



HS260 HISTORY OF FRANCE
IES Abroad Paris French Studies Center

DESCRIPTION:

This course aims to give American students a general understanding of the history of France, from the beginning of the Revolution in 1789 to the present day. With a particular emphasis on historical moments and chronology, this course will focus on the present day in relation to history and other key events. The objective is to analyze cultural landmarks within French history and the history of the French people, in order to better understand contemporary French society.

CREDITS: 3

CONTENT HOURS: 45 hours

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION: French

PREREQUISITES: none

SUPPLEMENTARY COSTS: Additional costs will be invoiced to the student's IES ABROAD account. These charges will cover printing costs and other expenses. Prices will vary depending on the course.

METHOD OF PRESENTATION:

Each course will include time for students to participate in class discussion, especially in relation to readings in the course manual as well as for reading assignments. The instructor will frequently require recaps of the information covered in the previous course, which will include related research.

WORK REQUIRED AND GRADING:

- Participation -10%
- Mid-term - 20%
- A short video narrated by the student - 20%
- Multiple-choice test at the end of the site visit - 10%
- Competence test – 10%
- Final exam - 30%

Participation

Students must complete assigned readings for each course. Students must also study the material at their own rhythm and visit sites on their own schedule, in addition to completing additional readings. Students must also read their notes carefully before each class. The documents to be studied at home must be accompanied with a study guide that will be used to help with in-class discussion. Students can either respond spontaneously to questions, or the professor may ask specific students to elaborate on the assignment. Oral participation in class is highly recommended.

Mid-term exam

The mid-term exam will include related to information learned in class and in reading assignments (written responses). It will also test the student's ability to analyze a historical text (or another document) by answering specific questions.

Final exam

Similar to the mid-term exam, but with a longer duration and a more comprehensive text analysis.

Short video assignment:



During the semester, it is recommended that students visit historical sites (national landmarks) throughout the city. Students must choose one about which they will film and comment on. The national landmark of their choice will have to represent French history. The 5 minutes long video will be presented according to guidelines outlined by the professor at the beginning of the semester. Students will narrate their research. They can use repetition, editing, insert other documents. Creativity is welcome!

Other

If the professor organizes a group visit, students must fill out the multiple choice quiz that will be given after the visit in order to assess the students' comprehension of various themes related to the site.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

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

- Understand the most important dates in French history and have a basic vocabulary of French history (including spelling)
- Better understand the French people, their culture and history in order to better understand the French society of today
- Be able to pronounce important dates in French history (students will have to learn how to read Roman numerals)
- Characterize aspects of each of the Republics
- Understand France as both a "state" and a "nation"
- Analyze the major historical events in French history

Attendance policy:

Regular class attendance is MANDATORY. Attendance will be noted at the beginning of each class session. Failure to attend a course on time will adversely affect your final grade. Being more than 15 minutes late to a class session counts as an absence. 3 late arrivals (less than 15 minutes) count as an absence. If a student miss more than 25% of class sessions, they will receive an F in the course. Assignments, exams, and presentations missed because of absences will be given the grade of F.

1.5 hour courses:

For example:

- Final grade: A-
- 1 absence = A-, 2 absences = B+, 3 absences = B, 4 absences = B- ...

When absences occur, students must email their teacher and Meghann before or on the day of the absence. Professors do not determine if an absence is excused or unexcused. If a student believes that an absence should be excused, he or she must contact Scott, Seth or Meghann before or on the day of the absence. Absences may be excused if the student provides academic accommodation or disability documentation from his or her home university to Seth before the day of their absence, or if they provide Meghann with an official Certificat Médical from a doctor stating the student's name, the doctor's name, the doctor's signature, and the dates that the student is excused from classes.

CONTENT:

Session	Theme	Readings and Assignments
---------	-------	--------------------------

Week 1	France before the Revolution Introduction Study of French maps Focus: Charlemagne, Religious wars, Henri IV Birth of the French territorial state (843) Birth of the French political state (987) <i>L'ancien regime</i> (politics and society) Focus: Louis XIV, Enlightenment Philosophers	Readings: p.15, 27, 29, 35, 41 and 43 Watch: <i>L'Histoire au quotidien</i> on Middle Ages and Louis XIV (link on Moodle) Suggestion: visit Versailles (the château, or the park, or both)
Week 2	The French Revolution (1789-1799) The new society Origins of the French Revolution First Phase (1789-1792) Political phases (la Terreur and the 18 Brumaire coup d'Etat) Instability	p.58 to 65 Watch : <i>L'Histoire au quotidien</i> on French Revolution (link on Moodle) Suggestion: visit <i>la Conciergerie</i> Film: La révolution française de R.Enrico et R.Heffron
Week 3	Napoleon and Bourgeois society (1799-1830) Foundation of the modern state Conquests and the last defeat The legend of Napoleon Focus: Code Civil and women	p.66 to 73 Suggestions: the Arc de triomphe, the Colonne Vendôme, Waterloo (Belgium) Film TV, Napoléon (avec C.Clavier)
Week 4	No Class	
Week 5	Political instability in the 19th century (1830-1889) Restoration Democracy Focus: Right to vote, insurrections and revolutions The 1830 Revolution The July Monarchy The 1848 Revolution Modernization of France Focus: railroads and Haussmann	p.74 to 87 Watch : <i>L'Histoire au quotidien</i> on XIXth Century (link on Moodle) Suggestions: Musée Carnavalet Film: les Misérables (avec J.Gabin) d'après V.Hugo
Week 6	La Belle Epoque (1890-1914) Mid-Term exam Dreyfus Laïcité Colonisation	p.88 to 91 Suggestions: Hausmann's Paris
Week 7	The First World War (1914-1918) France and the French during the Great War Soldier's experiences Civilian's experiences	p.92 to 97 Suggestions: Verdun Le musée de l'Armée aux Invalides Film: Les sentiers de la gloire (S.Kubrick/K.Douglas)

	Site visit, Invalides Museum	
Week 8	The interwar period (1918-1939) Monday session: no class (bank holiday) Political crisis in the interwar era: Tours Congress, February 6 th , 1934 Front Populaire	p.98 to 109 Upload on Moodle your site visit quiz Suggestions: le musée de l'Immigration Film: Indigènes
Week 9	France in the Second World War Defeat in 1940 France and the French during the Second World War The Vichy Regime, French collaboration, and the Resistance Focus: les rafles du Vel d'Hiv Resistance in different forms Liberation and its concerns and consequences	Readings: p.110 to 117
Week 10	France in the post-war era: decolonization and the Cold War (1945-1958) IV th Republic Baby-Boom in France Focus: Indochina war (1946-1954), prelude to Vietnam War European Construction Algerian crisis and De Gaulle's comeback	Readings: p. 118 to 123 Test on Moodle on History of France from 1789 to 1945
Week 11	France of De Gaulle (1962-1974) Algerian Independence The V th Republic and power personification May 68 Pompidou's France	Readings: p. 124 to 133 Upload your short, narrated video on Moodle
Week 12	From Giscard to Mitterrand (1974-1988) The five-year term of Valéry Giscard d'Estaing Feminism in France Focus: Simone Veil François Mitterrand in office European construction, cultural politics Left party disillusionment, the rise of extreme right Focus: France and the genocide of the Tutsis in Rwanda	Readings: p. 134 to 141
Week 13	Conclusion and Questions – Review for the final exam Jacques Chirac, President (1995-2007) The speech at Vel d'Hiv in 1995 France victory at the Football World Cup in 1998	Readings: p.142-143 and 146 to 151 Prepare some questions for the review session (all content seen during the semester).

	Identity crisis since the beginning of the XXlth Century (2002-2015) Questions Review Feedback on the short video	
Week 14	Final exam	

SITE VISITS:

Discuss with the professor to choose one of the following locations for the short video:

- Le château de Fontainebleau
- Vaux le Vicomte
- Les Invalides
- L'Arc de Triomphe
- Le château de Compiègne
- Le Château de Rueil-Malmaison
- L'Opéra Garnier
- Le Parc des Buttes-Chaumont
- Le Sacre Cœur
- L'Assemblée Nationale
- The museum of the First World War (Invalides)
- The museum of the Second World War (Invalides)
- The ossuary of Verdun and other sites of the battle of Verdun, or another memorial of the First World War
- The martyr-village of Oradour sur Glane
- The Caen Memorial
- The D-Day beaches
- The Carnavalet Museum
- The Pantheon
- The Pompidou Center
- The François Mitterrand National Library
- The Palace of the Porte Dorée and the Museum of Immigration
- La Conciergerie
- The Sainte-Chapelle
- Waterloo (Belgium)
- The Pere-Lachaise cemetery

Other potential sites: talk to the professor about your ideas at the beginning of the semester!

MANDATORY READING:

In order to prepare the course material, a book will be used as a manual:

L'histoire de France, G. Labrunet, P. Toutain et A. Zwarg, Collection Repères pratiques, Nathan, Paris 2020

PURCHASING THIS BOOK IS ESSENTIAL AND MANDATORY



Consult the book's appendix): chronology, index, etc.

- All of the photocopies printed out by the professor ...
- All of the documents on Moodle...
- The aforementioned textbook...

RECOMMENDED READING:

The birth of the nation

- Beaune Colette, Naissance de la nation France, folio Histoire-Gallimard.

Modern France :

- Bély Lucien, La France moderne : 1498-1789, PUF.

The Revolution, Empire, and the 19th century:

- Démier Francis, La France au XIX^e siècle (1814-1914), Seuil/Points, 2000.
- Garrigues Jean, La France de 1848 à 1870, A.Colin, 2000.

The 20th century:

- Sirinelli JF (s.d), La France de 1914 à nos jours, 1er cycle, PUF, 2007.
- Paxton R, La France de Vichy, Points/Seuil.
- Rousso Henry, Les années noires : vivre sous l'occupation, Découvertes Gallimard, 1992.

General history of France:

- Goubert Pierre: Initiation à l'histoire de la France, Hachette Littératures, Pluriel, Paris, 1984 Carpentier Jean, Lebrun François: Histoire de France, Points-Histoire, Paris, 1987.