

Syllabus and Reading Schedule:
Topics in European History 3480 sec. 1;
Topics in Women's Studies 3000 sec. 6

Dr. Noah Shusterman
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Office Hours:
Monday, 2-3
Friday, 11-11:45
or by appointment

MWF 9-9:50pm, Anderson Hall 806

This course will study the history of the French Revolution through the lenses of religious history and gender history. After a "crash course" on the political history of the French Revolution, it will start by investigating Old Regime French society, and asking what role religion played in that society, and what the relations between women and men were like. It will continue through the years of the Revolution, focusing on the continued vitality of female activism, as well as the impact that the government's attempt to reform France's Catholic church had on the course of the Revolution. It will also examine the ways that the revolutionaries attempted to repackage traditional religious practices. Throughout the course, we will examine the surprising ways that religious issues became intertwined with questions of gender and sexuality.

Required Texts

Books marked with an asterisk () are available at the campus bookstore.
Readings marked with two asterisks (**) are available on-line.*

- Sylvia Neely, *A Concise History of the French Revolution**
- Nigel Aston, *Religion and Revolution in France*.*
- :Laura Mason and Tracey Dixon, eds., *The French Revolution: A Document Collection*

NOTE: Cell phones and the like must be turned **off** during class. Make sure that your phone does not ring or vibrate while class is in session. Also, be sure to arrive in class on time.

Schedule of Classes and Assignments

Week 1

18 January (Wednesday): Introduction; Crash Course in the French Revolution

Friday: Neely, pp. 55-113

Week 2:

23 January: Neely, pp. 113-163

Wednesday: Neely, pp. 163-220.

Friday: The Revolution: Overview/Discussion.

Week 3:

30 January: **Test 1**

Wednesday: Aston, pp. 3-60.

Friday: McManners, "Religious Practice"***

Week 4:

6 February: McManners, "Sexual Passion"***

Wednesday: Cobban, "The Diamond Necklace Affair"***; Colwill, "Just Another Citoyenne? Marie-Antoinette on Trial, 1790-1793"***

Friday: Aston, 81-99; Voltaire, Selections from the *Philosophical Dictionary***

Week 5:

13 February: Darnton, "Readers Respond to Rousseau,"**

Wednesday: Aston, 103-139; Mason, 98-104

Friday: Mason, 83-88

Week 6:

20 February: Aston, 140-164;

Wednesday: Mason, 144-152; Civil Constitution of the Clergy**

Friday: Aston, 165-219

Week 7:

27 February: Mason, 152-156

Wednesday: Aston, 220-243; report from the Society of Jacobins of Besancon**

Friday: Mason, 157-165

SPRING BREAK

Week 8:

12 March: Mason, 109-114; Condorcet, "On the Rights of Women"***

Wednesday: Selections from Madame Roland, *Memoires***

Friday: Mason, 174-177; de Baeque, *Glory and Terror*, selections**

NOTE: This is the most disturbing reading assignment of the semester

Week 9:

19 March: Mason, 178-187; Saint-Just, "The King can be Judged,"**

Wednesday: Hunt, "Band of Brothers,"**

Friday: Open Discussion

PAPER PROPOSALS DUE

Week 10:

26 March: Michelet, "Women, Priests, and the Vendée"***

Wednesday: Hufton, "In Search of Counter-Revolutionary Women"***

Friday: Gerlbart, "The Blonding of Charlotte Corday"

Week 11:

2 April: CONFERENCES on Paper Topics

Wednesday: Aston, 259-276

Friday: Mason, 232-236; reports on the disturbances with the market women**

Week 12:

9 April: Mason, 244-248

Wednesday: Mason, 197-198; 254-258

Friday: The Republican Calendar***; Ozouf, "A Transfer of Sacrality,"**

Week 13:

16 April: Mason, 248-258

Wednesday: Baczko, *Ending the French Revolution*, selections**

Friday: Desan, *Reclaiming the Sacred*, selections**

Week 14:

STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

Week 15

30 April: Final class. Last Presentations/Course wrap-up.

Course Requirements

The requirements for this course are as follows:

1. Class Participation.

Students are expected to come to class prepared, and to take part in the discussions. Students must show a familiarity with all aspects of the class: the primary readings, the secondary readings, the material from lectures, from previous discussions, and the material from other students' presentations. While I anticipate students having to miss class from time to time, due to illness or other unavoidable situations, it is the student's responsibility to familiarize themselves with the material that they missed. **Participation in class discussions and activities is a requirement of this course.** 25% of the final grade.

2. Test. There will be one test, early in the semester, covering the basic facts of the French Revolution, and the geography of France. 15% of the final grade.

3. Paper.

There is 12-15 page paper due toward the end of the semester. 25% of the final grade

4. Presentation.

Each student will give one in-class presentation based on their final paper. 15% of the final grade.

5. Response/thought papers

Each student will write four of these papers over the course of the semester.

These are short papers (one double-spaced page maximum) meant to facilitate the discussion. 20% of the final grade.

Other notes, policies, etc:

- Students must arrive in class on time, and stay through the duration of class. It is the students' responsibility to arrive in class on time.
- Tests will be given at the beginning of class. Students who miss the test because of absence or lateness can not retake them.
- Laptops are not permitted in class after week 2.
- Students who wish to talk with me privately, should do so either in office hours or via email. Students should not rely on the time before and after the beginning of class to talk to me.
- The grading for class participation is the hardest to quantify, but there are some guidelines. Participation in group discussions and activities is a requirement of this course. A significant number of absences, chronic lateness or disruptions, or a frequent lack of familiarity with the day's readings will lower a student's grade. You may make up a limited number of classes by meeting with me during office hours to go over the material you missed. Be sure to meet with a fellow student beforehand, to review their notes on the class discussion.
There are some classes which cannot be made up. Those include (but are not limited to) lectures, essay prep days, and days with only group activities. Keep in mind, however, that what you do with the time you spend in class is more important than the number of classes you attend.
Active participation in class discussions will help your grade; attending classes, but not participating, will not.
- Late papers will be penalized 1/3 of a grade per day, unless other arrangements are made ahead of time.
- Students must submit their essays electronically, via blackboard (turnitin/safeassign) **and** via email. All essays for this class are tree-free essays.
- I will report cases of plagiarism directly to the University Disciplinary Committee. Students must familiarize themselves with Temple's policy on academic honesty.
- Cell phones and the like must be turned **off** during class. Make sure that your phone does not ring or vibrate while class is in session.
- To repeat: Cell phones and the like must be turned **off** during class. Make sure that your phone does not ring or vibrate while class is in session.

- Like all Temple courses, this course is open to all students who meet the academic requirements for participation. Any student who requires accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact me privately to discuss the situation at the beginning of the semester. Where appropriate, accommodations for students with documented disabilities will be made in coordination with the Disability Resources and Services office (100 Ritter Annex, 215-204-1280).