

# French Revolution Seminar

1. In what ways was the start of the French Revolution different from the start of other revolutions? (English, U.S.)
2. To what extent do you think Louis XVI is responsible for the Revolution and the events that followed?
3. Why did the French Revolution continue to turn in an increasingly radical direction after 1789?
4. How do you explain the Terror? Was it simply a response to a national emergency or a reflection of deeper problems within the revolution itself?
5. Why did some groups outside France embrace the French Revolution, while others resisted it?
6. Should the French Revolution be viewed as the origin of modern democracy or the origin of totalitarianism (government in which no dissent is allowed)? Explain.
7. Is Napoleon the 'savior of the revolution' or its destroyer?
8. What are the big picture lessons of the French Revolution? In what ways does it help inform us about current affairs?