

History 342-1
 Fall Quarter 2003
 MWF 9.00
 Office Hours Monday 1-3.
 scm@northwestern.edu

Prof. Sarah Maza
 204 Harris Hall
 7-4038 or 1-3406

EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY FRANCE:
 THE OLD REGIME AND THE FRENCH REVOLUTION

The following books are available for purchase at Norris University Bookstore. They are also on reserve in the library.

Alexis de Tocqueville, *The Old Regime and the French Revolution*
 Robert Darnton, *The Great Cat-Massacre*
 Colin Jones, *The Great Nation*.
 Montesquieu, *Persian Letters*
 Voltaire, *Candide*
 Diderot, *The Nun*
 Lynn Hunt, *The Family Romance of the French Revolution*
 plus one required film, "Dangerous Liaisons", dir. Stephen Frears (1988).

Teaching Method: Lectures and scheduled discussions. See schedule below.

Evaluation:

The final grade will be based on an in-class midterm (1/3 of grade); and a final examination (2/3 of grade).. The midterm will take place on Monday October and will consist of an essay question selected from several distributed ahead of time. *Students may also select the option of an additional research paper in which case the midterm, final and paper will each count for 1/3 unless the paper grade is lower than the other two in which case the standard grading procedure will apply.* The final examination will be an essay question plus identifications of material drawn from the entire course from the beginning. The final examination will be on Wednesday December 10, 9 to 11.

Week I:

9/24: Myths and Interpretations of the French Revolution

9/26: The Legacy of Louis XIV

Read: Tocqueville, *The Old Regime and the French Revolution*, entire except appendices. and Jones, chapter 1.

Week II:

9/29: The World of the Peasantry

10/1: Urban Society: Workers and Servants

10/3: Discussion: previous week's material plus Darnton, *Cat Massacre*, Intro and chaps 1-3.

Required Film: Stephen Frears, "Dangerous Liaisons", based on the novel by PA Choderlos de Laclos, University Library 1-3PM, or view on your own time.

Week III:

10/6: Nobility and Bourgeoisie

10/8: France Under the Regency

10/10: Discussion: Jones, chapter 2 and Montesquieu *Persian Letters*, pp.17-33,41-52,67-133, 149-174,197-197,206-221,244-281.

Week IV:

10/13: Origins of the French Enlightenment

10/15: The Encyclopédie and its Readers

10/17: Discussion: Jones, chapter 3, Voltaire, *Candide*, and Darnton, *Cat Massacre*, chaps 4,5.

Week V:

10/20: The Clergy and Religion in the Age of Enlightenment

10/22: The Enlightenment and the Problem of Women

10/24: Discussion: Diderot, *The Nun*, entire.

Week VI:

10/27: **Midterm in class**

10/29: Louis XV and the “Desacralization” of Monarchy

10/31: Louis XVI, Marie-Antoinette, and the Failure of Reform

No discussion. Read Jones chapters 4-7.

Week VII:

11/3: 1789: How it all Started

11/5: 1790-93: Why it Didn't Stop

11/7: Discussion: Jones, chapters 8, 9, 10.

Week VIII:

11/10: Popular Politics and the Revolution

11/12: How to Kill a King

11/14: Discussion: Hunt, *Family Romance*, entire. .

Week IX:

11/17: Women in the French Revolution

11/19: Race and Revolution: Blacks and Jews

11/21: (Lecture, no discussion): The Reign of Terror.

Week X:

11/24: Tocqueville Confirmed? The Rise of Napoleon Bonaparte

11/26: Discussion, Read Jones, chapter 11 and review of Revolution..