Revolutions of the 1820s and 1830s

Background
- **Nationalism**
  - Began forming under Napoleon
    - Pro-French in France
    - Anti-French and Pro-Whatever everywhere else
      - German, Italian, Russian, etc...
    - Formation of Nation-States
      - Ex. Confederation of the Rhine
  - **Nation-States**
    - A form of political organization in which a group of people who share the same history, traditions, or language live in a particular area under one government (Merriam-webster)
- **Liberalism**
  - Interested in legally defined political and social rights
    - Favored constitutional monarchy
      - Radicals pushed for a republic
    - Wanted written **constitutions**
      - Allowing for orderly change through legislative process
      - Broadened franchise
        - Opposed to UMS
          - Feared mob rule
          - Opposed to women’s vote
    - Wanted Individual freedoms
      - **Protect civil rights**
        - Speech, press, assembly, religion
        - Especially right to property and equality before the law
          - Government’s job to protect private property and maintain peace
          - Keep law and order
            - Fear of revolt led to desire for police protection
        - Government transparency
          - Government actions and voting actions
        - Against Slavery
          - William Wilberforce

Revolutions of the 1820s
- **German States** (1819)
  - German Confederation established by congress of Vienna
    - Much smaller than confederation of the Rhine
  - **Burschenchaften**
    - Student clubs in universities
      - Political organizations
    - Tended to be very liberal
    - Wanted **German unity**
      - Conservatives opposed
  - **Carlsbad Decrees**
    - Issued by Metternich
- Weakened Burschenhaften
  - Imposed censorship
  - Dissolved Organizations
  - Fired liberal instructors

  o Result
  - Fails: Germany remains firmly in hands of Conservatives

- Spain (1820)
  o King Ferdinand returned to throne after Congress of Vienna
    - Helped re-establish conservatives to power
  o Army led revolt versus Ferdinand
    - Led to public revolt
      - Congress of Vienna steps in
        o Congress of Verona allows French to put down revolt
  o Spread to colonies
    - Simon Bolivar
      o Early 19th Century South American ruler
      o Helped free Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia
    - Jose de San Martin
      o Worked with Bolivar
        - Trained by Spanish and fought in Peninsular War
      o Helped liberate Argentina, Chile, and Peru
    - Mexican War of Independence
      o Started by Father Miguel Hidalgo in 1810
      o Mexico Independent by 1821

  o Results
    - Liberals wiped out in Spain
    - Success for conservatives
    - South American Independence
      - Almost complete loss of Spanish Empire

- Italian States (1820)
  o Carbonari
    - “Carbon Burners”
    - Liberals
    - Congress of Troppeau
      - Congress of Vienna empowered Austrians to put down revolt

  o Result
    - Failed: Congress of Vienna in maintaining status quo

- Russia (1825)
  o Death of Alexander I
    - Crown passed to Nicholas I
      - Very conservative
      - Upset liberals
  o Decembrist Revolt
    - Liberal army officers supported Constantine
      - Nicholas’ brother
      - Felt they could control him easily

  o Result
    - Failed: Killed all involved in Decembrist Revolt
- **Greece (1821)**
  - Greek rebels versus Turkish rule
    - Greeks wanted independence
  - Alexander Ypsilantis
    - Founder of *Society of Friends*
    - Liberal Nationalist
  - Congress of Vienna
    - Condemned insurrection at first but later supported
      - Did not like Turks
        - Saw them as uncivilized savage infidels
      - Did not approve rebellion
        - Too liberal
      - Greek cause popular internationally
        - Romantic artists supported Greek Independence
          - **Massacre at Chios**
            - Eugene Delacroix
            - Vivid colors, strong emotional piece
  - Results
    - Succeeded: Turks defeated at Battle of Navarino by international forces
      - Greek Independence in 1821
    - Congress system shattered
      - Un-successful at preventing spread of liberalism
        - Victory spurs on future revolts

**Revolutions of the 1830s**
- **France**
  - Louis XVIII
    - Gained power after expulsion of Napoleon
    - Very old
    - Very Cautious
      - Conservative, but wanted to keep head
    - Signed charter
      - Constitutional monarchy
      - Two house Legislature
      - Freedom of press, religion
      - Upholds Napoleon’s code and concordat
  - Charles X
    - 1824-1830
    - Brother of Louis XVI and Louis XVIII
    - More conservative
      - Censorship
      - Church controlled education
      - Give land back to nobles
    - July Ordinances
      - Disenfranchised ¾ of the voters
      - More conservative legislature
- July Revolution of 1830
  - Public outbreak
    - Fighting in the streets
  - Charles X scared and left
    - Louis Philippe became ruler
    - Bourbon dynasty ended
  - Louis Philippe
    - Establishes Orleanist branch of Bourbon family
    - No immediate relatives to Bourbons
  - "July Monarch"
    - Businessman king
      - Wore a business suit and carried an umbrella
    - Accepted charter
      - Relatively liberal
      - Doubled the vote
  - Opposition
    - Republicans
      - June Rebellion (1832)
        - Attempt to reverse July Monarchy
        - Popularized by Victor Hugo
    - UMS supporters
    - The Poor
  - Victory for the liberals
    - "Dike and Flood"
      - France is the Dike
      - Flood is liberals in other nations
- Belgium
  - Part of Netherlands
    - Differences in language, religion
      - Belgian independence in 1830
- Switzerland
  - Liberal cantons versus conservative cantons
  - Liberals won (18450)
    - Semi-successful
- Poland
  - Independence from Russia
    - Nationalistic
  - Led by tiny middle class
    - Thinking France and Britain would help them
  - Failed
    - Horribly, horribly, failed
- Italy, Spain, Germany
  - Failed, Failed, and Failed

Crisis and Compromise in England

The English Anomaly
- Able to avoid major revolution in 19th century
  - Signs of dissatisfaction
  - Slight popular unrest
- Grain riots
  - Bad Harvests
  - High Prices
- Working class unrest
  - Demanding rights
  - Luddites
    - Working class who destroyed machines
    - Old fashioned political systems

Peterloo Massacre
- 1819
- Mass meeting at St Peter’s Fields
  - Near Manchester
  - 50,000 in attendance
- Liberal demonstration
  - Freedom of assembly
- Got out of control
  - Police fire on demonstrators
  - Arrest and violence
  - 11 killed
    - Hundreds wounded
  - “Massacre of the poor”
  - As bad as it got
- Response
  - Six Acts
    - Repressive
    - Banned demonstrations
    - Suspended habeas corpus
    - Restricted press
  - Government compromise
    - Fear of violence and civil war
    - Ease political tension
    - Slow and steady
  - Reforms led to idea of **liberal consensus**
    - Government should make reforms to help the people
    - Victorian Ideals

Early Reforms
- Repealed Test and Corporation acts
  - 1828
    - No longer required to be Anglican to hold specific positions
- Catholic Emancipation Act
  - 1829
    - Removed legal restrictions on Catholics
- **Electoral Reforms**
  - Unequal electoral districts
  - Rotten boroughs
    - Old voting districts
    - Very little population but representation
    - Cities had high populations but no representatives
Pocket boroughs
- “rigged”
- One person controlled borough

Limited franchise
- 1 out of 15 adult males voted

Reform Bill of 1832
- Vote to more people
  - Extended franchise
    - 1 out of 5 adult males could vote
    - Far from fully democratic but it’s a start
  - Significance
    - Turning point in history of modern Britain
    - Led to development of broader political parties

Other reforms
- Factory Acts
  - First in 1833
  - Child labor
  - No means of enforcement
    - Did not provide inspectors

- Poor law
  - Public assistance ended
  - Poor houses

- Municipal Corporations Act
  - City government more uniform

Repeal of Corn Laws
- Corn Laws
  - Tariffs on all imported grains
    - Only helped landowners/farmers
    - Kept cheap foreign grain out of British markets
  - Hurt the poor
    - Mostly urban poor
    - Kept grain prices high
  - Hurt businessmen
    - Had to pay higher salaries to workers

Pursuit to repeal corn laws
- Bad harvests 1839-1841
  - Potato famine/Great Hunger
    - Ireland 1845
  - Expanding population
  - Anti-Corn Law League
    - 1839
    - Pressure group
    - Middle class
    - Laissez-faire
    - John Bright

  - Repeal of Corn Laws is a step toward democracy

PM Robert Peel
- Feared open revolt
- Knew he would fall from power
- 1846 repealed Corn Laws
- **Chartists**
  - 19th century British liberals who wanted political reform
  - **People’s Charter**
    - Petition
      - Signed by millions
    - **Liberal reforms**
      - Annual elections
      - Electoral districts
      - Secret ballots
      - UMS
      - Salaries for MPs
    - 1839 and 1842
      - Rejected
  - **Significance**
    - Peaceful reform
    - Use of Parliamentary process
    - Largest working class political movement
      - Closest thing to socialism
    - Eventually all passed except annual elections
  - Significance
    - Government willing to **compromise** to avoid revolution