

HST 295-01 ST

## The Making of Modern France

Fall Semester 2011

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 1:15-2:05 p.m.  
Alumni Recitation Hall 314

### COURSE INFORMATION

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### COURSE DESCRIPTION

Between the eighteenth century and the twentieth, France underwent a breathtaking series of metamorphoses which, in the political realm, encompassed everything from absolute monarchist rule to two Napoleonic empires and five republics. In this course we will trace the political, social, intellectual, and cultural catalysts and consequences of this tumultuous development. We will consider the legacy of Enlightenment and Revolutionary ideologies, shifting notions of citizenship and national identity, social and cultural responses to modernization, and the international crises of the twentieth century. We will pay particular attention to perspectives of class, race, and gender throughout the course. Additionally, we will interrogate some of the historiographical discussions that have contributed to the telling of the story of the making of modern France.

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS

This course takes the form of a fluid combination of lecture and discussion. Working complementarily with textbook readings, our lectures provide the historical framework for the material we cover. For the most part, however, our meetings center upon discussion of assigned readings and viewings, and it is through the free and open exchange of ideas that we all benefit the most from the class. Your preparation and engagement, then, are crucial to its success. Because discussion figures so heavily in the way we spend class time and wrestle together with the course materials, I sometimes send out discussion questions via email before we meet as a tool to help us focus on common themes and issues.

Please come to class awake and on time with the appropriate reading materials in hand. You are expected to attend class regularly, except in case of dire emergency. By definition, every absence from class has a negative impact upon the overall quality of our conversations. Your grade will be impacted accordingly. After three uncommunicated absences you will receive an F for the participation portion of the course grade. After four uncommunicated absences you will fail the course entirely.

In addition to the two short mid-term and one final exam requirements for this class, each student must complete a short research project on the theme "Echoes of the Revolution." You work closely

with the professor on the development of your project, and it culminates in a research paper of 8-10 pages as well as a short presentation on your findings. This assignment will be explained in detail early in the semester, and the relevant deadlines for its successful completion are indicated on the syllabus.

Your overall grade will be calculated according to the following formula:

Participation	30%
Mid-Term Exams (2@ 15%)	30%
Research Paper	15%
Research Presentation	5%
Final Exam	20%

Students with any form of documented disability are encouraged to contact me early in the semester so that we can arrange for your learning needs to be met and for you to participate fully in the class. You will also need to provide documentation of your condition(s) to the Dean for Student Academic Support and Advising, Joyce Stern, on the third floor of the Rosenfield Center (x3702).

## **COURSE MATERIALS**

### **REQUIRED TEXTS**

Jeremy D. Popkin, *A History of Modern France*. Pearson Prentice Hall, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed., 2005/6  
[ISBN: 0131932934]

### **REQUIRED TEXTS continued**

Émile Zola, *The Ladies' Paradise*. Oxford World's Classics, 2008 [ISBN: 0199536902]

Philip Nord, *The Republican Moment: Struggles for Democracy in Nineteenth-Century France*.  
Harvard University Press, 1998 [ISBN: 067476272x]

Regina M. Sweeney, *Singing Our Way to Victory: French Cultural Politics and Music During the Great War*. Wesleyan University Press, 2001 [ISBN: 0819564737]

Please note that the Popkin has NOT been ordered through the Pioneer Bookstore. While it is crucial to our class, it is also very expensive. Consequently I have placed two copies on two-hour reserve in Burling Library for the semester. Please make arrangements to read the assigned sections (normally for Mondays and normally not very long) before class and be aware that your fellow students will also be relying on the copies in the library. Of course you should feel free to buy the book in new or used condition if you prefer. If you do so, please be sure to buy the third edition.

Additional readings (indicated by a bullet (•)) will be available on Pioneer Web or handed out in class. Please note that the scheduling of all reading assignments is subject to change based on the ebb and flow of class discussions.

## **COURSE SCHEDULE**

F August 26                      Introduction

**PART I****OLD REGIME AND REVOLUTION**

M August 29

Lecture: The Old Regime and the Enlightenment

Reading: Popkin, *History of Modern France* (hereafter *HMF*) pp. 7-35

W August 31

Discussion: Absolutism and its Critics

Readings:

- Bossuet, *Politics Derived from the Words of Holy Scripture* [excerpts] (1709)
- Montesquieu, *The Spirit of the Laws* [excerpts] (1748)
- Rousseau, *The Social Contract* [excerpts] (1762)
- Voltaire, *Treatise on Tolerance* [excerpts] (1763)

F September 2

Discussion: Historians Debate the Enlightenment

Readings:

- Robert Darnton, "The High Enlightenment and the Low-Life of Literature" from *The Literary Underground of the Old Regime* (1982)
- Dena Goodman, "Enlightenment Salons: The Convergence of Female and Philosophic Ambitions" *Eighteenth Century Studies* 22/3 (1989)  
<http://www.jstor.org/stable/2738891>

M September 5

Lecture: The Moderate Revolution, 1789-1792

Reading: Popkin, *HMF* pp. 36-51

W September 7

Discussion: Revolution For Whom?

Readings:

- Louis XIV, Convocation of the Estates General (1789)
- Sieyès, "What is the Third Estate?" (1789)
- *Cahiers de Doléances* [excerpts] (1789)
- Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen (1789)
- Olympe de Gouges, Declaration of the Rights of Woman (1791)
- Petition of the Jews (1790)
- Declaration of the Enfranchisement of Free Men of Color (1791)

F September 9

Discussion: Insiders/Outsiders

Reading: Joan Wallach Scott, "French Feminists and the Rights of 'Man'" *History Workshop* 28 (1989) <http://www.jstor.org/stable/4288921>

M September 12

Lecture: The Radical Revolution, 1792-1795

Reading: Popkin, *HMF* pp. 52-63

W September 14

Discussion: Radicalism and Backlash

Readings:

- Constitution of 1793
- Robespierre, "Report on the Principles of Political Morality" (Feb 1794)
- The Festival of the Supreme Being (8 June 1794)
- Tallien, speech on the Terror (1794)
- Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Citizens (1795)
- Babeuf, *The Plebeians' Manifesto* [excerpts] (1795)

- F September 16      Discussion: The Revolutionary Festival  
Reading: Mona Ozouf, "The Revolutionary Festival: A Transfer of Sacrality" in Schechter, ed., *The French Revolution: The Essential Readings* (2001)
- Sun September 18**      Film viewing: *Danton*
- M September 19      Discussion: *Danton*
- W September 21      Lecture: Directory and Napoleonic Empire  
Reading: Popkin, *HMF* pp. 64-82
- F September 23      Discussion: Napoleon as Emblem or Traitor?  
Readings:
  - Bruix, Speech on the Reestablishment of Slavery (1802)
  - Bonaparte, Letter to Toussaint L'Ouverture (1802)
  - Bonaparte, Instructions to General Leclerc (1801)
  - Leclerc, Letter to Bonaparte (1802)
  - The French Civil Code (1803-1804)
- F September 23 cont.      • Bonaparte as Leader and Tyrant [various excerpts] (1796-1809)  
• Constant, *On the Spirit of Conquest* [excerpts] (1814)
- M September 26      Discussion: Revolutionary Responses and Wrap-Up  
Readings:
  - Burke, *Reflections on the Revolution in France* [excerpts] (1790)
  - De Maistre, Essay on the Generative Principle of Political Constitutions [excerpts] (1808-09)
  - Arndt, "The German Fatherland" and "The War of Liberation" (1813)
  - Lynn Hunt, "The World We Have Gained: The Future of the French Revolution" *American Historical Review* 108/1 (2003)  
<http://www.jstor.org/stable/3090696>
- W September 28      Mid-Term #1 Review  
**"Echoes of the Revolution" preliminary project description due**
- F September 30      **MID-TERM EXAM #1**
- PART II**      **THE REST OF THE LONG NINETEENTH CENTURY?**
- M October 3      Lecture and Discussion: Revolution and Conquest (1830)  
Readings:
  - Popkin, *HMF* pp. 83-114
  - Jennifer E. Sessions, "'Unfortunate Necessities': Violence and Civilization in the Conquest of Algeria" in Lorcin and Brewer, eds., *France and Its Spaces of War: Experience, Memory, Image* (2009)

- W October 5                    Lecture and Discussion: 1848  
 Readings:  
 • Popkin, *HMF* pp. 115-124  
 • Tristan, *The Workers' Union* [excerpts] (1843)  
 • deTocqueville, *Recollections* [excerpts] (1850-1851)
- R October 6                    Convocation: Robert Darnton**
- F October 7                    Lecture: Napoleon III + Remaking of Paris  
 Readings:  
 • Popkin, *HMF* pp. 125-133  
 • David Pinkney, "Paris in 1850" and "Paris in 1870 and After" in *Napoleon III and the Rebuilding of Paris* (1958)
- M October 10                  Discussion: Culture during the Second Empire  
 Reading/Viewing:  
 • Baudelaire, *The Flowers of Evil* and *Paris Spleen* [excerpts] (1857, 1869)  
 • Charles Marville, Photographs of Haussmannization
- W October 12                  Discussion: The Rise of Consumer Society  
**Émile Zola, *The Ladies' Paradise***
- F October 14                  Discussion: Scholars on the Rise of Consumer Society  
 • Patricia O'Brien, "The Kleptomania Diagnosis: Bourgeois Women and Theft in Late Nineteenth-Century France" *Journal of Social History* 17/1 (1983) <http://www.jstor.org/stable/3787239>  
 • Walter Benjamin, "Paris, the Capital of the Nineteenth Century" (1935)
- FALL BREAK**
- M October 24                  Lecture: Franco-Prussian War and Paris Commune  
 Reading: Popkin, *HMF* pp. 134-150  
**"Echoes of the Revolution" formal proposal and initial bibliography due**
- W October 26                  Discussion: The Nature of the Commune  
 Readings:  
 • Proclamation for National Defense (15 Sept 1870)  
 • Call for the Establishment of the Commune (6 Jan 1871)  
 • The Revolutionary Socialist Party Resolutions (20/23 Feb 1871)  
 • 18 March 1871 – Eyewitness Account and Socialist Report  
 • Petition from the New Education Society (20 April 1871)  
 • Meeting of a women's club (12 May 1871)  
 • Barron, Revolutionary reflections (1871)  
 • Appeal to Versailles Army (23 May 1871)  
 • Announcement by MacMahon (28 May 1871)
- F October 28                  Lecture and Discussion: The Early Third Republic

- Readings: Popkin, *HMF* pp. 151-178
- Ferry, "The State Must Be Secular" (1876)
  - Gambetta, "Clericalism, That Is the Enemy" (1877)
  - Bert, "Civic Education" (1880)
  - Ferry, "Letter to Teachers" (1883)
  - Patricia Tilburg, "Wholesome Imaginations: Pedagogy in the Early Third Republic" in *Proceedings of the Western Society for French History* (V. 29/Spring 2003)
- M October 31      Discussion: The Makers of the Third Republic  
**Philip Nord, *The Republican Moment***
- W November 2      Lecture and Discussion: The Dreyfus Affair  
Readings: Popkin, *HMF* pp. 179-189
- Drumont, *Jewish France* [excerpts] (1886)
  - Zola, "A Plea," "Letter," and excerpt from *J'Accuse* (1896-8)
  - Contributors to the Henry Monument, 1898-1899
  - Le Bon, *The Crowd* [excerpts] (1895)
- HIS 295-01 ST/Maynard/MMF/F11/p.7
- F November 4      Lecture and Discussion: Perspectives on the *Belle Époque*  
Readings: Popkin, *HMF* pp. 190-199
- Eugen Weber, "Wring Out the Old" and "Cultures and Civilization" from *Peasants into Frenchmen: The Modernization of Rural France, 1870-1914*
  - Caroline Ford, "Religion and the Politics of Cultural Change in Rural France" in *Journal of Modern History* V. 62 No. 1 (1990)  
<http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdfplus/1898749.pdf>
  - Alice Conklin, "Colonialism and Human Rights: A Contradiction in Terms?" *American Historical Review* 103/2 (1998)  
<http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdfplus/2649774.pdf>
- M November 7      Mid-Term #2 Review  
**"Echoes of the Revolution" introduction and outline due**
- W November 9      **MID-TERM EXAM #2**
- PART III**  
F November 11      **THE TUMULTUOUS TWENTIETH CENTURY**  
Lecture: World War I  
Reading: Popkin, *HMF* pp. 200-219
- M November 14      Discussion: The Why and How of World War I
- George Steiner, "The Great Ennui" in *In Bluebeard's Castle* (1971)
  - Remarque, *All Quiet on the Western Front* [excerpts] (1929)
- Regina Sweeney, *Singing Our Way to Victory* pp. 1-67**
- W November 16      Discussion: World War I and Entertainment Culture  
**Regina Sweeney, *Singing Our Way to Victory* pp. 69-256**

- F November 18      Lecture and Discussion: International Perspectives in the 1920s and 1930s  
Scapegoats, Threats, and Possibilities  
Readings: Popkin, *HMF* pp. 220-247
- Clemenceau, *Grandeur and Misery of Victory* [excerpts] (1930)
  - Blum, Speech at the Congress of Tours (1920)
  - Duhamel, "Meditation on the Cathedral of Commerce" from *America: The Menace* (1931)
- M November 21      Lecture: World War II: Occupation, Collaboration  
Reading: Popkin, *HMF* pp. 248-262
- W November 23      Discussion: Perspectives on Vichy and the Holocaust  
Readings:
- David Pryce-Jones, "Paris during the German Occupation" in Hirschfeld and Marsh, eds., *Collaboration in France: Politics and Culture during the Nazi Occupation 1940-1944* (1989)
  - Susan S. Zuccotti, "Surviving the Holocaust: The Situation in France" in Berenbaum and Peck, eds., *The Holocaust and History* (1998)
- HIS 295-01 ST/Maynard/MMF/F11/p.8
- Thursday  
November 24      THANKSGIVING**
- F November 25      NO CLASS
- M November 28      Lecture and Discussion: World War II: Resistance, Liberation  
Readings: Popkin, *HMF* pp. 263-271
- Charles de Gaulle BBC speech excerpts, June 18, 19, and 22, 1940
- "Echoes of the Revolution" draft due**
- W November 30      Lecture and Discussion: Algeria  
Readings: Popkin, *HMF* pp. 272-292
- Dennis McEnnerney, "Frantz Fanon, The Resistance, and the Emergence of Identity Politics" in Peabody and Stovall, eds., *The Color of Liberty: Histories of Race in France* (2003)
  - Fanon, "On Violence," "On National Culture," and "Colonial War and Mental Disorders" [excerpts] from *The Wretched of the Earth* (1961)
- R December 1      Film viewing: TBA
- F December 2      Lecture and Discussion: 1968  
Readings: Popkin, *HMF* pp. 293-312
- Students Against the System: "The Amnesty of Blinded Eyes" (May 1968)
  - Graffiti from the Walls of Paris (1968)
- M December 5      **"Echoes of the Revolution" Project Presentations + Final Paper, Group I**

W December 7      **"Echoes of the Revolution" Project Presentation + Final Paper, Group II**

F December 9      **"Echoes of the Revolution" Project Presentations + Final Paper, Group III**

**Thursday**  
**December 15**  
**9:00 a.m.**      **FINAL EXAM**