This course intends to acquaint students with some of the major events of the French Revolution and Napoleonic era (roughly 1789 to 1815), and introduce them to recent developments in the ways that historians view this decisive (and action-packed) period. Topics we will address include the following:

- the Old Regime and the origins of revolution;
- widening political participation of the masses and previously marginalized social groups;
- the problem of the king and its bloody resolution;
- revolutionary culture;
- the extension of rights to men, Jews, blacks, and (not) women;
- the Terror and varieties of revolutionary violence;
- the larger Atlantic revolutionary world, slave revolts, and racial equality in the Caribbean;
- the evolution and effects of war under the revolution and under Napoleon Bonaparte;
- Napoleon’s leadership successes and failures;
- Global impacts of revolution and Napoleonic domination;
- Contested interpretations of the French Revolution and Napoleon.

Additionally, students will write a significant research paper using primary and secondary sources and applying what they have learned in class to an original work of scholarship.

Regular attendance and active participation in class are required of all students. Each student will lead a discussion, most likely as part of a team.

The syllabus below provides a framework for the semester’s schedule, but may be altered as needed for the benefit of the entire class.

Texts available at Von’s Bookshop:

- David Jordan, *The King’s Trial*
- Lynn Hunt, *French Revolution and Human Rights*
- Rafe Blaufarb, *Napoleon*

Required reading includes some articles and documents available on-line and/or through Blackboard Learn.

Requirements:

- Short papers (4) based on assigned readings 48%
Participation in class discussion, inc. leading disc. 17%
Research paper (inc. incremental assignments) 35%

M 19 Aug  Introduction to the course and overview of topics
W 21 Aug  France under the Old Regime  Short History, ch. 1
F 23 Aug  Film: Marie Antoinette  Short History, pp. 21-30
M 26 Aug  *Discuss film and article  Maza article
W 28 Aug  1789 – a revolutionary year  Short History, pp. 30-43
F 30 Aug  Constitutional monarchy  Short History, pp. 43-70
*M 2 Sep  No class – Labor Day
W 4 Sep  Information literacy with Larry Mykytiuk; meet in HSSE library CSC (glassed-in group computer classroom on 1st floor, left of entrance)
F 6 Sep  *Human rights and the revolution  Hunt, pp. 1-32
Student leaders:
M 9 Sep  *Religious minorities; Jews and citizenship  Hunt, pp. 48-50, 86-9, 91-101
Student leaders:
*Topic and preliminary bibliography due
W 11 Sep  *Slave revolt and debates over slavery  Hunt, 51-58, 101-112
Student leaders:
F 13 Sep  The flight of the King imagined – film: La Nuit de Varennes
*Paper due on human rights
M 16 Sep  *Revolution and the king  Jordan, pp. 1-33
T 17 Sep  Individual meetings with students re: topics and King’s Trial
W 18 Sep  No class – work on research  Jordan, ch. II-III
F 20 Sep  No class – work on research  Jordan, ch. IV-V
M 23 Sep  No class – work on research  Jordan, ch. VI-IX
T 24 Sep  Individual meetings with students re: topics and King’s Trial
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Source</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>W 25 Sep</td>
<td>*Arguing the case of death</td>
<td>Jordan, X-XIII</td>
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<td>Student leaders:</td>
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<td>F 27 Sep</td>
<td>Republic and Terror, 1793-94</td>
<td>Short History, ch. 5</td>
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<td>M 30 Sep</td>
<td>Film: Danton</td>
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<td>*Paper due on king’s trial</td>
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<td>W 2 Oct</td>
<td>Film: Danton</td>
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<td>F 4 Oct</td>
<td>*Film: Danton and discussion</td>
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<td>Student leaders:</td>
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<td>*Prospectus (summary or detailed narrative outline) and bibliography due</td>
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<td>M-T 7-8 Oct</td>
<td>OCTOBER BREAK</td>
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<td>W 9 Oct</td>
<td>Directory, 1795-1799</td>
<td>Short History, ch. 6</td>
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<td>F 11 Oct</td>
<td>Revolution in St. Domingue</td>
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<td>M 14 Oct</td>
<td>Eyewitness accounts of racial violence</td>
<td>selection from Popkin</td>
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<td>Student leaders:</td>
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<td>W 16 Oct</td>
<td>Women in revolution</td>
<td>Hunt, pp. 119-139</td>
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<td>F 18 Oct</td>
<td>*Revolution in history</td>
<td>Kates, intro., ch. 1</td>
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<td>M 21 Oct</td>
<td>Professor Gao Yi, Peking University</td>
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<td>*Individual meetings with students on research progress</td>
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<tr>
<td>W 23 Oct</td>
<td>*Individual meetings with students on research progress</td>
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<td>F 25 Oct</td>
<td>*Was the revolution bourgeois or not?</td>
<td>Kates, ch. 5-6</td>
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<td>Student leaders:</td>
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<td>M 28 Oct</td>
<td>*Marie Antoinette again</td>
<td>Kates, ch. 9</td>
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<td>Student leaders:</td>
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<td>W 30 Oct</td>
<td>Student presentations of research</td>
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<td>F 1 Nov</td>
<td>Student presentations of research</td>
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<tr>
<td>M 4 Nov</td>
<td>*Revolution in the family</td>
<td>Kates, ch. 10</td>
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**Useful websites**
For correct referencing form, see:
http://www.bedfordstmartins.com/hacker/resdoc/history/bibliography.htm

Good websites on the French Revolution and Napoleon include the following:
http://chnm.gmu.edu/revolution
http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/modsbook13.html
http://history/hanover.edu/project.html
Some course policies and suggestions for doing well

This syllabus may change for the convenience of students as the semester progresses. Any changes to the syllabus will be announced in class. Students are individually responsible for everything that transpires in class, including changes to the syllabus, whether or not the student is present. Absence is not an excuse.

I will do my best to post announcements, lectures, and other relevant course material on Blackboard Learn and by sending e-mails to all students, but ultimately, attendance in class is the surest way to keep up on everything related to this class.

Regular attendance and active participation in class discussions are essential if a student wishes to do well. Frequent absences (5 or more during the semester) will lower a student’s final grade substantially; more than 6 absences will lead to a failing grade for the class. It may not be obvious, but I will be taking attendance every day that the class meets. It is the student’s responsibility to keep track of his or her absences, or to check with me in order to avoid an unpleasant surprise at the end of the semester. Similarly, a pattern of late arrivals and early departures will also lower a student’s final grade. Punctuality is a courtesy to the entire class, and it ensures a better learning environment.

Students should complete all assigned readings before the appropriate class meeting, and be prepared to discuss them on days so marked with an asterisk (*). Be sure to bring to class the textbook or reading under discussion on a given day.

Students will write a total of four (4) short papers in addition to the research paper. Therefore, students should manage their time accordingly. Good writing is a valuable skill for students in any major and aspiring to any career. It also requires a lot of time and effort. Students should expect to do several drafts of all papers for this class. I encourage students to discuss their papers with me at any time in the writing process, and to take advantage of the services of the Writing Lab, 226 Heavilon Hall, 494-3723, http://owl.english.purdue.edu/.

Papers must be submitted at the beginning of class on the due dates, and submitted electronically on SafeAssign on Blackboard. Plagiarism or any other form of academic dishonesty will result automatically in an F for the course, at a minimum. More severe penalties may be sought. For more information, see: www.purdue.edu/studentregulations/student_conduct/regulations.html

Students are encouraged to consult at any time with the professor in order to avoid academic dishonesty.

Disclaimer: In the event of a major campus emergency, course requirements, deadlines, and grading policies are subject to changes that may be required by a revised semester calendar or other circumstances. For more information on Purdue’s Emergency Notification System, see http://www.purdue.edu/emergency_preparedness/warning_system.htm. Again, my e-mail address is: awhitney@purdue.edu.

A copy of Popkin’s Short History of the French Revolution, 4th ed. is on reserve in HSSE library.

Full citations for the posted readings and article are below:


