PERIODS & DATES IN EUROPEAN HISTORY

Later Middle Ages: 1300-1450
  Hundred Years’ War (1337-1453)
  Fall of the Byzantine Empire (1453)
Renaissance: 1300-1600 (first in Italy, then into Northern Europe)
  “New Monarchs”/rise of modern states: late 15th century, 1st half of 16th century
    Height of Hapsburg power: mid-16th century under Charles V
Commercial Revolution: c. 1500-c. 1700
  “Old Imperialism”: 16th and 17th centuries (in New World)
Reformation: 1517
Catholic Counter Reformation: 1545-1563 (Council of Trent)
Religious Wars:
  Spanish Armada, 1588
  French Civil Wars (1562-1594)
  30 Years’ War (1618-1648); Treaty of Westphalia: 1648
Scientific Revolution: 16th & 17th centuries (Copernicus to Newton)
  Agricultural Revolution: decades prior to 1750 (leads to population explosion)
  “Golden Age of Spain”: c. 1550—c.1650
  “Golden Age of the Netherlands”: 17th century (1st half); Dutch wars w/ England lead to decline
Age of Absolutism: c. 1650-1750: Louis XIV: 1643-1715; Peter the Great: 1682-1725
  Frederick William “Great Elector” (1640-1688); Frederick William I (1713-1740)
Baroque (art): 17th century
Constitutionalism in England: 17th century
  English Civil War 1642-49
  Glorious Revolution, 1688
  Act of Union, 1707: Great Britain created
Enlightenment: 18th century
Enlightened despotism: c. 1750-c.1800 (early 19th century for Napoleon)
  Frederick the Great (1740-1786); Catherine the Great: 1762-1796; Joseph II (1780-90)
  Absolutism in Eastern Europe (17th century-early 18th century): Rise of Prussia, Russia and Austria;
  decline of Poland, Ottoman Empire, and Holy Roman Empire
“Second 100 Years War” between Britain and France: 1689-1815: Balance of Power
  War of the League of Augsburg (1689-1697)
  War of Spanish Succession (1702-1713), Treaty of Utrecht
  War of Austrian Succession (1740-1748), Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle
  Seven Years’ War (1756-1763), Treaty of Paris
  American Revolution (1775-1783)
  French Revolution & Napoleonic Wars (1792-1815), Congress of Vienna
French Revolution: 1789-1799
  “Age of Montesquieu”: National Assembly (1789-1791); Legislative Assembly (1791-92)
  “Age of Rousseau”: National Convention (1792-1795); Directory (1795-1799)
  Napoleonic Era (“Age of Voltaire”): 1799-1815 (Consul: 1799-1804; Empire: 1804-1815)
Congress of Vienna, 1815
Romanticism: 1780s-1850
Industrial Revolution: c. 1750- c. 1850 in England
Concert of Europe: 1815-1848; “Age of Metternich”
Realism: 1848-late 19th century
Second French Empire: 1852-1871; Third French Republic (1871-1940)
Age of Realpolitik: 1848-1871
  Unification of Italy and Germany, 1871
2nd Industrial Revolution: late 19th century – steel, oil, electricity, chemicals
Age of Mass Politics: 1871-1914 and beyond
  “New Imperialism”: 1880s-1914
World War I: 1914-1918
Russian Revolution: 1917
  Lenin-1917-1924
  Stalin—1927-1953
Interwar Period (“Age of Anxiety”): 1919-1939 – Rise of fascism and Great Depression
World War II: 1939-1945
Cold War: 1946-1991
  de-Stalinization under Khrushchev (1955-1964)
  conservatism and re-Stalinization under Brezhnev (1964-1982)
  détente – 1972-1979
  Gorbachev: glasnost and perestroïka: 1985-1991
  Revolutions of 1989 and fall of Soviet Union 1991
Decolonization: 1945-1970s; India, China, Egypt, Vietnam, Sub-Saharan Africa, Asia
European Union/Treaty of Maastricht, 1991
Counterculture and student protests: 1960s
1970s: economic stagnation
1980s: resurgence of conservatism and the Atlantic Alliance: Thatcher, Kohl, Reagan
1990s: Breakup of Yugoslavia, European Union
  “Short 20th Century”: 1914-1991