

History 150: Europe Since 1648

Study Guide for Examination #1

Friday, March 1, 2013

Needed: ABSOLUTELY blank bluebook, pens (not red, not pencil)

I. IDENTIFICATION: (40%) Each item is worth 8 points. (You will be given a list of 7 or 8 items, from which you must choose 5 to identify. Your answer should include such things as "Who [or what], when, where, and historical significance." Your answers should not exceed 3 or 4 brief sentences or phrases for each item [complete sentences will NOT be required for identification answers].)

Peace of Westphalia, Louis XIV, Cardinal Richelieu, Versailles, Peter the Great, Charles XII (Sweden), mercantilism, Charles I (England), Oliver Cromwell, Glorious Revolution, Nicholas Copernicus, Galileo Galilei, Isaac Newton, Thomas Hobbes, John Locke, philosophes, Montesquieu, Voltaire, the Encyclopedia, Deism, Adam Smith, laissez-faire, Pragmatic Sanction, Maria Theresa, Catherine II ("the Great"), Frederick II ("the Great")

II. ESSAY: (60%) (30 points for each question) You will be given three or four essay questions, of which you must answer two. The actual questions will be similar, but not necessarily identical, to those provided here. (The material covered by the actual questions is included in the following questions, although the actual questions on the examination may cover two or more of the following examples.) Your answers should draw upon material from lectures as well as from your readings. Be sure to support your general statements with specific examples.

1. What criteria do historians use to separate "modern history" from earlier time periods? What criteria do you think should be used? According to your criteria, what date should historians use as the starting point for the history of modern Europe?
2. Discuss the development of absolutism and its role in the developing states of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. What were the essential elements of absolutism? Compare and contrast the operation of absolutism and constitutionalism in England and France. Why did they develop differently?
3. How was the development of absolute government in Russia or Austria different from that in Western Europe?
4. What were the major features of the "Scientific Revolution?" How did it fit with religious and political events of the 17th century?
5. What was the "Enlightenment?" Why can the 18th century also be called "the Age of Reason?" What was the Enlightenment's relationship to the Scientific Revolution?

6. "Enlightened Absolutism (or Enlightened Despotism) was neither enlightened nor absolutist." Show the accuracies and inaccuracies of this statement, using specific examples to support your general statements.

7. What were the major characteristics of the Baroque? Who were some of the major practitioners of that style (and in which areas of artistic endeavor)?