The Late Middle Ages
The 14th Century was a time of tragedy
Famine
change in weather and high population led to starvation
10% of population dies in early 1300’s
The Black Death (Bubonic Plague)
kills 25-50% of population between 1347 - 1351
spread by fleas on black rats
fever, aching joints, swollen lymph nodes, etc.
towns disappear as plague spreads
as many as 38 million people die
returns again in 1361, 1369, and every ten yrs or so
Drastically changes society in Europe
people begin to focus on death
some become morose or flee
others embrace debauchery
children become more important to society
cities organize committees on public health
medical studies focus on more practical arts
Economics also are affected
labor becomes extremely scarce
wages rise and farm prices fall
many serfs win freedom as peasants
violent conflicts erupted between nobles and peasants
weakens aristocratic order
Hundred Years War (1337 - 1453)
France and England fight almost continuously for century
Causes
Gascony in France was still owned by English kings
Flanders becomes center of wool trade dispute
1328 - Edward III claims French throne over Philip VI
Philip seizes Gascony
English declare war
Course of the War
English are successful in first phase of war
Battle of Crecy (1346) is decisive
English longbows defeat French cavalry
Prince of Wales (Black Prince) devastates countryside
1356 - Battle of Poitiers - French king captured
French forced to pay large ransom, give land
Charles V of France recovers most land by 1374
peace signed that lasts twenty years
1415 - English King Henry V renews the war
crushes French at Battle of Agincourt
captures most of Northern France
Charles the Dauphin appeared to a weak French ruler
Joan of Arc
young peasant women see visions from God
believes she will save France and Charles
Charles allows her to go with army to Orleans
French are inspired and win
July, 1429 - dauphin crowned Charles VII
English and Burgundy capture Joan of Arc
burned at stake for witchcraft
named saint in 1920
French artillery drives English out except at Calais
1453 - wars comes to an end
England continues to develop around Parliament
France in torn apart by warring nobles

Decline of the Church
Pope Boniface VIII tried to increase papal power
issued papal bull Unam Sanctum
claimed complete authority
King of France, Philip IV opposes more papal authority
Boniface claims clergy don't have to pay French taxes
Philip has Boniface kidnapped
later rescued, but shock kills him
Philip scares college cardinals to elect French pope, Clement V
Clement moves papal offices from Rome to Avignon (1305 - 1377)
many Catholics unhappy
Rome traditional center of church
too much French influence

The Great Schism
Pope Gregory XI dies while visiting Rome
Roman cardinals seize opportunity to elect Urban VI
moves papacy back to Rome
French cardinals respond by electing Clement VII
Neither pope recognizes the other
both excommunicate each other
Church is split for 40 years
1409 - Council of Pisa elects Alexander V as compromise
now there are three popes
1414 - 1418 - Council of Constance
removes all three popes
elects Martin V as new pope
ends Schism
Great Schism greatly weakened respect for Church
religion moved to more personal level because of Plague
relics and indulgences
14th century culture
Literature began to be produced in vernacular languages traditionally had been Latin serves to formalize national languages
Dante - The Divine Comedy considered classic Medieval story progression from Hell to Purgatory to Heaven
Petrarch - transitional writer to Renaissance Florentine who specialized in Romantic lyric poetry
Boccaccio - The Decameron focuses on more personal, secular stories

Renaissance
1350 - 1550 - rebirth of classical learning
Renaissance intellectuals believed in Dark Ages recovery from 14th century

The Italian Renaissance
The Renaissance begins in Italy access to classical works and wealthy patrons focus will be on individual instead of community spirituality

Renaissance Society
Italian cities recovered with a revival of trade Florence traded from Byzantium to Flanders new industries emerged as well printing, mining, metallurgy, and textiles Banking will also develop as a key industry Medici family of Florence textiles, trade, real estate, banking Society was divided into thirds Clergy, nobility(old and new), peasants Nobles were trained to live their lives in certain forms noble birth, physically fit, classical education artistic accomplished, socially supreme Renaissance Man The Book of the Courtier by Castiglione most peasants still rented land from nobles significant amount of urban poverty slavery still existed but rare Family was supreme in Renaissance Italy father controlled family business, marriage, adulthood women married young, men old family squabbles could lead to vendettas women ran the household, gave birth
many children to overcome infant mortality (50%)

Statehood
Italy was divided in many principalities/city-states
most built around large cities

Milan
oligarchy conquered by Francesco Sforza
est. Duchy of Milan

Venice
Republic that est. huge maritime empire
richest state in Italy

Florence
nominally a republic, run by Medici family
Cosimo & Lorenzo the Magnificent
center of cultural/artistic Renaissance

Papal Estates
popes distracted by secular conflicts
damages spirituality
Royal courts are centers of power, prestige, and arts
states will eventually form a balance of power to avoid war
larger monarchies eventually ravage Italy for it’s wealth

France and Spain fight over Italy for years
Spain ends up dominating most of Italy

Politics and Diplomacy
constant fighting lead to creation of ambassador system
originally seen as ambassadors of Church and peace
granted protection as a result
Machiavelli
advisor to republican council in Florence
exiled after Medici’s return to power
writes the Prince and The Discourses
“ends justifies the means”
changes the nature of politics ever since

Intellectual Renaissance
Education revolved around the liberal arts
grammar, rhetoric, poetry, philosophy, ethics, history
wealthy merchants appreciated education for sons
secondary schools begun in cities

Humanism
movement based on the study of Greek/Roman classics
Petrarch viewed as father of Italian humanism
believed middle ages had no learning
revered Cicero and Virgil
focused on individuality rather than spirituality
Leonardo Bruni translated the Greek classics
Lorenzo Valla pioneered literary criticism
proved Donation of Constantine false
Poggio Bracciolini recovered hundreds of texts
secretary for the pope
Plato experienced a revival of popularity
Neoplatonism
  ideal forms combined with spirituality
  Platonic love
Printing dramatically affected the spread of the Renaissance
  1450 - printing press with movable type invented
    Johannes Gutenberg
  1456 - Gutenberg Bible is completed
    thousands of copies printed
gives masses more knowledge

Artistic Renaissance
  Giotto began painting lifelike figures in the Late Middle Ages
  painters focused on nature/humanity
  structure and movement particularly important
  perspective/space/lighting are discovered by Masaccio
Patrons were important as source of revenue
  Lorenzo the Magnificent was the most generous
artists became celebrities in society
  Sandro Botticelli - Primavera
    emotions begin to appear to characterize people
Donato Donatello
  David is finest statue since Rome
Filippo Brunelleschi moves architecture away from Gothic
  more human, less spiritual, even in church
Portraits became a very popular art form
  nobles viewed them as legacy
  Raphael was the master
    able to reflect personality in work
  School of Athens in Vatican
  Pope Julius II
Leonardo Da Vinci
  studied astronomy, anatomy, classics for his art
  designed many new inventions
  Last Supper masterpiece of character in painting
  known as “the Divine One”
  Mona Lisa show psychological mastery
  seems to change emotions based on viewer
Michelangelo
  His David considered best sculpture ever created
  Creation of Adam in Sistine Chapel shows diversity
3 years to create 5800 sq. ft painting

Northern Renaissance
- nobles visiting from the North demanded similar work
- some bought works in Italy and brought them home
- artists begin to learn and copy Italian techniques
  Jan Van Eyck
    set new standards for detail in his paintings
- Northern artists put more emotion and religion in their work
- Music began to leave the church and develop independently

European States in the Renaissance
- “New Monarchies” developed that had more centralized power
  France
    - Charles the VII est. royal army, taxes, and right to act w/o approval
    - Louis XI(The Spider)
      retained power gained from 100 Years War
      added Burgundy to France by conquering Charles the Bold
      also added Anjou, Maine, Bar, and Provence to royals
  England
    - 100 Years War leads to War of the Roses
      Lancaster(red) vs. York(white)
      1485 - Henry Tudor defeats York’s to est. new dynasty
        crowned Henry VII
      abolishes separate noble armies
      led to tradition of small or no English armies
      avoided wars through diplomacy to keep nobles in check
      relied upon export taxes for income
      encouraged English trade
  Spain
    - 1469 - Isabella of Castile marries Ferdinand of Aragon
      unifies large part of Spanish kingdom
      conquer Navarre and Granada
      reorganized the military to decrease power of nobles
      Worked with Catholic Church
      pope gave them control over religious appointment
      they began the Spanish Inquisition
      targeted Jews and Moors in Granada
      Charles I(grandson of Ferdinand and Isabella) inherits throne
  Holy Roman Empire
    - Hapsburg family acquires territory along Danube River(Austria)
    - Holy Roman Emperor stays with family after 1438
    - Hapsburgs were often at odds with German princes
Marriage was key to success
Philip of Burgundy (Maximilian I’s son) married into Spain
son Charles I, inherits Hapsburg and Spanish land
also inherits Low Countries through Max

Poland
- crown never established power over nobles
- surrounded by enemies
  - Germans, Bohemians, Turks, Russians

Russia
- Princes of Moscow grew powerful under Mongols
  - 1480 - Ivan III est. independence and starts building Russia

Ottoman Empire
- Ottoman Turks drive out of Asia to conquer much of Islamic world
- Byzantine Empire is surrounded by Turks
  - 1453 - Constantinople falls to Turks
    - last vestige of Roman Empire
- Turks move into Eastern Europe until stopped by Charles V

The Reformation
- The Renaissance Church faced many problems
  - Great Schism had destroyed faith in Church
  - Popes were more concerned with secular rather than spiritual
  - Indulgences were growing in practice
    - practice of buying and systematizing salvation
  - Church offices were bought and sold
  - some people held multiple offices in absentia

Early critics of the Catholic Church
John Wyclif (1328 - 1384)
  - English professor attacked papal claims to authority
  - wanted Bible published in all languages
    - saw it as true religious authority
John Hus (1374 - 1415)
  - Bohemian disciple of Wyclif
  - attacked corruption in the clergy
  - invited to address Council of Constance
    - executed as a heretic

Northern Humanism led to more criticism of the Church
- new generation of scholars studied early Christians
Erasmus (1466 - 1536)
  - wrote that Christianity should be a philosophy of life
    - not based on rituals and relics
In Praise of Folly
retranslated the Bible
believed in education as key to knowledge of Christ
laid groundwork for Reformation, but didn’t want new Church

Thomas More (1478 - 1535)
friend of Erasmus and Lord Chancellor of England
writes Utopia in 1516
describes communal society of equality and peace
Idealism didn’t prevent him from dealing with real problems
devotion to church will eventually cost him his life

Martin Luther
trained in law, becomes theologian in Wittenberg
extremely troubled by the dogma of salvation through good works
how could a just God allow horrible sinners into heaven?
Came to believe that the Catholic Church was wrong
he believed that faith in God was key to salvation
good people do good works, not vice versa
Pope Leo X had special indulgences sold to finance St. Basilica
Luther was disgusted by blind greed
Responds by nailing his 95 Theses to door of Church in Wittenberg
harshly criticizes indulgences and the papacy
By 1520 he is condemning the Catholic Church as a whole
calls upon German princes to est. new churches
gives more power to secular rulers
excommunicated in Jan, 1521
Charles V condemns him and orders him captured and killed
Edict of Worms
rebel German princes protect him
Lutheranism develops as a separate church
preaches twin pillars of faith(salvation) and no hierarchy
believed that all faithful are their own priests
Only kept Baptism and Eucharist as sacraments
abolished monasticism, relics, celibacy, and indulgences
Princes adopt and build new church leaderships
Challenges begin to split Lutherans
Peasant’s War
peasants revolted against princes siting Luther
Luther condemns all forms of social violence
still believes in divine right
becomes further a creature of princes
1525 - peasants massacred at Frankenhausen

Charles I tried to reunify Christianity
inherits Spain, Austria, Naples, Low Countries from relatives
crowned HRE Charles the V in 1519
distracted for years by wars with Valois of France fought over Italy
April, 1527 - Spanish army devastates Rome
Popes and Italy come under his control
Ottoman Turks crush Hungary and threaten Vienna
Suleiman the Magnificent
Charles spends years turning back this threat
Splits amongst German princes stop HRE from unifying
Religion used as excuse to keep power from Charles
Charles’ armies crush Protestants in 1546-7
Protestants ally with Henry II of France and rebound
1555 - Peace of Augsburg signed
   granted princes right to become Protestant legally
   permanently splits the Church

Spread of the Protestant Reformation
Lutheranism sweeps into Sweden and Denmark
   Monarchs use it to build greater power
Ulrich Zwingli brings Protestantism to Switzerland
   slightly different from Lutheranism
   urban canons fight vicious wars with Catholic rural canons
Anabaptists
   movement that was most popular amongst peasants
   completely rejected by Church and secular authority
   believed in adult baptism for free choice
   treated all members of faith as equals
   believed in following early Christian values, not materialism
   would not serve as soldiers or in service to state
      “thou shall not kill”
   persecuted by both Protestants and Catholics
   Amish are American descendants of Anabaptists

Anglicanism
Henry VIII wished to divorce Catherine of Aragon
   wanted to marry Anne Boleyn for male heir
   Pope refuses, Catherine is Charles V’s aunt
   Henry has royal courts grant annulment
   marries Anne who gives birth to Elizabeth I
   Henry ultimately has six wives (beheads two)
1534 - Parliament passes the Act Supremacy
   formally breaks England with Catholic Church
   Henry VIII made supreme authority in England
   monasteries are seized and sold to new nobles
   nobles staunchly support Henry
   religious practice doesn’t change much
1547 - Edward VI becomes a weak king
   Protestant ministers move England that direction
1553 - Queen Mary (Bloody Mary) comes to the throne
blatant Catholic who attempts to crush Anglicanism
many nobles and people resist
upset at courting of Spain
1558 - Elizabeth I becomes queen of England
creates Church of England
blends Protestant beliefs with Catholic ritual

Calvinism
John Calvin was a French academic
believed in predestination
  Omnipotent God predetermined salvation
  people could tell by observing piety
1536 - Calvin invited to rule in Geneva
  est. a strong theocracy
  religious laws become state laws
John Knox brings Calvinism to Scotland
Protestant nobles expel Mary Queen of Scots
Puritans arise as English Calvinists
  seek to close taverns and theaters

Protestant Reformation led to huge increase in Education
  Literacy key to being able to understand the Bible
Luther encourages the founding of free public schools for poor
  gymnasiums (high schools) are established in Germany

The Catholic Reformation or Counter-Reformation
by the 1550's the Catholic Church begins to respond
many monastic orders were reorganized and rededicated
  The Society of Jesus
    founded by Ignatius of Loyola in 1540
    known as “soldiers of Jesus”
    believed in complete subservience to the Church and Pope
    had strict and rigorous training
    became heads of theological universities across Europe
    spent significant time as missionaries in Europe and abroad

Papacy revives under Pope Paul III
  appoints commission to examine reforms to church
Pope Paul IV is active in countering Reformation
  reestablishes and expands the Inquisition
  creates the Index of Forbidden Books
    bans thousands of works as “unwholesome”
  calls the Council of Trent
    bans indulgences, but supports Catholic rituals
    sets up religious wars of 16th and 17th centuries