

The French Revolution and Napoléon

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Note about how this course is modified to adapt to circumstances created by COVID-19

I've taken a number of steps to make our experience as good as possible under the circumstances. Here they are:

- All interaction for this course will take place on-line.
- Everything you need to know and do for the course is accessible via the Canvas course page.
- Weekly assignments, including readings and video segments that I have recorded will be posted according to the Canvas calendar date, so you know where you should be in your work for the course.
- The reading analysis for the first week *will not be graded*. This is so we have time to adapt to our new circumstances without deleterious consequences for your grade.
- We will have a live Zoom session on Thursdays, as mentioned in my email message of 28 March. (I will provide a link to the session.) The session will be recorded for the convenience of those who cannot attend.
- Privacy Advisory: Please note that the Zoom session recording will capture the presenter's audio, video and computer screen. That means that if you share your computer audio and video during the recorded session, for example, to ask a question or to participate in discussion, it will also be recorded. The recordings will only be accessible to students enrolled in the course; they will not be shared with or accessible to the public. That said, if you prefer not to share audio and video, please familiarize yourself with the mute/unmute options for audio and the start/stop options for video in Zoom.

Course Outline

Week 1 - Introduction; the Old Regime at Twilight; Writers, Censors, & Public Opinion; the Revolt of the Nobles and the Revolution of the Deputies

read: Peter McPhee, *The French Revolution*, 1-49.

Caroline Weber, *Queen of Fashion: What Marie-Antoinette Wore to the Revolution*, 1-46.

Jacques-Bénigne Bossuet, "Politics Derived from the Words of Holy Scripture" in Keith M. Baker, ed., *The Old Regime and the French Revolution*, 31-47.

"Remonstrance against the Edict Suppressing the Corvée, 2-4 March 1776" and

"Parlementary Argument against the Edict Suppressing the Guilds" in Keith M. Baker, ed., *The Old Regime and the French Revolution*, 119-123.

Emmanuel-Joseph Sieyès, "What is the Third Estate" in Keith M. Baker, ed., *The Old Regime and the French Revolution*, 154-179.

Week 2 - Paris & the Bastille; the Great Fear and Revolution in the Countryside; Revolutionary Euphoria

read: Peter McPhee, *The French Revolution*, 50-63.

Caroline Weber, *Queen of Fashion: What Marie-Antoinette Wore to the Revolution*, 47-130.

“Reports of Popular Unrest” in Keith M. Baker, ed., *The Old Regime and the French Revolution*, 217-226.

“Decrees of 10 & 11 August 1789” in Keith M. Baker, ed., *The Old Regime and the French Revolution*, 226-231.

“Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen” in Keith M. Baker, ed., *The Old Regime and the French Revolution*, 237-239.

Week 3 - The Women of Paris at Versailles; the Revolution and the Catholic Church; the Royal Family Flees

read: Peter McPhee, *The French Revolution*, 64-88.

Caroline Weber, *Queen of Fashion: What Marie-Antoinette Wore to the Revolution*, 131-192.

“Deposition of Madelaine Glain & Deposition of Jeanne Martin” in Keith M. Baker, ed., *The Old Regime and the French Revolution*, 231-237.

“Testimony of Master Jean-Louis Brousse des Faucherets,” 1790 [regarding the march to Versailles] (at course site)

Olympe de Gouges, “Declaration of the Rights of Woman,” 1791 in Keith M. Baker, ed., *The Old Regime and the French Revolution*, 261-268.

“The Civil Constitution of the Clergy,” 1791 in Keith M. Baker, ed., *The Old Regime and the French Revolution*, 239-241.

Week 4 – Panthéon; France at War with Europe (the Revolution militarized); the Fall of the Monarchy and the King’s Trial; Counter-Revolution and the Vendée

read: Peter McPhee, *The French Revolution*, 89-108.

Caroline Weber, *Queen of Fashion: What Marie-Antoinette Wore to the Revolution*, 193-222.

David Bell, *The First Total War*, 84-119.

“The King’s Declaration on Leaving Paris” in Keith M. Baker, ed., *The Old Regime and the French Revolution*, 269-271.

“The King’s Trial” in Keith M. Baker, ed., *The Old Regime and the French Revolution*, 302-324.

“Mémorial of Madame de Sapinaud,” 1824

“Turreau’s report on the suppression of the Vendée,” 1794

“Mémorial of General Turreau,” 1795

Week 5 – Defending the Revolution; the Terror; Dechristianization; the End of Terror

read: Peter McPhee, *The French Revolution*, 109-130.

David Bell, *The First Total War*, 120-185.

“The Champ de Mars Massacre” in Keith M. Baker, ed., *The Old Regime and the French Revolution*, 272-277.

“National Assembly Debate on Clubs” in Keith M. Baker, ed., *The Old Regime and the French Revolution*, 278-285.

“The September Massacres” in Keith M. Baker, ed., *The Old Regime and the French Revolution*, 296-302.

“Purge by Insurrection” in Keith M. Baker, ed., *The Old Regime and the French Revolution*, 324-330.

“Make Terror the Order of the Day” in Keith M. Baker, ed., *The Old Regime and the French Revolution*, 342-354.

Week 6 – first examination; Gilded Youth and Thermidor

read: Peter McPhee, *The French Revolution*, 131-153.

Caroline Weber, *Queen of Fashion: What Marie-Antoinette Wore to the Revolution*, 223-292.

Maximilien Robespierre, “Report on the Principles of Political Morality” in Keith M. Baker, ed., *The Old Regime and the French Revolution*, 368-384.

“Festival of the Supreme Being” in Keith M. Baker, ed., *The Old Regime and the French Revolution*, 384-391.

Week 7 – End the Revolution? Napoléon Bonaparte and 18 Brumaire; Italy and Egypt

read: Peter McPhee, *The French Revolution*, 154-177.

David Bell, *The First Total War*, 186-222.

Napoléon Bonaparte, “Letter to the Executive Directory” in Keith M. Baker, ed., *The Old Regime and the French Revolution*, 404-405.

Napoléon Bonaparte, “Speech to the Council of Elders, 19 Brumaire Year VIII” in Keith M. Baker, ed., *The Old Regime and the French Revolution*, 404-415.

Abd al-Rahman al-Jabarti, “Commentary on the Egyptian Campaign, including Napoléon Bonaparte’s Proclamation to the People of Egypt of 2 July 1798”

Week 8 – Napoleonic Empire; Sacralizing Napoleonic Rule

read: David Bell, *The First Total War*, 223-301.

Napoléon Bonaparte, “Napoleonic Ideas” in Keith M. Baker, ed., *The Old Regime and the French Revolution*, 415-426.

“The Imperial Catechism,” April 1806

“The Continental System,” 21 November 1806 “Le Code Noir” (The Black Code), 1685.

Prophecy of Slave Rebellion from Louis-Sébastien Mercier *L’An deux mille quatre cent quarante*. 1771.

Léger Félicité Sonthonax, “Decree of General Liberty” 29 August 1793

Napoléon Bonaparte, “Instructions to General Leclerc” 1802-1803

Week 9 – Haiti & Spain; Russia and the Collapse of the Empire

read: Peter McPhee, *The French Revolution*, 178-218.

David Bell, *The First Total War*, 302-320.

Jakob Walter, “Foraging,” 1812

Jakob Walter, “The Crossing of the Berezina,” 1812

Napoléon Bonaparte, “Letter to Sovereigns of Europe, 1814” in Keith M. Baker, ed., *The Old Regime and the French Revolution*, 426-427.

Week 10 – The Restoration Remembers; History and the Uses of the Revolution; second examination

read: Peter McPhee, *The French Revolution*, 178-218.

David Bell, *The First Total War*, 302-320 (recommended).
Edmund Burke, *Reflections on the Revolution in France*, 1790. [excerpt]

Required texts: All required texts are available at the University Bookstore. They may also be found at other bookstores, the UW Libraries, and many public libraries

Keith M. Baker, ed., *The Old Regime and the French Revolution*.
David Bell, *The First Total War: Napoleon's Europe and the Birth of Warfare as We Know It*.
Peter McPhee, *The French Revolution*.
Caroline Weber, *Queen of Fashion; What Marie-Antoinette Wore to the Revolution*.

Assignments and due dates: Weekly reading analysis (10%), essay topic and bibliography (due by 11:59pm on 27 April), first examination (5 May, 30% of grade), essay (due by 11:59pm on 22 May, five pages, 30% of grade), second examination (4 June, 30% of grade).

You must complete all assignments in order to pass the course. Mark examination dates on your calendar now. A make-up examination will be offered only in the gravest of circumstances, for example, a death in the immediate family.

Weekly reading analysis: The purpose of this weekly assignment is to develop critical reading skills. Each week you are asked to read at least two primary sources. For your weekly reading analysis, identify a passage you find interesting and, in a few sentences, explain why. Do this for two of the assigned primary sources. Submit your analysis by the date and time specified. *Note: The reading analysis for the first week of term will not be graded.*

Essay assignment: The purpose of the essay assignment is to develop your skills in research, analysis, and written expression. A high-scoring essay will display all three of these qualities. To those ends, write an essay of no more than five pages on any topic falling within the scope of the course.

This assignment asks you to work with a primary source of your choice and a set of secondary sources that provide context and support analysis of your chosen primary source. Your primary source may be a text (such as one of the many textual primary sources we read each week in this course) or it may be an illustration, such as a political cartoon or a work of “high” art. It could be a location of historical significance.

Whatever you choose for your primary source, you also need to find three secondary sources (books or articles in scholarly journals). Only one of these three may be one of the required secondary readings in the course. Your citations (footnotes or endnotes) should show how these sources were used in developing your essay.

By the date listed above under “Assignments and Due Dates” you must submit a brief statement (three or four sentences) in which you identify your topic. Then, list the scholarly sources (books or articles) and primary source you intend to use. Please refer to information posted to course site for advice regarding the selection of your sources. You are encouraged to consult me for advice about topics and sources. Once submitted, topics may not be changed without consultation.

Essays must be submitted by the due date and time. For the sake of fairness, a penalty of 1/2 grade (0.5 grade point) will be assessed on papers submitted late. An additional penalty of 0.5 will be assessed with each passing week. Any essay submitted after the last day of instruction will receive a grade of 0. Remember that you must complete all assignments in order to pass the course. If you fail to submit your essay by the final class meeting, you will not pass the course.