Kingship in the Early 18th Dynasty
Early New Kingdom Chronology

18th Dynasty:

Early 18\textsuperscript{th} Dynasty
Ahmose-Hatshepsut/Thutmose III
reunification of Egypt, reconquest of Nubia, establishment of Asitatic Empire

Mid-18\textsuperscript{th} Dynasty
Amenhotep II-Amenhotep III
peace, prosperity, monumental building projects in Egypt and Nubia

Amarna Period
Amenhotep IV/Akhenaten-Smenkhare
religious “revolution”, establishment of new political capital, shifting balance of power in Asia

Late 18\textsuperscript{th} Dynasty/Post Amarna Period
Tutankhamun-Horemheb
return to religious orthodoxy, end of the 18\textsuperscript{th} Dynasty royal family, reemphasis on militarism
How are kings and kingship defined in the early 18th Dynasty?
What is the military position of Egypt in the early 18th Dynasty?
How are the gods accommodated in the early 18th Dynasty?
Hatshepsut’s mortuary temple at Deir el-Bahri

What is the relationship between kingship and divinity in the early 18th Dynasty?
What roles do royal women play in the early 18th Dynasty?
Themes for studying 18th Dynasty:

Kingship: builder, warrior, connected to divine

Military: creation and maintenance of empire

Religion: temples as major recipients of both the building impulse and the loot of war; become part and parcel of the refinement of the definition of kingship

Royal women: individual women, offices held by women

Non-royal part of the equation: government and the relations between bureaucrats and royalty; religious role of private individuals
Genealogy of the early 18th Dynasty

17th Dynasty (Second Intermediate Period)

- Seqenenre-Taa = Ahhotep
  - Kamose

18th Dynasty (New Kingdom)

- Ahmose = Ahmose Nefertari
  - Amenhotep I
  - Ahmose = Thutmose I = Mutnofret
    - Hatshepsut = Thutmose II = Isis
    - Neferura = Thutmose III

Red indicates people who ruled as kings
“Now when his majesty had slain the nomads of Asia, he sailed south to Khent-hen-nefer, to destroy the Nubian Bowmen. His majesty made a great slaughter among them, and I brought spoil from there: two living men and three hands. Then I was rewarded with gold once again, and two female slaves were given to me. His majesty journeyed north, his heart rejoicing in valour and victory. He had conquered southerners, northerners.

Then Aata came to the South. His fate brought on his doom. The gods of Upper Egypt grasped him. He was found by his majesty at Tent-taa. His majesty carried him off as a living captive, and all his people as booty. I brought two young warriors as captives from the ship of Aata. Then I was given five persons and portions of land amounting to five aurorae in my town. The same was done for the whole crew.

Then came that foe named Tetian. He had gathered the malcontents to himself. His majesty slew him; his troop was wiped out. Then I was given three persons and five aurorae of land in my town.”
Ahmose Pyramid complex at Abydos
Fragments of war-related reliefs from Ahmose’s mortuary temple at Abydos
Royal women in Ahmose’s reign:
The ancestors

Burial of Ahhotep by Ahmose (her son)

Stela for Tetisheri erected by Ahmose (her grandson) at Abydos
Ahmose-Nefertari, wife of Ahmose
First “God’s Wife of Amun”
Epithets and titles of Amhose-Nefertari from the Donation Stela:
Second Priest of Amun
God’s Wife of Amun
King’s Daughter
King’s Sister
Great King’s Wife
One who says everything she has done
Chief of Upper Egypt and Lower Egypt
Amenhotep I statue from Sai Island
Further excerpt from Ahmose son of Ibana:

Then I conveyed King Djeserkare (Amenhotep I), the justified, when he sailed south to Kush, to enlarge the borders of Egypt. His majesty smote that Nubian Bowman in the midst of his army. They were carried of in fetters, none missing, the fleeing destroyed as if they had never been. Now I was in the van of our troops and I fought really well. His majesty saw my valor. I carried off two hands and presented them to his majesty. Then his people and his cattle were pursued, and I carried off a living captive and presented him to his majesty. I brought his majesty back to Egypt in two days from ‘Upper Well’, and was rewarded with gold. I brought back two female slaves as booty, apart from those that I had presented to his majesty. Then they made me a Warrior of the Ruler.