



SO 360 CONTEMPORARY FRENCH SOCIETY: CHANGES IN FRENCH SOCIETY (SINCE THE 19TH CENTURY)
IES ABROAD NANTES

DESCRIPTION:

Through a dual approach, both historical and sociological, the study will focus on social, societal*, economic, political, institutional and cultural changes in France since the 19th century mainly. The aim will be to understand, observe and explain the changes that have shaped and made French society evolve in order to understand its contemporary aspects.

[* relating to the behavior of individuals in society and to the evolution of morals].

To this end, we will proceed according to an approach that will lead us to go back in time and start the study of each of the themes/phenomena studied at the moment in history when it experienced a significant turning point (it will be a matter of going back a few decades for certain themes to a few centuries for others). The approach will thus consist in tracing the evolution of the object of analysis until the study of its contemporary manifestations and characteristics.

CREDITS: 3 credits

CONTACT HOURS: 45 hours

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION: French

PREREQUISITES: None

ADDITIONAL COST: None

METHOD OF PRESENTATION:

The course sessions are divided between knowledge transmission (lecture/dialogue) and interactive exercises soliciting student participation (discussion-exchanges, frequent comparisons of French and American societies, group work on documents, short individual or group presentations).

Documents - of various kinds - will occupy a large place in the course: texts (press, speeches, excerpts from specialized works), iconographic documents (photographs, cartoons, posters), audio and video documents (songs, films and documentaries above all).

REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT:

- Homework - 25%
- Midterm - 25%
- Final Exam - 40%
- Attendance and participation - 10%

Homework

The homework assignment will consist of an individual research paper in response to a problem related to French society. It will result in a typed thesis of eight to ten pages, including a page devoted to the bibliography.

Midterm and Final Exam

Two proctored mid-term and final exams will be held. They will cover the themes of the program. They will consist of two forms of exercises:

- document studies: analysis of a small corpus of documents in response to a given problem (texts, iconographic documents of various kinds, graphs and statistical tables, etc.)
- course questions: a written production in response to a given problem, in the form of a short essay.

Oral presentation

A 5-minute 'oral presentation' on a proposed topic related to one of the program themes.



Attendance and participation

The 'involvement grade' will take into account attendance and active participation during the course.

As the course has a very general dimension and is open to current French society in the broadest sense, it is advisable to follow current events (reading newspapers and magazines available at the I.E.S. library for example and/or consulting any other source of information)

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Understand the driving forces/vectors of a society's evolution through time and analyze its present features.
- Develop a global knowledge of French civilization in fields as varied as culture, politics, economics and society.
- To use and know how to exploit all types of documents by drawing out their interest and subtlety with a critical eye.
- Conduct in-depth research on a subject after having determined a judicious problematic and established the body of appropriate sources.
- Be able to establish, in a comparative mode, the differences and commonalities between French and American society (evolution and current characteristics).
- Improve oral and written expression skills in French.
- Take an active part in the course by intervening orally, by making a small presentation.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Attendance is mandatory. Absences are excused for valid reasons only. It is the student's responsibility to provide proof of absence, such as medical certificate. Absences due to travel or visits from friends or family members are not valid. Unexcused absences will affect your final grade in the course: each unexcused absence will lead to a reduction of half a letter grade (e.g., B+ will be reduced to B, A to A-) and may also lead to a lower grade for participation. Seven absences in a course will result in an "F" for that course. Each exam, test, presentation, research paper, or other assignment not completed due to an absence may be rescheduled only in the case of a medical or family emergency with proper justification.

Students who are more than fifteen minutes late as "absent".

Attendance on field trips organized as part of many courses is also mandatory. In the event that these field trips take place at a different timeslot or location that the class, you will be notified in a timely manner and will be required to attend the field trip. Multiple and repeated absences may also lead to additional disciplinary sanctions and will be subject to academic review.

CONTENT:

Session	Content	Assignments
Session 1	• EDUCATION in France (since the end of the Middle Ages): from traditional and elitist instruction to the contemporary challenges of the school. • From the medieval period to the 18th century • From the Enlightenment to the school of the Republic • The challenges of democratization and massification (1960s - 1990s) • The new challenges of Education in the 21st century	• Michel (de l'Académie française). Éduquer au XXI^e siècle. [Article Le Monde]. • http://www.lemonde.fr/idees/, 07.03.2011] 5 pages • L'explosion des effectifs scolaires : la rentrée 1964. (section JALONS du site de l'INA http://fresques.ina.fr/jalons/fiche-media/InaEdu01068/lexplosion-des-effectifs-scolaires-la-rentree-1964.html) • Les 'zones d'éducation prioritaire : quel bilan?' • http://fresques.ina.fr/jalons/liste/recherche/Theme.id/107/df/

Session	Content	Assignments
Session 2	YOUTH in French society since the 1960s: from the emergence of the 'youth' social group to current youth issues. - Context and factors of the emergence of the "youth" group within the French post-war society, (1960s) - The youth from May 68: from mobilization and commitment to forms of recognition (1968 - 1980s century) - New issues (since the 1990s) - Course-related trip - Current French youth: realization of a local street survey (poll type) on the perception that young people have of themselves, in groups of two, in the city center of Nantes.	- Les jeunes d'aujourd'hui : quelles sociétés pour demain ? CREDOC [Centre de Recherche pour l'Étude et l'Observation des Conditions de Vie]. Chapitre 1. Être jeune : un temps, un mode de vie pleinement assumés. Pp 17-25. - Prepare "affiches et slogans" of mai 68
Session 3	WOMEN in French society (since the French Revolution, 18th c.): from the first struggles to the latest gains, the slow path to emancipation - The question of women's rights at the time of the French Revolution - The (late) conquest of the right to vote (political citizenship), first time of the feminist fight. - The struggle for the emancipation and liberation of women (towards legal and social equality) from the decades 1960-1970, second strong time of the feminist struggle. - The new conquests in the 21st century and the challenges ahead (since parity in 2000).	- Les droits de la femme (en France) chronologie (www.vie-publique.fr [La Documentation Française, CNDP], - Mise à jour 25.06.2015. 8 pages "Les discriminations hommes-femmes", conférence de Jeannette Bougrab (présidente de la HALTE [Haute Autorité de Lutte contre les Discriminations et pour l'Égalité])
Session 4	WORK and UNEMPLOYMENT in France (since the 19th): changes in the labor force and the entrenchment of mass unemployment. - Changes in work in France (changes in the labor force) since the 19th century. - Mass unemployment and its consequences - consequences: scourge of the French economy (since the 1970s)	- Rabreau, Marine. « 30 ans de chômage de masse en France... Pourquoi ? » [Article Le Figaro, 04/05/2016] 4 pages - Research work on the argumentation to prepare a debate [with imposed bias for the needs of the debate]: "The policies to fight unemployment: liberal-inspired policies versus Keynesian-inspired policies"

Session	Content	Assignments
Session 5	SOCIAL INEQUALITIES and POVERTY in France (since the 19th): the vagaries and constants of inequality and poverty. - Inequalities and poverty from the Middle Ages to the 19th. - Social inequalities and poverty from the 19th to the Trente Glorieuses - Poverty and exclusion since "the crisis" of the 1970s.	- Igor Martinache, « Pauvreté et exclusion. Des notions toutes relatives », Idées économiques et sociales. 2013/1 (N° 171), p. 4-9. Publication Réseau Canopé. [A lire : Qu'est-ce la pauvreté ? (p.4) / Pauvreté contre classes sociales ? (pp 5-7) / Assistance ou droits sociaux ? (p.7)] https://www.cairn.info/revue-idees-economiques-et-sociales-2013-1-page-4.htm « Qui se sent pauvre en France ? Pauvreté subjective et insécurité sociale ». Nicolas Duvoux, Adrien Papuchon, dans Revue française de sociologie 2018/4 (vol. 59), pages 607 à 647. https://www.cairn.info/revue-francaise-de-sociologie-2018-4-page-607.htm
Session 6	RELIGIONS and LAICITY in France: history of the relationship between the State and religions (since the 18th) (The Republic and the religious fact). - From the emergence of secularism to fighting secularism: separating the State and the Church (late 19th - early 20th) - Toward a framing secularism after World War II and new (contemporary) debates around secularism.	- L'histoire de la laïcité en France (JT 2015) section JALONS du site de l'INA [Institut National de l'Audiovisuel]. (vidéo 2 page 1) http://fresques.ina.fr/jalons/liste/recherche/Theme.id/107 "Quelle laïcité aujourd'hui ?" (www.vie-publique.fr [La Documentation Française, CNDP], Mise à jour 25.06.2015. 4 pages . "Le débat sur le port du voile à l'université (JT 2015)". (vidéo 1 page 1) http://fresques.ina.fr/jalons/liste/recherche/Theme.id/107/
Session 7	France land of IMMIGRATION: waves and migration policies in France since the 19th. - The beginning of the era of mass migration with industrialization and labor shortages (late 19th & early 20th) and the evolution of migration policies during the interwar period (from the immigration boom of the 1920s to the "undesirables" of the 1930s) - Second half of the 20th: from massive reception during the Trente Glorieuses to the closing of borders from the crisis of the 1970s. - Instrumentalization/politicization of immigration (for electoral revenue purposes, it becomes a major theme of political debate)	- BARATS-MALBREL, Christine. "Politisation de l'immigration" en France : logiques politiques et enjeux - discursifs ». In: Quaderni, n°36, Automne 1998. L'immigration en débat (France/Europe) pp. 69-81.

Session	Content	Assignments
Session 8	INTEGRATION in France (since the 1960s): concept and debates around 'French-style integration'. - History and debates around 'the French-style (republican) integration model'. - Course-related trip: guided tour of the Departmental Archives and discovery of 19th century documents on 'foreigners in Nantes'.	- BARATS-MALBREL, Christine. "Politisation de l'immigration" en France : logiques politiques et enjeux - discursifs ». In: Quaderni, n°36, Automne 1998. L'immigration en débat (France/Europe) pp. 69-81. "Qu'est-ce qu'un immigré français ?", conférence de Pascal Blanchard (historien de l'immigration). Conférence : Publication & mise en ligne par l'ENS (Ecole Normale Supérieure), décembre 2009. http://www.les-ernest.fr/quest-ce-quun-immigre-francais/ - NOIRIEL, Gérard. "Petite histoire de l'intégration à la française". In Le Monde diplomatique, janvier 2002. La République et ses immigrés, pp 4-5. - Lecture. COSTA-LASCOUX, Jacqueline "L'intégration "à la française" : une philosophie à l'épreuve des réalités", - Revue européenne des migrations internationales, vol. 22 – n°2, 2006. - L'intégration "à sens unique" des immigrés en France". Libération, 8 janvier 2016. "L'égalité a-t-elle un avenir ?", conférence de Hakim El Karoui qui montre comment la vision française de l'égalité a conditionné et influencé l'intégration des communautés d'origine étrangère dans la société. Organisation & mise en ligne par l'ENS (École Normale Supérieure), mai 2010. http://www.les-ernest.fr/legalite-a-t-elle-un-avenir/ - Sommaire, Jean-Claude, « La crise du "modèle français d'intégration", une proposition d'outil », Vie sociale, 4/2006 (N° 4), p. 13-25.

Session	Content	Assignments
Session 9	The BANLIEUES crisis: expression of socio-spatial segregation within urban territories (phenomenon of double social fragmentation / spatial segmentation) (since the 1960s) - A short history of large housing estates (1960s-1970s) - The malaise of the suburbs (since the 1980s)	- Cyprien Avenel, « La construction du « problème des banlieues » entre ségrégation et stigmatisation », Journal français de psychiatrie. 2009/3 (n° 34), p. 36-44. Publication ERES 'La construction des grands ensembles à la périphérie des grandes villes : la remise en cause' (journal télévisé 21 mars 1973) http://fresques.ina.fr/jalons/fiche-media/InaEdu01081/la-construction-des-grands-ensembles-a-la-peripherie-des-grandes-villes-la-remise-en-cause.html
Session 10	The FAMILY in France (since the 1970s): the many metamorphoses of the family model - The decline of the traditional family (from the 1970s) - The metamorphoses of the family: a large number of new models that feed a very lively debate	“La famille traditionnelle en déclin”, dossier en ligne de La Documentation Française (09/04/2013). - Geneviève Bergonnier-Dupuy, Monique Robin, « Introduction », in Geneviève Bergonnier-Dupuy et al., Couple conjugal, couple parental : vers de nouveaux modèles, ERES « Couples, famille et métamorphoses », 2007, p. 11-18. “France : la famille dans tous ses états”, entretien avec François de Singly, sociologue et spécialiste de la famille, qui montre que le débat sur la famille tourne au dialogue de sourds. 64 minutes. Grand Angle, TV5, 12 février 2014. “Une nouvelle famille ?”, Square, Arte, 02/03/2014. Les changements de la famille en France et en Europe.
Session 11	LEISURE and CULTURE in France (since the end of the 19th): towards a society of leisure and permanence of the differentiation of cultural practices. From the 19th to the 20th century: towards a civilization of leisures - Cultural practices - cultural practices within the French society - Tourism in France since the 19th.	Angèle Christin, Olivier Donnat, “ Pratiques culturelles en France et aux États-Unis”. Éléments de comparaison 1981-2008, Culture études 2014/1 (n° 1), p. 1-16.
Session 12	The French and POLITICS: presidential elections under the 5th republic, pillars and mirrors of democratic debate. - History of the presidential elections of the 5th republic. - The current French political landscape and debates.	“L'histoire des précédentes élections présidentielles”, L'Express. Série d'articles publiés en décembre 2016. Wesfreid, Marcelo ; Karlin, Elise ; Dupuis, Jérôme ; Mandonnet, Eric ; Barbier, Christophe.

COURSE-RELATED TRIPS:

- Conducting an opinion survey (sociological study in the form of a street poll in downtown Nantes)
- A course related-trip to the Departmental Archives led by the Archives' educational guide (if the schedule matches the Archives' opening hours).
- (To be confirmed) a hearing at the Nantes Court - (trial).

REQUIRED READINGS:

- MAURIN, Louis, *Déchiffrer la société française*, Paris, éd. La Découverte, 2009 (368 p.)
- FOURQUET, Jérôme, *L'archipel français (Naissance d'une nation multiple et divisée)*, Paris, éd. Seuil, 2019

RECOMMENDED READINGS:

Books:

- BORNE Dominique, *Histoire de la société française depuis 1945*, Paris, , éd. A. Colin, coll. Cursus.(dernière éd. [2002])
- ECK Jean-François, *Histoire de l'économie française depuis 1945*, Paris, éd. A. Colin, coll. Cursus.(dernière éd. [2004])
- BECKER Jean-Jacques, *Histoire politique de la France depuis 1945*, Paris, éd. A. Colin, (dernière éd. [2015])
- DUPONT, Sébastien, *La famille aujourd'hui, entre tradition et modernité*, Éditions sciences humaines, 2017, 224 p.
- GAUCHON Pascal, *Le modèle français depuis 1945*, Paris, PUF, collection QSJ ? édition 2006.
- DONNAT, Olivier, *Les pratiques culturelles des Français à l'ère numérique, enquête 2008*, éditions La Découverte, 2009.
- BAUBEROT, Jean, *Histoire de la laïcité en France*, coll. Que sais-je ?, Presses Universitaires de France, Paris, 2007.
- GOETSCHER, Pascale & LOYER, Emmanuelle, *Histoire culturelle de la France de la Belle Epoque à nos jours*, Paris, 2005, collection Cursus, A. Colin, 268 p.
- RIOUX J.-P., *La France d'un siècle à l'autre, 1914-2000*, Paris, 1999, Hachette Littératures, collection Pluriel, 2 tomes.
- WEIL, Patrick, *La France et ses étrangers : L'aventure d'une politique de l'immigration de 1938 à nos jours*, Paris, Gallimard ; nouvelle édition 2005
- KEPEL, Gilles & ARSLAN, Leyla & ZOUHEIR, Sarah, *Banlieue de la République : Résumé intégral*, Institut Montaigne, octobre 2011, 25 p.
- FELOUZIS, Georges, *Les inégalités scolaires*, coll. Que sais-je ?, Presses Universitaires de France, Paris, 2014. PEDDER, Sophie, *Le déni français (Les derniers enfants gâtés de l'Europe)*, coll. JC Lattès, Paris, 2012
- LE BRAS, Hervé, *Se sentir mal dans une France qui va bien*, éd. L'Aube, Paris, 2019
- BAJRAFIL, Mohamed, *Islam de France, l'An I*, éd. Plein Jour, Paris, 2015.
- LAJEUNIE, Claire, *Pauvres de nous*, Michalon éd., Paris, 2019.

Media:

Newspapers and their thematic sections:

- Le Monde, Ouest-France, Le Monde Diplomatique...

Weekly news magazines of general information:

- Le Nouvel Observateur, L'Express.

Specialized journals:

- Alternatives économiques, L'Expansion, Sciences Humaines etc.

The radio:

an extremely enriching medium, which allows both linguistic progress and the acquisition of knowledge:

- Radios FM d'information continue :
- France Info (105.5)

- Radio FM totalement dédiée à la culture (programmes exclusivement culturels [histoire, société, arts, littérature, sciences etc.] :
- France culture (94.2)
- Radios généralistes Grandes Ondes (GO) [= LW] : France Inter [162 kHz] Europe 1 [183 kHz] RTL [234 kHz].
- NB : All FM radio stations in Nantes:
<http://www.frequence-radio.com/frequence-radio-NANTES.html>