

FINAL EXAM (Wednesday, May 4th 5:00-7:00 p.m.)

Six of the following questions will appear on the exam paper. You will need to answer two of them, writing approximately a five-paragraph, 40-minute essay on each. [Each is worth 35% of your final-exam grade.] Your essays should answer the question directly, and should use specific examples and evidence to support your arguments. Try to avoid exaggeration and sweeping generalizations. Remember to draw on the readings as well as on lectures!!

DO NOT REPEAT MATERIAL FROM YOUR PAPERS IN THE EXAM. By this I mean: do not recycle the exact argument of your paper on the exam. You may, and should, draw on the reading you did in order to write your paper.

In addition, the exam will include 10 short selections from texts and 5 images. You should pick a total of five and discuss their significance for the Revolutionary/Napoleonic era. Each is worth 6% of your grade on the final exam.

The final exam counts for 25% of your grade on this course.

Questions:

1. How absolute was the French absolutist state?
2. How did the meanings of “public” and “private” change in France between 1715 and 1815?
3. Who started the French Revolution?
4. Tocqueville wrote that the French Revolution was a political revolution in the form of a religious revolution. What did he mean and do you agree?
5. Liberty, equality, or fraternity: which was most important to revolutionaries?
- 6a. Why was Marie Antoinette executed? **OR** 6b. Why was slavery abolished in 1794?
7. What—if anything—did the Directory do wrong?
8. Which aspects of ordinary people’s daily lives were most transformed by the Revolutionary and Napoleonic eras?
9. Why did Bonaparte invade Egypt?
10. When did the French Revolution end?