

SE 99  
WJ

Chaminade University of Honolulu

Spring Term 1999, April 9, to June 11, 1999.

Fort Shafter Evening 1730-2140.

HI323<sup>40</sup> Early Modern Europe

Instructor: Donald W. Wilson

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Text: R.R. Palmer and Joel Colton, A History of the Modern World to 1815, Eight Edition.

Course Description: The course surveys Europe during the period when it emerged from the Middle Ages to establish the bases for what has come to be termed "Modern Civilization". In particular it examines the process of secularization that resulted in the development of scientific inquiry, and subsequently led to, in addition to industrialization, the political, economic, and social concepts that still influence the contemporary world.

Objectives: To provide the student with an appreciation of the historical events that led to changes in political, social, economic, and philosophical outlooks, that created modern european civilization. Also, as a corollary, by observing the outcome of the answers our predecessors utilized to solve their problems, to provide a background by which to judge the solutions proffered by today's leaders.

Reading/Writing Assignments: The lecture schedule lists the required readings from the text. Students are also responsible for two three page essay answers to the questions listed under the heading "Essay Topics".

Class Format: A combination of lectures and discussions. Handouts, and visual aids will be utilized where applicable. Students are encouraged to raise questions, or make comments, at any time.

Grading: Grading will be based on a point system as follows:

Mid-term Exam.....45 points	Letter Grade Scale:	200-180=A
Essays.....60 points		179-160=B
2 Quizzes 15pts/ea30 points		159-140=C
Final Exam.....65 points		139-120=D
Total.....200 points		119- 0=F

Lecture Schedule H323 Early Modern Europe

<u>Date</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Reading Assignment</u>
Apr 9	Introduction - Rome, Christianity - Feudalism	Chap. I
16	Religion & Secularization Renaissance-Reformation Religious Conflict to Nationalism	Chap II&III - P95-105 P151-159 HO The Prince - Renn& Ref
23	Western European Consolidation Absolutism & Constitutionalism  Quiz #1	Chap IV - P199-209 HO- Crisis For Early Mod Eup-Age of Abs-John Locke
30	Eastern Europe's Multi-Ethnic Consolidation  Essay #1 Due  Mid Term Examination	Chap V HO- Russ Emp
May 7	18th Century competition for European world hegemony - England vs France - 1763	Chap VI
14	The Scientific Revolution The Enlightenment	Chap VII Chap VIII, P314-342 HO- Enl&Rev-Voltaire- Sci Rev & Hist
21	Reforms & Revolutions  Quiz #2	Chap VIII, P342-361 Chap IX-P403-415 HO- Fr Rev-Rev of NA- E Burke-Dec Ind-Dec Rts of Man
28	Napoleon & The New Europe	Chap X HO- Fr Rev
Jun 4	Review  Essay #2 Due	
11	Final Examination	

## ESSAY TOPICS

### Group #1

1. What were the most powerful forms of resentments and discontents toward the economic, government, social, and clerical institutions prior to the revolt of Luther?
2. Compare the importance of national feeling with religious and feudal loyalties in the Thirty Years War and the revolt of the Netherlands.
3. Discuss the political, economic, and cultural factors that created Spain's "Golden Age". What caused its decline?
4. In the 17th century, in England, Parliament both defeated the King, and established a workable form of government. Explain why royal absolutism failed and Parliament triumphed in England between 1600 and 1689.
5. Evaluate Louis XIV's reign. How did it benefit France? What harm did it cause?
6. To what extent did Peter carry out a "revolution" in Russia. Examine the social, political, and economic aspects of his policies.
7. What role did the military play in the emergence of Russia and Prussia as major powers in the 17th and early 18th centuries?

### Group #2

8. Compare and contrast the political and economic development of Great Britain and France during the period 1715 to 1763.
9. Compare the personalities and policies of Frederick the Great and Maria Theresa. Who achieved more for their people?
10. Discuss the implications of the 17th century scientific revolution for European society. (Why did it help form the basis for the concepts of "progress" and "optimism").
11. Describe the evolution of astronomical thought from Copernicus to Newton. What was Newton's great achievement of synthesis?
12. Select what you believe are two of the central ideas or attitudes of the 18th century Enlightenment. Explain their importance and what impact they had on the 18th century.
13. What was enlightened about the concepts of Frederick and Catherine the Great? What wasn't?

14. What measures did Robespierre and the Committee of Public Safety take in 1793-94 to save the Revolution? Were these measures justified?

15. How crucial was the role of the peasants and working classes in the French Revolution? Did they have the same goals, and did they reach these goals?

16. The peace settlement of 1814-1815, concluded at the Congress of Vienna, was the most far reaching diplomatic agreement between 1648 and 1919. What were the major provisions of the settlement. What were its strengths and weaknesses?

17. Describe the rise of nationalism in Germany at the end of the 18th and beginning of the 19th centuries. What were the ideas of such thinkers as Herder and Fichte about German nationalism?