

7.5

University of Wisconsin  
Department of History  
Fall 1985-86

HISTORY 119      THE MAKING OF MODERN EUROPE, 1500-1815      Ms. Desan  
5124 Humanities  
Office Hours:  
Wed. 2-4

READING:

TEXTBOOK: Chambers, Grew, Herlihy, et al. The Western Experience,  
Vol II, The Early Modern Period

Goethe, The Sufferings of Young Werther  
Machiavelli, The Prince  
Montesquieu, The Persian Letters

There is also a xeroxed READER of documents available at Kinko's at  
620 University Avenue. The reader and the books are all required.

This course will introduce you to the major social, intellectual,  
political, and religious developments in Europe from the Renaissance  
to the fall of Napoleon. We will focus on the lives of everyday  
people as well as on the most important events and cultural trends in  
European history.

There will be three lectures and one discussion section per week. You  
will be expected to attend both lecture and section and to participate  
in discussion section. You should complete weekly readings prior to  
the weekly section. There will be one two-hour final exam and two  
one-hour exams. If you wish to take this course for four credits, you  
will also be required to write a term paper on a topic chosen by you  
in consultation with the teaching assistant or with me. Final grades  
will be based on the final exam, the hour-exams, and section partici-  
pation (and the paper in the case of four-credit students.)

If possible, I will also show two films during the course of the  
semester (The Return of Martin Guerre and Danton.)

Week 1 (September 3-6): INTRODUCTION

Course Introduction  
From Medieval to Modern Europe  
Reading: TEXT Chapter 11.

Week 2 (September 9-13): THE RENAISSANCE

Renaissance Humanism  
Renaissance Art  
The Prince and Renaissance Politics  
Reading: TEXT Chapter 12; Machiavelli, The Prince; READER 1-4  
(Petrarch, Pico, Erasmus)

Week 3 (September 16-20): THE PROTESTANT REFORMATION

Popular Religion and Christian Humanism

Luther

Protestant Reformation

Reading: TEXT Chapter 14; READER 5-15 (Luther)

Week 4 (September 23-27): REFORMATION AND RESPONSE

The English Reformation

Wars of Religion

Catholic Reformation

Reading: READER 16-34 (Calvin, English and Radical Reformations,  
Catholic Response)

Week 5 (September 30-October 4): EXPANSION OF EUROPE

The Growth of the State

Overseas Expansion

Impact of the Expansion on Europe

Reading: TEXT Chapter 13; READER 35-46 (Montaigne)

Week 6 (October 7-11): EVERYDAY LIFE IN EARLY MODERN EUROPE

Witchcraft and Magic

Living and Dying in Early Modern Europe

HOUR EXAM: Friday, October 11

Week 7 (October 14-18): REVOLTS, WARS, AND POLITICS IN THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY

English Revolution

Wars, Peasants, and Power (The Seventeenth-Century Crisis)

Revolts of Peasants and Nobles

Reading: TEXT Chapter 15, READER 47-57 (English Revolution)

Week 8 (October 21-25): REVOLUTION IN SCIENCE AND POLITICAL THEORY

Scientific Revolution

Political Thought

The Golden Age in the Seventeenth Century--Art and Politics

Reading: TEXT Chapter 16, READER 58-71 (Scientific Revolution,  
Hobbes, Locke)

Week 9 (October 28-November 1): THE AGE OF ABSOLUTISM

Absolutism in Theory and Practice

Louis XIV: Court and Society

The Anti-Absolutists: England and the Netherlands

Reading: TEXT Chapters 17, READER 72-77 (Bossuet)

Week 10 (November 4-8): THE RISE OF PRUSSIA, RUSSIA, AND AUSTRIA

The Rise of Prussia and Russia

HOUR EXAM: Friday, November 8.

Reading: TEXT Chapter 18

Week 11 (November 11-15): THE ENLIGHTENMENT

Origins of the Enlightenment

The Science of Social Criticism

Popular Culture in the Eighteenth Century

Reading: TEXT Chapter 19; READER 78 (from the Encyclopedia);

Montesquieu, The Persian Letters (letters to be announced).

Week 12 (November 18-22): EIGHTEENTH CENTURY

Romantic Reaction to the Enlightenment

Enlightened Despotism--Prussia and Austria

Economic and Diplomatic Rivalries of the Eighteenth Century

Reading: Goethe, The Sorrows of Young Werther

Week 13 (November 25-27): THE EVE OF THE FRENCH REVOLUTION

French Society and Politics in the Eighteenth Century

Coming of French Revolution

Reading: TEXT Chapter 20; READER 79-83 (Eve of Revolution)

Week 14 (December 2-6): THE FRENCH REVOLUTION

Early Revolution

The Radical Revolution

Culture of the French Revolution

Reading: TEXT Chapter 21; READER 84-95 (French Revolution)

Week 15 (December 9-13): NAPOLEONIC EUROPE

Napoleon's Rise to Power

Industrial Revolution

The Century Ahead