

Spring 2012

Department of History

The World of Versailles



This course explores the rule of Louis XIV—the “Sun King” (1643–1715)—and the system of absolutism established at his court at Versailles. Topics for discussion include: the esthetic and political vision that led to the building of the Versailles palace and gardens; the politics of splendor which made Louis XIV the most admired and most imitated monarch of his time; everyday life at Versailles; the artistic and literary production inspired by Louis XIV’s style of governing; Versailles during the XVIII’s century, the French Revolution, and the nineteenth century; the esthetic and political legacy of the Versailles system.

HST 397A
#22175422

Professor Doina Harsanyi

Tu Th
9:30-10:45 a.m.

