339-01 Revolution and its Aftermath

Steven Frankel

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PL 339: Revolution and its Aftermath

“All circumstances taken together, the French Revolution is the most astonishing that has hitherto happened in the world.” Edmond Burke

“The French Revolution is such an extraordinary event that it must serve as the starting point for any systematic consideration of the affairs of our own times.” Ernest Renan

Course Description: Last semester, we studied the origins of modern politics, including its ambitious claims about nature and reason. On the basis of these claims, thinkers such as Rousseau and Locke worked out a justification for dramatic political agenda including “revolutions.” This course continues our examination of modern politics by focuses on the practical expression of political theory as it unfolded in the 18th century. Specifically, we shall focus on the first two revolutions in modern history in France and America. In shifting to the writings of statesmen and politicians, we will not abandon philosophy; but instead, study how theoretical claims were translated into political action in order to grasp the nature of modern politics more clearly. We shall pay particular attention to the relation between philosophy, politics, and the emergence of the Public.

HOW TO CONTACT ME:

Office: Hinkle Hall 203

Office Hours: Tuesday 1:00pm – 2:15pm
Thursday 1:00pm – 2:15pm (or by appointment)

Phone: 745-3668
E-mail: frankel@xavier.edu

Departmental Secretary: Linda Loomis 745-3821

Mailbox: You can leave messages for me in my mailbox in Hinkle.

Prerequisites: PPP students and Philosophy Majors Only.
Required Texts:

Alexis De Tocqueville, The Old Regime and the Revolution

University of Chicago, The Old Regime (A Reader)

Edmund Burke, Reflections on the Revolution in France

Hamilton, Jay, Madison, The Federalist Papers

William Doyle, The French Revolution (Recommended)

François Furet, Revolutionary France 1770-1880 (Recommended)

Schedule:

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic/Assignment</th>
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<tr>
<td>January 14</td>
<td>Introduction; The Old Regime: Treatise on Orders (pp.13-31),</td>
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<td>January 16</td>
<td>Bousset’s Politics (pp.31-47), Louis XV to Parlement &amp; Remonstrances (pp.47-71), Encyclopedia (pp.71-89)</td>
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<td>January 21</td>
<td>The Old Regime: Turgot (pp.89-117)&amp; the Parlements’ response (pp.118-123), Calonne and Briennne (pp.124-143)</td>
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<td>January 23</td>
<td><strong>Written Presentations Due;</strong> The Old Regime: Calling the Estates General (pp.143-154), Sieyès (pp.154-179), the Mood in Paris (pp.180-199) &amp; the Estates General (pp.199-208)</td>
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<td>January 28</td>
<td>The Old Regime: Cahiers and unrest (pp.208-237), the Revolution and Constitution (pp.237-268).</td>
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<td>January 30</td>
<td>The Old Regime, The Jacobin Clubs (pp.269-286), The Fall of the Monarchy (pp.286-302), Louis on Trial (pp.302-324): Robespierre vs. Condorcet</td>
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<td>February 4</td>
<td>The Old Regime: The Terror (pp.330-354) &amp; Committee on Public Safety (pp.354-362), Robespierre’s Revolution (pp.362-391).</td>
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February 6  
**Midterm Exam**

February 11  

February 13  

February 18  
Burke, *Reflections on the Revolution*, pp.221-302

February 20  
Burke, *Reflections on the Revolution*, pp. 303-377

February 25  
Burke, *Reflections on the Revolution*, pp. 303-377

February 27  
**Paper I Due;** Burke, *Reflections on the Revolution*, pp.157-220

March 4  
**Spring Break**

March 6  
**Spring Break**

March 11  
*Federalist Papers*, #1, 6, 9, 10

March 13  
*Federalist Papers*, #14, 15, 23, 35

March 18  
*Federalist Papers*, #37, 38, 39

March 20  
**Presentation 2 Due;** *Federalist Papers*, #47, 51, 52, 63

March 25  
*Federalist Papers*, #68, 70, 72

March 27  
**Paper II Due; Federalist Papers**, #78, 84

April 1  
Tocqueville, *The Old Regime and the Revolution*, Book I, introduction

April 3  

April 8  
Tocqueville, *The Old Regime and the Revolution*, Book II, chs. 3-5

April 10  
Tocqueville, *The Old Regime and the Revolution*, Book II, chs.6-8

April 15  
No Class

April 17  
Easter Holiday

April 22  
Tocqueville, *The Old Regime and the Revolution* Book II, chs. 9-12

April 24  
Tocqueville, *The Old Regime and the Revolution* Book III, chs.1-4
April 29      Tocqueville, *The Old Regime and the Revolution* Book III, chs.5-8

May 1        Review for the Final Exam

May 6        FINAL EXAM, 1:00pm-2:50pm

May 10       Depart for Paris!

**GRADING:**
Two papers, 15% and 20% respectively = 35%
Written Presentations 10% x 2 = 20%
Midterm Exam = 20%
Final Exam = 20%
Class Participation = 5%

**Attendance Policy:**
Attendance is extremely important, since class presentations and discussions allow us to review difficult material, to answer questions about assignments and papers, and to articulate and develop new ideas. If you must miss class, arrange for a study partner to take notes for you. You can also contact me if you need help in retrieving what you've missed.

*Will Attendance affect your grade?*
Yes! You are allowed one unexcused absence, after which your final grade will drop three grade points for each unexcused absence.
You are allowed three excused absences, after which your final grade will drop three grade points for each unexcused absence. You must have a note from a doctor or student affairs to qualify for an excused absence.
Make-up of the Final Exam will be permitted only if the absence was due to a serious illness or another documented problem.

**Cheating and Plagiarism:**
A good definition of plagiarism and cheating can be found in the Xavier University’s Policies and Regulations at:
http://www.xu.edu/registrar/ugrd_policies.html#Academic%20honesty
You should consult this statement as well as:
http://www.xavier.edu/library/xututor/plagiarism/definition.cfm for more information.
In general, cheating means using another’s words or work as your own and results (at the very least) in a failing grade. If you are in dire straits regarding a paper or exam, see me for help rather than risk the embarrassment of getting caught as well as a failing grade.
Note on the Assignments:

Written Presentation I, Due January 23

1) Select a topic/reading from the syllabus.
2) Summary: Present a brief summary of the selection. This can be either in the form of an outline or a composition of about five paragraphs. The summary should address three elements: a) the context of the document, b) the meaning of the document, and c) the significance of the document.
3) Quotations: Highlight 3 important quotations from the selection, and provide a 3-4 sentence explanation of its meaning and significance.
4) Crucial Terms: Be sure to identify and explain crucial terms such as “parlement, lit de justice, cour des aides, cahiers, estates-general, etc.” Be sure to use other secondary sources to support your claims.
5) Pros and Cons: Present your view of both the strengths and/or weaknesses of each selection.
6) Hand in a hard copy of the assignment on January 23. And, email the assignment to your classmates. Everyone will be expected to read each assignment on their own and be prepared for class discussions.

You are welcome and even encouraged to come see me with a draft of your presentation prior to the due date.

Short Essays (15% and 20% of your final grade)

These two essays will focus on textual analysis and commentary. A week before the due date, I’ll distribute essay topics. Your grade will reflect the sophistication of your thesis as well as the evidence you marshal its behalf. You’re free to cite and use secondary sources to support your argument, but such citations are not required.

Midterm and Final Exam (20% respectively of your final grade)

The midterm and final exam will include short answer questions as well as a longer essay. The short answer section will include defining key terms and identifying and explaining quotations from our readings. During the exam, you may use your books but not your notes. Please bring an unmarked blue book and a pen to the exam.