



CIEE Global Institute – Paris

Course name:	20th Century French History (in English)
Course number:	HIST 3002 PAFR (ENG)
Programs offering course:	Paris Open Campus (Language, Literature and Culture Track)
Language of instruction:	English
U.S. semester credits:	3
Contact hours:	45
Term:	Fall 2017

Course Description

This course provides an overview of French politics and society in the 20th century. Specific topics include the First World War, the Front Populaire, the Nazi occupation and the Liberation of France, the Fourth Republic, the Algerian war, decolonization, May 1968, the role of intellectuals in French culture, immigration and a multi-ethnic France. Such cultural sites as the Mémorial de la Shoah, the Museum of the Army, the Museum of the History of Immigration and the many war memorials in the greater Paris area will accompany students in their study of France's recent history.

Learning Objectives

This course will allow students to:

- Gain an overview of French history that will enable them to make much more sense of their environment here, and of what they read and hear about in the media, as well as of certain conversations with French people they meet.
- Relate the country's contemporary social cleavages and political controversies to the evolution of its recent history.
- Gain a better understanding of France's geopolitical role and ambitions.
- Deepen their historical thinking skills as they revise concepts of causation, contingency, periodization, objectivity, interpretation, narrativity, etc.

Course Prerequisites

There are no particular prerequisites for this course, except for a genuine interest in the subject.



Methods of Instruction

This is a lecture course that strongly encourages students to contribute through questions, comments, discussion, and debate. The lesson plans will provide ample time for this.

At least two field trips will be organized during the block. Possible places or events to visit: Mémorial de la Shoah, Historial de Gaulle (aux Invalides), Assemblée Nationale, an electoral rally of a political party.

Assessment and Final Grade

Take-home exam 1	30%
Take-home exam 2	30%
Final examination (in class)	30%
Class participation	10%

Course Requirements

Take-home exams

There will be two take-home exams, each consisting of two questions to be answered by essays of some 1,300 words each. The exams will be handed out after the 5th and 10th classes, respectively. You will have one week to complete them.

The essays will be graded according to mastery of the subject plus writing style.

- An essay indicating that you have mastered the subject at hand, contains no factual errors, and is well-written will receive an A or A-.
- An essay with minor gaps in content—i.e. where a relevant fact or issue is not adequately discussed or mentioned at all—and/or that contains a limited number of factual errors, and/or where there are slips in writing style (e.g. grammatical errors) will receive a grade in the B range.
- A paper containing major errors of fact and interpretation—indicating that you have manifestly not done the readings, paid attention in class, or at all understood the subject matter—will receive a grade in the C or D range, be the paper well-written or not (and experience has shown that essays of this sort are invariably poorly written).
- Essays not handed in or that contain plagiarized passages will receive a grade of F (0).

Final exam

There will also be an in-class final exam consisting of two questions. For this, no outside research will be required; careful and conscientious reading of the assigned texts is sufficient as preparation.

Class Participation

Beyond coming to class and doing the reading of the assigned texts and handouts, students are expected to participate actively in class discussions and debate.



Class Attendance and Punctuality

Regular class attendance is required throughout the program. Students must notify their instructor via Canvas, beforehand, if possible, if they will miss class for any reason. Students are responsible for any materials covered in class in their absence. Students who miss class for medical reasons must inform the instructor and the Academic Director (or a designated staff member) and provide appropriate documentation as noted below. A make-up opportunity will be provided to the extent this is feasible.

Due to the intensive nature of the block schedule, all unexcused absences will result in a lower final grade for the course. Each unexcused absence will cause 3 percentage points to be dropped from the final grade. For example, a student with an 88% final grade (B+) and 1 unexcused absence will see it reduced to 85% (B).

Students who transfer from one class to another during the add/drop period will not be considered absent from the first session(s) of their new class, provided they were marked present for the first session(s) of their original class. Otherwise, the absence(s) from the original class carry over to the new class and count against the grade in that class.

CIEE program minimum class attendance standards are as outlined below. Center-specific attendance policies may be more stringent than the policies stated below. The Center / Resident Director sets the specific attendance policy for each location, including how absences impact final grades. Such policies are communicated to students during orientation and via Study Center documents. In the event that the attendance policy for host institution courses differs from CIEE's policy, the more stringent policy will apply.

- Excessively tardy (over 15 minutes late) students will be marked absent.
- Students who miss class for personal travel will be marked as absent and unexcused. No make-up opportunity will be provided.
- An absence will only be considered excused if:
 - A doctor's note is provided.
 - A CIEE staff member verifies that the student was too ill to attend class.
 - Evidence is provided of a family emergency.
- Attendance policies also apply to any required co-curricular class excursion or event.
- Persistent absenteeism (students approaching 20% or more of total course hours missed, or violations of the attendance policies in more than one class) may lead to a written warning from the Academic Director or Resident Director, notification to the student's home school, and/or dismissal from the program in addition to reduction in class grade(s).

Students with delays or unexcused absences exceeding 20% of the total course hours will fail the course.



Weekly Schedule

Note: the course is organized by topic, each one of which will take one to three classes to cover. The schedule is approximate and subject to change at the discretion of the instructor to take advantage of current experiential learning opportunities.

WEEK 1

CLASS 1: INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE AND FRENCH HISTORY

WEEK 2

CLASS 2: THE CONSOLIDATION OF THE REPUBLIC, 1870-1914

Sowerwine, 1-105.

Articles on the Dreyfus Affair and on church-state relations and *laïcité*.

CLASS 3: FRANCE AND WORLD WAR I

Sowerwine, 106-118.

Smith, Audoin-Rouzou, and Becker, selected pages.

CLASS 4: THE INTERWAR YEARS, 1918-39: POLITICS AND SOCIETY IN THE 1920s

Sowerwine, 121-192.

WEEK 3

CLASS 5: THE INTERWAR YEARS, 1918-39: POLITICS AND SOCIETY IN THE 1930s

Larkin, 1-62.

CLASS 6: WORLD WAR 2: THE OUTBREAK OF WAR, THE FALL OF FRANCE, AND VICHY

Larkin, 63-136.

Articles from the *New York Review of Books*.

WEEK 4

CLASS 7: WORLD WAR II: OCCUPATION, COLLABORATION, RESISTANCE, AND LIBERATION

Council on International
Educational Exchange

300 Fore Street
Portland, ME 04101
207-553-4000

ciee.org



Articles from the *New York Review of Books*.

CLASS 8: FRANCE & ITS EMPIRE: COLONIZING AFRICA

Larkin, 223-237.

POSTWAR CONTESTATION, THE INDOCHINA WAR
AND THE ALGERIAN WAR OF INDEPENDENCE

CLASS 9: POLITICS AND SOCIETY DURING *LES TRENTE GLORIEUSES*

Larkin, 137-222, 238-327.

Karnow.

WEEK 5

CLASS 10: THE EVENTS OF MAY 1968

Seale & McConville.

CLASS 11: POLITICS AND SOCIETY, 1969-88

Larkin, 328-440 (read over next two classes)

WEEK 6

CLASS 12: POLITICS AND SOCIETY, 1988-2017

Articles on immigration.

CLASS 13:

FINAL EXAM

Readings

Charles Sowerwine, *France since 1870: Culture, Politics, and Society*. 2nd ed. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2009.

Maurice Larkin, *France Since the Popular Front: Government and People, 1936-1996*. 2nd ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1997.

Leonard V. Smith, Stéphane Audoin-Rouzeau & Annette Becker, *France and the Great War, 1914-1918*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2003.

Stanley Karnow, *Paris in the Fifties*. New York: Broadway Books, 1999.

Council on International
Educational Exchange

300 Fore Street
Portland, ME 04101
207-553-4000

ciee.org



Patrick Seale & Maureen McConville, *Black Flag / Red Flag: French Revolution 1968*. New York: Putnam, 1968.