

## OFFICIAL UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE FORM

Note: The University reserves the right to amend course outlines as needed without notice.

<b>Course Code and Number:</b> HIST 412		<b>Number of Credits:</b> 4 <a href="#">Course credit policy (105)</a>													
<b>Course Full Title:</b> Louis XIV and His Court at Versailles <b>Course Short Title:</b> Louis XIV & His Court															
<b>Faculty:</b> Faculty of Humanities		<b>Department/School:</b> History													
<b>Calendar Description:</b> Students explore the personal and political dynamics of court society at Versailles under Louis XIV (1643-1715). The intricacies of court life are examined against a backdrop of larger political events across France and Europe. Through the investigation of patronage, consumption, ritual, and display, students develop an understanding of this quintessential early modern socio-political institution.															
<b>Prerequisites (or NONE):</b>		9 credits of lower-level history and any 300-level history course.													
<b>Corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):</b>		None.													
<b>Pre/corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):</b>		None.													
<b>Antirequisite Courses</b> ( <i>Cannot be taken for additional credit.</i> ) Former course code/number: Cross-listed with: Equivalent course(s): <i>(If offered in the previous five years, antirequisite course(s) will be included in the calendar description as a note that students with credit for the antirequisite course(s) cannot take this course for further credit.)</i>		<b>Course Details</b> Special Topics course: <b>No</b> <i>(If yes, the course will be offered under different letter designations representing different topics.)</i> Directed Study course: <b>No</b> <i>(See <a href="#">policy 207</a> for more information.)</i> Grading System: <b>Letter grades</b> Delivery Mode: <b>Face-to-face only</b> Expected frequency: <b>Every other year</b> Maximum enrolment (for information only): <b>20</b>													
<b>Typical Structure of Instructional Hours</b> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Lecture/seminar</td> <td>60</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total hours</b></td> <td><b>60</b></td> </tr> </table>		Lecture/seminar	60									<b>Total hours</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)</b> PLAR is available for this course.	
Lecture/seminar	60														
<b>Total hours</b>	<b>60</b>														
<b>Scheduled Laboratory Hours</b> Labs to be scheduled independent of lecture hours: <b>No</b>		<b>Transfer Credit</b> (See <a href="#">bctransferguide.ca</a> ) Transfer credit already exists: <b>No</b> Submit outline for (re)articulation: <b>No</b> <i>(If yes, fill in <a href="#">transfer credit form</a>.)</i>													
<b>Department approval</b>		<b>Date of meeting:</b> February 24, 2025													
<b>Faculty Council approval</b>		<b>Date of meeting:</b> May 9, 2025													
<b>Undergraduate Education Committee (UEC) approval</b>		<b>Date of meeting:</b> September 26, 2025													

**Learning Outcomes** *(These should contribute to students' ability to meet program outcomes and thus Institutional Learning Outcomes.)*

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Identify the major events and most important political, religious and cultural figures during the reign of Louis XIV.
2. Analyze the complex interaction of patronage, display and ritual that defined court life at Versailles.
3. Articulate historiographical debates around Louis XIV and the nature of absolutism in France.
4. Articulate the importance of context, evidence, perspective, and research in the study of history.
5. Utilize both primary and secondary sources relevant to the topic of 17th century France.
6. Engage in dialogue and debate in a respectful, inclusive, and open-minded way.
7. Reflect critically and constructively upon one's own work and that of others.

**Recommended Evaluation Methods and Weighting** *(Evaluation should align to learning outcomes.)*

Final exam:	25%	%	%
Assignments:	75%	%	%

**Details:**

Assignments:

Thesis outline and annotated bibliography: 15%

Participation and engagement self-assessment: 10%

Seminar leadership: 15%

Major research paper: 35%

**NOTE: The following sections may vary by instructor. Please see course syllabus available from the instructor.**

**Typical Instructional Methods** *(Guest lecturers, presentations, online instruction, field trips, etc.)*

Teaching methods will include a combination of lectures, seminar discussion and use of relevant audio/visual materials.

**Texts and Resource Materials** *(Include online resources and Indigenous knowledge sources. [Open Educational Resources](#) (OER) should be included whenever possible. If more space is required, use the [Supplemental Texts and Resource Materials form](#).)*

Type	Author or description	Title and publication/access details	Year
1. Online resource	Selected primary sources available online or in PDF files on course website		
2. Online resource	Selected articles available through JSTOR and Historical Abstracts databases		
3. Video	Black Robe		1991
4.			
5.			

**Required Additional Supplies and Materials** *(Software, hardware, tools, specialized clothing, etc.)*

None

**Course Content and Topics**

- Introduction: What is court culture
- Absolutism in theory and practice
- Setting the stage: The Fronde
- Building the stage: The construction of Versailles
- Publicizing the star: Propaganda and public opinion
- The sacred and the state
- Warfare and the pursuit of "la gloire"
- The king's bodies: Personal and political
- The sinews of power: Gift-giving and patronage
- Colonial dreams and nightmares
- Ritual, theatre and display
- Louis XIV and twenty million Frenchmen
- The sun sets