The Renaissance
Rebirth of arts and sciences

Economic Foundations
- Crusades lead to an increased demand in Middle Eastern goods
- More European goods produced for trade to Middle Eastern markets
- Credit & Banking develop to aid long-distance trade – *Letters of Credit*
  - New Accounting/Bookkeeping methods adopted (Arabic Numerals)

Italian City-States
- Disagreements between Church & Northern Italian city-states over usury (lending money w/ interest) leads to more secularization
- Florence, Genoa, & Venice grow wealthy:
  - proximity to trade routes
  - distribution centers
  - independent; governed as Republics
- Wealthy merchants become active civic leaders
- Medici
  - Wealthy Florence family
    - Patrons of the Arts

Art & Literature
- Focus on individuals & worldly matters in addition to Christianity
- *Humanism*
  - Celebrated the Individual
  - Renewed interest in Greek/Roman works
  - Supported by wealthy patrons
- Francesco Petrarch
  - “Father ” of Humanism
  - Writer of Sonnets
- Leonardo DaVinci
  - *Mona Lisa & The Last Supper*
- Michelangelo
  - Ceiling of the Sistine Chapel & *David*

Northern Renaissance
- Growing wealth in Northern Europe supported Renaissance ideas.
- Northern Renaissance thinkers merged humanist ideas with Christianity = *Christian Humanism*
- The movable type printing press and the production and sale of books (e.g., *Gutenberg Bible*) helped disseminate ideas.
- Northern Renaissance Writers
  - Desiderius Erasmus – *The Praise of Folly* (1511)
  - Sir Thomas More – *Utopia* (1516)
- Northern Artists
  - Dürrer, Van Eyck, Hans Holbein the Younger, Bruegel

Machiavelli
- *The Prince*
  - Early modern *treatise* (written work dealing formally and systematically with a subject) on Government
  - Supports Absolute Power of rulers
  - “End justifies the means”
  - Advises that one should not only do good if possible, but do evil when necessary

The Prince