

**History 302**  
**Revolutions in the Atlantic World**  
**Professor Lambert**  
**Spring 2011**  
**T-TH 10:30-11:45**  
**University 201**

**Course Description**

In the last quarter of the eighteenth century and the first quarter of the nineteenth century, a series of upheavals shook the Atlantic empires of Great Britain, France, Spain, and Portugal. The American (1776-1789), the Haitian (1791-1804), and the Latin American (1808-1829) revolutions threw the imperial Atlantic world into chaos, killing and dislocating tens of thousands, depriving European powers of prized colonial possessions, disrupting established political orders and patterns of commerce, and finally, creating independent nation states in the Americas. To understand the wars of independence in the Americas, we must also examine two European revolutions, namely the so-called Glorious Revolution of England (1689) and the French Revolution (1789-1799).

This course considers the Age of Revolution in the North Atlantic world, beginning with the Glorious Revolution and concluding with the Latin American revolutions. We will consider these revolutions as a continuous sequence of radical challenges to established authority resulting in fundamental transformations of governance throughout the region. We will view this revolutionary progression as a kind of chain reaction, as if the Atlantic world was, as historian R.R. Palmer has written, "swept in the last four decades of the eighteenth century by a single revolutionary movement," though one of widely ranging inspirations, goals, and outcomes. We will discuss the impact of events in Europe on the American colonies as well as the reverberations that these American revolutions had in the Old World. Exploring how various groups of people contended with order and anarchy, slavery and liberty, the course will highlight connections between the various revolutionary and counter-revolutionary movements that transformed American territories from imperial colonies to fledgling nation states. As the course examines the relations between economy, social organization, and political struggle on a grand scale, we will consider the ways that the aspirations and actions of common men and women mediated major developments in circum-Atlantic history.

**Required Reading**

Robert Winks and Thomas Kaiser, *Europe From the Old Regime to the Age of Revolution: 1648-1815*

Gordon Wood, *The American Revolution*

Thomas Ott, *The Haitian Revolution, 1789-1804*

John Charles Chasteen, *Americanos: Latin America's Struggle for Independence*

### Written Assignments

Each student will write a 15-page research paper on a topic agreed upon by the student in consultation with the instructor. The paper may examine a theme that spans one or more of the revolutions. Comparative studies are encouraged. Throughout the semester the student will submit the following: a paper proposal, an annotated bibliography, a topic-sentence outline, a polished rough draft, a peer review critique, and a final draft. Directions for these submissions will be discussed in class. All assignments will be submitted on Blackboard.

NB Late submissions of assignments may result in a grade reduction.

### Grades

Research Papers      80%  
Class Participation    20%

### Office Hours

Office Hours: T-Th 12:00 – 1:00, and by appointment  
Office: 313 University Hall.  
Telephone: 494-5811.  
Email: [flambert@purdue.edu](mailto:flambert@purdue.edu)

### Class Schedule

Date	Topic	Reading	Assignment
Week of Jan 11	Introduction & The Aspirations and Worlds of James II & Louis XIV	Winks & Kaiser, <i>Europe, 1648-1815</i> —to page 17 (Stuart England)	
Week of Jan 18	The Glorious Revolution in England & New England	Winks & Kaiser, <i>Europe, 1648-1815</i> pp—17 through 55	<b>Th—Jan 20</b> <b>Paper Proposals</b>
Week of Jan 25	The Seven Years War	Wood, <i>The American</i>	

	as a War for Empire & New Imperial Policies	<i>Revolution</i>	
Week of Feb 1	<b><i>No Class on Tues— Feb. 1 to prepare bibliography.</i></b> Declaring & Fighting for American Independence; the French Alliance	Wood, <i>The American Revolution</i>	<b>Th—Feb 3</b>  <b>Annotated Bibliography</b>
Week of Feb 8	Creating a New Republic; The <i>Ancien Regime</i> and Debts from aiding America	Wood, <i>The American Revolution</i>	
Week of Feb 15	The Rights of Man & Moving Beyond the American Model	Winks & Kaiser, <i>Europe, 1648-1815</i>	
Week of Feb 22	Reaction and the Rise of Napoleon	Winks & Kaiser, <i>Europe, 1648-1815</i>	
Week of Mar 1	<b><i>No class on Tues. Mar. 1 to prepare outline;</i></b> Revolution & the French Colonies	Ott, <i>The Haitian Revolution</i>	<b>Th—Mar 3</b>  <b>Topic Sentence Outline</b>
Week of Mar 8	Three Revolutions in St. Dominique	Ott, <i>The Haitian Revolution</i>	
Week of Mar 15	NO CLASS – SPRING BREAK		
Week of Mar 22	Revolution in Latin America	Chasteen, <i>Latin America's Struggle</i>	
Week of Mar 29	Independence in Latin America		
Week of Apr 5	<b><i>No Class— Preparation of Research Papers</i></b>		
Week of Apr 12	<b><i>No Class—</i></b>		<b>Th—Apr 14</b>

	<i>Preparation of Research Papers</i>		<b>Polished Draft</b>
Week of Apr 19	Presentations of Research Papers		<b>Peer Review</b> <b>Critiques</b>
Week of Apr 26	Presentations of Research Papers		<b>Final Draft of Papers</b>

### **University Disclaimers**

#### **Cheating / Plagiarism:**

Plagiarism refers to the reproduction of another's words or ideas without proper attribution. University Regulations contains further information on dishonesty. Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty are serious offenses, and will be treated as such in this class. You are expected to produce your own work and to accurately cite all necessary materials. Cheating, plagiarism, and other dishonest practices will be punished as harshly as Purdue University policies allow. Any instances of academic dishonesty will likely result in a grade of F for the course and notification of the Dean of Students Office.

#### **Campus Emergency:**

In the event of a major campus emergency, the above requirements, deadlines and grading policies are subject to changes that may be required by a revised semester calendar. Any such changes in this course will be posted once the course resumes on Blackboard or can be obtained by contacting the professor via email or phone