Léopold Boilly, *Le chanteur Chenard porte drapeau à la fête civique de la liberté de la Savoie, en costume de sans-culotte*, Musée Carnavalet, Paris

**Course co-ordinator**

Dr. Joseph Clarke

**Contact details:**

joseph.clarke@ted.ie
**Course Description:** After two centuries of debate, the French Revolution remains one of the most passionately contested and intellectually creative areas of historical enquiry. Why did it take place? What was the nature of the new régime that emerged in 1789, why did it become so much more radical in the years that followed and how did that process change the lives of ordinary French men and women? Why ultimately did the Revolution lead to Terror and end in dictatorship? In this course, students will be encouraged to address these and other questions by examining different interpretations of the Revolution and through their own research in primary sources. While a selection of core documents will be supplied in translation, students are also expected to undertake their own research in the extensive collections of prints, pamphlets and periodicals that are available in various libraries across Dublin and online.

**Duration**
One year

**Assessment**
Essays, presentations and two 3-hour exams.

**Weighting**
20 ECTS

**Contact Hours**
Tuesday, 4.00-5.00pm; room 5033
Wednesday, 9.00-11.00am; room 3124
Thursday, 2.00-4.00pm; room 3124

**Learning Outcomes:** On successful completion of this module students should be able:

- Demonstrate an informed understanding of the main themes and developments in the history of France during the Revolutionary period.
- To critically engage with the main interpretative trends and theoretical debates within Revolutionary historiography.
- To construct an individual reading programme among the leading interpretative accounts of the period.
- To identify and interpret a variety of relevant primary sources from the period.
- To evaluate and interpret these sources in an informed manner.
- To construct an individual synthesis based on a reading of the primary sources and secondary literature.
- To present such a synthesis in written and oral presentations.
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Michaelmas Term

1. Introduction: Writing about the Revolution
2. ‘Do Books make Revolutions’? Reflections on the Cultural Origins of the Revolution
3. The Collapse of the Old Order
4. ‘Becoming a Revolutionary’
5. Remaking France
6. A New Political Culture: Jacobins, Journalists and Popular Radicalism
7. Reading Week
9. The Road from Varennes
10. To Kill a King: Girondins and Montagnards
11. The Revolt of the Provinces: Civil War and Counter-Revolution
12. What is a Sans-Culotte?

Hilary Term

1. Terror is the Order of the Day
2. La République au Village: the Terror in the Countryside
3. ‘Death is an Eternal Sleep’: Dechristianisation
4. A Cultural Revolution?
5. The Terror as a Social Programme: The Revolution and the Poor
6. Women in Revolution
7. Reading Week
8. The Revolution is Frozen: Politics in the Republic of Virtue
9. Thermidor or ‘The End of the Illusion’?
10. Ending the Revolution
11. The Revolution is Over
12. Conclusion
Guide to Research Materials

1. Printed Primary Sources
2. Newspapers

1. Printed Primary Sources

The following is just a selection of some of the most important published primary sources from the Revolutionary decade that can be found in Dublin libraries. In addition to the items listed below, UCD Library holds the Maclure Collection of French Revolutionary Materials which contains over 25,000 items on microfilm while TCD’s Department of Early Printed Books and the National Library of Ireland both have extensive holdings of Revolutionary pamphlets, autobiographies and newspapers. These sources, and many more, can also be found online via the Bibliothèque Nationale de France’s Gallica website at http://gallica.bnf.fr/. Students are encouraged to exploit these resources in both their seminar presentations and essays.


Rapports des Agents du Ministre de l'Intérieur dans les départements (1793-an II)


M. Robespierre, Oeuvres de Maximilien Robespierre, 10 vols. (2000) (TCD Berkeley)

2. The Revolutionary Press

Newspapers are one of the most informative and most readily available primary sources on Revolutionary politics. The following list should give you an idea as to what Revolutionary newspapers are to hand and where they can be found. The list of papers available on the BNF Gallica website is impressive, but many of these titles only last a matter of weeks or months, while some are incomplete runs. If a major paper is available in either Trinity or UCD, I have listed it there, as it is more likely to offer a complete run. If you find any other titles, let me know.

In Dublin Libraries

Réimpression de l’Ancien Moniteur, depuis la Réunion des États-Généraux jusqu’au Consulat, mai 1789-novembre 1799. 3 volumes in EPB and a complete run in UCD

La Bouche de Fer, UCD Open Access


Le Courrier des LXXXIII Départements, UCD Microfilm


Journal des Amis de la Constitution, UCD Microfilm

Journal des débats de la société des amis de la constitution, UCD microfilm

Journal de la Montagne, UCD Microfilm

Le Père Duchesne, UCD Open Access

Révolutions de France et de Brabant, UCD Open Access

Révolutions de Paris, EPB and UCD microfilm

Le Vieux Cordelier, UCD Open Access

Some of the most important Revolutionary titles on the BNF Gallica website (with links)

Les actes des apôtres
L’ami du roi, des François, de l'ordre, et sur-tout de la vérité
Annales de la religion, ou Mémoires pour servir à l'histoire de l'Eglise de France sur la fin du XVIIIe siècle
Annales patriotiques de Marseille
Annales religieuses, politiques et littéraires
L'avant-garde de l'armée des Pyrénées Orientales
Bulletin de l'armée des côtes de Brest
Bulletin de l'armée du Midi
Chronique de Paris
La chronique du mois, ou Les cahiers patriotiques des Amis de la vérité
Le courrier de l'hymen, journal des dames
Le courrier de l'armée d'Italie, ou Le patriote français à Milan
Courrier de Lyon
Courrier de Marseille
La feuille villageoise
La France vue de l'armée d'Italie
Gazette des tribunaux
Gazette nationale, ou le Moniteur universel
Je suis le véritable père Duchesne, foutre !
Journal de l'armée des Pyrénées-Orientales
Journal de la Montagne
Journal de la Société républicaine des arts
Journal de Lyon et du département de Rhône
Journal de Ville-Affranchie, et des départemens de Rhône et Loire ou Journal de Commune-Affranchie, annonces et avis divers
Journal militaire
Journal républicain des deux départemens de Rhône et de Loire
Le moniteur patriote
Le patriote français, ou Journal libre, impartial et national
La Quotidienne, ou Feuille du jour
Le Républicain, Journal des hommes libres de tous les pays
Révolutions de Paris
Révolutions de Versailles et de Paris, dédiées aux dames françaises
Revue algérienne et coloniale
La tribune de la Société populaire de Marseille
Le véritable ami de la reine, ou Journal des dames
Le vieux tribun et sa bouche de fer
Seminar Document List

Michaelmas Term

Week 1  Writing about the Revolution
See Recommended Reading

Week 2  Do Books Make Revolutions?
1  E. Burke, Reflections on the Revolution in France (extracts)
2  A. de Tocqueville, The Old Régime and the Revolution (book III, chapter I)

Week 3  Public Opinion in 1789
1  The Cahiers de Doléances: a selection
2  E. Sieyès, What is the Third Estate? (extracts)

Week 4  Becoming a Revolutionary
1  Declaration of the Third Estate, 17 June 1789
2  The Tennis Court Oath, 20 June 1789
3  The Royal Session, 23 June 1789
4  The Fall of the Bastille as seen by Earl Gower, the Marquis de Ferrières and
   the Révolutions de Paris
5  The Establishment of the National Guards

Week 5  Remaking France
1  Peasant Unrest and the Great Fear, July-August 1789
2  The Abolition of Feudalism, August 1789
3  The Declaration of the Rights of Man and the Citizen, August 1789
4  The October Days
5  The Re-Organisation of Revolutionary Space: the creation of Municipalities
   and Départements, December 1789 and February 1790
Week 6  A New Political Culture
1 Revolutionary Ritual: The Festival of the Federation, 14 July 1790
2 Revolutionary Sociability: Extracts from the Deliberations of the Société des Amis de la Constitution of Artonne (1790)
3 The Radical Press: The Révolutions de Paris and the Ami du Peuple (selected extracts)

Week 7  Reading Week

Week 8  Making Martyrs: The Civil Constitution of the Clergy and the Collapse of the Revolutionary Consensus
1 Decree Confiscating Church Property, 2 November 1789
2 Grant of Religious Liberty to Protestants, 24 December 1789
3 Decree Prohibiting Monastic Vows in France, 13 February 1790
4 The Civil Constitution of The Clergy, 12 July 1790
5 The Clerical Oath, 27 November 1790
6 Papal Bull Charitas, 13 April 1791
7 Anticlerical demonstrations in Paris, Spring 1791, as reported by Célestin Guittard de Floriban
8 Some contemporary prints on the clerical oath and Charitas
9 A Report by the Jacobins of Besançon on the Refractory Clergy, January 1792

Week 9  The Road from Varennes
1 The King’s Declaration on Leaving Paris, 20 June 1791
2 Reactions to the King’s flight
3 Petition of the Cordeliers Club, 21 June 1791
4 Petition of the Jacobin Club, 16 July 1791
5 Petitions on the Champ de Mars, 17 July 1791
6 The Massacre on the Champ de Mars as reported in the Révolutions de Paris
7 The Situation in Paris after the Massacre, Mme Roland’s view

**Week 10  To Kill a King**
1 Address of the Mauconseil Section to all the Citizens of Paris, 4 August 1792, and the Legislative Assembly’s response.
2 The Deportation of Non-juring Priests and the abolition of Feudalism, 26 and 25 August 1792
3 The September Massacres as seen by Restif de la Bretonne and Earl Gower
4 The Indictment of Louis XVI, 11 December 1792
5 Louis’ execution
6 Circular from the Jacobin Club to its affiliates, 3 April 1792

**Week 11  The Revolt of the Provinces: Civil War and Counter-Revolution**
1 Address of the thirty-two sections of the commune of Marseille to the National Convention (read to the Convention, 25 May 1793) Buchez and Roux, Histoire Parlementaire de la Révolution Française, vol. xxvii, pp. 214-9.
2 Address of the citizens of Rennes (read to the Convention, 9 June 1793) Ancien Moniteur no. 162, 11 June 1793, pp. 600-1.
4 Pétion’s account of the Federalist revolt in Normandy, Mémoires inédites de Pétion (Paris, 1866) pp. 147-55.

**Week 12  What is a Sans-Culotte?**
1 An answer to the impertinent question: But what is a Sans-Culotte? (April 1793)
2 Definition of the Moderate, the Feuillant, the Aristocrat, in short of the class of citizens upon whom the forced loan that is to be raised throughout the Republic should fall. (May 1793)

Extract from the Register of Deliberations of the General Council of the Commune of Paris, 20th day of the first month, year II of the Republic

Petition of the William Tell section to the Convention, Brumaire, year II.

**Hilary Term Documents**

**Week 1**  
**Terror is the Order of the Day**
2. The Law of Suspects (17 September 1793)
3. Saint-Just, Report to the Convention on behalf of the Committee of Public Safety (10 October 1793)
4. The Law of 14 Frimaire

**Week 2**  
**La République au Village: the Terror in the Countryside**
1. Decree establishing the levée en masse (23 August 1793)
2. Decree of the representatives, Châles and Isoré establishing a Revolutionary Army in the Nord, 13 brumaire an II (3 November 1793)
3. Dartigoeyte, representative-on-mission in the Gers to the Committee of Public Safety (nivôse an II), Aulard, *C. S. P.* vol. x, pp. 212
5. Questionnaire of the *Société des Sans-culottes d’Avalon* (16 February 1794)

**Week 3**  
**‘Death is an eternal sleep’: Dechristianisation**
1. Fouché’s dechristianising decree in Nevers (10 October 1793)
2. A *sans-culotte* paternoster
3. The ‘furie d’Auxerre’ (November 1793)
4. A circular from the Committee of Public Safety to the *sociétés populaires* (November 1793)
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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 4</strong></td>
<td><strong>A Cultural Revolution?</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Decrees concerning the new Revolutionary Calendar (5 October and 24 November 1793)</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Changing the names of inns in Pierrefonds in the Oise, 24 brumaire an II</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Account of a festival of Reason in Fontainebleau (frimaire an II)</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Bouquier law on Public Education, 29 frimaire an II (19 December 1793)</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>New regulations concerning funerals in Honfleur (nivôse an II)</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Barère, Report on patois, 8 pluviôse an II (27 January 1794)</td>
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<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<td><strong>Week 5</strong></td>
<td><strong>The Terror as a Social Programme: the Revolution and the Poor</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>The ventôse decrees (3 March 1794)</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Collot d’Herbois, Report… on pensions, payments and assistance to be paid to the families of the defenders of the patrie, 14 prairial an II</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Welfare reform in practice: the efforts of the representatives on mission</td>
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<th>Week</th>
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<td><strong>Week 6</strong></td>
<td><strong>Women in Revolution</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>An Address by the Républicaines Révolutionnaires to the Jacobin Club (May 19, 1793)</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Regulations of the Société des citoyennes Républicaines Révolutionnaires</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Police Report concerning a riot in Les Halles over the wearing of the Revolutionary Cockade (7 brumaire an II)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>The suppression of Women’s societies and popular Clubs (9 brumaire an II)</td>
</tr>
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</table>
**Week 7**

Reading Week

**Week 8**

The Revolution is Frozen: Politics in the Republic of Virtue

1. Extracts from *Le Vieux Cordelier*, no. 3, 25 frimaire an II (15 December 1793)
2. Police report on the Situation in Paris, 18 nivôse an II (7 January 1794)
3. Robespierre, Report on the Principles of Political Morality (5 February 1794)
4. Saint-Just, Report on the foreign factions, 23 ventôse an II (13 March 1794)
5. The Festival of the Supreme Being (8 June 1794)
6. The Law of 22 Prairial an II (10 June 1794)
7. Extracts from Célèstine Guittard de Floriban’s diary of events in Paris (July 1794)

**Week 9**

The Thermidorian Moment


**Week 10**

Politics in the Year III

Week 11  The Directory and Drift
1  Declaration of Rights and Duties, Constitution of the year III
2  The Manifesto of the Directors.
3  A Police Report from the Provinces, September 1797
5  Proclamation of the Consuls to the French People, 24 frimaire an VIII (15 December 1799)

**Recommended Reading**

*General Histories*

The following is only an outline of some of the most important surveys of the Revolution. It is by no means exhaustive, and you should always keep an eye out for other material in the library and for references in bibliographies, footnotes and journals. Three useful and very up-to-date bibliographical essays can be found in D. Andress, *French Society in Revolution, 1789-1799*, W. Doyle, *The Oxford History of the French Revolution* (2nd ed.) and H. Gough, *The Terror and The French Revolution*. As regards journals, *Annales historiques de la Révolution Française*, *French Historical Studies* and *French History* are the best places to look for interesting new work on the Revolution, but use the JSTOR internet search facility to browse other journals as well. Where translations of French works are available, I have listed these. If you are interested in areas not covered by the booklist in any detail or want to go deeper into those that are dealt with here, let me know and I can give you some suggestions.


A. Soboul, *The French Revolution* (1973)


D. M. G. Sutherland, *France 1789-1815: Revolution and Counter-Revolution* (1985)

M. Vovelle, *the Fall of the French Monarchy, 1787-1792* (1978)


**Reference Works**


**Essay Collections**


**Documentary Collections**


R. Bienvenu, *The Ninth of Thermidor: The Fall of Robespierre* (1968) A wide-ranging collection of documents dealing with the background to, and aftermath of, Robespierre’s fall from power.


W. Markov and A. Soboul, eds. *Die Sansculotten von Paris: Dokumente zur Geschichte der Volksbewegung: 1793-1794* (Berlin, 1957). Don’t let the title put you off. This collection contains an immense amount of archival and pamphlet material in French about the popular movement during the Terror.


**Abbreviations**

\[\begin{array}{ll}
AHRF & \text{Annales Historiques de la Révolution française} \\
AHR & \text{American Historical Review} \\
Annales ESC & \text{Annales, Économies, Sociétés, Civilisations} \\
EHR & \text{English Historical Review} \\
ES & \text{Eighteenth-Century Studies} \\
DHS & \text{Dix-huitième Siècle} \\
FH & \text{French History} \\
FHS & \text{French Historical Studies}
\end{array}\]
### Weekly Reading

#### Michaelmas Term

**1 and 2  Writing about the Revolution and the Cultural Origins of the Revolution**

**The classic Marxist interpretation of the French Revolution**

**The Revisionist Critique**


The Current State of the Debate


2 Do Books make Revolutions?


‘Enlightenment and Revolution in France’, JMH, 52 (1981)


The Literary Underground of the Old Régime (1982)


The Forbidden Best-Sellers of Pre-Revolutionary France (1995)


D. Mornet, Les Origines Intellectuelles de la Révolution française (1934)
N. Hampson, *The Enlightenment* (1968)

**The Problem of the Public Sphere**
J. Habermas, *The Structural Transformation of the Public Sphere* (1989)
B. Nathan, ‘Habermas’ Public Sphere in the era of the Enlightenment’, *FHS*, 16 (1989)
S. Maza, ‘Women, the bourgeoisie, and the public sphere: response to Daniel Gordon and David Bell’ (and their contributions) 6, *FHS*, 17 (1991-2)
3 The Collapse of the Old Order

Background Reading


An Aristocratic Reaction?

B. Stone, ‘Robe Against Sword: The Parlement of Paris and the French Aristocracy’, *FHS*, IX (1975)


W. Doyle, ‘Was there an Aristocratic Reaction in Pre-Revolutionary France’, *P&P* (1972)


___ *The French Pre-Revolution* (1977)


V. Gruder, ‘Paths to political consciousness in the Assembly of Notables of 1787’, FHS, 13 (1979)


4 Becoming a Revolutionary

The Events of 1789 – Paris and Versailles


B. Hyslop, A Guide to the General Cahiers of 1789 (1936)

G. Lefebvre, *The Coming of the French Revolution* (1947)


___


T. Tackett, *Becoming a Revolutionary: The Deputies of the French National Assembly and the Emergence of A Revolutionary Culture (1789-1790)* (1996)


**The Events of 1789 – Rural France**


A. Davies, ‘The origins of the French Peasant Revolution of 1789’ *History*, 49 (1964)

A. Soboul, *Problèmes paysans de la Révolution. 1789-1848* (1976)

G. Lefebvre, *The Great Fear of 1789* (1973)


F. Gauthier, ‘Sur les problèmes paysans de la Révolution francaise’ *AHRF*, 50 (1978)


— ‘Peasant grievances and peasant insurrection in France in 1789’, *JMH*, 62 (1990)


Remaking France, 1789-91

H.B. Applewhite, ‘Political Legitimacy in Revolutionary France, 1788-91’, *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, 9 (1978)

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*The formation of the Parisian bourgeoisie, 1690-1830* (1996)


S.F. Scott, ‘Problems of law and order during 1790, the ‘peaceful’ year of the French Revolution’, *AHR*, 80 (1975)


—I—

*Becoming A Revolutionary: The French National Assembly and the Emergence of a Revolutionary Culture 1789-1790* (1996)


6 A New Political Culture: Jacobins, Journalists and Popular Radicalism

**Elections and Festivals**


**The Clubs and Popular Radicalism**


—I—

*Atlas de la Révolution Française*, vol. 6, *Les Sociétés Politiques*.  

27


Mathiez, A., *Le Club des Cordeliers pendant la crise de Varennes et le massacre de Champs de Mars* (1910)


**The Press**


— The production, distribution and readership of a conservative journal of the early French Revolution: the Ami du roi of the abbé Royou (1992)


See also the articles on ‘The rôle of the Press in the French Revolution’ in a special edition of *History of European Ideas*, vol. x., no. 4 (1989)

7 Reading Week

8 Making Martyrs: the Civil Constitution of the Clergy and the Collapse of the Revolutionary Consensus

**Reform of the Church and the Civil Constitution of the Clergy**


*Christianity and Revolutionary Europe, 1750-1830* (2003)

A. F. Aulard, *Christianity and the French Revolution* (1927)

F. Furet, ‘Civil Constitution’, in Furet and Ozouf, *Critical Dictionary*


9 The Road from Varennes

See also the section on Popular Radicalism


--- *The French Legislative Assembly of 1791* (1988)


**The Counter-Revolution**

P. Beik, ‘the Comte d’Antraigues and the failure of French Conservatism in 1789’, *AHR*, 67 (1951)


D. Greer, *The Incidence of the Emigration during the French Revolution* (1931)


**The Army and the Drift to War**


--- *The French Revolutionary Wars, 1787-1802* (1996)


--- *Napoleon’s men: the soldiers of the revolution and empire* (2002)


S.F. Scott, *The Response of the Royal Army to the French Revolution, the rôle and development of the Line Army during 1789-93* (1978)

**10 To Kill a King: Girondins and Montagnards**

**The Fall of the Monarchy and the King’s Trial**


T. Tackett, *When the King took flight* (2003)


**Girondins and Montagnards**


**11 The Revolt of the Provinces: Civil-War and Counter-Revolution**

**The Vendée**


D. Sutherland, ‘The Social Origins of Counter-Revolution in Western France’, *P&P*, 99,


___ *Murder in Aubagne: Lynching, Law and Justice during the Revolution* (2009)


C. Tilly, *The Vendée* (1964)

**Federalism**


___ *Jacobinism and the Revolt of Lyons, 1789-1793* (1993)


33


O. Hufton, *Bayeux in the Late Eighteenth Century: a Social Study* (1967)


C. Lucas, *The Structure of the Terror: the example of Javogues and the Loire* (1973)


W. Scott, *Terror and Repression in Revolutionary Marseille* (1973)


12 What is a Sans-Culotte?


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___

*The Police and the People, 1789-1820* (1974)


C. Lucas, *The Structure of the Terror: the example of Javogues and the Loire* (1973)

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___

*The Hébertistes to the Guillotine* (1994)


___


Hilary Term

1 and 2  Terror is the Order of the Day and La République au Village

See also the sections on Federalism and Dechristianisation.

The Men and the Machinery of the Terror

M. Bouloiseau, Le Comité de Salut Public (1968)
M. Bouloiseau, The Jacobin Republic 1792-1794 (1987)
R. Cobb, The People’s Armies (1987)
R. Cobb, Terreur et Subsistances 1793-95 (1965)
R. Cobb, Reactions to the French Revolution (1972)

Furet and Ozouf, assorted entries in the *Critical Dictionary*

N. Hampson, *The Terror in the French Revolution* (1978)
___  *The Life and Opinions of Maximilien Robespierre* (1974)
___  ‘François Chabot and his plot’, *Transactions of the Royal Historical Society*, 26 (1976)
___  *Danton* (1978)
___  *Saint-Just* (1991)

C. Lucas, *The Structure of the Terror: the example of Javogues and the Loire* (1973)
M. Lyons, ‘Vadier, the formation of the Jacobin mentality’, *FHS*, 10 (1977)

3 ‘Death is an Eternal Sleep’: Dechristianisation and the Radicalisation of Revolutionary Culture

Special edition of *Annales Historiques de la Révolution Française* (1978)


S. Desan, *Reclaiming the Sacred: Lay Religion and Popular Politics in Revolutionary France* (Cornell, 1990)


Furet and Ozouf, ‘Dechristianisation’, ‘Revolutionary Religion’, and ‘Revolutionary Calendar’ in Furet and Ozouf, *Critical Dictionary*


A. Soboul, *Les Sans-Culottes Parisiens…,*


4 A Cultural Revolution?


translated as *The Body Politic: Corporeal Metaphor in Revolutionary France* (1997)


M. Biver, ed. *Fêtes Révolutionnaires à Paris* (1979)


J. Clarke, *Commemorating the Dead in Revolutionary France: Revolution and Remembrance* (2007)


___ *La Mentalité Révolutionnaire: Société et Mentalités sous la Révolution française* (1985)

**Art, Architecture, and the Theatre**

A. Brookner, *David* (1980)


B. Hyslop, ‘The theatre during a crisis: the Parisian theatre during the Reign of Terror’, *JMH*, vol. xvii (1945)


Lavin, S., Quatremère de Quincy and the Invention of Modern Architecture (1992)

J. Leith, *The idea of art as propaganda in France 1750-1799: a study in the history of ideas* (1965)


**Language and Linguistic Policy**


M. de Certeau et al, *Une politique de la langue: La Révolution française et les patois* (1975)


**5 The Terror as a Social Programme: the Revolution and the Poor**


C. Jones, *Charity and bienfaisance: the Treatment of the Poor in Montpellier. 1740-1815* (1983)

___ 'Picking up the pieces: the politics and the personnel of social welfare from the Convention to the Consulate’, in G. Lewis & C. Lucas (eds), *Beyond the Terror* (1983)


6 Women in Revolution


See also the articles by Hufton on the Church and Dechristianisation

D. Goodman, ‘Filial rebellion in the Salons; Mme. Geoffrin and her daughter’, *FHS*, 16 (1989)


D. Levy et al. (eds) *Women in Revolutionary Paris, 1789-94* (1979)


D. Outram, *The Body and the French Revolution,*


See also the articles on Women and the French Revolution in a special issue of *History of European Ideas*, vol. x, no. 3 (1989)
7  Reading Week

8  The Revolution is Frozen: Politics in the Republic of Virtue

See also the Entries on the Terror and Thermidor
R. Monnier ‘La dissolution des sociétés populaires parisiennes au printemps de l’an II’, *AHRF* (1987)
A. Soboul, *Les Sans-Culottes Parisiens.*

9 and 10  Thermidor or the ‘End of the Illusion’ and the Year III

R. Bienvenu, *The Ninth of Thermidor: The Fall of Robespierre* (1968)

___  Sur l’histoire de la réaction thermidorienne: pour une analyse politique de l’échec de la voie jacobine’, *AHRF* (1979)


R. Cobb, *The Police and the People* (1973)


G. Lefebvre, *The Thermidarians* (1965)


France under the Directory (1975)

M. Reinhard, *Le département de la Sarthe sous le régime Directorial* (1936)

G. Rudé, and A. Soboul `Le Maximum des salaires parisiens et le 9 thermidor’, *AHRF* (1954)


11 Ending the Revolution


I. Woloch, *Napoleon and his collaborators: the making of a dictatorship* (2001)
Course Assessment and Suggested Essay Titles

This course is assessed through a combination of essays, seminar papers and 2 three-hour exams at the end of the year. The dates for submission of essays are included in the department yearbook. The following is a list of suggested titles only. Students are free to choose another topic for analysis in consultation with the course co-ordinator.

Essay Titles

1. Was the French monarchy desacralised over the course of the eighteenth century?
2. Why did Louis XVI prove powerless to implement meaningful reform?
3. What do the cahiers de doléances tell us about the state of public opinion on the eve of the Revolution?
4. Why did the National Assembly abolish feudalism in August 1789 and why did it take four years for that abolition to become effective?
5. ‘The ideological choices that emerged most dominant in the course of the Revolution developed, above all, as a function of specific political contingencies and social interactions within the Assembly and the population as a whole.’ (Tackett) Discuss.
6. Were Parisian radicals right to claim that a ‘bourgeois aristocracy’ had come to power in 1789?
7. ‘Ideology certainly mattered to the Jacobins… but they… were also men of action, whose tactics and at times principles fluctuated as political necessity required.’ (Higonnet) Is this a valid description of the Jacobin club network?
8. Why did the Civil Constitution of the Clergy prove so divisive?
9. Why did the so many parts of the West turn against the Revolution?
10. Were the Girondins a figment of the Montagnards’ imagination?
11. ‘Federalism was less a coherent ideology than a polemical device.’ (Forrest) Discuss.
12. Did the sans-culotte constitute an ‘autonomous popular movement’ or an oligarchy?
‘Terrorism, and more particularly militant terrorism, was not so much a phenomenon of class as a phenomenon of the individual.’ (Lucas) Discuss.

Was dechristianisation a political or a religious phenomenon?

Either a. Why did language become a political problem in 1793?

or

b. Assess the Revolution’s impact upon family life in France from 1789 to 1799.

Either a. Why did the Convention decide that ‘a woman should not leave her family to meddle in the affairs of government’ in brumaire an II?

or

b. Why did Madame Defarge put down her needles and reach for her rosary in 1795?

Why did the Convention turn on Robespierre in Thermidor and why did so few Parisians come to his support?

Was 1795 ‘the year of the loss of illusions’?

Why did the Directory prove unable to rally the French around its vision of the Republic?

‘In some depressingly unavoidable sense, violence was the Revolution itself.’ (Schama) Discuss.

Useful Links

Bibliothèque Nationale de France  http://gallica.bnf.fr/
Gallica collection of online documents
Fondation Napoléon  http://www.napoleonica.org/
Institut d’histoire de la Révolution Française  http://ihrf.univ-paris1.fr/
Université de Paris I
Liberty, Equality, Fraternity:  http://chnm.gmu.edu/revolution/
Exploring the French Revolution
George Mason University