

Thesis: The rediscovery of sources led to a challenge of traditionally held ideas of gaining knowledge or truth itself. The renaissance was a period of transitioning worldview that stemmed from medieval thought and yet showed the seeds of modernity.

I. Introduction

- a. Difficulty in defining the period
 - i. Vassari
 - ii. Michelet
- b. Transition in worldview
 - i. Rediscovery of Ancient Texts
 - ii. Interest in Classical Culture
 - iii. Combining ancient worldview with the Medieval Worldview

II. Renaissance ideas developed due to external factors.

- a. Economic
 - i. Crusades
 - ii. Bubonic Plague
 - iii. Population shift
- b. Political
 - i. New Middle Class
 - ii. Medici fund Casso
 - iii. Patronage of New Art

III. Renaissance ideas resulted from centuries of development (Part I, the 12th century Renaissance)

- a. Rebirth of education
 - i. Pope Sylvester II
 - ii. Gerard of Cremona
- b. Scholasticism and Medieval Universities
 - i. Definition
 - ii. Use and influence

IV. Renaissance ideas resulted from centuries of development (Part II, the birth of Humanism)

- a. Weaknesses of scholasticism
 - i. Misinterpretation as seen in Ovid's *Art of Love*
 - ii. Lack of sources as seen in Petrarch's criticisms
- b. Fall of Constantinople

V. Relationship of scholasticism and Humanism

VI. Seeds of the modern worldview

- a. Surpassing the Ancients
- b. Influence on Politics and Society
 - i. Thomas More's ideas
 - ii. Niccolo Machiavelli's ideas
 - iii. Nationalism in the Northern Renaissance
 1. Henry VIII
 2. Ferdinand and Isabella
 3. Charles IX
- c. Influence on Religious change
 - i. Alexander VI and Savorloa
 - ii. Leo X and Martin Luther
 - iii. Erasmus

VII. Conclusion

- a. Transition from Scholasticism to Humanism
 - i. 12th Century Renaissance
 - ii. Petrarch, the Father of Humanism
- b. Influence on Social, Political, and Religious institutions
 - i. Thomas More and Machiavelli
 - ii. Erasmus and Martin Luther
- c. Final Thought: From the Medieval to the Early Modern Worldview