OH005: Revolutions and Rebellions

Course Description
This course will examine the causes and nature of sudden, dramatic changes in modern societies. Building on skills acquired in earlier humanities and English courses, students will analyze how diverse individuals and communities have experienced and influenced major social and political upheavals. The specific events covered in this course will change from year to year. For the 2013-2014 year, students will study the origins and key events of the American Revolution, the French Revolution, and the Haitian Revolution. Students will examine a wide range of texts and sources, including artwork, literature, political pamphlets, and philosophical writings. This course will serve as preparation for advanced work in history. Prerequisite: Enrollment in Textual Analysis and Argumentation (OE010).

Learning Objectives
In this course, students will examine complex historical events, analyze historical accounts, and create their own interpretations. The assignments help students attain specific knowledge and develop fundamental historical skills, including:

• understanding major events of the Atlantic world in the late eighteenth century;
• analyzing primary sources;
• judging alternative historical accounts;
• creating interpretations of complex historical events.

Types of Assignments
Each semester, the final letter grade will be determined on the basis of the following types of assignments:

• participation in class discussions;
• homework, including quizzes;
• essays and brief written exercises;
• a final examination.