

Department Of History

Hist\*3820

# Early Modern France

Winter 2015

Instructor: Dr. Peter A. Goddard

Time & Place: Tuesday and Thursday from 2:30 to 3:50 p.m. in ANNU 204

Instructor Contact: Dr. Goddard, MCKN 1014  
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Office hours: Tuesday, Thursday 4:15 p.m.-5:15 p.m. or by appointment Mondays or Wednesdays.

Hist\*3820 Website: [www.courselink.uoguelph.ca](http://www.courselink.uoguelph.ca)  
History Dept site: [www.uoguelph.ca/history](http://www.uoguelph.ca/history)

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## **Course description:**

This course analyses select themes in Early Modern French history. While the course aims to construct knowledge of social and political developments from 1450 to 1750, we also seek to develop a thorough picture of the workings of early modern French culture and the experience of the people who were part of it.

**Course format:**

The class meets twice a week (Tuesday and Thursday); classes involve a range of activities and media.

**Hist\*3820 Learning Objectives and Learning Outcomes**

We hope and expect that the Hist\*3820 student will develop sophisticated perspective on change and continuity in Early Modern France, and strong understanding of the importance of Early Modern French development to the emergence of modern world. She or he will gain conversance with the historiography of Early Modern France, and be able to articulate key concepts in this historiography. The Hist\*3820 student will also increase research, writing and debate capacities through execution of course assignments, including research essay, question sets, a miderm quiz, classroom interventions and presentations, and written final exam.

Students who successfully complete Hist\*3820 W15 will gain in 8 of 10 of the University of Guelph's Learning Objectives including: literacy; sense of historical development; global understanding; moral and aesthetic maturity; understanding forms of inquiry; depth and breadth of understanding; independence of thought; and love of learning.

**Focus Book:**

Natalie Zemon Davis, *Society and Culture in Early Modern France*. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1975, available as *ACLS Humanities E-Book*, via Primo, or at UG Bookstore and Co-Op Bookstore.

Numerous other readings, including primary materials, are linked to the course website at [www.courselink.uoguelph.ca](http://www.courselink.uoguelph.ca), or will be found on Course Reserve at McLaughlin Library.

**Evaluation:**

<b>Midterm Quiz</b>	10 February 2014 - 30 minutes; in class;	13%
<b>Course participation:</b>	class engagement; website/poll engagement; feedback acknowledgment. 6 January-2 April 2015	10%
<b>Question Set</b>	due 19 February	19%
<b>Research project</b>	3000 words: proposal due 26 Feb (p/f) and completed work due 17 March 2015	31%
<b>Final Examination</b>	11 April 2015 11:30-13:30	27%

*N.B.: Question Set and the two components of Research Project are uploaded*

to "Dropbox" on  
course Website.

## Winter 2015 Schedule of topics by Week

\*\*\* denotes readings held on Reserve or linked to the course website as E-Books or digitized articles.

!!! denotes important date or deadline

### Week I 6-8 January **"Early Modern France": who, what, when, where and why?**

\*\*\*Fernand Braudel, *The Identity of France*, pp. 58-109

\*\*\*Natalie Davis, *Society and Culture in Early Modern France*, ch. 1 "Strikes and Salvation at Lyon": 1-16

### II. 13-15 January **Family structures**

\*\*\*Emmanuel Le Roy Ladurie, "A System of Customary Law: Family Structures and Inheritance Customs in Sixteenth-Century France" and Michelline Baulant, "The Scattered Family: Another Aspect of Seventeenth-Century Demography", in *Family and Society. Selections from the Annales*, ed. R. Forster and O. Ranum, trans. E. Forster and P. M. Ranum (Baltimore, 1976), 75-116.

\*\*\*Sarah Hanley, "Engendering the State: Family Formation and State Building in Early Modern France", *French Historical Studies* 16 (1989): 47-80.

\*\*\* Natalie Davis, *Society and Culture in Early Modern France*, ch. 5 "Women on Top", pp. 124-151.

### III. 20-22 January **Renaissance Monarchy**

\*\*\*Claude de Seyssel, *Monarchy of France*, 38-68

\*\*\*Natalie Davis, *Society and Culture in Early Modern France*, ch 4: "The Reasons of Misrule" : 97-123

### IV. 27-29 January **Rural life**

\*\*\*Emmanuel Le Roy Ladurie, *The French Peasantry 1450-1660*, trans. A. Sheridan (Aldershot, 1987), pp. 95-230

\*\*\*Philip Hoffman, "Land Rents and Agricultural Productivity: The Paris Basin, 1450-1789", *Journal of Economic History*, 51 (1991): 771-805

\*\*\* Natalie Davis, *Society and Culture in Early Modern France*, ch. 3 "City Women and Religious Change": 65-96

V. 3-5 February **Urban life**

\*\*\* Richard Sennett, *Flesh and Stone* (New York, 1994) chapter 6 (pp. 186-211)

\*\*\*Philip Benedict, "More than Market and Manufactory: The Cities of Early Modern France, *French Historical Studies*, 20 (1997): 511-38

\*\*\* Natalie Davis, *Society and Culture in Early Modern France*, ch. 2 "Poor Relief, Humanism and Heresy" 17-64

VI. 10-12 February **Church and Religious Change** + 10 Feb Midterm Quiz (30 minutes)

\*\* Natalie Davis, *Society and Culture in Early Modern France*, ch. 6 pp. 152-188: "The Rites of Violence"

\*\*\* Barbara Diefendorf, "Give Us Back Our Children: Patriarchal Authority and Parental Consent to Religious Vocations in Early Counter-Reformation

**!!!Tuesday 10 February: Midterm Quiz!**

VII. 24-26 February **The Nobility, & violence**

\*\*\*Ellery Schalk, "The Court as 'Civilizer' of the Nobility", *Princes, Patronage and the Nobility. The Court at the Beginning of the Modern Age*, eds. Ronald Asch and Adolfe Birke (Oxford, 1991): 245-63

\*\*\*Stuart Carroll, The Peace in the Feud in Sixteenth and Seventeenth-century France, *Past & Present* 178 (2003): 74-115

<http://past.oxfordjournals.org/cgi/reprint/178/1/74>

**!!!Thursday 26 February: Research proposal!**

VIII. 3-5 March **Learning and advanced education**

\*\*\* Natalie Davis, *Society and Culture in Early Modern France*, ch. 7: 189-226

\*\*\*Michel de Montaigne, *Essays*, "[On Cannibals](#)"

\*\*\*René Descartes, [Discourse on Method](#)

IX. 10-12 March **Domestic conflict and international confrontation to 1650**

X. 17-19 March **Seventeenth-century reform**

**!!!Tuesday 17 March: Research Paper due in class!**

XI. 24-26 March **France and Europe: the pursuit of Glory, War and Wealth**

XII. 31 March-2 April: **The Margins of Society + Review of social solidarities**

\*\*\* Natalie Davis, *Society and Culture in Early Modern France*, ch. 8: 227-267

## **HIST\*3820 Policy on Late Assignments and Missed “Participation” opportunities.**

Late submission Question Set and Research Essay are penalized at rate of 10% per week. Please see “When you cannot meet a course requirement”, below.

Students who miss a class are encouraged to compose an analysis of the week’s assigned reading and submit it for a participation grade no later than one week after the missed class.

## **Hist\*1010 and University & College Regulations Winter 2015:**

### **E-mail Communication**

As per University regulations, all students are required to check their <uoguelph.ca> e-mail account regularly: e-mail is the official route of communication between the university and its students.

### **When You Cannot Meet a Course Requirement**

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons, please advise the course instructor (or designated person, such as a teaching assistant) in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. See the Undergraduate Calendar for information on regulations and procedures for Academic Consideration:

<http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-ac.shtml>

### **Drop Date**

The last date to drop one-semester Winter 2015 courses, without academic penalty, is Friday 6 March 2015. For regulations and procedures for Dropping Courses, see the Undergraduate Calendar:

<http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-drop.shtml>

### **Copies of out-of-class assignments**

Keep paper and/or other reliable back-up copies of all out-of-class assignments: you may be asked to resubmit work at any time.

### **Accessibility**

The University of Guelph is committed to creating a barrier-free environment. Providing services for students is a shared responsibility among students, faculty and administrators. This relationship is based on respect of individual rights, the dignity of the individual and the University community's shared commitment to an open and supportive learning environment. Students requiring service or accommodation, whether due to an identified, ongoing disability or a short-term disability should contact the *Centre for Students with Disabilities* as soon as possible. For more information, contact CSD at 519-824-4120 ext. 56208 or [emailcsd@uoguelph.ca](mailto:emailcsd@uoguelph.ca) or see the website: <http://www.csd.uoguelph.ca/csd/>

### **Student Rights and Responsibilities**

Each student at the University of Guelph has rights which carry commensurate responsibilities that involve, broadly, being a civil and respectful member of the University community. The *Rights and Responsibilities* are detailed in the Undergraduate Calendar:

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/2014-2015/c01/index.shtml>

### **Academic Misconduct**

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and enjoins all members of the University community - faculty, staff, and students - to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring. The Academic Misconduct Policy is detailed in the Undergraduate Calendar:

<http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-amisconduct.shtml>

### **Recording of Materials**

Presentations which are made in relation to course work-including lectures-cannot be recorded in any electronic media without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a classmate or guest lecturer. Material recorded with permission is restricted to use for that course unless further permission is granted.

### **Resources**

The *Undergraduate Calendar* is the source of information about the University of Guelph's procedures, policies and regulations which apply to undergraduate programs. It can be found at:

<http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/>

If you find yourself in difficulty, contact the undergraduate advisor in your program, or the BA Counselling Office: <http://www.uoguelph.ca/baco/contact.shtml>