

History 421.01-01
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University of Calgary
2007-08 Academic Year
Fall Session

France 1453-1715: Crisis, Recovery, and Royal Absolutism

The history of France from the end of the Hundred Years' War to the death of Louis XIV, emphasizing the political and institutional development of the monarchy in the context of social and religious upheaval, the development of royal absolutism in theory and practice, and France's role in European affairs.

Required Texts

Frederic J. Baumgartner, *France in the Sixteenth Century*
Yves-Marie Bercé, *The Birth of Absolutism: A History of France, 1598-1661*
Peter R. Campbell, *Louis XIV*

Your grade for the course will be determined in the following manner:

term paper proposal (due Oct. 19).....	10%
midterm test (Oct. 31).....	25%
term paper (due Nov.28).....	30%
final exam (scheduled by registrar).....	35%
	100%

There is a web page devoted to this course, which may be found through your University of Calgary portal ("My U of C") or at <http://blackboard.ucalgary.ca/> You log on to this site using your university username and password. If you do not have a university account, you can set it up online at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/it/accounts/>. This web page includes a supplementary bibliography, lecture outlines, and bulletin board on which questions of a general nature regarding the course may be asked and answered. Requests specific to an individual concern (questions regarding term paper topics, requests for extensions, etc.) should not be posted to the bulletin board but relayed to the instructor in person or via email.

The following scheme will be used in converting percentages to letter grades, and vice versa:

A+ = 95% and above	C+ = 77-79%
A = 92-95%	C = 73-76%
A- = 90-91%	C- = 70-72%
B+ = 87-89%	D+ = 65-69%
B = 83-86%	D = 60-64%
B- = 80-82%	F = 59% and lower

Course Outline and Reading Assignments

Part I: France 1453-1598

Reading: Baumgartner, *France in the Sixteenth Century*

- Sept. 10-17** Introduction to the course; the Hundred Years' War; France in 1453
- Sept. 19-24** The Recovery of France in the Fifteenth Century
- Sept. 28- Oct. 3** Renaissance and Reformation
- Oct. 5-12** Warfare and Diplomacy
- Oct. 15-22** The Wars of Religion
- Oct. 24-29** Culture, Economy, and Society in Early Modern France
- Oct. 31** **Midterm Test**

Part II: France 1598-1661: The Construction of Royal Absolutism

Reading: Bercé, *The Birth of Absolutism*

- Nov. 2-5** Henry IV and Recovery, 1598-1624
- Nov. 7- 14** Richelieu, Louis XIII and the Construction of Royal Absolutism; France, Europe, and the Wider World
- Nov. 16-21** Louis XIV, the Regency, and the Fronde; France in 1661

Part III: France 1661-1715: The Reign of Louis XIV and the Pinnacle of Royal Absolutism

Reading: Campbell, *Louis XIV*

- Nov. 23-28** The Royal Government, Ministers, and Domestic Policy
- Nov. 30- Dec. 3** Society and Culture in the time of the Sun King
- Dec. 5-7** Foreign Policy and the Wars of Louis XIV

Exams

There are two exams in this course, a midterm on Oct. 31 and a final exam scheduled by the registrar. Both exams will be a combination of short answers (“identify and give the significance”) and an essay or essays. In both cases, there will be a choice of questions to answer. Moreover, I will supply you with a review sheet and study guide approximately a week to ten days before each exam. The material on the exams will be selected from the review sheets. The final exam will not be cumulative; that is, it will cover only the material since the midterm.

Assignments

All assignments are due on the date indicated. Late assignments will be penalized at the rate of 1/3 of a grade per day, unless an extension is granted by the instructor prior to the due date. Assignments are to be submitted both electronically and on paper. Electronic copies are to be submitted via the “Assignments” function in Blackboard, while paper copies are to be submitted in person in class. Electronic copies must be submitted before 4:30 on the due date (Blackboard automatically records the time and date of submission). **Failure to meet either of these criteria will result in late penalties.** Paper copies may also be put into the red box on the wall outside the History Department office (SS656), provided they are turned in by 4:30 on the due date. After this time, they will be stamped with the next day’s date and will be penalized accordingly.

Computer problems are not a legitimate excuse for a late paper. Be sure to back up your work frequently and periodically print a hard copy, so that if you do experience problems, you have something that can be produced on the due date.

Assignments must conform to the *Department of History Essay Guide*, available in the Bookstore or online through the History department website. More information and assistance is available through the History Department home page at <http://hist.ucalgary.ca>.

Term paper proposal (due Oct. 19) and term paper (due Nov. 28)

The term paper is to be a fully-developed research paper of approximately 3000 words (10-12 pages, typed, double-spaced). The subject is to be the student's choice, but must be approved by the instructor. To this end two copies of a written term paper proposal with a statement of the paper's thesis, a detailed outline, and a bibliography of at least 10 items (other than the books assigned for this course), and including at least 3 articles in scholarly journals, is to be turned in October 19. The term paper must conform to the Department of History Essay Guide, available online at <http://hist.ucalgary.ca/tutorials/essay/default.htm>, or to the *Chicago Manual of Style*.

Internet Sources

This is my policy regarding internet sources. Only two categories of internet sources are permissible:

- 1) electronic versions of printed sources; that is, many academic journals are also issued in

electronic form and are accessible through the University of Calgary Library website. Some journals (more all the time) are issued only in electronic format. These too are acceptable provided they are reputable scholarly journals. Many books, as well, are also available online. This too is fine, but you need to subject these sources to the same standard of judgement that you would printed sources. Some indicators of reputable sources include an author's name and university affiliation, the scholarly affiliation of the journal, and the inclusion of the scholarly apparatus of references, such as footnotes or endnotes.

2) online versions of primary sources. Again, these need to be assessed for quality and reliability.

Please note that encyclopedias (in print or online) are not acceptable sources. This is especially true of uncontrolled encyclopedias such as Wikipedia. If you are unsure, please consult me as to the appropriateness of your proposed sources.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is submitting or presenting one's work in a course, or ideas and/or passages in a written piece of work, as if it were one's own work done expressly for that course, when, in fact, it is not.

As noted in the *Department of History Essay Guide*, plagiarism may take several forms:

- a) Failure to cite sources properly may be considered plagiarism. This could include quotations, ideas, and wording used from another source but not acknowledged.
- b) Borrowed, purchased, and/or ghost-written papers are considered plagiarism, as is submitting one's own work for more than one course without the permission of the instructor(s) involved.
- c) Extensive paraphrasing of one or a few sources is also considered plagiarism, even when notes are used, unless the essay is a critical analysis of those works. The use of notes does not justify the sustained presentation of another author's language and ideas as one's own.

Plagiarism is a serious academic offense. A plagiarized paper will automatically be failed. Plagiarism may also result in a failing grade for the course and other penalties as noted in The University of Calgary Calendar.