

Final Exam: Weds., 4 May 2011, 5-7 p.m. in this room

Exam Format

Two essays (each counts 35% of the exam grade and should take approx. 40 minutes to write). On Friday afternoon (29 April), I will post ten questions on the course website. Six of those questions will appear on the actual exam. Once I have posted the questions, neither Maureen nor I will answer *any* content-based questions about the course.

Five “comment on this passage/image” exercises (6% each) to be chosen from twelve on the exam. These will not be circulated in advance, but they will be chosen from the lecture slides and/or the weekly readings for discussion.

Your overall grade consists of: first two assignments (5% each)

participation (20%)

midterm (15%)

paper (30%)

final (25%)

[extra-credit “grading” assignment is worth an additional 5%]

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“Comment on” exercises (see models on website). Remember to consider:

What is the context in which the passage was produced?

(in other words, what else was going on?)

Why, and to what audience, was the author writing or speaking?

What effect, if any, did the text have on its context?

What, if anything, is important in the author’s choice of words?

History B356

French Revolution and Napoleon

Lessons and Legacies



Place de la République, Paris

Treaty of Vienna, 1814-1815

first time diplomats tried to create conditions for lasting peace (rather than simply settle current conflict)

alliance of autocratic rulers tried to prevent future revolutions

all with the goal of RESTORING Europe to how it had been in 1789

“The contracting parties, desirous to bury in entire oblivion the dissensions which have agitated Europe, declare and promise that no individual of whatever rank ... in the countries hereby restored and ceded, shall be prosecuted, disturbed, or molested for his opinions” Art. 16, Treaty of Paris, May 1814.



Johann M. Voltz, “The Congress” (1815)

What lessons did statesmen in 1815 draw from the past 26 years?



Gérard, *Official Portrait of Charles X in his Coronation Robes* (1825)

Spain: Inquisition re-established
Army and Navy not allowed to communicate

Habsburg Empire: serfdom re-introduced

Papal States: banned street lights, vaccination

France: active missionary work in many areas

Russia: *slavophiles* celebrate distinct "Slavic" culture (emperor/tsar, Orthodox Church, peasantry) and rejection of "degenerate" Western Europe

Jesuits welcomed across Europe

Restoration Europe: Turning back the Clocks?

What did they fear?

French military aggression
spread of “revolutionary ideas”

Results of their fears:

more conservative than their grandfathers
or grandmothers had been
French king forcibly restored
Prussia strengthened and the German
Confederation created



Louis XVIII backed by Alexander I,
as Henri IV looks on

How Restoration statesmen thought about the past; what did this mean for the present?

Political Map of Europe after Congress of Vienna (1814-1815)

Peace by treaty

- France not punished
- Prussia enlarged
- Holy Alliance



Why is the French Revolution significant for modern history?

introduces idea (and ideal) of national sovereignty in European context;
this is the beginning of “nationalism”

what does it mean to say “nationalism” was “new”
in the period 1789-1850?

what sort of political ideology was nationalism
in the period 1789-1870s? (Right-Left)

“Henceforth, until the enemies have been driven from the territory of the republic, the French people are in permanent requisition.. The young men shall go to battle; the married men shall forge arms and transport provisions; the women shall make tents and clothes, and shall serve in the hospitals; the children shall turn old linen into bandages; the old men stimulate the courage of warriors and preach the unity of the Republic and hatred of kings.”

Mass conscription edict, August 1793.



Lethiere, *The Fatherland in Danger* (1799),
detail.

Why is the French Revolution significant for modern history?



Men make their own history, but they do not make it just as they please; they do not make it under circumstances chosen by themselves, but under circumstances encountered, given, and transmitted from the past. The tradition of all dead generations weighs like a nightmare on the brain of the living.

Karl Marx, *The Eighteenth Brumaire of Louis Bonaparte* (1852).

“Here is the King we need!
Louis Philippe receives the national
flag from the hands of General Lafayette.”
[popular art from eastern France, 1830]

How do you know you are having a revolution?

And just when they seem engaged in revolutionizing themselves and things, in creating something that has never yet existed, precisely in such periods of revolutionary crisis they anxiously conjure up the spirits of the past.... Thus Luther donned the mask of the Apostle Paul, the Revolution of 1789-1814 draped itself alternately in the Roman republic and the Roman empire, and the Revolution of 1848 knew nothing better to do than to parody, now 1789, now the tradition of 1793-1795.

Marx, *Eighteenth Brumaire*...



poster announcing the February Revolution (“the people of Paris’ struggle”) and declaration of French Republic (the “Second Republic”), 1848



Eugène Delacroix, *Liberty Leading the People* (1830)

How do you know you are having a revolution?