

Syllabus - History 4006, The Enlightenment (Intersession, 2008)

Instructor: J. M.

Course description: The Enlightenment, which had its roots in the seventeenth century and came to full flower in the eighteenth, was many things: a new way of looking at the world and humanity's place in it, a movement away from accepted practices and long-held beliefs, and an explosion of communication in print, music, and the visual arts. This course will explore the exciting, fresh emphasis that Enlightenment thinkers and writers placed on learning, the exploration of nature, and a new and daring critique of the societies in which they lived. The Scientific Revolution, social activism such as the antislavery movement and early feminism, and the rise of republicanism, will be examined in light of contemporary thought and social currents. From the dusty rooms of Newton's Cambridge to the *salons* of eighteenth-century Paris, Enlightenment ideas spread throughout Europe and across the Atlantic. Just as UNB's motto does today, the Enlightenment urged its disciples: *Sapere aude!* "Dare to be wise!"

Office hours/location: HIL Commons Café, Wednesdays, 1:00-2:00 pm, or by appointment.

Contacting me: When emailing me, please use your student account (..@unb.ca) rather than a hotmail or other account. I'll try to respond to emails within 24 hours.

Text(s):

Outram, Dorinda. *The Enlightenment*. 2nd edition. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2005.

Jacob, Margaret C. *The Enlightenment: A brief history with documents*. Boston: Macmillan, 2001.

Assigned readings from your texts **and** from other sources are specified for each class. Some are available online, either through the web addresses given in the syllabus or through library e-resources; others are on 2-hour reserve at HIL (in-library use only). Since there's only a single copy of each of these reserve readings, you'll be doing your classmates a favour if you photocopy and return them promptly.

Attendance: This course follows the Registrar's policy on attendance, including extensions for unavoidable absences. This policy can be found at: <http://eservices.unb.ca/calendar/undergraduate/display.cgi?tables=regulationsSubLevel1&id=22>

Blackboard: The syllabus, term paper topics, and other important information will be posted on Blackboard. Have a look at the pages for History 4006 and be sure to **check back frequently** for announcements and reminders, as well as lecture outlines, suggested readings, and other goodies.

Written assignments (totalling 50% of course mark):

1/Discussion-topic short submissions - five of the Tuesday classes will have a shortened lecture, followed by a discussion on assigned reading(s), which will be listed in the lecture schedule for that week (see below). After the discussion, you will be given 15 minutes to write your comments on the readings and on the day's discussion. Each of these five submissions will be graded out of 4, for a total value of **20% of the course mark**. There will be no exemptions except as noted above under "Attendance".

2/Term paper, due at the beginning of class Thursday, June 5. 2500-3000 words maximum. This paper will be written on a topic of your choice. A list of suggested topics will be posted on Blackboard; if none of the suggested topics interests you, we can discuss possibilities during my office hours. However, if you wish to write on a topic that's not on the list, it **must** be cleared with me first. **Value: 30% of course mark.**

Note: Late-submission penalty of 4%/weekday applies to anything received after the time given above, and no submissions will be accepted after **the beginning of class Thursday, June 12**. There will be no extensions except as noted above under "Attendance".

For this assignment, you will be required to construct a proper argument; to write clearly and effectively; to use proper footnotes or endnotes; and to include a bibliography of primary and secondary sources consulted. Consult *Form and Format* for style guidelines.

Note: When handing in your term paper, make sure to keep **2 copies** - an electronic copy and a hard copy. This will ensure that if the unthinkable happens and a paper is lost, there's no problem providing another copy.

Wikipedia will not be accepted as a reference for essays.

Plagiarism: The University of New Brunswick places a high value on academic integrity and has a policy on plagiarism, cheating and other academic offences. Plagiarism includes:

1. quoting verbatim or almost verbatim from any source, including all electronic sources, without acknowledgement;
2. adopting someone else's line of thought, argument, arrangement, or supporting evidence without acknowledgement;
3. submitting someone else's work, in whatever form without acknowledgement;
4. knowingly representing as one's own work any idea of another.

Examples of other academic offences include: cheating on exams, tests, assignments or reports; impersonating somebody at a test or exam; obtaining an exam, test or other course materials through theft, collusion, purchase or other improper manner, submitting course work that is identical or substantially similar to work that has been submitted for another course; and more as set out in the academic regulations found in the Undergraduate Calendar.

Penalties for plagiarism and other academic offences range from a minimum of F (zero) in the assignment, exam or test to a maximum of suspension or expulsion from the University, plus a notation of the academic offence on the student's transcript. For more information, please see the Undergraduate Calendar, Section B, Regulation VII.A, or visit <http://nocheating.unb.ca>. **It is the student's (your) responsibility to know the regulations.**

Final exam, date/time to be set by Registrar's office. **Will cover** the whole term's work, including **all** assigned readings. **Value: 50% of course mark.**
(Note that there will be **no** midterm exam in this course.)

Lecture schedule (subject to minor changes):

L1 Thurs 1 May: *Sapere aude*: Introduction to the Enlightenment

L2 Tues 6 May: The seventeenth century

Assigned readings:

Angus Stroud, Ch 12 and 13, *Stuart England* (e-book available through Quest's link to ebrary)

Lisa Jardine, "Strange Specimens", *Ingenious Pursuits* *on 2-hr reserve at HIL

L3 Thurs 8 May: England

Assigned readings:

Outram Ch 2

Brian Cowan, "Civilizing Society," *The Social Life of Coffee* (e-book available through Quest's link to ebrary)

L4 Tues 13 May: John Locke

Assigned readings:

John Locke, *An Essay Concerning Human Understanding*, Book IV, Chapter XIV "Of Judgment". ***Note** that you'll need to scroll about 1/3 of the way down this page for Ch XIV:

<http://oregonstate.edu/instruct/phl302/texts/locke/locke1/Book4b.html#Chapter%20XIV>

Discussion 1: Jacob sourcebook: Locke, *Some Thoughts concerning Education* (1693)

L5 Thurs 15 May: The Scientific Revolution

Assigned readings:

Outram Ch 7

Ann B. Shteir, "Women in botany" *on 2-hr reserve at HIL

L6 Tues 20 May: The *philosophes*

Assigned readings:

Montesquieu, Letters XXIV, XXIX, LVI, XCVI, and C, *Persian Letters* *on 2-hr reserve at HIL

Discussion 2: Jacob sourcebook: Voltaire, *Letters concerning the English Nation* (1733)

L7 Thurs 22 May: Religion and the Enlightenment

Assigned readings:

Outram Ch 8; Wayne Hudson, "The Enlightenment Critique of 'Religion'"

http://dlibrary.acu.edu.au/research/theology/ejournal/aejt_5/hudson.htm

L8 Tues 27 May: Women and the Enlightenment

Assigned readings:

Outram Ch 6

Discussion 3: Jacob sourcebook: Lady Mary Wortley Montagu, *Letters* (1716-1718)

L9 Thurs 29 May: Diderot and *L'Encyclopédie*

Assigned readings:

Jacob sourcebook: Diderot, *Encyclopédie* (1751)

John Lough, "Reference work or 'machine de guerre'?", *The Encyclopédie* *on 2-hr reserve at HIL

L10 Tues 3 June: The antislavery movement

Assigned readings:

Outram Ch's 4 and 5

Discussion 4: Jacob sourcebook: Diderot, *Supplement to Bougainville's "Voyage"* (1772)

L11 Thurs 5 June: French society; Jean-Jacques Rousseau

Assigned readings:

Jean-Jacques Rousseau, "Love of our Country" and "Humanity, Benevolence" in Vol I of *Thoughts on Different Subjects* (1768) *available via Eighteenth-Century Collections Online (ECCO), HIL e-resource (under Indexes and Abstracts). **Tip:** once you've found the right listing in ECCO, click on 'eTable of Contents' for easier searching.

term paper due

L12 Tues 10 June: Republicanism

Assigned readings: discussion-topic readings only - no additional readings

Discussion 5: Jacob sourcebook: Rousseau, *The Social Contract* (1762) and Kant, *What is Enlightenment?* (1784)

L13 Thurs 12 June: Arts, culture, and the Enlightenment

Assigned readings: none

***final acceptance deadline for term paper**

L14 Tues 17 June: The Age of Revolutions and beyond

Assigned readings: Outram Ch 9

Review session