

COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

NOTE: ANY CHANGES TO A CSD MUST GO THROUGH ALL OF THE RELEVANT APPROVAL PROCESSES, INCLUDING LTTPC.

Academic School/Department:	Communications, Arts and Social Sciences
Programme:	History
FHEQ Level:	4
Course Title:	The Birth of the Modern World: The Enlightenment
Course Code:	HST 4110
Course Leader:	Professor Michele Cohen
Student Engagement Hours:	120
Lectures:	22.5
Seminar / Tutorials:	22.5
Independent / Guided Learning :	75
Semester:	FALL and/or SPRING and/or SUMMER
Credits:	12 UK CATS credits 6 ECTS credits 3 US credits

Course Description:

An introduction to the themes and debates that have constituted modern thought and consciousness: nature, religion, science, progress, education, gender, and the public sphere. These themes are explored through critical reading of key texts by Locke, Rousseau, Diderot, Voltaire, Kant, and through contemporary visual representations and modern visual media. Students debate the role of reason in science and religion; the centrality of knowledge and education to the development of the enlightened individual; and the importance of sociability, politeness, and conversation in the formation of the secular system of values which shaped modern society. The course is designed to be interactive, with lectures, seminars, class presentations, and class visits to relevant exhibitions.

Prerequisites: None

Aims and Objectives:

- Foster the acquisition, development and consolidation of a variety of historical and transferable skills (both written and oral) through the study of a historical period which particularly encourages the development of critical thinking.
- Develop research skills, close reading skills, formulating and presenting a coherent argument orally and in writing

- Develop a critical understanding of a variety of primary and secondary sources and practised in oral presentations, seminars, research papers and exams,

Programme Outcomes:

At the end of this course, the students will have achieved the following programme outcomes.

4A(i); 4A(iii); 4B(ii); 4C(i); 4C(iii); 4D(i); 4D(ii); 4D(iii)

A detailed list of the programme outcomes are found in the Programme Specification. This is located at the Departmental page of the portal.

Learning Outcomes:

At the end of this course, the students will have achieved the following learning outcomes.

- Demonstrate a broad understanding of the main issues of the Enlightenment in France and England
- Demonstrate ability to appreciate writings by main Enlightenment figures in France and England
- Demonstrate a broad grasp of methods for reading and interpreting printed primary source material.
- Demonstrate basic historiographical skills
- Demonstrate the ability to work in a group and to present research orally in a coherent and accessible manner.
- Completes assigned work with a degree of autonomy, technical competence, clarity and evaluative skills appropriate for a 4000-level course

Indicative Content:

- Selected works of Locke, Rousseau, Diderot, Voltaire, Kant.
- Religion, Science and medicine in the Enlightenment
- Social and intellectual contexts of the Enlightenment.
- The 'invention' of childhood and the construction of gender in the Enlightenment
- Sexuality and morality
- Ethical issues: crime and punishment
- Cultural consumption, luxury and economics: Adam Smith

Assessment:

This course conforms to the Richmond University Standard Assessment Norms approved at Academic Council on June 28, 2012.

Teaching Methodology:

The course will be taught through a combination of lectures and seminar classes. Lectures are primarily designed to give an overview of the issues and problems on a particular topic, and thereby provide guidance for seminar discussion. Seminars will be used for debates and group/sub-group discussion, and are intended to provide an interactive and participatory learning environment. Students are expected to do the set readings for each week, and to be prepared to contribute to class discussion and

