

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:

Alfred Cobban, A History of Modern France, 1715-1799, vol I.

Lynn Hunt, Politics, Culture, and Class in the French Revolution.

David Jordan, The King's Trial.

Jacques Ménétra, Journal of My Life.

Molière, Tartuffe and Other Plays.

Jean-Jacques Rousseau, The Social Contract & The Discourse on the Origins of Inequality.

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

Reading: Richard Dunn, Age of Religious Wars, 1589-1689, 128-139 & 153-164 (R).

W. H. Lewis, The Splendid Century, 39-63 (R).

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

Reading: Pierre Goubert, Louis XIV and Twenty Million Frenchmen, 21-51 (R).

Olwen Hufton, "Women and the Family Economy in the Eighteenth Century," (R).

Emmet Kennedy, A Cultural History of the French Revolution, 27-51 (R).

WEEK 4 (February 14-18): POLITICS, ECONOMY, & DIPLOMACY TO MID-CENTURY

Friday: Discussion of material on peasantry and politics

Reading: * Alfred Cobban, History of Modern France, pp. 9-81.

WEEK 5 (February 21-25): URBAN CULTURE

Reading: *Jacques Ménétra, Journal of My Life, pp. vii-60, 243-316.

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

Reading: * Jean-Jacques Rousseau, Selections from The Discourse on the Origins of Inequality, pp. 153-58, 167-78, & 210-48; The Social Contract, pp. 5-58 & 136-47. (Pages for Washington Square Press pocket edition.)

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 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: * Cobban, History of France, pp. 162-218.

* 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 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

Darline Gay Levy & Harriet B. Applewhite, "Women and Political Revolution in Paris," 279-306 (R).

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.

*Jacques Ménétra, Journal of My Life, pp.217-40.

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