**HISTR101**

**First Semester Extra Credit Opportunity**

**Directions**

* Missing work? Low grade? Teetering on the brink of an A? Write one or more essay responses to the writing prompts below to receive credit for missing work or to pad the grade book before the final.
* You must have a THESIS, and you must defend your thesis with source materials, quotes, and specific examples.

**Prompts:**

1. To what extent is the term “Renaissance” a valid concept for a distinct period in early modern European history?
2. Explain how economic, technological, political, and religious factors promoted European explorations from about 1450 to about 1525.
3. In 1519 Charles of Hapsburg became Charles V, Holy Roman emperor. Discuss and analyze the political, social, and religious problems he faced over the course of his imperial reign (1519-

56).

1. Discuss the political and social consequences of the Protestant Reformation in the first half of the sixteenth century.
2. Evaluate the relative importance of the religious rivalries and dynastic ambitions that shaped the course of the Thirty Years War.
3. Compare and contrast the religious policies of TWO of the following: Elizabeth I of England, Catherine de Medicis of France, Isabella I of Spain
4. Analyze the major ways through which Czar Peter the Great (1689-1725) sought to reform his society and its institutions in order to strengthen Russia and its position in Europe.
5. Describe and analyze how overseas expansion by European states affected global trade and international relations from 1600 to 1715.
6. Describe the new astronomy of the 16th and 17th centuries and analyze the ways in which it changed scientific thought and methods.
7. Compare and contrast the views of Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke, and Rousseau on human nature and the relationship between government and the governed.
8. “The essential cause of the French Revolution was the collision between a powerful, rising bourgeoisie and an entrenched aristocracy defending its privileges.” Assess the validity of this statement as an explanation of the events leading up to the French Revolution of 1789.