UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
Department of History
Semester II, 1993-94

THE OLD REGIME AND THE FRENCH REVOLUTION

History 358
Prof. Desan
5124 Humanities

Reading:
David Jordan, *The King's Trial*.
Jacques Ménétra, *Journal of My Life*.
Molière, *Tartuffe and Other Plays*.

The above books have been ordered and should be available at the University Bookstore and on reserve in H. C. White library. They are marked with an asterisk (*) in the assignments below.

**There is also a READER of xeroxed articles and documents available at the Copy Center in 1650 Humanities. The reader is required. Readings from the reader are marked "R." All students will take an in-class exam on Friday, March 4 and a final exam. All students will also write a paper: 4-5 pages for 3-credit students and 10-12 pages for 4-credit students. There will also be a movie shown for this course ("The Flight to Varennes" and/or "Danton.")

WEEK 1 (January 24-28): INTRODUCTION: THE DIVERSITY OF FRANCE & THE KING
Bossuet, passage from *Politics drawn from the Very Word of Holy Scripture*, (R).
Saint Simon, from his *Memoires*, (R).

WEEK 2 (January 31-February 4): ABSOLUTISM & THEATER
Friday: Discussion of Molière and of Louis XIV material
Reading: * Molière, *Tartuffe*.

WEEK 3 (February 7-11): LIFE OF THE PEASANTRY

WEEK 4 (February 14-18): POLITICS, ECONOMY, & DIPLOMACY TO MID-CENTURY
Friday: Discussion of material on peasantry and politics

WEEK 5 (February 21-25): URBAN CULTURE

WEEK 6 (February 28-March 4): COLONIAL ECONOMY, REVIEW AND EXAM
Wednesday: Discussion of Ménétra & Review
** EXAM ON Friday, March 4
Reading: Franklin Knight, *The Caribbean*, 120-58 (R)
WEEK 7 (March 7-11): THE ENLIGHTENMENT
Reading: * Cobban, History of France, pp. 82-90.
Isser Woloch, Eighteenth-Century Europe, pp. 231-264 (R).
Voltaire, selections from Philosophical Dictionary, 76-93, 152-55, 185-87 (R).
Diderot excerpt from Encyclopedia, 71-73 (R).

WEEK 8 (March 14-18): ENLIGHTENMENT II: ROUSSEAU & SCIENCE
Friday: Discussion of Rousseau, Voltaire, & Enlightenment

WEEK 9 (March 21-25): EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY POLITICS
Reading: * Cobban, History of France, 90-122.
Arlette Farge, "Protesters Plain to See," 489-505 (R)

**PAPER DUE on Monday, March 21

WEEK 10 (April 6-8): CAUSES OF REVOLUTION: CONFLICTING INTERPRETATIONS
Reading: * Cobban, History of France, pp. 123-162.
Documents: Abbé Sieyès, "What is the Third Estate?"; Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen (R).
*Lynn Hunt, Politics, Culture, and Class in the French Revolution, pp. 1-16
Georges Lefebvre, "A Series of Class Revolts," pp. 3-28 (R).

WEEK 11 (April 11-15): 1789
Friday: Discussion of Causes of Revolution and 1789
Reading: * David Jordan, The King’s Trial, pp. 1-78

WEEK 12 (April 18-22): RADICALIZATION AND POLITICAL CULTURE
Reading: * David Jordan, The King’s Trial, pp. 79-160 & 178-237.
*Hunt, Politics, Culture, and Class in the French Revolution, pp. 19-51

WEEK 13 (April 25-29): THE RADICAL REPUBLIC
Friday: Discussion of The King’s Trial & Politics, Culture, and Class
Reading: *Hunt, Politics, Culture, and Class, pp. 52-119, 180-212
Documents: Olympe de Gouges, Declaration of the Rights of Women; Speeches on the King; Robespierre’s Speech on Terror (R).

WEEK 14 (May 2-6): THE TERROR, FALL OF ROBESPIERRE & DIRECTORY
Reading: * Cobban, History of France, 218-266.
The Defense of Gracchus Babeuf, ed. John Scott, 91-95, 44-63 (R).

WEEK 15 (May 9-13): NAPOLEON & THE LEGACY OF THE REVOLUTION
Friday: Discussion of Babeuf & Review
Reading: Gordon Wright, France in Modern Times, 67-82 (R).
*Hunt, Politics, Culture, and Class, 213-36