Semester I Year 1979-80

WARNING: NOT CURRENT; MAY NOT MATCH COURSE CONTENT EXACTLY.

COURSE NO.  COURSE TITLE
351    EUROPE IN THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY

INSTRUCTOR
SELLA

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course aims at providing a comprehensive view of the intellectual, social, and political developments in Europe during the 17th century. After discussing the chief structural features of Europe at the time, the course will focus on the elements of instability and change that were present especially in the troubled decades between 1620 and 1660. This will involve a close study of the several revolts against royal absolutisms as well as of the challenge posed by the Scientific Revolution and by Skepticism to traditional beliefs. Attention will then be trained on the efforts made at restoring social and political order and at finding new intellectual certainties in what has been called "the struggle for stability" after the crisis (or crises) of the preceding decades.

LECTURES

Three lectures a week. Students who elect to take the course for 4 cr. will meet with instructor for an additional hour to discuss select topics.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS and EXAMINATIONS

One-hour six weeks exam; one-hour twelve weeks exam (optional); two-hour final. 4-credit students will be expected to write a research paper.

GRADING SYSTEM

Final grade in course will be determined as follows: for 3-cr. students: six weeks exam = 1/3 of grade; final exam = 2/3 of grade; for 4-cr. students: six weeks = 1/4 of grade; paper = 1/4; final = 1/2. When a student elects to take the 12 weeks optional exam, the grade in that exam will be averaged out with grade in the six weeks exam.

REQUIRED READINGS
(tentative list)

PENNINGTON, Seventeenth-Century Europe; CHURCH, Louis XIV in Historical Thought; FOSTER & GREEN, Preconditions of Revolution in Early Modern Europe; HAZARD, The European Mind; RABB, The Struggle for Stability; RABB, The Thirty Years War.