

Renaissance (15th–16th c.)

Age of Exploration

Protestant Reformation

Martin Luther (1483–1546): “Faith must trample underfoot all reason, sense, and understanding.”

ninety-five theses (1517)

Diet of Worms (1521)

Holy Roman Emperor Charles V (1519–1556)

Peace of Augsburg (1555)

John Calvin (1509–1564)

Protestant England

Henry VIII (r. 1509–1547)

Catherine of Aragon (d. 1536)

Anne Boleyn (1502–1536)

Act of Supremacy (1529)

Edward VI (r. 1547–1553), Protestant

Mary I (r. 1553–1558), Catholic

Elizabeth I (r. 1558–1603), Protestant

Counter/Catholic Reformation

Council of Trent (1545–1563)

Society of Jesus (Jesuits)

Ignatius Loyola (1491–1556)

French Wars of Religion

Huguenots (Calvinists)

Henry II (r. 1547–1559)

Catherine de Medici (1519–1589)

St. Bartholomew’s Day Massacre (1572)

Henry IV (r. 1589–1610)

Edict of Nantes (1598)

politiques

skepticism / religious pragmatism

Michel de Montaigne (1533–1592): “What do I know?”

Scientific Revolution

Galileo Galilei (1564–1642), heliocentrism

René Descartes (1596–1650): “I think, therefore I am.”

Discussion: What are the pros and cons of skepticism in the modern world?