

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
Department of History
Semester I, 2007-08

HISTORY 600: The French Revolution at Home and Abroad
Wednesday 1:20-3:20

Prof. Desan
5124 Humanities

This research seminar focuses on the French Revolution and its reception in other nations. The major purpose of the seminar is to offer students the opportunity to do a primary-source research paper on some aspect of the history of the Revolution or responses to it outside France. In the first part of the seminar we will read and discuss primary and secondary sources from this period; the second half of the course will be devoted to individual research and to the discussion of each other's research projects.

The books marked with an asterisk (*) have been ordered at the University Bookstore and placed on reserve at H.C. White. Other articles and documents are in a packet available at the Copy Center at 1650 Humanities. I have ordered Peter McPhee's survey, The French Revolution, as recommended reading.

Week 1: (Jan. 23) INTRODUCTION

Week 2: (Jan. 30) THE EARLY REVOLUTION

R. R. Palmer, The World of the French Revolution, 3-10

* Timothy Tackett, When the King Took Flight, 1-56, 83-118, 137-155, 165-223 (skim the pages that are skipped)

"Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen"

Documents on King's flight, Popular Petitions, & Jeanne-Marie Roland's Letter to the King in The Old Regime and the French Revolution, ed. K. M. Baker (Chicago, 1987), 269-278, 286-90 (NB: it would be a good idea to read these primary documents interspersed with Tackett.)

Week 3: (Feb. 6) THE REVOLUTION AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Shanti Singham, "Betwixt Cattle and Men: Jews, Blacks, and Women, and the Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen," in The French Idea of Freedom: The Old Regime and the Declaration of Rights of 1789, ed. Dale Van Kley (Stanford, 1994), 114-53

Documents on Jews, people of color, and women from Lynn Hunt, ed., The French Revolution and Human Rights (Boston, 1996), read 93-104, 109-11, 119-21, 124-31 (NB: there are more pages in the packet than these assigned pages; you may want to use additional documents for your document papers.)

* Gregory Claeys, The French Revolution Debate in Britain: The Origins of Modern Politics, 49-67
Mary Wollstonecraft, "Vindication of the Rights of Women" in The Enlightenment Reader, ed. Isaac Kramnick (N.Y., 1995), 618-28

Week 4: (Feb. 13) REVOLUTIONARY POLITICAL CULTURE

Robert Darnton, "The Revolutionary Character of the French Revolution," Princeton Alumni Weekly, March 18, 1989, 17-23

Emmet Kennedy, A Cultural History of the French Revolution (New Haven, 1989), 329-373

"Revolutionary Calendar" & "The Festival of the Supreme Being," in The Old Regime and the French Revolution, ed. K. M. Baker (Chicago, 1987), 362-67, 384-391

Richard Marius & Melvin Page, A Short Guide to Writing about History, 6th ed. (NY, 2006), 150-72

* Mary Lynn Rampolla, A Pocket Guide to Writing in History, 43-49

*** SHORT PAPER DUE, Monday, Feb. 18 : 5-page document analysis

Week 5: (Feb. 20) THE RADICAL REVOLUTION & THE TERROR

* R. R. Palmer, The Twelve Who Ruled, read 1-152 & 254-304, skim 335-60, read 361-96

Documents on the Terror in The Old Regime and the French Revolution, ed. K. M. Baker, 342-62

Robespierre speech, 25 Dec. 1793 in Robespierre, ed. George Rudé (Englewood Cliffs, NJ, 1967), 58-60

Week 6: (Feb. 27) ENGLISH RESPONSES TO THE REVOLUTION

* Gregory Claeys, The French Revolution Debate in Britain: The Origins of Modern Politics, 1-48, 68-98 (NB: it makes sense to intersperse reading this secondary material with the primary sources below.)

Edmund Burke, "Reflections on the Revolution in France," and Thomas Paine, "The Rights of Man" in The Impact of the French Revolution: Texts from Britain in the 1790s, ed. Iain Hampsher-Monk (Cambridge, Eng., 2005), 56-66, 75-90, 102-03; 132-149, 157-65
"An Address to the Honorable Edmund Burke from the Swinish Multitude," in Political Writings of the 1790s, ed. Gregory Claeys (London, 1995), 129-136

Week 7: (March 5) THE FOCUS ON RESEARCH

We will probably meet in the library this week.

* Mary Lynn Rampolla, A Pocket Guide to Writing in History , 69-87

Week 8: (March 12) RESPONSES IN USA, LATIN AMERICA, AND EASTERN EUROPE

Lloyd Kramer, "The French Revolution and the Creation of American Political Culture," in The Global Ramifications of the French Revolution, ed. Joseph Klaitz & Michael H. Haltzel (Cambridge, Eng., 1994), 26-54

Jerzy W. Borejsza, "The French Revolution in Relation to Poland and East-Central Europe," in The Global Ramifications of the French Revolution, ed. Joseph Klaitz & Michael H. Haltzel (Cambridge, Eng., 1994), 55-71

Greg Ludlow, "The French Revolution of 1789 and its Impact on Spanish-American Independence," in The French Revolution of 1789 and its Impact, ed. Gail M. Schwab and John R. Jeanneney (Westport, Conn., 1995), 257-264

Lyman L. Johnson, "Juan Barbarin: The 1795 French conspiracy in Buenos Aires," in The Human Tradition in Latin America, ed. Kenneth J. Andrien (Wilmington, Del., 2002), 259-77

Week 9: (March 26) INDIVIDUAL MEETINGS

*** 2 PAGE PROPOSAL = description of topic, key primary sources, and central questions, due at your meeting with me.

Week 10: (April 2) WRITING A RESEARCH PAPER

Sample Student Paper on French Revolutionary, Gracchus Babeuf

Documents on Babeuf, in The Old Regime and the French Revolution, ed. K. M. Baker (Chicago, 1987), 393-402

* Mary Lynn Rampolla, A Pocket Guide to Writing in History , 47-68, 88-103

We will have a discussion with a Writing Lab Instructor.

*** BIBLIOGRAPHY of primary and secondary sources due Friday, April 4

Week 11: (April 9) INDIVIDUAL MEETINGS

*** OUTLINE due at your meeting with me.

Week 12: (April 16) GROUP MEETING: PRESENTATION OF TOPICS & SOURCES

Sample Student introductions

* Mary Lynn Rampolla, A Pocket Guide to Writing in History , 6-24

Week 13: (April 23) EXCHANGE OF DRAFTS

*** Rough drafts due at class.

Week 14: (April 30) DISCUSSION OF ROUGH DRAFTS & CONCLUSIONS

Sample Student conclusions

Week 15: (May 7) FINAL PRESENTATIONS

*** Final Paper due on May 7.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS: The central requirement of this course is a research paper (c. 20-25 pp.) on some aspect of revolutionary history. Choice of topic and compilation of bibliography will begin mid semester, and the second half of the semester will focus on the research and writing of the paper. Short assignments earlier in the semester will be oriented toward preparing you for this final paper. These short assignments include: a short 5-page paper analyzing primary material; a two-page proposal; a bibliography; an outline; a group discussion of topics. Rough drafts of the final paper are due on April 23 and will be shared & discussed by groups of your fellow students. Final paper is due May 7.