I compiled this list around 1990. It reflects the state of scholarship at that time. I have updated parts of it since then, but I have not done so systematically. Informed readers will notice sizeable gaps. As time goes on, those gaps will grow.

What follows is a highly selective of various kinds of reference works. Its main purpose is to enable those who have no or little experience with finding the relevant literature on a given subject in early modern European history and more particularly early modern German history to do so with greater ease. Its emphasis is on reference works, historiographical surveys, classic works of interpretation, standard accounts, handbooks, and other tools.

Some general advice first. By all means take advantage of the resources that are nowadays offered online. Regenstein Library's online resources include a good page for electronic resources in history, including such things as databases, full text journals, full text books, bibliographies, dictionaries, encyclopedias, map collections, and the like.

At the same time do not underestimate the importance of working with actual books in the library. Much important information is impossible to obtain except by walking along the shelves, noting titles, and leafing through books. No online catalog will ever give you as immediate an understanding of what you can or, more important, cannot expect from a given book than physical inspection.

The best thing you can do in order to familiarize yourself with the sources of information that are available to you is not to search an online database, but to make the third floor reading room of Regenstein Library your base of operations, at least for a while. Make it a point of walking along the shelves and noting the kinds of reference tools that are available there. Not all of the materials on the third floor are directly relevant to history, and some of the most relevant ones are not located on the third floor. But there is no better way for you to learn about the great variety of different kinds of informational tools that are available. On occasion, such tools may save you weeks of fruitless searching. Once you are familiar with what is available on the third floor reading room, move on to the reference collection in Special Collections. It is more specialized, but it also contains many works of special relevance to historians of early modern Europe.
I have not tried to be comprehensive in any way. But I have tried to list as many different kinds of bibliographies and reference tools as seemed useful. Once you know that there is such a thing as a standard bibliography of the sources and secondary literature of German history, and that it can be found on the third-floor reading room in Regenstein Library, I trust you will realize without any additional prompting on my part that there probably are comparable bibliographies for France, England, Italy, Spain, and so on. Once you realize that there is a bibliography of sources of medieval history that have been translated into English, you may get the idea to look for similar bibliographies in other areas of history.

One technical point: it is useful to distinguish clearly between retrospective and current bibliographies. Retrospective bibliographies cover the literature on a certain subject matter published up to a certain certain date. Their advantage is that they can aim at comprehensive coverage in a single work. Their disadvantage is that they are always out of date. Current bibliographies cover the literature on a certain subject matter published in a given period, usually a year. Their advantage is that they inform you about the most recent publications. Their disadvantage is that you never get more than a snapshot of publications at a given point in time. Usually the most efficient way to proceed with any given subject is to start with a retrospective bibliography and to use current bibliographies only for the years that are no longer included in the retrospective bibliography.

**GUIDES TO REFERENCE BOOKS**


Baumgart, W. *Bücherverzeichnis zur deutschen Geschichte: Hilfsmittel, Handbücher, Quellen*. 7th ed. (Munich: DTV, 1988). Z2236.B38 1988 [RR3]. In spite of its title this bibliography lists reference works, handbooks, source-collections, and all kinds of useful books not only for German but also for European, Russian, and American history (although it obviously privileges German history). Its greatest virtue is that it is brief and informed by a good sense of judgment. It lists standard introductions to the study of history, journals of all sorts, historical bibliographies, bibliographies of dissertations, encyclopedias, language dictionaries, biographical dictionaries, handbooks on all areas of European history, chronologies, books about genealogy, heraldics, and the other auxiliary sciences, collections of treaties, source collections, and so on. In short, this is the most useful single bibliographical guide for anyone working on any area of German history that I know.
CATALOGS OF NATIONAL LIBRARIES

Note: these kinds of catalogs are now largely superseded by online catalogs. I mention them anyway, because they can still come in handy. If nothing else, they are a wonderful source for the state of bibliographic knowledge before the age of the computer. The National Union Catalog in particular was a triumph of efficiency that Europeans in general and Germans in particular could only envy.

National Union Catalog, pre-1956 imprints. 685 volumes (London: Mansell, 1968-80) [NUC]. A catalog of books published before 1956 and held either in the Library of Congress or in any other library in the United States of whose holdings the Library of Congress was aware at the time when the catalog was compiled. (There is a supplement, published 1980-81, vols. 686-754, with additional entries and locations). Although it includes only books held in the United States, it is by far the most comprehensive and useful catalog of its kind, especially since it lists the libraries where the book is available at the end of each entry. This is the place to go if you want to track down the title, bibliographical data and current locations of any book published before 1956. There are parallel and successive catalogs for books published since 1956.

British Museum, Department of Printed Books. General Catalogue of Printed Books. 263 volumes (London: Trustees, 1959-66). Most awful smelling series of volumes ever published. Lists the holdings of the former British Museum, now called the British Library. This is the British equivalent of the NUC, but neither as complete nor as useful. It is, however, often better on early printed books, and it is the first place to go for references that you don't find in the NUC.


RETROSPECTIVE BIBLIOGRAPHIES FOR GERMAN AND EUROPEAN HISTORY


Roach, John, ed. A Bibliography of Modern History (Cambridge: C.U.P., 1968). This bibliography was published as an afterthought to the New Cambridge Modern History, because that series lacks the comprehensive bibliographies that characterized the original Cambridge Modern History. Roach's bibliography is divided into sections according to the volumes and chapters of the NCMH. Each section was composed by the authors of the corresponding chapters. Hence the quality varies a good deal, but the whole is nevertheless both a useful addition to
the NCMH and a decent introductory bibliography to the whole of modern European history.


Farrar, Clarissa P., and Austin P. Evans. *Bibliography of English Translations from Medieval Sources*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1946. Call number: Z6517.F24 [RR RR3]. This bibliography will guide you to a very large number of sources for medieval history that have been translated into English. Even for students who do know Latin, this is a good place to begin looking for sources they might like to consider in their work.

Farrar, Clarissa P., and Austin P. Evans. *Bibliography of English Translations from Medieval Sources, 1943-1967*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1974. Call number: Z6517.F35 [RR RR3]. This is a successor volume that brings the preceding item up to the mid-1960s. It shows very nicely how much was translated into English during the quarter-century in question.

Dahlmann, Friedrich Christoph, and Georg Waitz, eds. *Quellenkunde der deutschen Geschichte*. 9th ed. 2 vols. Leipzig: Köhler, 1931-1932. Call number: Z2236.D15 RR3. This is the standard bibliography of German history for anything published up to 1932. Since much basic German work in medieval and Reformation history had already been done by that time, particularly as far as the sources are concerned, this is still useful.

Heimpel, Hermann, and Herbert Geuss, eds. *Dahlmann-Waitz, Quellenkunde der deutschen Geschichte: Bibliographie der Quellen und der Literatur zur deutschen Geschichte*. 10th ed. Stuttgart: Hiersemann, 1965-. Call number: Z2236.D16 [RR3]. This updated version of *Dahlmann-Waitz* is a classic example how thoroughness can conflict the purposes of practice. Although it is undoubtedly the most comprehensive, accurate, and reliable bibliography of German history ever published, it is after more than 30 years of work still incomplete and its arrangement is so complex that it is much more difficult to use than its predecessor. But it is a must for anyone dealing with German history.

Zophy, Jonathan W., ed. *An Annotated Bibliography of the Holy Roman Empire*. New York: Greenwood Press, 1986. Call number: Z2236.Z660 1986 [RR3]. This is a unique item. It is unfortunately marred by an incalculable number of minor bibliographical errors that can easily turn into major headaches when you are trying to track down a particular reference. But it is the only compact
bibliography for the whole history of the Empire and the annotations allow you to assess the references with a certain degree of reliability.

Althusius-Bibliographie: Bibliographie zur politischen Ideengeschichte und Staatslehre, zum Staatsrecht und zur Verfassungsgeschichte des 16. bis 18. Jahrhunderts. Eds. H. U. Scupin and U. Scheuner. 2 vols. (Berlin: Duncker & Humblot, 1973). Don’t pay attention to the title. This is not really a bibliography on Althusius (although it is that, too), but a massive two-volume bibliography for the history of political and constitutional thought in the early modern period. It emphasizes Germany, but deals extensively with other countries. It has a whole section on Bodin and Machiavelli. It pays good attention to the Reformation. It lists sources as well as secondary literature. And it has excellent indices.

RETROSPECTIVE BIBLIOGRAPHIES FOR THE REFORMATION

Bibliographies of the Reformation overall

Schottenloher, K. Bibliographie zur deutschen Geschichte im Zeitalter der Glaubensspaltung, 1517 - 1585. 2nd ed. 7 vols. Stuttgart, 1955-1966. Call number: Z7830.S37 [RR3]. This is the most comprehensive retrospective bibliography for the Protestant Reformation in Germany. Though it is bulky, it is so systematic and well-indexed that it is relatively easy enough to use. Essential for anyone who wants to get a good grasp on the work that was done until about 1960.

Bibliographie de la réforme, 1450 - 1648: Ouvrages parus de 1940 à 1955, 6 vols. to date (Leyden, 1958 - 1982). Good for the material that it includes, but cumbersome to use: it arranges the literature according to the country of publication.


Ozment, Steven E., ed. Reformation Europe: A Guide to Research. St. Louis: Center for Reformation Research, 1982. Call number: BR305.2.R34 RR4. A survey of historical writing on early modern protestantism from a mixed protestant and "secular" point of view. There is a companion volume on Catholicism in Early Modern Europe edited by O'Malley. The essays vary in quality, but overall the collection offers a lot of relatively recent bibliographical information and an excellent point of entry into current scholarship. For more details look in the section on historiography.


sources on the reformation period up to the thirty years war. Here you can quickly find accurate bibliographical information on all of the standard source collections and editions for the period. You can also get a sense of the kinds of sources that exist and the work that is being done on them. But there is very little here to correspond to the flourishing "social history of the Reformation" in the United States.

Wiesner, Merry E. Women in the Sixteenth Century: A Bibliography. Sixteenth Century Bibliography, 23 (St. Louis, 1983). Z7830.S62 no. 23 [RR4]. This is one particularly interesting volume in a series of important bibliographies dealing with various aspects of Reformation history.

Special figures and subjects

Aland, Kurt, ed. Hilfsbuch zum Lutherstudium. 3rd revised ed. Witten: Luther-Verlag, 1970. Call number: BR333.A1A3 1970 RR4. A basic bibliographical tool to get a handle on Luther's massive works, with a lot of useful indices that help you quickly to track down which of Luther's sermons deals with the subject in which you happen to be interested.


Thomas, Ulrich. Bibliographie zum deutschen Bauernkrieg und seiner Zeit. Stuttgart, 1976-1977. Much has been published since the mid-1970s, but this is a particularly good example of a retrospective bibliography dealing with an important historical subject.


CURRENT BIBLIOGRAPHIES

Archiv für Reformationsgeschichte/Archive for Reformation History, Beiheft, Literaturbericht/Supplement. Ed. Verein für Reformationsgeschichte. Gütersloh: Gerd Mohn, 1972-. Call number: Z7830.A67 [RR4]. The Reformation counterpart to Bibliographie internationale de l'Humanisme et de la Renaissance (next item), and the best current bibliography on Reformation history. Contains concise but often thorough reports and comments on the most recent publications arranged according to precisely subdivided subject headings. The greatest advantage of this bibliography is that it gives you thumbnail sketches of the contents, not only of books and volumes of essays, but also of individual articles published in scholarly journals. Reading through a single volume will give you an excellent sense on what has been published on most aspects of Reformation history in a given year.

Bibliographie internationale de l'humanisme et de la Renaissance. Ed. Fédération internationale des Sociétés et Instituts pour l'étude de la Renaissance. Geneva: Droz, 1965-. Call number: Z6207.R4B58 RR3. [BIHR]. Annual volumes with detailed and very comprehensive international coverage of all publications, including articles, on the history of the period, going well beyond either humanism or the Renaissance in any narrow definition of the term.

publications, books as well as articles, on any aspect of world history since 1450. (Until 1971/3 *Historical Abstracts* did not go back beyond the eighteenth century.) International in its coverage, with brief annotations on the publications that are covered.

*International Bibliography of Historical Sciences.* Ed. International Committee of Historical Sciences. Paris: A. Colin, 1926-. Annual volumes which do not appear as soon as they ought to, but still make for a decent basic bibliography on research in all aspects of world history.

*Jahresberichte für deutsche Geschichte* (1927-). A standard and very comprehensive current bibliography for German history, but it was never published on time and ceased to appear after about 1985.


*Revue d'histoire ecclesiastique.* Louvain: Université catholique de Louvain, 1900-. Call number: BR140.R45 [RR4]. [RHE]. Accompanied by remarkably complete annual bibliographies that cover all aspects of church history and are systematically arranged. Don't be misled by the qualifier *ecclesiastique*: This bibliography interprets church history in the broadest conceivable terms, listing a great deal of purely social and economic history, among other things. If all else fails, the *RHE* usually succeeds.


**INDICES OF THE PERIODICAL LITERATURE**

*Internationale Bibliographie der Zeitschriftenliteratur* (1965-). This is the successor to the two following items, and it is known as *IBZ*. It is by far the most comprehensive and most useful current index to publications in scholarly journals on any area of knowledge. It is published in two parts annually. Each part includes a volume listing the journals that have been indexed. The volumes are arranged by subject headings and thoroughly cross-referenced by authors.


*Bibliographie der fremdsprachigen Zeitschriftenliteratur* (1911-1964). Companion publication to the preceding item, but not nearly as comprehensive.

*Social Sciences and Humanities Index* (1907-1974). The Social Sciences equivalent of the *IBZ*, but covers a much smaller number of mostly Anglophone journals.

*Humanities Index* (1974-). One of the two separate publications into which the preceding item was divided after 1974 (the other being the *Social Sciences Index*). Useful as a tool of access to English publications on any aspect of the humanities in roughly 160 important current journals.

*Social Sciences Index* (1974-). The twin to the *Humanities Index*.

*Reader's Guide to Periodical Literature* (1900-). Largely useless for scholarly publications, but very useful in order to get an impression of the manner in which the popular press deals with scholarly topics.
INDICES OF BOOK REVIEWS


*Combined Retrospective Index to Book Reviews in Scholarly Journals, 1886-1974, 15 vols.* (Arlington: Carrolton Press, 1979-1982). This is by no means as complete as it appears to be, but it is a superb reference tool for access to reviews of any books that were published during the period 1886-1974.

*Internationale Bibliographie der Rezensionen wissenschaftlicher Literatur* (1971-). A companion publication to the *IBZ* indexing reviews of scholarly books with unique comprehensiveness.

*Bibliographie der Rezensionen* (1900-1943). Index of reviews that were published in German language scholarly journals during the period indicated.

*Current Book Review Citations* (1976-). A companion publication to the *Humanities Index* and equally limited in scope.

JOURNALS

What follows is a highly arbitrary list of some of the outstanding historical journals that it may be worth your while following. For a more comprehensive list of journals see the key to the abbreviations at the end of the annual bibliographical volumes of the *Revue d'histoire ecclésiastique*, or turn to the massive and authoritative *Historical Periodicals Directory*. Eds. H. Boehm, B. H. Pope, and M. S. Ensign. 4 vols. Santa Barbara: ABC Clio, 1981-85). A fifth volume on Australia and international organizations with a cumulated index is in progress. A comprehensive source of accurate information on journals and selected serials in any field of history for all current publications and those that have ceased publication since 1960. For older periodicals you may look at the predecessor of these volumes, which is *Historical Periodicals: An Annotated World List of Historical and Related Serial Publications* (Santa Barbara, 1961).

**Journals of national history**

*Archivio storico italiano* (1842-)
*Historische Zeitschrift* (1859-)
*Revue historique* (1876-)
*Rivista storica italiana* (1884-)
*The English Historical Review* (1886-)
*The American Historical Review* (1896-)
*Hispania* (1940-)

**Journals of general history and parts of history**

*Past and Present* (1952-)
*The Historical Journal* (1923/1958-)
*History: The Journal of the Historical Association* (1916-)
*Annales, Economies, Sociétés, Civilisations* (1929/1946-)
*Comparative Studies in Society and History* (1958-)
*Journal of Interdisciplinary History* (1970-)

C. Fasolt, 4 June 2003
Journal of Modern History (1929-)
Central European History (1968-)
French Historical Studies (1958-)
History of Political Thought (1980-)
Journal of the History of Ideas (1946-)
The Economic History Review (1928-)
The Journal of Economic History (1941-)
Vierteljahrsschrift für Wirtschafts- und Sozialgeschichte (1903-)

Journals in early modern history

Archiv für Reformationsgeschichte/Archive for Reformation History (1903-).
BR300.A67. Published by the Verein für Reformationsgeschichte, this is still the most authoritative journal of Reformation history. It was originally rather thoroughly German, but has in recent years become international in its interests and coverage, including articles in many of the modern European languages, with a heavy emphasis on English and German.

Sixteenth-Century Journal (1970-). BR300.S621. Recent American journal with good articles on any aspect of the sixteenth century. Much attention to recent changes in historical methodology, and inclined to publish the views of established scholars as well as new members to the field. This is particularly useful for its comprehensive book reviews and for the commendable speed with which recently published books get reviewed here.

Zeitschrift für Historische Forschung (1974-). D1.Z55. Relatively new journal with a firm interest in the early modern period (ca. 1300-1800) and a clear bent towards social history. Articles are mostly in German, but also in English and other languages. At the moment this is the best German journal on the period.

Renaissance Quarterly (1947-). CB361.R4 [RR3]. The established American journal on Renaissance history. It focuses very much on literature, Italy, and England - lots of Shakespeare - but it has articles on other subjects as well.


Journal of Medieval and Early Modern Studies (1996-). CB351.A1J86 Gen. This has been published since 1971, but until 1996 it was called the Journal of Medieval and Renaissance Studies.


Journals of ecclesiastical history

Revue d'histoire ecclésiastique (1900-)

Zeitschrift für Schweizerische Kirchengeschichte (1876-). Classic historical journal of Swiss Protestantism.

Historisches Jahrbuch der Görresgesellschaft (1880-). Classic historical journal of German Catholicism.

Luther-Jahrbuch (1919-). BR300.L9. Narrowly German and focussed on Luther.
Mennonite Quarterly Review (1927-). BX8101.M54. The main journal, with an obvious confessional bent, on any aspect of anabaptist history.

Church History. BR140.C55
Journal of Ecclesiastical History. BR140.J8

HISTORICAL DICTIONARIES AND ENCYCLOPEDIAS

General history

Hillerbrand, Hans J., ed. The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Reformation. 4 vols. New York: Oxford University Press, 1996. A recent encyclopedia that covers more than just the Reformation. Most entries are written like scholarly essays, with bibliographies. Some are very good, others are more superficial.


Strayer, Joseph R., ed. Dictionary of the Middle Ages. 13 vols. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1982-1989. The best general purpose reference tool for any information about the Middle Ages in English. The essays vary in quality, but some are outstanding and most contain good bibliographical references. The main advantage of this work is that it contains an index (where you should start your search) and that it offers relatively recent bibliographical references.

Lexikon des Mittelalters. 10 vols. München, 1977-1999. More detailed, more recent, and in other ways superior to Strayer's Dictionary of the Middle Ages - but you have to read German.


International Encyclopedia of the Social Sciences. 16 vols. (N. p., 1968). As the title says: a social-scientific reference tool, which helps to balance the sometimes overly confessional tone of the above-mentioned encyclopaedias (if you are lucky enough to locate the entry where to look up the appropriate information).


C. Fasolt, 4 June 2003
Berger, A. *Encyclopedic Dictionary of Roman Law* (Philadelphia, 1953). A good companion in English to Heumann-Seckel. Here you will find quick definitions of the terms that occur in Roman law.

Erler, Adalbert, and Ekkehard Kaufmann, eds. *Handwörterbuch zur deutschen Rechtsgeschichte*. Berlin: E. Schmidt, 1964-. As crucial for German terminology in law as Berger and Heumann-Seckel are for Roman terminology.

**Encyclopaedias of church history**


*Biographisch-bibliographisches Kirchenlexikon*, ed. F. W. Bautz (Hamm/Westf.: Traugott Bautz, 1975-). Not yet complete, but already an excellent reference tool for personalities of church history with good bibliographies.

*Theologische Realencyklopädie*, ed. G. Krause and G. Müller (Berlin, 1976-). An excellent and very much up-to-date source of accurate information and bibliographical references.

*Die Religion in Geschichte und Gegenwart*, ed. K. Galling. 6 vols. and index. (3rd ed. Tübingen, 1956-1965) [RGG]. The most important Protestant encyclopedia in German. This is the place to look up basic protestant points of view on any issue or subject in the Reformation.


*Lexikon für Theologie und Kirche*, eds. J. Höfer and K. Rahner. 10 vols. (2nd ed. Freiburg, 1957-1965) [LThK]. The most important recent Catholic encyclopedia in German. More concise than the French encyclopedias, but also more recent and excellent in its coverage and with good bibliographies at the end of each article.

*Wetzer und Weltes Kirchenlexikon*, eds. J. Hergenröther and F. Kaulen. 12 vols. and index (2nd ed. Freiburg, 1882-1903). The Catholic equivalent of the *Realencyklopädie für protestantische Theologie und Kirche*. Just as the *Realencyklopädie* was superseded by *Religion in Geschichte und Gegenwart*, so this work was superseded by the *Lexikon für Theologie und Kirche*. Like the *Realencyklopädie* it is still useful for information about the development of scholarship.


*Dictionnaire de théologie catholique*, eds. A. Vacant and E. Mangenot. 15 vols. (Paris: Letouzey et Ane, 1903-1950) [Vacant-Mangenot = DThC]. The unsurpassed encyclopedia on any aspect of catholic theology, which means on any virtually
any aspect of medieval thought as well. Many of the articles are long and thorough enough to qualify as monographs.

*Dictionnaire d'histoire et de géographie ecclésiastique*, ed. A. Baudrillart et al. (Paris: Letouzey et Ane, 1909-) [Baudrillart = DHGE]. A companion to Vacant-Mangenot and Cabrol-Leclercq which has unfortunately not proceeded beyond the letter G or so, but is undoubtedly the best general encyclopedia of church history through the ages.


*Dictionnaire de droit canonique*, ed. R. Naz. 5 vol. (Paris: Letouzey et Ane, 1953-) [DDC]. Much less imposing than the three preceding encyclopedias, but equally important for any aspect of canon law and its history from antiquity to the present.


**Biographical dictionaries**


*Biographie universelle ancienne et moderne*. 45 vols. (Paris, 1845-1866). This is known as the *Michaud*. The first place to look for information about any person born before the nineteenth century.

*Allgemeine deutsche Biographie*. 56 vols. (Leipzig, 1875-1912). [ADB]. A wonderful reference tool with information about much lesser personalities than you might think. Anyone who matters in German history is here, and many who don't are here as well. Some of the essays are long and excellently done by the main authorities of their time on the person in question.


*Deutsches biographisches Archiv*. (Munich, 1982). This is an extraordinarily useful tool for anyone working on the more poorly researched areas of early modern German history. It consists of about 1,500 microfiches, on which the entries from about 250 early modern printed biographical dictionaries are reproduced in alphabetical order. What that means in practical terms is that with a single check you can verify the biographical information available in 250 old and sometimes very rare biographical dictionaries.

Dictionnaire de biographie française. (Paris, 1933-). The authoritative French biographical dictionary, but not as far advanced along the alphabet as one might like: somewhere near H now.

Dizionario biografico degli Italiani. (Rome, 1960-). Even better than the French biographical dictionary, but even worse in terms of its progress: last time I looked it was near D.

HISTORICAL HANDBOOKS

European history

Brady, Thomas A., Jr., Heiko A. Oberman, and James D. Tracy, eds. *Handbook of European History, 1400-1600: Late Middle Ages, Renaissance and Reformation*. 2 vols. Leiden: E. J. Brill, 1994-95. Call number: D203.H360 1994 RR3. This deserves pride of place because it is recent and written with particular attention to the Reformation. Each volume contains essays by leading scholars on clearly defined subjects. The arrangement follows chronological, geographical, and topical considerations. There are essays on the various European nations, on fundamental features of European social, economic, and intellectual history, and on the developments that occurred in and outside of Europe in the early modern period. There are good bibliographies and a variety of useful tables on population growth, coinage, etc.

Hay, Denys, ed. *A General History of Europe*. London: Longman, 1961-1973. This is a relatively recent and reasonably readable series of books on European history from antiquity to the twentieth century. It's one of the best of its kind, and the volumes on medieval Europe by my teacher John Mundy and on the sixteenth century by H. G. Koenigsberger are particularly good.

Langer, William L., ed. *The Rise of Modern Europe*. New York: Harper, 1934-85. This is a much older enterprise than the series edited by Hay, but most of the volumes are a much better read. The volume on the Reformation by Lewis Spitz was one of the most recent to be published and is therefore still quite a good source of information about relevant scholarship.

Gilbert, Felix, ed. *The Norton History of Modern Europe*. New York: Norton, 1970-1982. This covers about the same period as the Langer series: it begins in the late Middle Ages and goes up to the twentieth century. But the volumes are shorter and most of them are much more recent.

Le Goff, Jacques, ed. *The Making of Europe*. Oxford: Blackwell, 1993-. This is the most recent of such series. It is unique in that it represents a major publishing venture: each volume in the series is supposed to be published simultaneously in German, Italian, Spanish, French, and English. Sometimes it works, sometimes it doesn't. The volumes do not follow the chronological model of the previous three series. They rather deal with topics (such as the rise of Christendom, peasants, the sea, European cities, population history, and so on). They are sometimes more in the
style of extended essays, and sometimes major monographs. But they reflect the
state of contemporary scholarship about as well as any contemporary series can.

*The New Cambridge Modern History*. 13 vols. (Cambridge, 1957-70). [NCMH]. This is
the standard historical handbook in English, and far more comprehensive in its
coverage than its predecessor, but also more uneven in its quality and far less
coherent. Unlike the series mentioned so far, this is the kind of work that you
really cannot read. You can only use it to look up certain information, or to get a
quick review of the state of knowledge at the time on a given and relatively well
defined subject.

source of information about the political and diplomatic history of modern
Europe.

*Nouvelle Clio: L'Histoire et ses problèmes*. Eds. R. Boutruche and P. Lemerle. (Paris,
1964-). An excellent collection of general histories, where you can relatively
quickly determine the state of the art from an Annales point of view.

The German equivalent of the *NCMH*, more condensed and more up to date in
terms of available information, but more conservative and old-fashioned in terms
of methodology.

noteworthy in the present context for the periodicization chosen by Erich Hassinger
for an outstanding volume on *Das Werden des neunzehnten Europas 1300 -1600*.

*Oldenbourg Grundriss der Geschichte*. Ed. J. Bleicken et al. (Munich, 1979-). The most
recent German effort of its kind: highly condensed, textbook-like works of
sometimes very high quality.

**National history**

generally considered to be the most reliable standard handbook of German
history. It is named after the nineteenth-century schoolteacher who produced the
first edition. Grundmann's ninth edition brought it up to about the 1960s. It is
subdivided into numerous sections, each of which is written by an expert in the
field and accompanied with a bibliography of primary sources and the relevant
secondary literature.

Stuttgart: Klett-Cotta, 2001-. Call number: DD90.G32 2001 [RR3]. This
successor to Grundmann's ninth edition is still in process. But perhaps because
Wolfgang Reinhard specializes in early modern history, two volumes dealing with
early modern Germany from 1495 to 1648 (vols. 9 and 10) have already appeared in
print.

number: DD175.H68 [Gen, Harp]. This is not so much a handbook as a narrative.
It is very much worth mentioning because it remains the only history of Germany
from the Reformation to the twentieth century written by a single historian that
covers the story in so much detail. Scholarship has advanced a good deal, but Holborn's account is still very much worth reading.


*Storia d'Italia.* 9 vols. (Milan, 1936-1964)

**Church history**

Fliche, Augustin, and Victor Martin, eds. *Histoire de l'église.* 21 vols. , 1934-52. [Known as *Fliche-Martin*]. The standard French Catholic handbook of church history. In spite of its age this is still the best such general history.


Le Bras, Gabriel, ed. *Histoire du droit et des institutions de l'Eglise en Occident.* Paris: Sirey, 1955-. This is a classic example of French legal scholarship: a sociologically inspired history of the legal and administrative institutions of the Catholic church from antiquity to the present. It's hard reading, but a very good source of information on such matters as the canon law and the organization of monastic orders.

Pastor, Ludwig von. *Geschichte der Päpste seit dem Ausgang des Mittelalters.* Freiburg, 1909-1929. The greatest history of the papacy ever published and still very useful, not only because of its narrative, but also because of its extensive quotations from unpublished documents in the papal archives.


Pelikan, Jaroslav. *Reformation of Church and Dogma (1300-1700).* Chicago: U. of Chicago Press, 1984. Call number: BT21.2.P35 v.4. This is neither a church history nor a history of the Reformation. It is rather an attempt to trace the development of the ecclesiastical tradition as a whole through the changes it underwent during the early modern period. It does not focus on individuals, though of course it does refer to them throughout. It is rather structured around the main themes of Christian dogma.

**AUXILIARY DISCIPLINES**

Powell, James, ed. *Medieval Studies: An Introduction*. 2nd ed. Syracuse: Syracuse University Press, 1992. This is an extremely useful general introduction to the various auxiliary disciplines in history. It is divided into chapters, each of which is written by an expert in a particular area. This is the first place for you to go if you need technical advice about questions of paleography, chronology, codicology, diplomatic, numismatics, sphragistics, heraldry, and so on.

Bresslau, Harry, ed. *Handbuch der Urkundenlehre für Deutschland und Italien*. 2nd ed. 2 vols. Leipzig, 1912-31. Worth separate mention because this is and remains the most successful general account of the distinctive features of medieval charters, letters, and other documents.

**Paleography**


**Abbreviations**

Cappelli, Adriano. *Dizionario di abbreviature latine ed italiane*. 6th ed. Milano: Hoepli, 1973. This is an old standby. It gives you virtually every imaginable form of abbreviation used in medieval manuscripts, and since the same abbreviations continued to be used in the early stages of printing, it is very useful for printed books, too.


Nicolini, Hugo, and Franca Sinatti d'Amico, eds. *Indices corporis iuris civilis iuxta vetustiores editiones cum criticis collatas*. 3 in 5 vols. Milan: Giuffrè, 1964-1970. Indispensable for identifying the references to passages in Roman law that occur in medieval and early modern texts, and for transforming them into the style of reference commonly used today.

Chronology

Grotefend, Hermann. *Taschenbuch der Zeitrechnung des deutschen Mittelalters und der Neuzeit*. Ed. Th. Ulrich. 11th ed. Hannover: Hahnsche Buchhandlung, 1971. This is the short version of Grotefend's massive study of different systems of chronology. It is indispensable for determining medieval and early modern methods of indicating time. It deals with the Roman calendar, the French Revolutionary calendar, the system of dating by reference to Easter, and many other systems of dating and timing. When did the year begin in Montpellier in the first half of the sixteenth century? Here you can find out.


Historical Geography


Atlases

*Anchor Atlas of World History*. Eds. H. Kinder and W. Hilgemann. 2 vols. (New York, 1974-78). The maps in this compilation are not the best, because they are small and sometimes not clear enough. But what they lack in size and precision, they make up in quantity and entertainment value. Moreover, in addition to the maps there are plenty of charts and chronologically arranged dates on facing pages. This is the best work to get a hold of the famous "facts" that everyone is supposed to know (like when did Charles V resign?).


*Grosser Historischer Weltatlas, herausgegeben vom Bayerischen Schulbuch-Verlag*. 3 vols. (München: Bayerischer Schulbuch-Verlag, 1957-72). The maps are not the most beautiful, but this is a very reliable and detailed piece of scholarship on European history from antiquity to the twentieth century in existence.

the German ones, but often better suited to make the basic points about, say, the spread of the Peasants' War, or the shifting fortunes of the Thirty Years' War. *Atlas zur Kirchengeschichte: Die christlichen Kirchen in Geschichte und Gegenwart*. Eds. H. Jedin, K. S. Latourette, and J. Martin (Freiburg: Herder, 1970). Good historical atlas with specific attention to questions of church history.

**A Few Surveys of the Historiography**


American Council of Learned Societies: Committee on Renaissance Studies. *Surveys of Recent Scholarship in the Period of the Renaissance* (Providence, 1945). Dated, but good for its time.


**A Few Well-Known Accounts of the Reformation**


**A Few Collections of Scholarly Essays**


C. Fasolt, 4 June 2003
The Old Reich: Essays on German Political Institutions, 1495-1806. Studies presented to the International Commission for the History of Representative and Parliamentary Institutions, 48, eds. J. A. Vann, S. W. Rowan (Bruxelles, 1974). JN3249.044.


Stadbürgertum und Adel in der Reformation/The Urban Classes, the Nobility and the Reformation, ed. W. Mommsen (Stuttgart, 1979). D231.S750.


