UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN  
Department of History  
Semester I, 1987-88  

History 119  THE MAKING OF MODERN EUROPE, 1500-1815  

Mr. Watt  
5121 Humanities (263-1851)  
Office hours: M 11:00-1:00 (and by appointment)  

REQUIRED READINGS:  
Rabelais, Gargantua and Pantagruel: Selections  
Grimmelshausen, The Adventures of a Simpleton  
Voltaire, Candide  

The film The Return of Martin Guerre will also be shown during the course of the semester.  

This course is an introduction to the major social, political, cultural and intellectual developments in Europe from the Renaissance to the Napoleonic era. There will be three lectures and one discussion section per week. The list of sections will be posted, and it is your responsibility to make sure that you are placed in a section. You are expected to attend lectures, to attend and participate in the weekly discussion section, and to read the relevant chapters and books before a given topic is covered in class.  

You may take the course for either three or four credits. Those enrolled for four credits will write a term paper (roughly eight to ten pages in length) on a topic chosen in consultation with the instructor or teaching assistant. All students will take two one-hour exams and one two-hour final exam.  

We will calculate final grades in roughly the following manner:  

a) for 3-credit students:  
participation in section  10%  
mid-term exams  25% each  
final exam  40%  

b) for 4-credit students:  
participation in section  10%  
mid-term exams  20% each  
term paper  20%  
final exam  30%  

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Week 1 (September 2-4):  INTRODUCTION
Course Introduction
From Medieval to Modern Europe
Reading: Text Chapter 11.

Week 2 (September 8-11):  THE RENAISSANCE
Renaissance Humanism
Renaissance Art
The Northern Renaissance
Reading: Text, Chapter 12; Rabelais, Gargantua and Pantagruel: Selections.

Week 3 (September 14-18):  THE PROTESTANT REFORMATION
The Lutheran Reformation
Calvin and the Reformed Faith
The Radical Reformation
Reading: Text, Chapter 14.

Week 4 (September 21-25):  REFORMATION AND RESPONSE
The English Reformation
The Catholic Reformation
The Wars of Religion

Week 5 (September 28-October 2):  EVERYDAY LIFE AND THE GROWTH OF THE STATE
Living and Dying in Early Modern Europe
The Growth of the State
Overseas Expansion
Reading: Text, Chapter 13.

Week 6 (October 5-9):  EXPANSION OF EUROPE
Impact of the Expansion of Europe
Review
FIRST HOUR EXAM: Friday, October 9

Week 7 (October 12-16):  THE SEVENTEENTH-CENTURY CRISIS
Thirty Years' War
English Revolution
Popular Culture in Seventeenth-Century Europe
Reading: Text, Chapter 15; Grimmelshausen, The Adventures of a Simpleton

Week 8 (October 19-23):  REVOLUTION IN SCIENCE AND POLITICAL THEORY
Scientific Revolution
Political Thought
The Early Modern Family
Reading: Text, Chapter 16
Week 9 (October 26-30): THE AGE OF ABSOLUTISM
Absolutism in Theory and Practice
Louis XIV
The Anti-Absolutists: England and the Netherlands
Reading: Text, Chapter 17

Week 10 (November 2-6): THE RISE OF PRUSSIA, RUSSIA AND AUSTRIA
Poverty, Revolt and Crime
Russia: Peter the Great
The Rise of Prussia and Austria
Reading: Text, Chapter 18

Week 11 (November 9-13): THE BAROQUE ERA
Review
SECOND HOUR EXAM: Wednesday, November 11
Baroque Art and Music

Week 12 (November 16-20): THE ENLIGHTENMENT
Origins of the Enlightenment
Social Criticism: The Philosophes
Popular Culture in the Eighteenth Century
Reading: Text, Chapter 19; Voltaire, Candide

Week 13 (November 23-25): EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY ART AND POLITICS

Political Rivalries in Eighteenth-Century Europe
The Classical Age
Reading: Text, Chapter 20

Week 14 (November 30-December 4): REVOLUTIONS OF THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY
Society and Politics in Eighteenth-Century Europe
The Industrial Revolution
The Origins of the French Revolution

Week 15 (December 7-11): THE FRENCH REVOLUTION
The Early Stages of the French Revolution
The Radical Revolution
Napoleon
Reading: Text, Chapter 21

Week 16 (December 14): REVIEW