

COLLEGE OF MOUNT SAINT VINCENT

**HIST 202 - Royalties and Revolutions:
From the Pre-Modern to the Modern Worlds**

Fall 2015

Department of History

INSTRUCTOR	Dr. David Gallo
CLASS MEETING DAY AND TIMES	TRF 11:30-12:20, 12:30-1:20
CLASS LOCATION	Maryvale 101
OFFICE LOCATION	Academy Hall 304
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E-MAIL	david.gallo@mountsaintvincent.edu (preferred)
OFFICE HOURS	Monday 1-4 PM <i>(and by appointment at a mutually convenient time)</i>

PURPOSE of the SYLLABUS:

This course syllabus is a general plan for the course. It is meant to be a guide for students to understand what they are expected to do and to know, and when they are expected to take specific actions. Modifications of this syllabus may be necessary, and will be announced in class.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This Core History course is an introduction to one of the fundamental debates of Western civilization – briefly expressed, the relationship between “Athens and Jerusalem:” that is, between faith and reason, the spiritual and the secular, church and state. In both East and West, this debate, old as Socrates, Christ and Constantine, continues to mark the contemporary world. The course is one way into this debate by moving backwards and forwards from the key event historians see as the beginning of the Modern World – the French Revolution. The course concentrates on the historical events leading to the period when the solution of medieval Christendom, further solidified by the absolutist theories of the early modern world, reached a crisis point in the mid-18th century. Events moved from clearly articulated critiques of the system into modern political discourse and consequent violent attempts to eradicate that system in an attempt to forge a new solution to the age-old problem, still a vitally important matter in the modern world.

This course explores European history from the Age of Absolutism to the Age of Revolution: from Louis XIV to Voltaire; Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette to the end of the French Monarchy – in short, the transition from the Pre-Modern to the birth of the Modern worlds.

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The course is divided into three units dealing with the: 1) The French Monarchy: Theology, Politics and Culture; 2) Enlightenment and Origins of the Revolution: "Dare to Know!;" 3) "Beginnings of the End-The French Revolution and the Origin of the Modern World."

Each of these units will be dealt with in combinations of classroom input (PPT), and discussions based on primary source readings.

TEXTS AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS:

Voltaire, *Candide*, (trans. Daniel Gordon), Bedford/St. Martin's Press, 1998.

The course is based on assigned readings in required primary and secondary source documents available on Blackboard (see below) in .pdf format (downloadable).

COURSE OBJECTIVES and ASSESSMENT of STUDENT LEARNING:

Focus Questions: Focus questions on assigned primary source readings, assigned weekly, to facilitate intelligent and prepared in-class discussion. This written work will also serve as a source of information when you engage in writing longer essays. Focus questions **must be word-processed and stapled**, and will be collected and graded after each discussion. Together with your class attendance and participation in discussion, they will determine 25% of your final grade. Missing homework will receive a grade of 0. Always bring the documents and focus questions to the discussion class. **5 points off for un-stapled homework.**

Exams: You will have three in-class exams during the semester. The cumulative grade for the exams will equal 75% of your final grade, each with a take-home essay component, based on a question handed out in advance. For each essay you will draw upon the primary source readings you have already done. The object is to present an answer that demonstrates your understanding of the materials and your ability to make a coherent argument on a historical question.

The objective of this course is that students attain the following learning outcomes. Students will be assessed through the mechanisms listed in the right-hand column for each outcome.

Student Learning Outcome (Course)	Alignment with College/Core Outcomes and Departmental Learning Outcomes	Course Assessment
1. Analyze primary sources in their historical context	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Analytical skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Weekly homework assignmentsIn-class examinationsGroup discussions
2. Analyze secondary sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Analytical skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Group discussionsIn-class examinations
3. Utilize critical thinking	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Analytical Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Synthetic Take-Home Essay

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skills to craft a historical argument		with Examinations
4. Communicate effectively in standard written English as demonstrated by completing writing assignments supported by relevant facts and proper citation of a range of scholarly sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analytical skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weekly homework assignments Take-home essays for examinations
5. Communicate effectively in oral form as demonstrated by oral presentation of a historical argument	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Critical thinking Effective communication 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In-class discussion and group leadership

GRADING POLICIES:

The grading process for this class:

Graded Activities	Percent of Final Grade
Weekly Focus Questions	25%
Exam 1 (and take-home essay)	25%
Exam 2 (and take-home essay)	25%
Exam 3 (in essay format)	25%
	100%

Letter Grade/Points:

A	Excellent	4.0	100-93
A-	Excellent	3.67	92-90
B+	Very Good	3.33	89-87
B	Good	3.00	86-84
B-	Good	2.67	82-80
C+	Above Satisfactory	2.33	79-77
C	Satisfactory	2.00	76-74
C-	Satisfactory	1.67	73-70
D+	Passing	1.33	69-66

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D	Passing	1.00	65-60
F	Failure	0.00	Below 60

COURSE SCHEDULE:

Week of:

9/3	Syllabus Review/Introduction
9/8	The French Monarchy: History and Theology of Monarchy
9/15	“Throne and Altar:” Church and Politics United
9/22	Louis XIV: In His Own Words
9/29	Louis XIV: View from the Court
10/6	“Setting of the Sun” and Beginnings of Enlightenment
10/15	Voltaire: Exemplar of Enlightenment
10/20	Reading and Interpreting Voltaire’s “Candide”
10/27	Louis XV: Eclipse of the Sun
11/3	“Après moi le déluge:” Upbringing and Accession of Louis XVI
11/10	Royal Wedding: Celebration and Failure
11/17	Antoinette: Personality, Role and Public Perception
11/24	Financial Crisis as Catalyst: Beginnings of the End
12/1	3 rd Estate Awakens: Bastille and Beyond
12/8	Death of the French Monarchy: From Pre-Modern to Modern

COURSE POLICIES:

Academic Honesty

Students are expected to familiarize themselves and comply with all College policies and procedures, including but not limited to the College policies on Academic Honesty and Student Conduct as described here <http://www.mountsaintvincent.edu/5162.htm> as well as all College policies and procedures described in the Student Handbook and, for undergraduates, the Undergraduate Catalogue, or for graduate students, the Graduate Catalogue.

Academic Support Services

The College of Mount Saint Vincent offers a range of academic support services which might be helpful to students in this course; these services are described at <http://www.mountsaintvincent.edu/385.htm>.

Attendance and Punctuality

The College expects students to attend all sessions of courses and complete all assigned work. Attendance will be taken at the start of each class and the accumulation of absences will be used in calculating your grades in the following way:

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In this course, students are permitted a maximum of **THREE ABSENCES (in other words, the equivalent of ONE WEEK of classes)** during the course of the entire semester. **FIVE POINTS are deducted from your Final Average** for **EACH** absence beyond that. There is no need for you to report reasons for your absences. Students with more than four absences **may** fail the course. Lateness is also not acceptable.

Absence does not excuse you from the class material or the work due for that class. It is your responsibility to get what you missed. If you are absent without notice on the day of an exam or written assignment, the grade is a **ZERO**.

Lateness Policy

NO LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED. PERIOD. EVER. You must be present with your work (i.e., no handing-in by proxy, under my door, or by e-mail). In case of a real emergency, you must notify me **BEFORE** the class period by e-or voice-mail, and you **CANNOT** e-mail work to me without first doing this and getting permission. Work out hardware, software, compatibility and e-mail issues well before any work is due to be handed in, especially before exams.

Electronics Policy

Cell/smartphones are strictly prohibited in the classroom at all times unless **OFF** (or **SILENT** and **AWAY**). Anyone texting in class will be asked to leave class for the day. Laptops/tablets may be used solely for the purpose of taking notes. Wireless must be **OFF** on the device; anyone using one for other purposes during class will be asked to leave for that day and lose all computer privileges for the remainder of the semester.

Disabilities

Students who need special accommodations or services at the College of Mount Saint Vincent must provide the College up-to-date documentation verifying their specific diagnosed disability. These students should submit their documentation to verify eligibility under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Copies of the College's Policy on Students with Learning Disabilities are available in the Office of Admission, the Office of the Dean of the Undergraduate College, the Center for Academic Advising, and the Academic Resource Center. In order for these accommodations to take effect, the student is advised to complete this process as soon as possible after admission to the College. In addition, students must sign an Authorized Release Form at the beginning of every semester that permits the College to disclose the student's special accommodations. All accommodations and services are provided by the Academic Resource Center. Provisions may include note taking or books on tape, testing in the Center, professional tutoring, and additional services as needed. For more information, please see <http://www.mountsaintvincent.edu/1311.htm>.

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BLACKBOARD COURSE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM:

All the course materials throughout the semester will be found on Blackboard, which you log into using your Mount e-mail/password (<https://blackboard.mountsaintvincent.edu/webapps/login/>). You will find them in .pdf format under the clearly marked tabs on the page for this course in which you are already enrolled ("HIST 202 V01/V02 Fall 2015: Royalties and Revolutions"). Please let me know if you have any difficulty accessing Blackboard as soon as you can.