

**Northeastern State
University College of Liberal
Arts Department of Social
Sciences Tahlequah, OK**

INSTRUCTOR: V. Lyle Haskins, Ph.D.

Office: SH 302 ; phone (918) 456-5511, ext. 3534; Office hours: 3:15-4:15, MW E-mail (best way to contact): haskins@nsuok.edu Web Page: www.arapaho.nsuok.edu/~haskins (or at NSU Home Page/search enter: haskins web page) Blackboard/Hist 3283/Course Information

COURSE TITLE/NUMBER: **The Age of Absolute Kings, 1600-1763 / History 3283**

CLASS DAYS/TIME/LOCATION: Spring 2012; Monday/Wednesday, 2:00-3:15; SH 208

PREREQUISITES: This course is upper-division with no specified prerequisites.

CATALOG DESCRIPTION: A study of the era with an emphasis on England and France including the Thirty-Years' War, the age of Louis XIV, the enlightened despots, the old regime, and the Enlightenment.

COURSE PURPOSE: This course is designed for the student to become familiar with the political, social, and economic institutions; intellectual and political theories and theorists; and diplomatic themes of the period termed the "Age of Absolutism."

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES: By studying the historical development of the pre-revolutionary (pre1789) period in Europe the student should acquire an understanding of the independent power that the absolute rulers held in the 17th and 18th centuries. The student will also understand the intellectual period of the Enlightenment that preceded the era of the French Revolution which brought absolutism to an end. The student will be expected to achieve the following specific objectives:

1. Experience in writing a critical book review in history.
2. Knowledge of the causes and results of the Thirty Years' War in Europe.
3. An understanding of the changes in the monarchical systems during the late-17th and 18th centuries.
4. Understanding the meaning of "The Age of Absolutism" especially focusing on the reign of Louis XIV, but also on the decline of monarchical power in Britain.
5. Knowledge of the changes in Central and Eastern Europe in the 17th and 18th centuries which involved the decline of the Holy Roman Empire and the emergence of the modern states of Prussia and Russia.
6. An understanding of the causes and impact of the 18th century economic revolution in Europe and the significance of the era of "science and reason."
7. Knowledge of why the 18th century is termed the period of "struggle for power in Europe".
8. An understanding of the social changes in Europe in the 18th century and the meaning of the "Age of Enlightenment" that preceded the French Revolution.

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS:

Required Texts: Richard S. Dunn, *The Age of Religious Wars, 1559-1715* and Isser Woloch, *Eighteenth Century Europe: Tradition and Progress, 1715-1789*.

Supplemental Reading/Writing: Students will select a book which falls within the scope and nature of this course and prepare a critical book review utilizing the "Book Review Guidelines" (available on the instructor's web site and on Blackboard). Book reviewed must be a secondary source– not a primary source, edited work, multi-author compilation, or general survey. The book must contain a bibliography and/or footnotes showing references. *NOTE:* your book must be approved by the instructor by mid-semester before proceeding with the review. *DUE DATE:* last class day before Final Exam Week (*late papers will be penalized*).

Bibliography: A bibliography of relevant books available in the NSU Library is available for this course on the

instructor's web site. While not all books in this bibliography are appropriate for a review the list may assist in selecting a book for review.

INSTRUCTIONAL PROCEDURES : Instructional procedures will include discussions, lectures, independent study through reading and providing a written critical review of a book, and tests as indicated in the "Assignment Due Dates" below.

STUDENT PERFORMANCE ACTIVITIES (Attendance/Punctuality) . Students are expected to read the assigned text material according to the Assignment Due Dates/Outline below prior to discussion of the topic in class. It is expected that students will be present during the entire scheduled time of each class session during the semester, including taking each test as scheduled.

ASSIGNMENT DUE DATES & COURSE OUTLINE:

(Dates below indicate when the topic begins. Numbers within parentheses are pages in the Dunn or Woloch text as indicated)

Jan 9-11 INTRODUCTION & EUROPE IN 1600 (Dunn, 1-9; 103-16; Woloch, 2-8)

Jan 18 THE THIRTY YEARS' WAR: 1618-48 (Dunn, 82-92)

Jan 23 RISE OF BOURBON FRANCE & ABSOLUTISM (Dunn, 30-40, 152-64)

Jan 30 LOUIS XIV: REFINEMENT OF ABSOLUTISM,1643-1715 (Dunn, 145-51, 178-89) (Woloch 8-12, 86-88)

Feb 6 EUROPE DURING THE AGE OF LOUIS XIV (Dunn, 259-81, 294-301)

Feb 8 DECLINE OF MONARCHAL POWER IN ENGLAND: 1603-1660 (Dunn, 164-78)

FEB 15 TEST

Feb 20 TRIUMPH OF THE ENGLISH PARLIAMENT: 1660-1714 (Dunn, 189-98)

Feb 22 CENTRAL EUROPE– HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE & AUSTRIA (Dunn, 58-74, 92-98; Woloch, 18-23)

Feb 27 EMERGENCE OF PRUSSIA IN CENTRAL EUROPE: 1640-1740 (Dunn, 98-102; Woloch, 13-18)

Feb 29 THE RISE OF MODERN RUSSIA (Dunn, 75-80)

Mar 5 PETER THE GREAT: 1682-1725 (Dunn, 282-94; Woloch, 88-89)

Mar 12 THE TRIUMPH OF SCIENCE & REASON IN THE 17TH CENTURY (Dunn, 199-246)

Mar 14 STRUGGLE FOR POWER IN THE 18TH CENTURY (Woloch, 36-59)

Mar 28 TEST

Apr 2 ENGLAND UNDER THE HANOVERIANS (Woloch, 30-35, 83-86, 306-14)

Apr 4 FRANCE: THE DECLINE OF L'ANCIENT REGIME (Woloch, 323-38)

Apr 9 FROM PETER I TO CATHERINE THE GREAT IN RUSSIA (Woloch, 23-26)

Apr 11 ECONOMIC REVOLUTION IN EUROPE: 18TH CENT. (Dunn, 108-25; Woloch, 119-45)

Apr 16 18TH CENTURY SOCIETY (Woloch, 60-74, 79-83, 91-119, 146-63)

Apr 23 THE AGE OF ENLIGHTENMENT (Woloch, 231-48, 251-64, 271-300)

Apr 30 THE ENLIGHTENED DESPOTS (Woloch, 74-79, 89-91, 249-51, 266-70, 301-05)

May 7 FINAL TEST (1:00- 2:50)

STUDENT EVALUATION: There will be three tests during the semester, each of which will include the subjects covered since the preceding exam. Grades for the course are determined by tests (100 points each), written assignments (book review/paper), and class participation/attendance. Books reviews are worth 50% of a test grade and the paper for graduate credit will be equal in value to a test. Class participation/ attendance can earn a student up to 10 additional points toward the final grade. The last date to drop this course with an automatic “W” grade is April 8.

NOTE: For policies below go to: <http://offices.nsuok.edu/academicaffairs/SyllabiInformation.aspx>

1. Academic Misconduct
2. American Disabilities Act Compliance
3. Inclement Weather/Disaster Policy
4. Teach Act
5. Accessibility
6. Release of Confidential Information