

# UCEAP GLOBAL CITIES URBAN REALITIES PROGRAM PARIS, FRANCE

## NATION AND IDENTITY IN MODERN FRANCE: A SERIES OF GREAT IDEAS PHILOSOPHY 178S

#### **SPRING 2019**

#### 1. COURSE INFORMATION

Class Times: M/W/TH 2-4pm (unless otherwise indicated on course schedule)

Class Location: ACCENT Study Center Language of Instruction: English UC Quarter/Semester Credits: 4.5/3

UCEAP Course Subject(s): Philosophy, Political Science, History

Course Duration (weeks): 5 weeks

#### 2. FACULTY INFORMATION

Faculty: Prof. Justin E.H. Smith

Faculty Contact Information: jehsmith@gmail.com

Office: UC Paris Study Center Office Hours: by appointment

#### 3. COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this course we will seek to understand the concepts of nation and identity in modern France via its cultural, political, and intellectual history. We will focus on key ideas developed by some of the most influential modern French thinkers. Each week we will consider a handful of central ideas, contained in short slogans or quotations, and developed more fully in short accompanying texts. During class we will discuss the ideas developed in these texts, attempting to relate them to the broader questions that are guiding us, and also to relate them to our own experience in contemporary Paris.

#### 4. COURSE MATERIALS

Course Reader (hereafter [CR])

#### 5. COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Students will become active readers of historical and philosophical texts. Through active reading, students will develop interpretive and critical thinking skills to analyze primary and secondary source works from multiple perspectives (philosophical, historical, political, scientific).
- > Students will gain an understanding of the complicated dynamics of history, and of the enduring relevance of the past to contemporary society.
- > Students will come to appreciate the place of France in the broader world, its contributions to global culture, and the ways in which the outside world in turn initially helped to shape these contributions.
- Students will be encouraged, particularly in our excursions, to 'read' Paris as a living monument to the ideas we explore in class.

#### 6. PREREQUISITES

There are no prerequisites for this course, but some knowledge of French history is recommended.

#### 7. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

Instruction will consist of lectures on history, theoretical concepts, and methodology; guest lectures from specialists; visits to places like the Louvre and the Gallery of Comparative Anatomy; group presentations; and class discussions on course topics.



#### 8. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

#### **Lectures & Site Visits**

Class meetings will last 2.0 hours per session. Class time will be divided between lectures, student presentations, and group discussions in which active student participation is required. Students are expected to read and view the material assigned for each class and be prepared to discuss the material.

In addition, students will meet for periodic site visits:

- Week 0 : Paris Mosque (Welcome)
- Week 8: Galerie d'Anatomie Comparée
- Week 10: The Louvre

#### Written Assessment - Weekly Quizzes

Quizzes aim at evaluating the students' understanding of the lectures, readings, visits, and class discussions as well as the students' development of their critical thinking skills. All quiz questions will require that students respond with a short paragraph by using specific language and relevant references to appropriate course lectures/materials.

#### Written Assessment - Argumentative Essay

Critical thought and analytical writing are fundamental components of the course and the final grade. Students will submit one 6-8 page paper, relating this analysis to the assigned course material (books, articles, chapters, etc.). Students will receive a list of approved topics.

Essays will be 6-8 pages long and will include a title, introduction, main body, and conclusion. Essays must be typed, double-spaced in Times New Roman (12pt), and 2.5cm/1-inch margins on all four sides. The essay will be submitted in class on the date specified on the course schedule. No late submissions will be accepted.

#### **Group Presentation**

The group presentation aims at evaluating students' ability to collaborate and construct an effective oral presentation using visual supports (e.g., powerpoint) on a topic related to the course material. It requires that students demonstrate their knowledge of course material by applying the course concepts to an assigned text.

#### **Final Exam**

The final exam aims at evaluating the students' understanding of the readings and class discussions as well as the students' development of their critical thinking skills. The final exam will be comprehensive and will cover all course contents. The final exam will consist of short answer and short essay-type questions, which will require students to demonstrate their knowledge of specific terms, concepts, and historical landmarks, and to compose their ideas in one or more paragraphs addressing specific topics related to course contents.

#### **Class Participation and Attendance**

Attendance and active participation are required. Students are expected to do the readings and/or viewings assigned for each class meeting beforehand, and to participate actively in class discussions.

#### 9. ASSESSMENT AND GRADING CRITERIA

The course will be graded on a 100-point scale, and the final grade will be determined as follows:

Class Participation
Quizzes (5)
Group Presentation
Paper
Final Exam
15%
20%
30%

The numerical average will correspond to the following degrees of competence:

90 – 100 Outstanding degree of competence 80 – 89 Good degree of competence

70 – 79 Adequate degree of competence 60 – 69 Basic degree of competence

0 – 59 Failure to demonstrate a basic degree of competence



#### 10. ATTENDANCE POLICY

Attendance is expected in all course meetings, course-related activities and visits/excursions on UCEAP programs.

- Students should plan to arrive on time to all course meetings. Students will be marked absent if they are not present at the start of class. Students will also be marked absent if they skip out early.
- > Roll will be called as a matter of course. The class register is the official record of student attendance.
- Absences will adversely affect course participation grades.

  Students will be required to meet with the Academic Director if it is determined that their lack of participation in a course has a negative impact on the other students in the class (e.g., group presentations). When appropriate, the Academic Director will confer with UCEAP on disciplinary measures to take, including probation and dismissal from the program.
- No MAKE-UPS for missed work: if a student is absent on a day when there is some form of assessment (quiz, test, presentation, exam, etc.), there will be no make-ups.
- > NO LATE ASSIGNMENTS: due to the intensive nature of the program, no late assignments will be accepted and no extensions will be given.
- No guests are allowed to participate in any UCEAP courses or site visits.

#### 11. CLASS ETIQUETTE

Students studying abroad are ambassadors for the University of California and as such, should act with decorum and respect for others at all times. As participants on the UCEAP Spring Program in Paris, students are subject to student conduct policies of UCEAP and ACCENT.

Students should seek to play their part in making the class a success. Students should arrive punctually for classes, taking special care to allow for journey times between the various venues. They should come to class with the necessary materials for taking notes, and bringing with them any books or suchlike required for the class. Students will be responsible for obtaining their own copies of any missed assignments and materials.

Food and drink may NOT be brought into the classroom or consumed during class. Cell phones and other electronic devices should be switched off upon entering the classroom or lecture room.

For more information, please consult the UCEAP Student Conduct and Discipline Policy at <a href="http://eap.ucop.edu/Documents/Policies/student\_conduct\_discipline.pdf">http://eap.ucop.edu/Documents/Policies/student\_conduct\_discipline.pdf</a>.

#### 12. ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students should remember that they are subject to the academic integrity provisions of the University of California. The principle of honesty must be upheld if the integrity of scholarship is to be maintained by an academic community.

All academic work—research papers, exams, and/or other assignments—must be done by the student to whom it is assigned, without unauthorized aid of any kind. Likewise, any act of academic misconduct, such as cheating, fabrication, forgery, plagiarism, or facilitating academic dishonesty, will subject a student to disciplinary action.

For more information, please consult UCEAP Academic Conduct Policy at http://eap.ucop.edu/Documents/Policies/academic conduct.pdf.

### 13. STUDENT ACCOMMODATIONS

UCEAP is committed to facilitating welcoming and reasonably accessible programs. Any student who because of a disability may require special arrangements in order to meet course requirements should present appropriate verification from the campus Student Disability Office to UCEAP advisors during the application process, and should contact Paris Director upon arrival to confirm the approved accommodations. No requirement exists that accommodations be granted prior to completion of this approved university procedure. Disability status is confidential and should always be discussed in private.

### 14. COURSE SCHEDULE

Date	Contents & Readings	Coursework & Study Visits
WEEK 0 Thurs 6 June 1:30-3:30pm	TOPIC: Introduction and Welcome	Site Visit: The Paris Mosque
WEEK 6 Mon 10 June	TOPIC: The Discovery of the Self  READINGS: Michel de Montaigne (1533-1592), The Essays (excerpt)	Group Presentations  Paper Deadlines
WEEK 6 Tues 11 June 12:00-2:00pm	TOPIC: The Limits of Reason (1)  READINGS: René Descartes (1596-1650), The Meditations (excerpt);	
WEEK 6 Thurs 13 June	TOPIC: The Limits of Reason (2)  READINGS: Blaise Pascal, Pensées (excerpts)	
WEEK 7 Mon 17 June	TOPIC: Enlightenment and Freedom (1)  READINGS: Denis Diderot (1713-1784); D'Alembert's Dream (excerpt)	
WEEK 7 Wed 19 June	TOPIC: Enlightenment and Freedom (2)  READINGS: Nicolas de Condorcet (1743-1794), Sketch for a Historical Picture of the Progress of the Human Mind (excerpt).	First quiz
WEEK 7 Thurs 20 June	TOPIC: Revolution and Terror (1)  READINGS: Alexis de Tocqueville, The Old Régime and the French Revolution	
WEEK 8 Mon 24 Jun	TOPIC: Revolution and Terror (2)  READINGS: Olympe de Gouges (1748-1793), Declaration of the Rights of Woman and the Female Citizen.	
WEEK 8 Wed 26 Jun	TOPIC: Nature and Nation (1)	Second quiz

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	READINGS: Georges Cuvier (1769-1832), The Animal Kingdom (excerpt); Justin E. H. Smith, "The Ibis and the Crocodile: Napoleon's Egyptian Campaign and Evolutionary Theory in France, 1801-1835," in Republic of Letters (2018).	
WEEK 8 Thurs 27 June	TOPIC: Nature and Nation (2)	Site visit #2 Galerie d'Anatomie Comparée
WEEK 9 Mon 1 July	TOPIC: Science, Technology, and Hoaxes in the Second Republic	
	READINGS: Jules Allix (fl. 1850), "The Pasilalinic Sympathetic Compass" (tr. J. E. H. Smith).	
WEEK 9 Wed 3 July	TOPIC: The "Science of Man" (1)	Third quiz
vved 3 July	READINGS: Claude Lévi-Strauss (1908-2009), The Savage Mind (excerpts).	
WEEK 9	TOPIC: The "Science of Man" (2)	
Thurs 4 July	READINGS: Claude Lévi-Strauss (1908-2009), Tristes Tropiques (excerpts).	
WEEK 10	TOPIC: The Self, Reconsidered (1)	
Mon 8 July	READINGS: Jean-Paul Sartre (1905-1980), Being and Nothingness (excerpt).	
WEEK 10	TOPIC: The Self, Reconsidered (2)	Fourth quiz
Wed 10 July	READINGS: Simone de Beauvoir (1905-1980), <i>The Second Sex</i>	
WEEK 10 Thurs 11 July	TOPIC: The Self, Reconsidered (3)	Site visit #3 The Louvre 6-8pm
WEEK 11	TOPIC: Things Fall Apart	Paper Due Group presentations (part one)
Mon 15 July	READINGS: Michel Foucault (1926-1984), The Order of Things (excerpt); Jacques Derrida (1930-2004), Of Grammatology (excerpt).	



WEEK 11	TOPIC:	Fifth quiz
	Review for Final Exam	Group presentations (part two)
Wed 17 July		
	READINGS:	
	Review	
WEEK 11		
Thurs 18 July	FINAL EXAM	