

HIST 232, HIST 232W, FREN 252 – Modern France

Spring 2021 – Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4:50 pm – 6:05 pm EST

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Zoom Drop-In Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2-4 pm EST, and by appointment

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Course Description

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 Course Books

The books below are all available on sale at the University of Rochester Bookstore. Additional shorter readings will be available on-line through Blackboard, the databases of the University of Rochester Libraries, and the many resources of the World Wide Web.

Jeremy D. Popkin, *A History of Modern France*, Fifth edition (Routledge, 2020)

Karen Offen, *European Feminisms, 1700-1950: A Political History* (Stanford University Press, 2000)

Patrick Boucheron and Stephane Gerson, eds., *France in the World* (Penguin Random House, 2019)

Optional Course Book – for those who would prefer to read Boucheron and Gerson’s *France in the World* in Boucheron’s own best-selling original French edition:

Patrick Boucheron, ed., *Histoire Mondiale de la France* (Editions Seuil, 2017)

Course Requirements for HIST 232/FREN 252

Three 5-7-page papers, based on our readings, typed and double spaced 75% (60% for W section)

Paper 1 due Tuesday, 9 March, before noon EST 25% (20% for W section)

Paper 2 due Tuesday, 20 April, before noon EST 25% (20% for W section)

Paper 3 due Tuesday, 11 May, before noon EST 25% (20% for W section)

Consistent and varied class participation (see following pages) 25% (60% for W section)

Course Requirements for HIST 232 W

3 5-7-page papers and class participation as for HIST 232/FREN 252 above, plus the following:

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

Deadlines for paper 1: rough draft, Monday, 15 February; final draft, Friday, 26 February

Deadlines for paper 2: rough draft, Monday, 22 March; final draft, Monday, 5 April

Statement Regarding Credit Hours

The College's credit hour policy on undergraduate courses is to award 4 credit hours for courses that meet for the equivalent of 3 periods of 50 minutes each week. Students enrolled in Modern France are expected to devote roughly one hour each week to their weekly reading responses.

Class Participation

Weekly reading responses

I will post short writing prompts on Blackboard every Thursday, and the responses will be due through Blackboard every Monday.

Weekly writing response are required from every student every week, but you may miss up to two.

Attendance and participation in class

Our class has two different sections, one *synchronous* and one *asynchronous*, and there are different ways of participating in class for each one.

Please let me know which section you expect to attend, and please let me know if your circumstances change at any point over the course of the semester.

Synchronous attendance and participation – for those who are taking the live class on zoom

This is a discussion class, not a lecture class. I hope that you will be able to come to every class, and I also hope that you will have the internet bandwidth to participate with your camera on.

You may miss up to two live classes. If you have to miss more than that, you may also complete up to two classes by following the guidelines for the asynchronous class. See details below.

Please come to class with all your thoughts, comments, and questions about the reading!

Asynchronous attendance and participation – for those who are taking the recorded class on Blackboard

I will post the recordings of our live zoom class sessions on Blackboard, and I will also set up a discussion board for each module to go with them. I expect that you will watch all of the recordings and participate in the discussion board before and after each session as follows:

Every *Monday*, in addition to completing the assigned writing response as described above, you should also submit questions and/or comments about Tuesday's reading through Blackboard. I will look at these before our Tuesday class, and bring them into the discussion there.

Every *Wednesday*, you should submit questions and/or comments about Thursday's reading through Blackboard. I will look at these before our Thursday class, and bring them into our discussion there.

On or before *Friday* of every week, you should add questions and/or comments that you want to share with the class after watching the recordings of the previous Tuesday's and Thursday's conversations.

On or before *Monday* of every week, you should go back over the questions and comments from the previous weeks to respond to your asynchronous classmates' contributions. I will also add my own questions and comments there for you to consider at the same time.

You may miss up to two Monday, Wednesday, or Friday comments, questions, and/or responses.

Course Policies

In the case of late papers

The papers will give you a chance to reflect more systematically on the assigned readings.

I accept late papers, but I also deduct points depending on how late they arrive. A paper that was worth an A on Tuesday will get an A- on Thursday, a B+ on Sunday, a B- on the following Tuesday, etc.

In the case of late weekly writing exercises

The short writing exercises will help prepare you for the papers, and they will also form the basis of our class discussions. I grade these on a 3-point check/check plus/check minus system.

I accept late weekly writing responses, but only if they arrive within the week after the deadline.

In the case of absences from class

Synchronous absences

Watching the recordings and participating in the Discussion Board will give you space to explore your questions about the history of modern France and its place in Europe and the world; help you to understand our course readings; and provide time for you to work on your writing on related topics. Every one of our classes counts.

If you expect to miss class for especially compelling personal or professional reasons, you must speak to me in advance so that we can arrange ways for you to complete your missing work.

In addition to any personal or professional absences that you clear with me in advance, you may have up to 2 free personal absences.

You may also make up for up to 2 additional absences from the live zoom class by participating in the corresponding asynchronous portions of the class.

To put this another way, you may miss up to 4 live zoom classes as long as you make up at least 2 of them by participating in the asynchronous section of the course for the zoom days you miss.

Each additional absence after the allowance of 2 free and 2 made-up absences will result in a deduction of 1/3 of a grade from class participation (A to A-, A- to B+, B+ to B, for example).

If your circumstances change over the course of the semester, please let me know right away.

Asynchronous absences

The recorded class discussions on Blackboard will give you a way to follow our conversation about the reading, and the associated discussion boards on Blackboard will give you a way to contribute your own questions and comments to the conversation as we move through the semester together.

Watching the recordings and participating in the Discussion Board will give you space to explore your questions about the history of modern France and its place in Europe and the world; help you to understand our course readings; and provide time for you to work on your writing on related topics. Every one of our class/discussion board combinations counts.

If you expect to miss any of your Monday, Wednesday, or Friday discussion board deadlines for compelling personal or professional reasons, you must speak to me in advance so that we can arrange ways for you to complete your missing work.

In addition to any compelling personal or professional absences that you clear with me in advance, you may have up to 2 free personal absences.

You may also substitute for any of your Monday or Wednesday discussion sets by participating in the corresponding synchronous portion of the Tuesday or Thursday class live on zoom.

Each additional missing discussion board contribution after the initial 2 will result in a deduction of 1/3 of a grade from class participation (A to A-, A- to B+, B+ to B, for example).

If your circumstances change over the course of the semester, please let me know right away.

Resources for Students with Disabilities

The University of Rochester respects and welcomes students of all backgrounds and abilities. In the event you encounter any barrier(s) to full participation in this course due to the impact of disability, please contact the Office of Disability Resources. The access coordinators in the Office of Disability Resources can meet with you to discuss the barriers you are experiencing and

explain the eligibility process for establishing academic accommodations. You can reach the Office of Disability Resources at: disability@rochester.edu; (585) 276-5075; Taylor Hall. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me as well.

Academic Honesty

All assignments and activities associated with this course must be performed in accordance with the University of Rochester's Academic Honesty Policy. Cheating and plagiarism are serious offenses and will be treated as such. Anyone who engages in such activities will be turned over to the College Board on Academic Honesty for disciplinary action, as outlined at <http://www.rochester.edu/College/honesty/>. For helpful discussions of plagiarism (including subtle, unintentional instances), see the American Historical Association's "Defining Plagiarism," <https://www.historians.org/teaching-and-learning/teaching-resources-for-historians/plagiarism-curricular-materials-for-history-instructors/defining-plagiarism>.

University of Rochester COVID-19 Regulations

The University is committed to protecting the health and safety of the entire community – students, faculty and staff. For this reason, it is mandatory that everyone wear a mask in University buildings and observe appropriate social distancing, including classrooms. Masks have been provided to students, faculty and staff and classrooms have been specifically assigned to allow for social distancing to support these requirements. You must wear a mask appropriately (e.g. over nose and mouth) if you are attending class in person, and you must do this for every class session and for the entire duration of each class session. If you fail to do this, you will be politely reminded of the requirement and then asked to leave if you do not comply.

If you do not want to wear a mask, you may consider taking the course remotely (online). This may require you to complete a set of online requirements different from the in-person requirements, although these will be equivalent in their learning objectives.

Students who refuse to adhere to requirement for mask wearing or social distancing the course will be in violation of the COVID-19 Community Commitment and will be referred to the Student Conduct system through a COVID-19 Concern Report. Such referrals will lead to student conduct hearings and may result in disciplinary action.

Students who feel unable to wear a mask may contact the Office of Disability Resources to explore options for accommodations. Students requiring accommodations may be asked to participate in the course through synchronous or asynchronous learning as part of this accommodation.

Please note that the syllabus may change as the circumstances of the semester change.

Schedule of Reading and Writing Assignments

Week 1

Tuesday, 2 February

Introductions in class and over VoiceThread

Thursday, 4 February

Popkin, *Modern France*
Preface

Offen, *European Feminisms*
Preface

Boucheron, *France in the World*
Preface to the English-Language Edition
Overture

Week 2

Tuesday, 9 February

Popkin, *Modern France*
The Oldest Nation of Europe
Eighteenth-Century French Society and Economy
Culture and Thought in Eighteenth-Century France
A Government under Challenge

Offen, *European Feminisms*
Introduction to Part I: The Eighteenth Century
Reclaiming the Enlightenment for Feminism

Thursday, 11 February

Boucheron, *France in the World*
Absolute Power

Week 3

Monday, 15 February

Rough draft of first short paper for W students due over Blackboard by 5 pm

Tuesday, 16 February

Popkin, *Modern France*

Collapse of the Old Monarchy

Successes and Failures of the Liberal Revolution

The Radical Revolution

The Return to Order

Thursday, 18 February

Boucheron, *France in the World*

Enlightenment Nation

Week 4

Tuesday, 23 February

Popkin, *Modern France*

The Napoleonic Years

The Restoration

The July Monarchy and Its Critics

Offen, *European Feminisms*

Challenging Masculine Aristocracy: Feminism and the French Revolution

Thursday, 25 February

Boucheron, *France in the World*

A Homeland for a Universal Revolution, 467-534

Friday, 26 February

Final draft of first short paper for W students due through Blackboard by 5 pm EST

Week 5

Tuesday, 2 March

Popkin, *Modern France*

A New Social World

The Revolution of 1848: The Crisis of Bourgeois Society

Offen, *European Feminisms*

Introduction to Part 4: The Nineteenth Century

Rearticulating Feminist Claims, 1820-1848

Thursday, 4 March

Boucheron, *France in the World*
A Homeland for a Universal Nation, 535-558

Week 6

Tuesday, 9 March

First 5-7-page paper due for everyone through Blackboard before 5 pm EST

Thursday, 11 March

Popkin, *Modern France*
The Second Empire's Decade of Prosperity
The Second Empire in Difficulties

Week 7

Tuesday, 16 March

Popkin, *Modern France*
The Paris Commune and the Origins of the Third Republic
The Republicans in Power

Offen, *European Feminisms*
Birthing the "Woman Question," 1848-1870

Thursday, 18 March

Boucheron, *France in the World*
Globalization in the French Style, 559-618

Week 8

Monday, 22 March

Rough draft of second short paper for W students due through Blackboard by 5 pm EST

Tuesday, 23 March

Popkin, *Modern France*
Economic Depression and Political Crises
The Dreyfus Affair and the *Bloc Republicain*
Culture and Society at the Fin de Siecle

Reading for 23 March continues with Offen assignment on next page

Tuesday, 23 March

Reading for 23 March continued from Popkin assignment on previous page

Offen, *European Feminisms*
Internationalizing Feminism, 1870-1890

Thursday, 25 March

Boucheron, *France in the World*
Globalization in the French Style, 619-644

Week 9

Tuesday, 30 March

Wellness Day

Thursday, 1 April

Popkin, *Modern France*
The Belle Epoque
The Plunge into War

Offen, *European Feminisms*
Feminist Challenges and Anti-Feminist Responses, 1890-1914
Nationalizing Feminism and Feminizing Nationalisms, 1890-1914
Introduction to Part 3: The Twentieth Century

Week 10

Monday, 5 April

Final draft of second short paper for W students due through Blackboard by 5 pm EST

Tuesday, 6 April

Popkin, *Modern France*
Crisis, Victory, and Disillusionment
France between the Wars
The Illusion of Normality
From the Popular Front to the War

Offen, *European Feminisms*
Feminism under Fire: World War I, the Russian Revolution, and the Great
Backlash, 1914-1930s

Thursday, 8 April

Boucheron, *France in the World*
Modernizing in Troubled Times, 645-719

Week 11

Tuesday, 13 April

Popkin, *Modern France*
France in the Second World War
The Road to Liberation
The Revival of the Parliamentary Republic
From the Fourth to the Fifth Republic

Thursday, 15 April

Offen, European Feminisms
Globalizing and Politicizing European Feminist International Activity, 1919-1945
Epilogue

Week 12

Tuesday, 20 April

Second 5-7-page paper for all students due through Blackboard before 5 pm EST

Thursday, 22 April

Boucheron, *France in the World*
Modernizing in Troubled Times, 720-784

Week 13

Tuesday, 27 April

Popkin, *Modern France*
Politics and Economy in DeGaulle's Republic
Society and Culture during the "Thirty Glorious Years"
May 1968 and the End of the Gaullist Era
The Mitterrand Years

Françoise Picq, "The History of Feminist Movements in France"
<http://francoisepicq.fr/the-history-of-feminist-movements-in-france/>

Thursday, 29 April

Boucheron, *France in the World*
Leaving the Colonial Empire, Entering Europe

Week 14

Tuesday, 4 May

Popkin, *Modern France*
France Enters a New Millennium
A New Age of Instability

Boucheron, *France in the World*
Today in France

Thursday, 6 May

Reviews of *France in the World* (Blackboard)

Plus current events depending on what happens this semester

Class conclusions

Week 15

Tuesday, 11 May

Third 5-7-page paper for all students due through Blackboard before 5 pm EST