



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
DIVISION FOR LATE MEDIEVAL
AND REFORMATION STUDIES

2013 TOWN AND GOWN LECTURE featuring

EDWARD MUIR

CLARENCE L. VER STEEG PROFESSOR IN THE ARTS
AND SCIENCES
AND CHARLES DEERING MCCORMICK PROFESSOR OF
TEACHING EXCELLENCE
NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY



"The 'People Who Believe in Nothing': Intolerable Thoughts in Late Renaissance Italy"

During the seventeenth century the Republic of Venice and its satellite university town of Padua remained a relatively free-thinking island in the Catholic world. Due to the intermingling of ideas from Catholic skeptics, Jewish philosophers, and various heterodox foreigners, who constituted what was perhaps the most diverse population in Western Europe, Venice was unusually cosmopolitan. Padua was the only university in Italy where Protestants and Jews could actually study alongside Catholics despite the Council of Trent's prohibition of non-Catholics taking degrees. Venice had the largest publishing industry in Italy and one of the largest in Europe. Especially after the epic confrontation between Venice and Rome when Pope Paul V placed the Republic under Interdict (1606-1607), the Republic tolerated and sometimes even encouraged unconventional religious speculation and rabid anti-papal polemics. •

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Department of History

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Group for Early Modern Studies (GEMS)
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UA Medieval, Renaissance, and Reformation Committee (UAMARRC)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6 • 7:00 PM

UA School of Music • Alice Y. Holsclaw Recital Hall

Free and open to the public. *Reception to follow.* For more information, (520) 626-5448.



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