

University of Wisconsin
Semester I, 1992-1993
HISTORY 119: THE MAKING OF MODERN EUROPE, 1500-1815
Prof. Desan
5124 Humanities

READING:

TEXTBOOK: Chambers, Grew, Herlihy, et al., The Western Experience, The Early Modern Period, vol 2
George Huppert, After the Black Death: A Social History of Early Modern Europe
Machiavelli, The Prince
Montesquieu, The Persian Letters
George Mosse, The Reformation
Geoffrey Scarre, Witchcraft and Magic in Early Modern Europe

The books are all required and are available in paperback at the University Book Store and at Brown's Books. The books are all on reserve at Helen C. White Library. There is also a small reader of required documents and articles available at the Copy Center in the basement of the Humanities Building. These readings are marked "R>."

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 the weekly reading assignments before section each week. There will be one two-hour final exam and two one-hour exams. Four-credit students will also be required to write a term paper on a topic chosen by you in consultation with the T. A. or with me. Final grades will be based on the final exam, the hour-exams, and section participation (and the paper in the case of four-credit students.) I will also show the film The Return of Martin Guerre during the course of the semester.

Week 1 (September 2-4): INTRODUCTION
Reading: TEXT, Chapter 11

Week 2 (September 9-11): THE RENAISSANCE
Reading: TEXT, Chapter 12
Machiavelli, The Prince, pp. 29-76 (Letter & Chs. 1-11)

Week 3 (September 14-18): THE PROTESTANT REFORMATION
Reading: Machiavelli, The Prince, pp. 77-138 (Chs. 12-26)

Week 4 (September 21-25): REFORMATION, CATHOLIC RESPONSE, & JUDAISM
Reading: TEXT, Chapter 14
George Mosse, The Reformation
R> M. Weisner, "Women's Response to the Reformation" in The German People and the Reformation, ed. Po-chia Hsia, 148-171

Week 5 (September 28-October 2): THE PEASANTRY AND THE STATE
Reading: Huppert, After the Black Death, Chapters 1, 5-6, 9-10

Week 6 (October 5-9): OVERSEAS EXPANSION & EXAM
Reading: TEXT, Chapter 13
R> Montaigne, "On Cannibals," from Essays, trans. Donald Frame
*HOOR EXAM, Friday, October 9

Week 7 (October 12-16): WITCHCRAFT & THE ENGLISH REVOLUTION
Reading: TEXT, Chapter 15
Geoffrey Scarre, Witchcraft and Magic in Early Modern Europe
R> Documents on Images of Women and Men, Compiled by Natalie Davis

Week 8 (October 19-23): 17TH-CENTURY CRISIS & SCIENTIFIC REVOLUTION
Reading: TEXT, Chapter 16
R> Documents by Galileo from The Galileo Affair: A Documentary History,
ed. Maurice Finocchiaro, 70-118, 272-76

Week 9 (October 26-30): THE AGE OF ABSOLUTISM
Reading: TEXT, Chapter 17
R> Bossuet, from Politics drawn from the Very Words of Scripture; Duc
de Saint Simon, "Louis XIV,"; "Peter the Great."

Week 10 (November 2-6): EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY SOCIAL HISTORY
Reading: TEXT, Chapter 18
Huppert, After the Black Death, Chapters 6-8
R> Manifesto of Pugachev Peasant Revolt

Week 11 (November 9-13): 18TH-CENTURY POWER STRUGGLES & EXAM
No reading
*HOOR EXAM, Friday, November 13

Week 12 (November 16-20): THE ENLIGHTENMENT
Reading: TEXT, Chapter 19
Begin Montesquieu, The Persian Letters, pages to be announced

Week 13 (November 23-25): EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY POLITICS
Reading: TEXT, Chapter 20
Finish Montesquieu, selected pages

Week 14 (November 30-December 4): THE INDUSTRIAL AND FRENCH REVOLUTIONS
Reading: TEXT, Chapter 21
Huppert, After the Black Death, Chapters 2-4
R> Documents on the French Revolution: Sieyès, "What is the Third
Estate?"; The Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen; Olympe de
Gouges, "The Declaration of the Rights of Woman"; Robespierre's speech,
"On Democratic Government and Revolutionary War."

Week 15 (December 7-11): NAPOLEONIC EUROPE
No Reading
FINAL EXAM