Alternately friends and rivals, modern France and the United States have had a complicated relationship ever since both nations were born in revolution at the end of the eighteenth century. This course will seek to understand France on its own terms by considering a series of formative events such as the French Revolution, the Revolutions of 1830 and 1848, the Franco-Prussian War and the Paris Commune, the Dreyfus Affair and the birth of the intellectual, the very different experiences of World Wars I and II, the post-colonial conflicts in Algeria and Vietnam, the near-revolution of May 1968, and current conflicts in French foreign and domestic policy.

**Required Reading** *(on sale at the River Campus Bookstore; on reserve at Rush Rhees Library)*

*Emilie Carles, *A Life of Her Own*
*Lynn Hunt, French Revolution and Human Rights* *(2nd edition)*
*Jeremy Popkin, A Concise History of the Haitian Revolution*
*Sue Peabody and Tyler Stovall, The Color of Liberty: Histories of Race in France*

Additional Required Reading *(on reserve at Rush Rhees Library, or on Blackboard, or on the Internet)*

In addition to readings in the books available for purchase above, there will also be additional required reading from a variety of books, articles, and websites as listed in the syllabus.

**Course Requirements – for History 232/French 252**

Three 7-page papers, 25% each *(20% each for History 232w students) 75% *(60% for W students)*

- Based on the required reading, looking, and listening; typed, double-spaced
- Deadlines: Wednesday, 27 February; Monday, 15 April; Monday, 6 May
- While I always accept late papers, I also deduct points from their grades. For each two days your paper is late, you will lose a third of a grade; a paper that is a week late will lose a whole grade.

Class participation, 25% *(25% (20% for W students)*

- Reading in advance, participating in class, weekly 1-page journals (see assignment schedule)
- You may have up to 3 free absences, and you may also skip up to 2 weekly journals. If you miss additional classes, you will lose 3 points each; if you miss additional journals, 5 points each.

**Course Requirements – for History 232w**

As above, with the following additions:

Two short 3-page papers, each with one revision, 10% each *(20% for W students)*

- Based on the required reading, looking, and listening; typed, double-spaced
- Deadlines for paper 1: rough draft, Thursday, 24 January; final draft, Friday, 8 February
- Deadlines for paper 2: rough draft, Thursday, 7 March; final draft, Friday, 29 March
**Course Librarians:** Kristin Totleben, French, 585-275-9304, ktotleben@library.rochester.edu  
Alan Unsworth, History, 585-275-9298, aunsworth@library.rochester.edu

**Assorted Browsing Materials**

**Embassies**

Embassy of the United States in France  [http://www.amba-usa.fr/index.htm](http://www.amba-usa.fr/index.htm)

**A Few French Museums and On-line Art Resources**


**Some American and British Museums with Great French Collections**

Art Institute of Chicago  [http://www.artic.edu/aic/](http://www.artic.edu/aic/)
Barnes Foundation  [http://www.barnesfoundation.org/](http://www.barnesfoundation.org/)
Courtauld Gallery  [http://www.courtauld.ac.uk/gallery/index.shtml](http://www.courtauld.ac.uk/gallery/index.shtml)
Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco (especially the Legion of Honor)  [http://www.famsf.org/](http://www.famsf.org/)
National Gallery of Art  [http://www.nga.gov/](http://www.nga.gov/)

**Textbooks, Classes, Library Resources, etc.**

From Napoléon to Astérix  [http://french.chass.utoronto.ca/fcs195](http://french.chass.utoronto.ca/fcs195)
France in the Age of *Les Misérables*  [http://www.mtholyoke.edu/courses/rschwart/hist255-s01/](http://www.mtholyoke.edu/courses/rschwart/hist255-s01/)

Paris Pages: Coins, Conflict, History, Art, and Architecture (especially Paris Annals, 1860-1899)  [http://home.eckerd.edu/~oberhot/paris-home.htm](http://home.eckerd.edu/~oberhot/paris-home.htm)
The Siege and Commune of Paris (original photographs from the special collections at Northwestern)  [http://www.library.northwestern.edu/spec/siege/index.html](http://www.library.northwestern.edu/spec/siege/index.html)
Riots in France  [http://french.chass.utoronto.ca/fcs195](http://french.chass.utoronto.ca/fcs195)

**Newspapers and Television Stations**

Le Monde Diplomatique (English)  [http://mondediplo.com/](http://mondediplo.com/)
Arte  [http://www.arte.tv/fr/70.html](http://www.arte.tv/fr/70.html)
Assignments

In accordance with the College credit hour policy, which awards 4 credit hours for courses that meet for the equivalent of 3 periods of 50 minutes each week, students are expected to devote at least one hour each week to working on short weekly essays in response to the readings.

I will distribute questions in class on Monday or Wednesday of each week, and answers will be due in the next class session. We will use the answers to these questions as the basis of our class discussions.

If you miss class on the day when I distribute the question of the week, you will find it posted on Blackboard.

The best answers will both show an accurate understanding of the reading for this course and consider possible relationships between what you are learning in this course and what you have learned in other courses or other experiences.

Wednesday, January 16

Introductions

R and Empires, 1750-1870

Monday, January 21

Martin Luther King Day

Wednesday, January 23

The Old Regime

Popkin, Modern France, Preface, Chapters 1-4
Hunt, French Revolution and Human Rights

Introduction plus
Pick one document from Section 1: Defining Rights before 1789

Thursday, January 24

232W STUDENTS – ROUGH DRAFT OF FIRST SHORT PAPER DUE
Please submit to the History Department, 364 RRL, before 4 p.m.

Monday, January 28

The Liberal French Revolution

Popkin, Modern France, Chapters 5-7
Hunt and Censer, Liberty, Equality, Fraternity.

(including left-hand links for “The Tablets of Revolution,” “Political Repression,” “Revised Declaration,” and “Political Setback”)

Hunt, French Revolution and Human Rights

Section 2: The Declaration of the Rights of Man and the Citizen
(please read the whole section, not just document 14)
Section 3: Debates over Citizenship and Rights during the Revolution: Women (please focus on document 34)

Wednesday, January 30

The Haitian Revolution – Slave Revolt

Popkin, Haitian Revolution, Preface, Introduction, Chapters 1-2
Popkin, Facing Racial Revolution: Eyewitness Accounts of the Haitian Revolution (RRL reserve and e-book through Voyager)

The Ogé Revolution
The First Days of the Slave Insurrection
Masters and their Slaves during the Insurrection
Monday, February 4  The Radical French Revolution

Popkin, Modern France, Chapters 8-9
Hunt and Censer, Liberty, Equality, Fraternity,
(including left-hand links for “A Radical Foundation,” “Time Revolutionized,” “Revolutionary Belief in God,” “Metric System,”
and “Moderate Constitution”)
Hunt, French Revolution and Human Rights
Section 4: National Security and Limits on Rights

Wednesday, February 6  The Haitian Revolution – Emancipation

Popkin, Haitian Revolution, Chapters 3-4
Popkin, Facing Racial Revolution: Eyewitness Accounts of the Haitian Revolution (RRL reserve and e-book through Voyager)
The Destruction of Cap Français in June 1793
Hunt, French Revolution and Human Rights
Section 3: Free Blacks and Slaves

Friday, February 8  232W STUDENTS – FINAL DRAFT OF FIRST SHORT PAPER DUE
Please submit to the History Department, 364 RRL, before 4 p.m.

Monday, February 11  The Napoleonic French Revolution

Popkin, Modern France, Chapter 10
Popkin, Haitian Revolution, Chapter 5
French Civil Code, Book I, titles 1, 2, 5, 6; Book II, title 1, on-line at http://www.napoleon-series.org/research/government/c_code.html
Nick Nesbitt, ed., Toussaint L'Ouverture (RRL reserve)
Letter to Napoleon on the 1801 Constitution (Blackboard)
Haitian Constitution of 1801 (Blackboard)
Letter from Napoleon to Toussaint, 1801 (Blackboard)

Wednesday, February 13  The Haitian Revolution – Aftermath

Popkin, Haitian Revolution
Afterword: the Earthquake Crisis of 2010 and the Haitian Revolution

Monday, February 18  Restoration, Revolution, and Romanticism

Popkin, Modern France, Chapters 11-12
Jones, Paris: The Biography of a City
Box 8.1, Rue Transnonain (Blackboard)

(readings for Monday, February 18, continue on next page)
Monday, February 18

(readings for Monday, February 18, continued from previous page)


Patricia Lorcin and Daniel Brewer, eds., France and Its Spaces of War

Sessions, “‘Unfortunate Necessities’: Violence and Civilization in the Conquest of Algeria” (Blackboard)

Julia Clancy-Smith and Charles D. Smith, The Modern Middle East and North Africa (RRL reserve)

Algeria: French Colonization and the Algerian Response (Blackboard)

Wednesday, February 20

The Revolution of 1848 and the Second Republic

Popkin, Modern France, Chapters 13-14

Karen M. Offen, “Women and the Question of "Universal" Suffrage in 1848: A Transatlantic Comparison of Suffragist Rhetoric,” NWSA Journal, Vol. 11, No. 1 (Spring, 1999), pages 150-162 and following Documents 1a, 2a, 3a, 4a, 5 (Blackboard)

Susan Groag Bell and Karen M. Offen, eds., Women, the Family, and Freedom: the Debate in Documents (RRL reserve)

“Women’s Political Consciousness in a Revolutionary Age”

“Women’s Political Action in the Face of Repression”

These sections are both on Blackboard. Please pay special attention to the French and American documents, pp. 244-260 and pp. 278-290 (some overlap with documents above).

Aurelian Criautu and Jeffrey C. Isaac, America through European Eyes: British and French Reflections on the New World from the Eighteenth Century to the Present (RRL reserve)

Nick Nesbitt, “On the Political Efficacy of Idealism: Tocqueville, Schoelcher, and the Abolition of Slavery” (Blackboard)

Monday, February 25

The Second Empire

Popkin, Modern France, Chapters 15-16


Stéphane Kirkland, “The New Paris of the Second Empire” (browse on-line: 
http://stephanekirkland.com/

Please pay special attention to the map in the “Book” section: 

First look at the small map to get an overview, then click on the link to the larger map to explore special sections in more detail.)

Rees, French Poetry

Hugo: especially Souvenir de la nuit du 4

Wednesday, February 27

WHOLE CLASS – FIRST MID-SIZE PAPER DUE

In-class screening of film to be announced
The Rise and Fall of the Third Republic, 1870-1940

Monday, March 4

The Franco-Prussian War and the Paris Commune

Popkin, Modern France, Chapter 17
Gorrara and Langford, eds., France since the Revolution (RRL reserve)
Langford, “The Paris Commune of 1871: The Red Republic’s Triumph and Defeat”

Jones, Paris: The Biography of a City
   Box 9.2, The Mur des Fédérés (Blackboard)
   Box 10.3, Sacré-Cœur of Montmartre (Blackboard)

Gay Gullickson, Unruly Women of Paris (RRL Reserve)
   The Unruly Woman and the Revolutionary City (Blackboard)

Monday, March 4

Robert Tombs, “How bloody was la Semaine Sanglante? A revision,” H-France Salon 3:1, on-line through the H-France Salon
http://www.h-france.net/Salon/Salonvol3no1.pdf

Karine Varley, “Commentary on ‘How bloody was la Semaine Sanglante? A revision’,” H-France Salon 3:1, on-line through the H-France Salon
http://www.h-france.net/Salon/Salonvol3no3.pdf

Wednesday, March 6

The Rise of the Republic

Popkin, Modern France, Chapter 18
   Berenson, “American Perspectives on the French Republic”

Peabody and Stovall, eds., The Color of Liberty
   Peabody and Stovall, “Introduction: Race, France, Histories”


Thursday, March 7

232W STUDENTS – ROUGH DRAFT OF SECOND SHORT PAPER DUE
Please submit to the History Department, 364 RRL, before 4 p.m.

Monday, March 11 –

Wednesday, March 13

SPRING BREAK

Monday, March 18

The Fin de Siècle

Popkin, Modern France, Chapter 19
   Offen, “Feminism and the Republic”

Peabody and Stovall, eds., The Color of Liberty
   Palermo, “Identity under Construction: Representing the Colonies at the Paris Exposition universelle of 1889”

Debora Silverman, Art Nouveau in Fin-de-siècle France: Politics, Psychology, and Style (RRL reserve)
   Introduction and Conclusion (Blackboard)

( readings for Monday, March 18, continue on next page )
Monday, March 18  
(Readings for Monday, March 18, continued from previous page) 
Rees, French Poetry 
Baudelaire: especially Correspondances, Invitation au voyage 
Mallarmé: especially Après-midi d’un faune 
Verlaine: especially Art poétique 
Rimbaud: especially A la musique, Ville 

Wednesday, March 20  
The Dreyfus Affair 
Popkin, Modern France, Chapters 20-21 
Gorrara and Langford, eds., France since the Revolution (RRL reserve) 
Hanley, “The Dreyfus Affair of 1894” 

Wednesday, March 20  
Ruth Harris, Dreyfus: Politics, Emotion, and the Scandal of the Century (RRL Reserve) 
Salonnières Left and Right (Blackboard) 
Norman Kleeblatt, The Dreyfus Affair: Art, Truth, and Justice (RRL reserve) 
Cate, “The Paris Cry: Graphic Artists and the Dreyfus Affair” (Blackboard) 

Monday, March 25  
The Belle Epoque 
Popkin, Modern France, Chapter 22 
Smith, “Gender and the Republic” 
Peabody and Stovall, eds., The Color of Liberty 
Hale, “French Images of Race on Product Trademarks during the Third Republic” 

Wednesday, March 27  
World War I and After 
Popkin, Modern France, Chapters 23-24 
Pearl James, ed., Picture This: World War I Posters and Visual Culture (RRL reserve) 
Fogarty, “Race and Empire in French Posters of the Great War” (Blackboard) 
Marvin Perry et al, eds., Sources of Twentieth-Century Europe (RRL Reserve) 
Massis and Tarde, “The Young People of Today” (Blackboard) 
Dorgeles, Paris: “That Fabulous Day” (Blackboard) 
Rees, French Poetry 
Apollinaire: especially Pont Mirabeau, Liens, Jolie rousse; 
Tzara: especially Mort de Guillaume Apollinaire 

Friday, March 29  
232W Students – Final Draft of Second Short Paper Due 
Please submit to the History Department, 364 RRL, before 4 p.m.

Wednesday, April 3  The Roaring Twenties and the Hungry Thirties

Peabody and Stovall, eds., *The Color of Liberty*
Rees, *French Poetry*
   Eluard: especially Victoire de Guernica
   Jacob: especially Août 39
   Supervielle: especially 1940
   Senghor: especially Camp 1940

Monday, April 8  World War II and After

Gorrara and Langford, eds., *France since the Revolution* (*RRL reserve*)
   Gorrara, “The Second World War, 1939-45: Divided Selves”
VichyWeb: English-Language Documentation
   http://artsweb.bham.ac.uk/vichy/english.htm
   Maréchal Pétain’s Speech of 17 June 1940
   Maréchal Nous Voilà
Rees, *French Poetry*
   Aragon: especially Les lilas et les roses, Ballade de celui qui chanta
dans les supplices
   Prévert: especially Familiale, Ordre nouveau
   Frenaud: especially Les Rois mages


Monday, April 15  WHOLE CLASS – SECOND MID-SIZE PAPER DUE
   In-class screening of “If the Walls Could Speak” (1998)

Modern France, 1945-1968

Wednesday, April 17  Founding the Fourth and Fifth Republics

Popkin, *Modern France*, Chapters 30-33
Gorrara and Langford, eds., *France since the Revolution* (*RRL reserve*)
   Cummings, “The Brazzaville Conference of 1944: The Dream of a
   Greater French Republic”
Julia Clancy-Smith and Charles D. Smith, *The Modern Middle East and
   North Africa* (*RRL reserve*)
   Algeria’s War of Independence: Torture and Colonial Rule
      (*Blackboard*)
   Box 12.2, The ‘Àlgerian Bridge’ (*Blackboard*)
   Illustration 48 (*Blackboard*)
Rees, *French Poetry*
   Césaire: especially Prophétie, Ode à la Guinée
Monday, April 22

May ‘68

Popkin, *Modern France*, Chapter 34
Merry Wiesner-Hanks et al, eds., *Discovering the Western Past: Documents*
“The Perils of Prosperity: The Unrest of Youth in the 1960s” *(Blackboard)*
Toril Moi, ed., *French Feminist Thought: A Reader (RRL Reserve)*
Anne Tristan and Annie de Pisan, “Tales from the Women’s Movement” *(Blackboard)*
Francisca De Haan et al, eds., *Women’s Activism: Global Perspectives from the 1890s to the Present*
Jennifer S. Duncan, “Confronting Race: French Feminism’s Struggle to become Global” *(Blackboard)*

France Today

Wednesday, April 24

Politics and Parity

Gorrara and Langford, eds., *France since the Revolution (RRL reserve)*
Gorrara and Langford, “Conclusion: Towards a Twenty-first-Century Republic”

Monday, April 29

History and Memory

Emmanuelle Saada, “The Republic and the Indigènes” *(Blackboard)*
Mary Dewhurst Lewis, “Immigration” *(Blackboard)*
Nancy L. Green, “The Immigration History Museum” *(Blackboard)*
Daniel Sherman, “Commemoration” *(Blackboard)*

Wednesday, May 1

France Today

The Macron Presidency
Special topics and readings to be determined by the events of the Spring, e.g. Constitutional debates Fiscal challenges Gilets Jaunes protests Relations with the US and the EU

Monday, May 6

WHOLE CLASS – FINAL MID-SIZED PAPER DUE
Please submit to the History Department, 364 RRL, before 4 p.m.