This class uses Ancien Regime France as the pretext to learn the techniques of historical research. A heavy emphasis is placed on the examination of archival documents of many different types (all translated and transcribed), relating to the social, cultural and religious history of France, circa 1550-1780. The course also strives to teach students how to separate facts from ideas, evidence from argument and it introduces some general rules of empirical logic. The course format will comprise of short introductions and a historiographical survey of each week’s topic, followed by a seminar analysis of weekly readings and the study of primary sources. No French required.

Office hours: Tuesday & Thursday 1:30 – 3:00, or walk in if door is open, McCain 3176
Telephone: 494-3642
e-mail: ghanlon@dal.ca

Class time and place: 1st term, Arts & Soc Sci 1130, Monday 1:30-4:30
2nd term, Dunn, 221C, Monday, 1:30-4:30

Textbook: David Hackett Fischer’s, Historians’ Fallacies, at the Dalhousie bookstore ($17.50).

Grading Scheme:
Short paper 10% of final grade
Christmas Exam 20%
Major Essay (Winter) 30%
Attendance and Participation 40%

Part I: The Economic and Demographic Foundations
1) Regional Geography
document: map of France

2) The Culture of Agriculture
document: Cassini maps (1770)
reading: Hickey (D) Innovation and Obstacles to Growth in the Agriculture of Early Modern France, French Historical Studies, 1987, pp.208-240

3) Malthusian Constraints
document: Parish register

4) Family Structures
document: census, testament

5) Love and Hate in the Family
documents: marriage contract, dispensation, resiliation (of marriage contract)
Part II: Social Relations
6) Village Society
document: ‘informations’ on seduction
reading: Collins (J) Translation de domicile: Rethinking sedentarity and mobility in the early modern French countryside, French History, 20, 2006, pp. 387-404

7) Urban Living
documents: Paris neighborhood plan, picture of a monument
readings: Darnton (R) A Bourgeois puts his world in order: the City as a Text, The Great Cat Massacre, pp.107-143

8) Material Worlds
document: post-mortem inventory
reading: Sewell (WH) The Empire of fashion and the rise of capitalism in eighteenth-century France, Past and Present, #206, 81-120.

9) Sociability and the Honour Ethic
document: ‘information judiciaire’
readings: Lipscomb (S) Crossing boundaries: women’s gossip, insults and violence in 16th-century France, French History, 25, 2011, 408-426

10) Conflict and Conciliation
document: notarial ‘accommodement’

11) Magistrates and the Judicial System
document: ‘livre de raison’

Part III: Power and Authority
12) Institutions of everyday government
document: flow chart of institutions in Layrac; extracts from the Jurades of Layrac

13) Networks of Influence and Power
document: Monluc (B de) Commentaires

14) The Royal Court
document: Casanova, The History of my Life
readings: Kettering (S) Household appointments and dismissals at the court of Louis XIII, French History, 21, 2007, pp. 269-288

Part IV: The Religious Universe
15) Doctrines of Tridentine Catholicism
document: sermon rough drafts (1653)

16) Clergies Secular and Regular
document: Capuchin necrology, foundation of a convent
reading: Lux-Sterritt (L) Between the cloister and the world: the successful compromise of the Ursulines of Toulouse, 1604-1616, *French History*, 16, 2002, pp. 247-268

17) Calvinist Minorities
document: consistorial register from Coutras (1610)

18) Folk Culture
document: register of miracles, verification of a miracle

19) Magic, Witchcraft and Spirit Possession
document: Exorcism proceedings (1619), ‘Information’ on Marie Barast (1654)

20) The Confessionalizing Process
document: Pastoral visit

Part V: Cultural Reproduction
21) Reading and Writing
document: bookstore inventory

22) Cultural Fashioning: College Education
document: college register (inspection)

23) Revolution in the Sciences
document: remedies

Accessibility and Accommodation

Students may request accommodation as a result of barriers related to disability, religious obligation, or any characteristic under the Nova Scotia Human Rights Act. Students who require academic accommodation for either classroom participation or the writing of tests and exams should make their request to the Office of Student Accessibility & Accommodation (OSAA) prior to or at the outset of each academic term (with the exception of X/Y courses). Please see www.studentaccessibility.dal.ca for more information and to obtain the Request for Accommodation – Form A.

A note taker may be required to assist a classmate. There is an honorarium of $75/course/term. If you are interested, please contact OSAA at 494-2836 for more information.

Please note that your classroom may contain specialized accessible furniture and equipment. It is important that these items remain in the classroom, untouched, so that students who require their usage will be able to participate in the class.
All students in this class are to read and understand the policies on academic integrity and plagiarism referenced in the Policies and Student Resources sections of the academicintegrity.dal.ca website. Ignorance of such policies is no excuse for violations.

Any paper submitted by a student at Dalhousie University may be checked for originality to confirm that the student has not plagiarized from other sources. Plagiarism is considered a serious academic offence which may lead to loss of credit, suspension or expulsion from the University, or even to the revocation of a degree. It is essential that there be correct attribution of authorities from which facts and opinions have been derived. At Dalhousie there are University Regulations which deal with plagiarism and, prior to submitting any paper in a course, students should read the Policy on Intellectual Honesty contained in the Calendar or on the Online Dalhousie website. The Senate has affirmed the right of any instructor to require that student papers be submitted in both written and computer-readable format, and to submit any paper to be checked electronically for originality. As a student in this class, you are to keep an electronic copy of any paper you submit, and the course instructor may require you to submit that electronic copy on demand.