Course Description

Monday, Wednesday, 12:30-1:40, Meliora 206

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)

*Jeremy Popkin, A History of Modern France (be sure you get the 3rd edition)
*Jeremy Popkin, You Are All Free: The Haitian Revolution and the Aboliton of Slavery
*Emilie Carles, A Life of Her Own
Patricia Lorcin, Algeria and France, 1800-2000: Identity, Memory, Nostalgia
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 (a) in the books below and (b) in a variety of additional individual articles listed in the syllabus

Jack Censer and Lynn Hunt, Liberty, Equality, Fraternity (available on the Internet)
Claire Gorrara and Rachael Langford, eds., France since the Revolution (available on reserve)
Jeremy Popkin, Concise History of the Haitian Revolution (available on the Internet)
Debora Silverman, Art Nouveau in Fin-de-siècle France: Politics, Psychology, and Style (on reserve)
Norman Kleeblatt, ed., The Dreyfus Affair: Art, Truth, and Justice (available on reserve)
Pearl James, ed., Picture This: World War I Posters and Visual Culture (available on reserve)

Course Requirements

Three 7-page papers, 25% each       75%
Based on the required reading, looking, and listening; typed, double-spaced
Deadlines – Wednesday, February 29; Wednesday, April 11; Monday, May 7
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%
Reading in advance, participating in class, weekly 1-page journals
Our class has only 28 sessions; you are entitled to only 3 free absences. For each additional class you miss, you will lose 3 points off your participation grade.
Assorted Browsing Materials

Embassies

Embassy of France in the United States  http://www.ambafrance-us.org/
Embassy of the United States in France  http://www.amb-usa.fr/index.htm

A Few French Museums and On-line Art Resources

L’histoire de France par l’image, 1789-1939  http://www.histoire-image.org/
Musée Carnavalet  http://www.paris.fr/portail/Culture/Portal.lut?page_id=6468
Musée du Louvre  http://www.louvre.fr/llv/commun/home_flash.jsp?bmLocale=fr_FR
Château de Versailles  http://www.chateauversailles.fr/
Musée d’Orsay  http://www.musee-orsay.fr/fr/accueil.html?cHash=c578ddfcff
Cité national de l’histoire de l’immigration  http://www.histoire-immigration.fr/

Some American and British Museums with Great French Collections

Art Institute of Chicago  http://www.artic.edu/aic/
Barnes Foundation  http://www.barnesfoundation.org/
Courtauld Gallery  http://www.courtauld.ac.uk/gallery/index.shtml
Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco (especially the Legion of Honor)  http://www.famsf.org/
Metropolitan Museum of Art  http://www.metmuseum.org/
National Gallery of Art  http://www.nga.gov/
(see, for example, their “Picturing France: 1830-1900,” http://www.nga.gov/education/classroom/france/)
Phillips Collection  http://www.phillipscollection.org/

Textbooks, Classes, Library Resources, etc.

Martin Evans and Emmanuel Godin, France 1815-2003  http://www.port.ac.uk/special/france1815to2003/
From Napoléon to Astérix  http://french.chass.utoronto.ca/fcs195
The France of Victor Hugo  http://humanities.uchicago.edu/orgs/ARTFL/projects/CRL/
France in the Age of Les Misérables  http://www.mtholyoke.edu/courses/rschwart/hist255-s01/
Pamphlets and Periodicals of the French Revolution of 1848  http://home.eckerd.edu/~oberhot/paris-home.htm

Newspapers and Television Stations

Le Figaro  http://www.figaro.fr/ TF1  http://www.tf1.fr/
Le Monde  http://www.lemonde.fr/ France 2  http://www.france2.fr/
Arte  http://www.arte.tv/fr/70.html
Assignments

Introduction

Wednesday, January 18  Introductions

The Old Regime

Monday, January 23  The Old Regime
  Popkin, Modern France, Preface, Chapters 1-4
  Gorrara and Langford, eds., France since the Revolution (RRL reserve)

Wednesday, January 25  The Liberal French Revolution
  Popkin, Modern France, Chapters 5-7
  Hunt and Censer, Liberty, Equality, Fraternity,
  “The Enlightenment and Human Rights,” on-line at
  http://chnm.gmu.edu/revolution/chap3a.html
  (including left-hand links for “The Tablets of Revolution,”
  “Rights,” “Feminist Goals,” “Political Repression,” “Revised
  Declaration,” and “A Constitutional Setback”)

French Revolutions and Republics

Monday, January 30  The Haitian Revolution – Slave Revolt
  Popkin, You Are All Free, Preface, Introduction, Chapters 1-5

Wednesday, February 1  The Radical French Revolution
  Popkin, Modern France, Chapters 8-9
  Hunt and Censer, Liberty, Equality, Fraternity,
  “War, Terror, and Resistance,” on-line at
  http://chnm.gmu.edu/revolution/chap7a.html
  (including left-hand links for “A Radical Foundation,” “Time
  Revolutionized,” “Revolutionary Belief in God,” “Moderate
  Constitution,” and “Metric System”)

Monday, February 6  The Haitian Revolution – Emancipation
  Popkin, You Are All Free, Chapters 6-10

Wednesday, February 8  The Napoleonic French Revolution
  Popkin, Modern France, Chapter 10
  Popkin, You Are All Free, Conclusion

Monday, February 13  The Haitian Revolution - Aftermath
  Popkin, “The Haitian Revolution (1791-1804): A Different Route to
  Emancipation,” 2003 University of Kentucky lecture on-line at:
  http://www.uky.edu/~popkin/Haitian%20Revolution%20Lecture.htm
  Popkin, “Afterword: the Earthquake Crisis of 2010 and the Haitian
  Revolution,” conclusion to Popkin’s Concise History of the Haitian
  Revolution, on-line here:
Wednesday, February 15  
**Restoration, Revolution, and Romanticism**  
Popkin, *Modern France*, Chapters 11-12  
Patricia Lorcin and Daniel Brewer, eds., *France and Its Spaces of War: Experience, Memory, Image*  
Sessions, “‘Unfortunate Necessities’: Violence and Civilization in the Conquest of Algeria” (*Blackboard*)

Monday, February 20  
**The Revolution of 1848 and the Second Republic**  
Popkin, *Modern France*, Chapters 13-14  
Gorrara and Langford, eds., *France since the Revolution* (*RRL reserve*)  
Harkness, “The Revolution of 1848: Republican Principles on Trial”

Wednesday, February 22  
**The Second Empire**  
Stephane Kirkland, “The New Paris of the Second Empire” (You can browse wherever you want in Kirkland’s blog, on-line here: http://stephanekirkland.com/ but please pay special attention to the materials in the “Book” section, especially the map of Haussmann’s projects here: http://stephanekirkland.com/book/map/  
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*  
Gautier: especially Art  
Hugo: especially Souvenir de la nuit du 4

### The Rise and Fall of the Third Republic

Monday, February 27  
**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”  

Wednesday, February 29  
FIRST PAPER DUE  
In-class screening of “New Babylon: the Story of a Forgotten Revolution” (1929)
Monday, March 5  The Rise of the Republic  
Popkin, Modern France, Chapter 18  
Gorrara and Langford, eds., France since the Revolution (RRL reserve)  
Gorrara and Langford, “Introduction: France and the Republic since 1789”  
Peabody and Stovall, eds., The Color of Liberty  
Peabody and Stovall, “Introduction: Race, France, Histories”  

Wednesday, March 7  The Fin de Siècle  
Popkin, Modern France, Chapter 19  
Peabody and Stovall, eds., The Color of Liberty  
Palermo, “Identity under Construction: Representing the Colonies at the Paris Exposition universelle of 1889”  
Silverman, Art Nouveau in Fin-de-siècle France: Politics, Psychology, and Style (RRL reserve)  
“Introduction: The Transformation of Art Nouveau, 1889-1900”  
“Conclusion: The 1900 Paris Exhibition”  
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

Monday, March 12 and SPRING BREAK

Wednesday, March 14  Class cancelled

Monday, March 19  The Dreyfus Affair  
Popkin, Modern France, Chapter 20  
Gorrara and Langford, eds., France since the Revolution (RRL reserve)  
Kleeblatt, The Dreyfus Affair: Art, Truth, and Justice (RRL reserve)  
Cate, “The Paris Cry: Graphic Artists and the Dreyfus Affair” (Blackboard)

Wednesday, March 21  The Belle Epoque  
Popkin, Modern France, Chapter 21  
Peabody and Stovall, eds., The Color of Liberty  
Hale, “French Images of Race on Product Trademarks during the Third Republic”  
Monday, March 26

**World War I and After**

Popkin, *Modern France*, Chapters 22-23

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*)
- Perry et al., eds., *Sources of Twentieth-Century Europe (RRL Reserve)*
  - Massis and Tarde, “The Young People of Today” (*Blackboard*)
  - Dorgelès, Paris: “That Fabulous Day” (*Blackboard*)
- Rees, *French Poetry*
  - Apollinaire: especially Pont Mirabeau, Liens, Jolie Rousse;
  - Tzara: especially Mort de Guillaume Apollinaire

Wednesday, March 28


Monday, April 2

**The Roaring Twenties and the Hungry Thirties**

Popkin, *Modern France*, Chapters 24-26

Rees, *French Poetry*

- Eluard: especially Victoire de Guernica
- Jacob: especially Août ’39
- Supervielle: especially 1940
- Senghor: especially Camp 1940

Wednesday, April 5

**World War II and After**


Gorrara and Langford, eds., *France since the Revolution (RRL reserve)*

- Gorrara, “The Second World War, 1939-45: Divided Selves”

Rees, *French Poetry*

- Aragon: especially Les lilas et les roses, Ballade de celui qui chanta dans les supplices
- Prevert: especially Familiale, Ordre nouveau
- Frenaud: especially Les Rois mages

Monday, April 9


Wednesday, April 11

SECOND PAPER DUE

In-class screening of “If the Walls Could Speak” (1998)

**Modern France**

Monday, April 16

**The Fourth and Fifth Republics**

Popkin, *Modern France*, Chapters 29-31

Gorrara and Langford, eds., *France since the Revolution (RRL reserve)*

- Cummings, “The Brazzaville Conference of 1944: The Dream of a Greater French Republic”

Rees, *French Poetry*

- Césaire: especially Prophétie, Ode à la Guinée
Wednesday, April 18  
May ’68  
Popkin, *Modern France*, Chapter 32  
Gorrara and Langford, eds., *France since the Revolution* (*RRL reserve*)  
Parsons, “May 1968: Workers against the Republic?”  
Wiesner-Hanks et al., *Discovering the Western Past:: A Look at the Evidence*  
“The Perils of Prosperity: The Unrest of Youth in the 1960s”  
(*Blackboard*)

Monday, April 23  
Politics and Parity  
Popkin, *Modern France*, Chapters 33-34  
Gorrara and Langford, eds., *France since the Revolution* (*RRL reserve*)  
Gorrara and Langford, “Conclusion: Towards a Twenty-first-Century Republic”

France Today

Wednesday, April 25  
Looking Backward - Modern French Memories of the Past  
Lorcin, *Algeria and France*  
McCormack, “Memory in History, Nation-Building, and Identity”  
Derderian, “Confronting the Past: the Memory Work of Second-Generation Algerians in France”  
Nora, “History, Memory, and the Law in France, 1990-2010”  
Available through Liberté pour l’histoire (Liberty for History)  

Monday, April 30  
France Today  
Topics to be determined by the events of the Spring  
Readings to be designed accordingly

Wednesday, May 2  
France Today  
Topics to be determined by the events of the Spring

Monday, May 7  
FINAL PAPER DUE  
Please bring your paper to the History Department,  
Rush Rhees Library 364, before 4 p.m.