This course offers an introduction to the history of France from the mid seventeenth century until 1789. The class will cover the articulation of a distinctive form of monarchy, associated with the person of Louis XIV, and its persistent strength and difficult challenges when faced by the different circumstances of the eighteenth century. It will also concentrate on the extensive and interlinked changes in culture, science, ideas, economy, society, and sociability during the period. We will particularly examine the movement for human emancipation known as the “Enlightenment,” and locate it in its particular contexts.

The class will feature two lectures a week, but most of the Friday classes will be “workshops” where we will discuss primary sources or important historical articles. Students should become familiar with some issues and disputes in recent historiography, as well as a range of primary sources. Although French reading knowledge is not a requirement, there will be opportunities for reading in French if you have the desire and ability. (Naturally enough, much of the best literature on the history of France is written in French.)

Course Books:
Available for purchase in the Bookstore; I will also expect you to print out some primary sources and journal articles.


Assignments:
Workshop preparation: 20%. Five, due at the beginning of the workshop in which the reading will be discussed. No late assignments will be permitted.
Write a question and a paragraph long observation about the reading assigned for the day; the paragraph need not answer your question, but address another facet of the readings.

Critically scrutinize the articles assigned under each topic, and discuss how the authors
view the interaction of monarchical example and broader social practice in each of the domains under consideration. Prepare a brief bibliography that would serve as a point of departure for further research into the theme.

**Theme 1: Court Culture and Consumption**


**Theme 2: Natural Philosophy and Monarchy**


**Theme 3: Letters and Power**


**Theme 4: Representing the monarchy**


**Paper #2: Primary Sources: 25 %, 6-8 pages. Due Monday, 3rd April 2017.**
Topics to be distributed later.

**Final Examination: During Exam period: 30%**.

A note on academic honesty: Education and scholarship depends upon a certain sort of basic honesty. I expect that when you claim to have done work, you will actually have done it. When you use the work or ideas of another scholar or student, you should respect them by treating their work fairly and accurately, and give them public credit by citing them openly. Always err on the side of giving too much credit to others than too little. In formal essays, I prefer citations in footnotes using the form known as the Chicago humanities style; see the quick guide at http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html.
The University cares about academic honesty as well, because it has to maintain a standard of fairness and equity. You can find its mandate on “Plagiarism and Cheating” and on “Examination Impersonation” in Section 8.1 of General Academic Regulations of the University Undergraduate Calendar (http://crscalprod1.cc.umanitoba.ca/Catalog/ViewCatalog.aspx), but the Faculty of Arts requires me to repeat it here, as well.

“The common penalty in Arts for plagiarism on a written assignment is a grade of F on the paper and a final grade of F (DISC) (for Disciplinary Action) for the course. For the most serious acts of plagiarism, such as purchase of an essay and repeat violations, this penalty can also include suspension for a period of up to five (5) years from registration in courses taught in a particular department/program in Arts or from all courses taught in this Faculty.

The Faculty also reserves the right to submit student work that is suspected of being plagiarized to Internet sites designed to detect plagiarism or to other experts for authentication.

The common penalty in Arts for academic dishonesty on a test or examination is F for the paper, F (DISC) for the course, and a one-year suspension from courses acceptable for credit in the Faculty. For more serious acts of academic dishonesty on a test or examination, such as repeat violations, this penalty can also include suspension for a period of up to five years from registration in courses taught in a particular department or program in Arts or from all courses taught in or accepted for credit by this Faculty.”

**Marking:** I will make every effort to return papers within a week, and you will thus have considerable feedback before the voluntary withdrawal (VW) date of 31 March 2017. I will take into account the quality and diligence of research, the creativity, strength, and coherence of thought and argument, and the correct use of grammar, usage, proofreading and citation. Extensions will not be granted except in highly unusual circumstances, which will usually require documentation. 4 % a day will be deducted for unexcused lateness.

A+, 90-100 %: Exceptional: Astonishingly excellent work, which demonstrates originality and a singular command of the subject.

A, 80-89 %. Truly excellent work, free from errors. A strong thesis, well organized paragraphs, and substantial evidence of close reading on single source papers or broad research in the research paper. In research papers, some awareness of the development of historiographical traditions. Excellent and error free citations, and in the research paper a large and intriguing bibliography.

B+, 75-79 %. Very good work, but with some errors.

B, 70-75 %. Good, with evidence of hard work. Certainly must have a suitable thesis. Errors in grammar and usage, and less creativity and coherence in argument and interpretation. Sporadic references to the literature.

C+, 65-69 %. Satisfactory, but little coherence in argument and poor writing, and in the research paper, little evidence of creativity and diligence in research.

C, 60-64 %. Poorly written, and with little evidence of being familiar with the subject about which they are writing, and little evident effort placed into finding material for research.
D, 50-59 %. Poorly organized, without a useful thesis. Many errors in editing, sloppy writing, and little sign of diligent research or close reading. Using only the textbooks as a source in the research paper.

F, 0-49 %. Unacceptable work. Demonstrates little knowledge of the history of the early modern period or of the historian’s craft.

Other things the Faculty thinks you should know: “Students who wish to appeal a grade given for term work must do so within 10 working days after the grade for the term work has been made available to them.” If you do not pick up your work for four months after the end of the course, you will not only lose the incalculable benefits of my comments, but, as the Faculty puts it, the work “will become the property of the Faculty of Arts and will be subject to confidential destruction.”

Useful References
Databases: Historical abstracts and Iter are useful bibliographies to find journal articles, books and dissertations about French history in this period. More complete bibliographic information can be found in the Bibliographie annuelle de l'Histoire de France.

Journals: The standard English journals on French history are French Historical Studies and French History. The second journal, published in England, tends to have more content on early modern subjects. Book reviews are available at H-France, on line.


Student Resources
You have access to several important resources to help you navigate your classes and university life more generally. There are writing tutors available to help you with your essays through the Academic Learning Centre (ALC): http://umanitoba.ca/student/academiclearning/. The History department will also make a writing tutor available exclusively to History students in the department on one day a week.

The ALC page also has resources to help you with study skills, organization, as well as assistance for students using English as an Additional Language (EAL). Other issues, including accessibility services, workshops, and tips about academic integrity are addressed at the Student Advocacy Services webpage (http://umanitoba.ca/student/resource/student_advocacy/).

All of the above services can also be accessed under the heading of Student Resources on the Student Affairs website: http://umanitoba.ca/student/studentlife/index.html.

History students can also take advantage of the huge range of academic materials (including primary and secondary sources, as well as pages to help with writing and referencing) made available by the History subject librarian, Kyle Feenstra. They are available on the Libraries page at
this link: http://libguides.lib.umanitoba.ca/history. Students who need research assistance can also schedule an appointment with a librarian through the website.

Reading Schedule
William Beik, Louis XIV and Absolutism, abbreviated as Beik.
Colin Jones, The Great Nation, abbreviated as Jones.
Lecture subjects and workshop readings are subject to change.

Read Beik, 1-16.
W: 18th January: Introduction
F: 20th January: Diversity and French institutions.

WEEK I
Read Beik, 19-49.
M: 23rd January: France before Louis XIV
W: 25th January: Into the Fronde
F: 27th January Workshop I: Readings from Beik.

WEEK II
Read Louis XIV, Mémoires, from me.
M: 30th January: Mazarin and Personal Rule
W: 1st February: Style of Rule
F: 3rd February: Workshop II: Louis XIV, Mémoires, From me.

WEEK III
Read Beik, 50-120, 199-204.
M: 6th February: Court Culture and Versailles
W: 8th February: Dutch War
F: 10th February: Workshop III: Documents in Beik.

WEEK IV
Read Beik, 166-198.
W: 15th February: Religious dissent & alliances against Louis

20-24th February: Louis Riel Day & Reading Week: No classes

WEEK V
Read Beik, 156-165, 219-222.
M: 27th February: Endless War
W: 1st March: Dissent and Death
F: 3rd March: Workshop V: Vauban and dissent: The Royal Tithe, From me.

WEEK VI
Read Jones, Introduction, 1-81.
M: 6 March: Hopes of the Regency
W: 8th March: John Law and his consequences.

WEEK VII
Read: Jones, chapter 3.

WEEK VIII
Read: Jones, chapter 4.
M: 20th March: French Empire
W: 22nd March: Louis XV’s Sunny Moment

WEEK IX
Read Jones, Chapter 5.
M: 27th March: The Encyclopedic Moment
W: 29th March: Sentiment & the Royal Image.

WEEK X
Read Jones, Chapter 6 and 7.
M: 3rd April: Reform: PAPER #2 Due!
W : 5th April: Seven Years War

WEEK XI
Read Jones, Chapter 8 and 9.
M: 10th April: Reform or Revolution.
W: 12th April: Towards the national convention
F: 14th April : Good Friday, No class.

WEEK XII
Read Jones, 9 and 10.
M: 17th April: The rights of man and the republic of virtue
W: 19th April: Workshop XI: Selections from Abbé Sieyes, What is the Third Estate?
F. 21” April: Review and Retrospect.