

The University of Texas at Tyler
Early Modern Europe (HIST 3356)

Course Overview: This course is a survey of European history during the seventeenth century. While this period is well known in terms of its scientific, literary and artistic achievements, less familiar are the era's complex politics, its social developments and its popular culture. With these themes as our backdrop, we will examine some of the more significant topics of the period: the Thirty Years War, the Golden Age of the Dutch Republic, and France under Louis XIV. These topics will constitute the three units of the course, with an exam over each.

Course Requirements: The course will consist of lectures and discussions; regular attendance and participation are essential. There will be three exams. Each will be worth 1/3 of your final grade. The exams will consist of choices of terms (5 out of 10 possible) and essays (1 of 2).

Required Books:

Asch, *The Thirty Years War*

Schama, *The Embarrassment of Riches*

Goubert, *Louis XIV and the Twenty Million Frenchmen*

Topics and Assignments

Week 1

Course Introduction; legacy of the Reformation

Readings: Asch

Week 2

The Thirty Years War

Readings: Asch, cont'd.

Week 3

The Decline of Spain; Richelieu and Olivares

Readings: Asch, cont'd.

Week 4

The Settlement of Westphalia (Tues.)

Discussion of Asch (Thurs.)

Week 5

Review for 1st exam (Tues.)

First Exam, Thursday, Feb. 14

Week 6

The Dutch Republic

Readings: Schama

Week 7

The Dutch Republic, cont'd.

Week 8

The Dutch Overseas Empire
Readings: Schama, cont'd.

Week 9 No classes – Spring Break

Week 10

The Culture of the Dutch Republic
Discussion of Schama and review for exam
Readings: Finish Schama

Week 11

Second Exam, Tuesday, March 26

Week 12

Richelieu's France
Readings: Goubert

Week 13

The Early Reign of Louis XIV
Readings: Goubert, cont'd.

Week 14

The Later Reign of Louis XIV
Readings: Goubert, cont'd.

Week 15

The War of the Spanish Succession
Readings: finish Goubert

Week 16

Discussion of Goubert
Review for Exam

Week 17

Final Exam