

Revolution in Print. (Essay assignment, Fall 2011, His 5250, 50% of total grade, typed, double-spaced, 12-point font, c. 15-pages)

How can theories of riot, rebellion, and revolution help us understand the history of a particular moment and subject? And how can comparative history give us insight into the course and meaning of a particular revolutionary moment. Focusing on printed primary sources from one year (chosen from 1640-1660, or 1679-1690), analyze this revolutionary moment using these sources, secondary works by historians of the period, general historical theories of violent events or dramatic changes, and the comparative insight drawn from another specific moment in (for many of you) French history (a separate English moment may also be used). The one-year limitation is not absolute, but revolutions happen quickly and so too did printing (over 4,000 titles were printed in 1642; over 3,000 in each of the following: 1648, 1659-60, 1688). In other words, you need to fill in the rubric you are preparing for your presentation (below), and use the sources and secondary works noted.

28 Nov. **Research rubric and two paragraphs focusing on analyzing some of your best material due.**

1 Dec. **Critique of colleague's rubric and two paragraphs due** (at least one substantive paragraph, with suggestions of additional sources/applications: one each of a primary source, a secondary work, and a theory for the period.)

5 Dec., noon. Ten-Minute Reports (with five-minute critique from students/prof)

12 Dec. **Research paper due.** (WebCT)

How many sources do you need? I think two-to-seven primary sources are a minimum. If you are using very long sources, such as the following two, that would be all you need:

1. John Nalson, *An impartial collection of the great affairs of state from the beginning of the Scotch rebellion in the year MDCXXXIX to the murder of King Charles I wherein the first occasions and the whole series of the late troubles in England, Scotland, & Ireland are faithfully represented* (1682) [a pro-Royalist assemblage of tracts, etc. from "the Scotch Rebellion to the King's Murder."]
2. John Rushworth, *Historical collections* (1686) [a pro-Parliamentarian assemblage of re-printed pamphlets from the age of Charles I. This collection was continued through the early 18th century and extended through the 1640s. It is available in word-searchable format on British History Online <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/catalogue.aspx?type=2&gid=116>. You should definitely use this if your period is included, but you need to be careful about dating (*The Agreement of the People* was not published in 1721!)]

If you are using images and/or broadsides, however, you need at least seven because you probably cannot get more than a quote or description from each. (By the way, find George Thomason's large-size bound works, usually broadsides, by doing advanced search in EEBO and typing 669 in Bibliographic Number.)

I'd like you to use at least one serial source (e.g. the same type of source extending over a period). For most of you Thomason's newsbooks are fine (some of you referred to pamphlets as newsbooks; you do know the difference between the two, yes?). But, again, British History Online has a number of serial sources in word-searchable format that you may use <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/catalogue.aspx?type=2&gid=170>

1. Burton, Thomas; Diary of
 - a. The parliamentary diary of Thomas Burton, MP for Westmorland (1653-59). 4 volumes.
2. Commons, Debates of (Grey)
 - a. Debates (1667-94), collected by the Hon. Anchtell Grey, MP (10 vols). 10 volumes.
3. Commons, History and Proceedings (Chandler)
 - a. Extensive verbatim accounts of Commons debates, 1660-1739, in 10 volumes. 10 volumes

4. Commons Journal
 - a. The official record of the House. Includes volumes 1-12 (1547-1699) & 85 (1830). 13 volumes.
5. Lords Journal
 - a. The official record of proceedings in the House (1509-1764, 1776-1793, 1830-2). 38 volumes.

Revolutionary Rubric

1. Topic (working title):
2. Problem/Question for Research
 - a.
 - b. [followed by some sense of what your answer is at this point]
3. Period covered (year):
 - a. Major primary sources for that year [with a sentence describing what is useful in the particular source, *not* using the words in the title]:
 - i. [2-7 primary sources; if you have two very long sources]
 - ii.
 - iii.
 - iv.
 - v.
 - vi. [one should be a serial source]
 - b. Major secondary works (historians' books or articles) regarding that period
 - i. [4-5 historians]
 - ii.
 - iii.
 - iv.
 - v. [At least one should be from those on our syllabus]
4. Comparative context
 - a. Details
 - i. place
 - ii. event(s)
 - iii. date
 - b. Major secondary works regarding that comparative context (note: you need not have primary sources from your comparative point of reference)
 - i. [at least two]
 - ii.
5. Useful mid-level theories (citation, followed by brief sense of the theory)
 - a. [at least two]
 - b. [at least one should be from syllabus]

Possible research questions: Was it a peasant revolt? An urban revolt? Part of a general crisis of the mid-seventeenth century? Religious? Social? Nationalist? Who are the "radical men"? From where did they arise? In other words, use theories from at least three general works on revolution and compare your "moment" with at least one continental revolt to test its revolutionariness. Draw theory from Zagorin, Marx and Engels, Tilly, Furet, te Brake, Hill, Parker, etc.

I'd like a sandwich paper. The opening paragraphs will review the secondary literature (and revolutionary theories) that are related to your argument. The middle section of the paper will examine primary sources (including relevant secondary works needed for context). The final section will suggest how those primary sources confirm some theorists and suggest how others are in need of revision, at least as with regards to the Glorious Revolution (or others that you examine). To find that Soboul has NO applicability to 1689 is not of much interest; finding connections and subtle revisions is of much more interest and value.