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Early Modern Europe, 1450–1789

Covering European history from the invention of the printing press to the French Revolution, this accessible and engaging textbook offers an innovative account of the variety of people's lives in the early modern period and the global context of European developments. Six central topics – individuals in society, politics and power, cultural and intellectual life, religion, economics and technology, and Europe in the world – are explored in two chronological sections, 1450–1600 and 1600–1789. The text takes in Europe in its entirety, eastward to the Ottoman Empire, northward to Sweden, and southward to Portugal, as well as the European colonies overseas, and integrates religious, ethnic, gender, class, and regional differences. Students are encouraged to think about continuities as well as changes across this formative period, and throughout the text maps, illustrations, timelines, and textboxes of original sources and featured topics illuminate the narrative. Online resources include primary source material, art and music examples, and regularly updated bibliographies.

MERRY E. WIESNER-HANKS is Professor of History at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and an experienced textbook author. Her recent books include *Discovering the Global Past* (2003), *Gender in History* (2001), and the second edition of *Women and Gender in Early Modern Europe* (2000).

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CAMBRIDGE HISTORY OF EUROPE

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Introduction



A page of drawings by the German artist Albrecht Dürer (1471–1528) that captures many themes important to Renaissance culture. On the left, Dürer illustrates a dramatic point in the Greek myth of the rape of Europa, though he sets it in a landscape with sixteenth-century towns. On the right, he sketches a classically dressed archer, a sage contemplating a skull, and three views of a lion. Thus on this one page he brings together the importance of the classical past, the wisdom of the ancients, the fleeting nature of human life, the wonders of the natural world, and the lure of the exotic.