The Enlightenment

- The Enlightened Thought and the Republic of Letters (Writers)

- Age of Reason
  - Same as Enlightenment
  - 18th century
  - Years preceding French Revolution (1789)
  - Grew out of Scientific revolution
    - Philosophers applied reason to social, political, and economic issues
    - Rejected authority
    - Demanded proof
  - Centered in France but elsewhere also
    - Read worldwide
  - Philosophes - French philosophers

- Characteristics
  - Belief in natural law and natural rights
  - Emphasis on reason, science, proof
    - Skeptical of tradition, authority, censorship
  - Sense of progress
    - "To make future better than the present"
  - Rejection of superstition
    - End to witchcraft
  - Critical of organized religion
  - Rejected original sin
  - Deism
    - God exists; not atheist
    - God = first cause
    - Man doesn't need the church to promise him salvation
    - God not necessarily a loving God; ONLY a intellectual concept
    - "Great Watchmaker"
      - God made the world, wound it up, and stuck it out there for it to tick on forever, DOES NOT INTERFERE
      - Intelligent Design - present-day deism (creationism)
    - Confined to the philosophers
  - Religious fervor remained
    - Pietism
      - Northern Germany
      - Purify Lutheranism (more personal religion)
      - "Inner spirit" not reason
    - Methodism
      - John Wesley 1703-1791
      - Against gambling, drinking, dancing
      - Great Awakening in America (revival of religion)
    - Mystification
      - J. C. Lavater
      - Study facial expression and figure out character
    - Mesmerism
      - Anton F. Mesmer 1734- 1815
      - Try to hypnotize patients
      - Not scientific
      - "Quack doctor"
    - Freemasons
      - Secret society
      - An organized fraternity
- **The Philosophes**
  - Thinkers with critical and inquiring spirit
  - Writers - *Men of Letters*
    - Spread ideas of the Enlightenment
    - Wrote for the public (fun, comical, pleasant)
  - Met in salons
    - "cocktail parties" / "book club"
    - Meetings in homes of prominent women where philosophes gathered and discussed issues
  - Advocated reform, not revolution
  - Ideas varied

### Enlightenment

**The Age of Reason**
- Another name for enlightenment
- XVIII (18th c.) intellectual movement
- Outgrowth of Scientific Revolution
- PHILOSOPHERS APLIED REASON TO SOLVE SOCIAL PROBLEMS

- **Philosophes = Philosophers**
  - French name
  - Writers and thinkers of the early 18th c.
  - Social reformers
  - Mostly French
  - Critical of society
  - Wanted to solve social problems (applied reason to:)
    - Government
    - Religion
    - Economics
    - Education
    - Law
  - Most of them:
    - Valued equality
    - Supported political freedom
    - Advocated religious tolerance
    - Criticized organized church
    - Opposed to superstition, war, slavery
    - Opposed to censorship
  - **Salon**
    - ... Like a cocktail party where women invited philosophes and listened to them
    - Social meetings / parties (book club)
    - Invited philosophes
    - Spread ideas of philosophers
JON LOCKE

Similar to Hobbes:
- Englishmen
- 17th century
- (mid 1700s)
- Political scientists
  - How government created
- Started with state of nature
  - Period without government
  - Before the creation of government
- Responded to Glorious Revolution
- Social contract
  - Agreement to form government

STATE OF NATURE:
  - Man is genial, responsible, cooperative and free
  - 3 rights
    - Life
    - Liberty
    - Property
      - Property short circuits
  - Rights overlap

SOCIAL CONTRACT:
  - Because rights overlap
  - Purpose of government is to protect rights
  - Contact can be rescinded
    - Ruler can be overthrow by men

TWO TREATISES ON GOVERNMENT,
  - Glorious Revolution was good
  - Influenced Declaration of Independence
  - Government created by man NOT GOD
  - Basics of democratic thought

Founding fathers changed Property to Pursuit of happiness
SOCIAL SCIENTIST:
  - *Essay Concerning Human Understanding*, 1690
    - To find out how we learn what we learn
    - "Tabula Rasa" - mind is an "erased tablet"
      - Experience rights on tablet
    - Empiricism / Empirical / Empiricist - all knowledge comes from experiences and senses
    - Basis of liberal thought
If you want to change man you have to change his experience

THOMAS HOBBES

- Similar to Locke:
  - Englishmen
  - 17th century
  - (mid 1700s)
  - Political scientists
    - How government created
  - Started with state of nature
    - Period without government
    - Before the creation of government
  - Responded to Glorious Revolution

- Social contract
  - Agreement to form government

- STATE OF NATURE:
  - Low opinion of state of nature
  - Nasty, brutish, quarrelsome and short tempered
  - Chaos Chaos Chaos Chaos
  - BAD, people scared and insecure
  - No capacity for self government
  - So bad that leads to social contract with the ruler

- SOCIAL CONTRACT:
  - Surrender rights and freedoms to ruler
  - Ruler protects from fear and gives order
  - Absoluter ruler

- LEVIATHAN, 1651
  - Opposed to Glorious Revolution
    - Once man gives up rights he can never get them back
    - Man can not overthrow the government because he accepted social contract
    - Not allowed to overthrow
    - Disagrees with Glorious Revolution
    - Opposed to the fact that people overthrew James II
      - Government created by man NOT GOD
      - Man give power to the government
  - Absolutist
- **Nationality:** French
- **Social Class:** Aristocrat, noble

- **Political Scientist:**
  - Studied different governments and culture
    - Concluded that none of them were perfect, but all had good characteristics
    - Critical of absolute monarchy
    - Admired British (*Constitutionalism* - law is the highest, not the king or ruler)
      - Balance of power
    - Wanted to have a little of every government
  - **Separation of Power:** (*Spirit of the Laws* 1748)
    - COMPARED GOVERNMENTS
    - Legislative
    - Executive
    - Judicial
    - To prevent abuse of power (*balance of powers*)
    - Constitution of USA
  - Very interested in law
    - Everybody must obey law (Even King)
    - Liberty is doing whatever the laws allow"
  - "Persian Letters" ...book
    - Criticized nobles
    - Men are better... but *women are capable*... good for separation of power
  - Travel log
    - Persians traveling through Europe sending letters back home
    - Escaped censorship this way
  - Forms of government vary with the climate??
    - Despotism - hot climates
    - Democracy - cooler climates

- **Social views:**
  - Opposed slavery
    - Violated natural laws

- **Religious views:**
  - Not very religious
  - Church useful for balance of power
  - Pope = magician
  - AGAINST DIVINE RIGHT
  - Power comes from the people
VOLTAIRE

Pen Name: Voltaire
Real Name: Francois Marie Arouet
Profession: Royal historian to Louis XV
Social Class: Middle Class - Bourgeois
Nationality: French
Corresponded with: Catherine the Great

Characteristics:
VERY POPULAR - Witty, Funny, Sarcastic, Easiest to read, Optimistic

- Accomplishments:
- Wrote 70+ books
  - *Candide*
  - Mocked nobility and philosophers
  - "Tend your own garden"

Religious views:
- Deist...
  - Great Watchmaker in the Sky
  - God made a watch (earth)... stuck it out and left it alone
  - God made it but is not involved in daily affairs
  - Does not believe in worship
- Believed in religious toleration
- ---
- Criticized Christians
  - *Christ* = religious fanatic
  - *Bible* = work of ignorant men
  - *Miracles* = bunch of lies
  - Clergy was more concerned with privilege and power than morals
  - *Christianity* = history of religious persecution in the name of God
  - CRITICAL OF ORGANIZED CHURCH

- Political Views:
  - BEST government = Enlightened monarchy
    - Need strong government
    - People too stupid to rule themselves
    - Ruler should be enlightened
  - Democracy is okay... but not for France
  - Government should
    1. Fight stupidity and laziness
    2. Keep church weak
    3. Protect freedom of thought, religion, and press

- Social Views:
Source of problems = nobility
- Get rid of titles of nobility
- Opposed to slavery
- Freedom of Thought and press
  - Opposed to censorship
  - "I do not believe a word you say, but I will defend to the death, your right to say it"

DIDEROT
Denis Diderot

- "Encyclopedia"
  - 28 Volumes
  - Had pictures, and diagrams
  - Each article written by different author (60,000)
  - Very subjective - opinionated, biased
  - Banned by church
    □ Sold even more
    □ Sold 20,000 copies
- To spread ideas of the Enlightenment
- Exposed evils of society
  - Torture
  - War
  - Slavery
- Supported
  - Free speech
  - Education

- Critical of
  - Absolute monarchy
  - Organized religion
  - Wanted to look critically at everything

- He was a deist

"Man will never be free until the last king is strangled with the entrails of the last priest"

ROUSSEAU
Life:
- 1712 - 1778
- Social critic
- Misfit
- Unlike other philosophes
  - VERY POOR
    - Sold wife and kids into slavery
  - Catholic
- Controversial

🌟 Forerunner of Romanticism - ahead of his time
  - Emotion = most important

Social Views:
- Man born good... busy society corrupts him
- Progress is bad
- Opposed to modern world
- Admired the 'noble savage'
  - Someone who lived simple life
  - Good human qualities
- Wanted to reform society
  - Simple life
  - Free from evil, private property, materialism,
  - Assuredness of liberty
- Women lack ability

_________________________________________________________

**BOOKS:**

"Emile" - life, education
"Confessions" - society
"Social Contract" - government

_________________________________________________________

**Political Views:**

- Most democratic
- Man is capable of ruling himself
- Faith in common man
- Government should reflect the "general will"... majority

Pure Democracy:
- Every would directly participate

_________________________________________________________

**Religious views:**

- Catholic
- Tolerant

_________________________________________________________

**Education:**

- Purpose = self reliance
- No formal education until age 12
- Learn from experience
  - EMPIRICISM
- Self reliance
- First book to read: Robinson Crusoe - self reliant

_________________________________________________________
- **Enlightened Arts**

  - **Rococo**
    - **18th Century**
    - **Louis XV Style**
    - **Because:** after Louis XIV died, court moved back to Paris
    - **Name:** rocaille, "rock work"
    - Reaction against the formal baroque style (Louis XIV)
      - Baroque = religious, Counter-Reformation
      - Flowed out of Baroque
    - Final phase of baroque
    - Ornate, but light (less heavy)
    - New taste for more delicate decorations
      - Suitable for smaller and more intimate interiors of town houses
    - Not religious
    - Denoting the frivolous over-elaboration
    - **Characteristics:**
      - Flowing curves
        - Free graceful movement
        - Playful use of line
      - **Delicate colors**
      - Ornate curls
        - Gilded molding
      - Subject matter
        - Secular (not religious)
        - Erotic (suggestive flirting... erotic for the 18th not 21st century)
          - No grand heroes or historical themes
          - Birds, flowers, life, etc
          - Carefree life of the aristocracy (aristocrats at play)
            - Love, fun, romance, nature
    - **Artists:**
      - **Jean Honore Fragonard**
        - *(The Swing)* 1767
          - Woman kicking of her shoe on a swing in a garden
        - *(Blindman's Buff)*
          - Adults playing little kid's game
      - **François Boucher**
        - *(The Love Letter)*
          - Aristocratic, rosy-cheeked and somewhat pudgy aristocratic ladies
          - Country life, "shepherdesses" wearing fine closes
          - Originally oval, but canvas added
      - **Antoine Watteau**
        - Perfect example of Rococo
        - "Off balance", asymmetrical
        - *(The Embarkation for Cythera)*
          - Group of aristocrats embarking for the mythical birthplace of Venus
          - Fuzzy

  - **Opera**
Began to decline
- Criticized by philosophes

Enlightened Monarchy

- **Enlightened Monarchy and Benevolent Despotism**
  - **Growth of Monarchy**
    - **New Monarch** - 16th Century
    - **Absolute Monarchs** - 17th Century
    - **Enlightened Monarchs** - 18th Century
    - Very similar
    - Role of the monarch evolved

  - **New Monarchs**
    - **Characteristics:**
      - Laid foundation of modern state
      - Suppressed brigands
      - Established law and order
      - Levied taxes
      - Claimed rule by divine right
        - Legitimacy - (from God)
    - **Examples:**
      - Henry VII
      - Louis XI
      - Ferdinand and Isabella

  - **Absolute Monarchs**
    - **Characteristics:**
      - Centralized power
      - Created strong nation states
      - Mercantilists
      - Weakened nobility and church
      - Built bureaucracy
      - Built up military
      - Ruled by divine right
    - **Examples:**
      - Peter the Great
      - Louis XIV
      - Charles XII
      - Leopold II
      - Frederick William, the Great Elector (lesser degree)

  - **Enlightened Monarchs**
    - **Characteristics:**
      - Made reforms to increase their own power
        - Education
        - Toleration
        - Eased punishments
      - Made state more powerful, but not necessarily more just
      - **Secular rule;** did not claim to rule by divine right
    - **Examples:**
      - Frederick the Great (Prussia)
      - Joseph II (Austria)
      - Catherine the Great (Russia)
      - Louis XV (*least enlightened of them all*)
Enlightened Monarchy

- **Enlightened Monarchs**

- **France**
  - Louis XV & Louis XVI (France 1715 – 1774 & 1774 – 1793)
  - least enlightened

Charles III (Spain, r. 1759 – 1788)
  - required universities to teach science and philosophy
  - relaxed censorship
  - abolished death penalty
  - expelled Jews

Maria Theresa (Austria, r. 1740 – 1780) *(very cautious re. change)* "Baby Steps"
  - built up; centralized bureaucracy
    - appointed able ministers
    - Really good at picking good people
  - increased taxes
  - maintained flow of soldiers
  - broke control of local *diets* (assembly)
  - left Hungary alone
  - didn’t force Hungary to conform
  - wanted to increase production
    - set up tariff union of Bohemia, Moravia, Austria (area of free trade)
    - limited guilds
    - suppressed brigands
  - reformed abuses of serfdom

Joseph II (Austria, r. 1780 – 1790) *(impatient, wanted total abolition of bad conditions, fast to act)*
  - Total opposite of her mother
  - abolished serfdom
  - economic reform
    - built up port of Trieste
    - established an E. India Co.
    - equality of taxation
  - equal punishment for equal crimes
  - punishment made less cruel
  - freedom of press and religion
  - religion
    - improved civil rights for Jews including granting nobility
    - allowed Protestants to become civil servants
    - supported Febronianism *(freedom from Roman control of church)*
      - increased control over bishops
      - suppressed monasteries (took some of their wealth)
    - set up secular hospitals
  - administrative reforms
centralized the state
- included Hungary under controls
- est. German as single language of the gov't
- civil servant
  - arranged for training courses
  - provided retirement pensions
  - established efficiency reports and inspections
- secret police
  - Established education system (primary through university)
- failed; could not do it all by himself
  - opposition from nobles, church, Hungary and Bel.
- too few middle class to help support
- Leopold (brother) undid most of Joseph’s reforms

- Frederick the Great (Prussia; r. 1740 – 1786)
  - Background / Beliefs
    - didn’t get along with father
    - became cynical
    - became a soldier
    - married but never consummated
    - invaded Silesia (War of Austrian Succession) Broke Pragmatic Sanction
    - very ill (porphyria)
    - read philosophes, corresponded, ran a salon, fought with Voltaire
    - wrote history: anti Machiavelli
    - interested in music; played flute, wrote sonatas and concertos
    - Protestant/Lutheran
  - Devoted to his subjects
    - His job to make people happy, without giving up power
  - against sweeping change
    - wise, moderate, reasonable
  - encouraged crop rotation
  - Administrative reforms
    - “1st servant of the state”
    - codified laws
    - abolished capital punishment
    - reformed courts (cheaper, increased efficiency, honesty)
    - built up the civil service; est. civil service exam
      - never relegated any real authority (attended to all business himself)
  - Religious reforms
    - some religious reform but
      - Prussia already docile and Lutheran church subordinate to state
      - intolerant of Jews
  - Social reforms
    - some free elementary education for all
    - did little for serfs
      - freed serfs on his own estates, but needed support of Junkers
        - Junkers free to deal with serfs in their own way
    - maintained rigid class differences
      - small middle class
      - power of Junkers checked but not abolished
    - believed in freedom of speech
  - no successors
- **Catherine the Great** *(Russia, r. 1762 – 1796)*
  - centralized GOV.
  - **Background**
    - German
    - Married to Russian Czar (Peter III)
    - r. 1762-1796
    - Intelligent and ambitious
    - Agreed with philosophes (Voltaire..)
      - invited Diderot to Russia
    - Well liked
    - Adopted Russian ways religion language
    - May have been part of her husbands death (murder)
  - **Political Reforms:**
    - **Charter of Rights** for nobles
      - No taxation for nobles
      - No government service
    - **Legislative Commission** 1767
      - Traveled around Russia and reported to Catherine
    - Merchants received freedom to trade
    - **Expansionist**
      - Expanded territory (west and south)
      - expansion break down of Balance of Power
    - **War with Ottoman Empire**
      - Won ports on Black Sea
      - Annexed Crimea
    - **3 partitions of Poland**
      - Won land in west
      - 1772, 1773, 1795
      - Austria, Russia, Prussia
      - No Poland left... wiped off map
    - favored **boyars**
  - **Social Reforms**
    - Wrote legal code
    - Restricted use of torture
    - Granted some religious toleration
      - stopped persecution of *Old Believers*
    - Introduced western education
    - Encouraged the arts
    - Encouraged printing
    - Established schools to educated daughters of nobles
      - Did not help the serfs
  - **Purgachev's Rebellions**
    - 1773
    - **CAUSE:** Fighting for rights of serfs
    - FAILED
    - **OUTCOME:** Led to further degradation
Economics / Physiocrats

**Physiocrats**
- Economists of 18th century
- Applied reason to economic issues
- Critical of mercantilism
- Believed in free trade
- Looked for natural laws

**Mercantilism**
- 17th Century
- Economics should make economy strong
- Trade is most important (*balance of trade*)
- Government regulation
- Specie (gold and silver)

**Beliefs of Physiocrats**
- Should make individual strong
- Farming was the most important economic activity
- Free market (*laissez faire*)
  - Totally free trade
  - No tariffs
- Real wealth = land (farming, mining, logging)

**Adam Smith, 1723-1790 - Father of Capitalism**
- English
- Admired physiocrats
- "Wealth of Nations" - 1776
- Leave economy alone
- Invisible Hand would control economy
  - Market Forces
    - Supply and demand
    - Competition
- Role of Government
  - Maintain legal framework
    - Banking laws
    - Business laws
    - Set up so that business takes place... maintain contracts
  - Maintain competition
    - Not allow monopolies
  - Keep the peace
    - Promote stability
    - Law and order
- Division of Labor
- Self Interest
  - If everyone does what's good for them, it will be good for the nation
- Dismal Scientists
  - Followers of Adam Smith
  - Took him literally and took it too far