders of the time in the early 1500s have reacted to this?

Complaint of Peace:

-As Peace, what reasons does Erasmus give for hating war?
-How does Peace feel about the role of Christianity when it comes to war?
-How does Peace say that war can be prevented?
-How is this a humanist doctrine?
-Like with *Praise of Folly*, why did Erasmus feel the need to write this as someone else's opinions and not his own?
-What is the underlying message of this piece?
-What changes would Erasmus like to see in Europe?
-How would the Catholic Church and political leaders of the time in the early 1500s have reacted to this?

Julius Excluded from Heaven:

-How is Pope Julius II, and therefore the papacy as a whole at this time, characterized?
-Explain the reasons that Peter gives for not letting Julius into heaven?
-How sort of picture does this paint of Christianity, especially with the Popes at this time?
-Is this an anti-Christian tract?
-How is this a humanist doctrine?
-Like with *Praise of Folly* and *Complaint of Peace*, why did Erasmus feel the need to write this as someone else's opinions and not his own?
-What is the underlying message of this piece?
-What changes would Erasmus like to see in Europe?
-How would the Catholic Church and political leaders of the time in the early 1500s have reacted to this?

Summer Assignment Rubric

-out of 120 pts.-

Content – Is the content of the paper appropriate for the specified topic? How specific were you? Do you show a unique perspective of the book? Do you answer the questions posed? Did you use quotes from the books to help your argument? (55 pts.)

0 10 20 30 40 50 55 _____

Introduction/Conclusion – How well do you start and end your paper with a good summary and thesis of what your paper is about and your stance? (15 pts.)

0 5 10 15 _____

Spelling, Grammar, Punctuation – How well did you proofread your paper? (20 pts.)

0 5 10 15 20 _____

Citations – Is your works cited page set up correctly according to MLA standards? Did you cite all sources used? Do you correctly cite in-text quotations and facts? (20 pts.)

0 5 10 15 20 _____

Miscellaneous – Is your paper the required length, have a correct title page, page numbers, organized, etc.? (10 pts.)

0 2 4 6 8 10 _____

TOTAL: _____ /120