

UC LON-PAR Perspectives on the Global City Program – Spring 2014
PCC175. **Differing Diversities: The Politics of Belonging in France**

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Lecture (course times include a 15 min break)

M 9:00 am – 12:30 pm

W 9:00 am – 12:30 pm

See complete schedule for special sessions

Office Hours
by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

France's history with social and ethnic diversity is very different from that of the United States, even though the revolutions that founded the two republics are separated by no more than thirteen years and were nourished by the same Enlightenment philosophical tradition. If the United States thinks of itself as a multicultural "melting pot," France has a tendency to think of itself as a revolutionary nation. Both of these images of how one belongs to either nation have a grain of truth, but both are also far from encompassing the fully problematic sense of belonging to either country. This interdisciplinary course will explore how diversity has (and has not) been articulated in France's political traditions and how these traditions inform contemporary social situations. Articles in political theory and sociology will help students gain an idea of the ways social scientists studying France have articulated the relations between nation, citizenship, and cosmopolitanism. Literary accounts will serve as an experiential lens to help us understand the concrete implications of these notions. This course seeks to give students a fuller idea of the complexity of belonging in France. **4.0 credits.** Suggested subject areas for this course: *Sociology/Comparative Literature/Political Science*

COURSE MATERIALS

Romain Gary, *The Life Before Us*
Alain Mabanckou, *Black Bazaar*
Course Reader (hereafter [CR])

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Attendance at lectures and site visits is mandatory. It is essential that you attend all classes and participate actively. As per the UC Attendance Policy, excessive absences and tardies will result in a lowered final grade. Please refer to the UC Perspectives on the Global City Program Academic Handbook for the policy on absences and tardies.

Participation and reading assignments are critical. For the purposes of this class, participation means reading the materials in advance, coming to class on time, staying for the entire class period, and actively taking part in discussions and other in-class exercises and activities. A large part of this portion of your grade is simply **paying attention**; in order to pay attention, you must be present! Lateness and absences will have a strong negative effect on your participation grade.

Late assignments: Deadlines for assignments are to be respected. Late assignments will be downgraded. There will be NO additional or make up assignments.

Grade Breakdown:

Participation in class discussion:	15%
Presentation:	15%
Paper 1 (4-6 pages):	20%
Paper 2 (4-6 pages):	20%
Final Paper (8-10 pages):	30%

A Note on Academic Dishonesty: Regardless of the quality of work, plagiarism is punishable with a failing grade in the class and possible dismissal from the program. Plagiarism may be broadly defined as copying of materials from sources, without the acknowledgment of having done so, claiming other's ideas as one's own without proper reference to them, and buying materials such as essays/exams. If you have questions about what constitutes plagiarism, please ask your instructor.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week 1: The French Model

Monday, May 5th: Prof. Dufoix: Revolution, Equality and Republicanism

Required Readings:

- Ernest Renan, "What is a Nation?", text of a conference delivered at the Sorbonne-University, 11 March 1882 in Ernest Renan, *Qu'est-ce qu'une Nation?*, Paris, Presses-Pocket, 1992. [CR]
- Jeremy Jennings, "Citizenship, Republicanism and Multiculturalism in Contemporary France", *British Journal of Political Science*, 30, 2000, p. 575-598. [CR]

Wednesday, May 7th: Prof. Bishop: Discovering Cosmopolitanism and Comparing Racisms

Required Readings:

- James Baldwin, *Notes of a Native Son* (1955), the four essays of Part III [CR]

Week 2: Does French Multiculturalism Exist?

Monday, May 12th: Prof. Dufoix: Immigration in France and Ethnic Neighborhoods in Paris

Paper 1 due

Required Readings:

- Christina Horvath, "The Cosmopolitan City", in Rovisco (Maria) and Nowicka (Magdalena), eds. *The Ashgate Research Companion to Cosmopolitanism*, Farnham, Ashgate, 2011, pp. 87-106. [CR]

Presentations:

- Gérard Noiriel, "Immigration: Amnesia and Memory", *French Historical Studies*, vol.19, n. 2, Autumn 1995, pp. 367-380.
- Marie-Hélène Bacqué, Yankel Fijalkow, Lydie Launay et Stéphanie Vermeersch, "Social-mix policies in Paris, discourses, policies and social effects", *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, 35(1), 2011, p. 256-273.

Wednesday, May 14th: Prof. Bishop: "My Pals at Jip's:" A Brazzaville Dandy in Paris

Required Readings:

- Alain Mabanckou, *Black Bazaar* (Serpent's Tail, 2012)

Presentations:

- Baldwin, "Everybody's Protest Novel," "Many Thousands Gone"
- Baldwin, "Notes of a Native Son"

Week 3: Ethnic Diversity and Gentrification

Monday, May 19th: Prof. Dufoix: Sociological Walk in Paris (Belleville neighborhood)

Group 1

Required Readings:

- Patrick Simon, "The Mosaic Pattern: Cohabitation between Ethnic Groups in Belleville, Paris", in *Minorities in European Cities. The Dynamics of Social Integration and Social Exclusion at the Neighbourhood Level*, S.Body-Gendrot and M.Martiniello (Ed.), London, Macmillan Press, 2000, p.100-115. [CR]

Tuesday, May 20th: Prof. Bishop: Walk in Paris (Belleville neighborhood)

Group 2 (special time: 1:30 – 5:00 pm)

Wednesday, May 21st: Prof. Bishop: Intercultural contact in Belleville, Part I

Paper 2 due

Required Readings:

- Romain Gary, *The Life Before Us* (New Directions, 1974), 1-82

Week 4: Laïcité and Religion

Monday, May 26th: Prof. Dufoix: On Laïcité in general and Islam in particular

Required Readings:

- Various excerpts from *Muslims in Paris*, Cambridge, Open Society Foundations, 2012. [CR]

Presentations:

- Jean Baubérot, "Laïcité and the Challenge of Republicanism", *Modern and Contemporary France*, vol. 17, n°2, 2009, p. 189-198.
- Sophie Heine, "The Hijab Controversy and French Republicanism: Critical Analysis and Normative Propositions", *French Politics*, 7(2), July 2009, p. 167-193.

Wednesday, May 28th: Prof. Bishop: Intercultural contact in Belleville, Part II, and in Senegal

Required Readings:

- Romain Gary, *The Life Before Us* (New Directions, 1974), 83-182

Presentations:

- Marie Ndiaye, *Three Strong Women*, Part 1

Week 5: Whither France?

Monday, June 2nd: Prof. Dufoix: France and Its Past
Final Paper due

Required Readings:

- Julie Fette, « Apology and the Past in Contemporary France », *French Politics, Culture and Society*, vol. 26, n°2, été 2008, p. 78-113. **[CR]**

Presentations:

- Brigitte Jelen, « "Leur Histoire est Notre Histoire". Immigrant Culture in France Between Visibility and Invisibility », *French Politics, Culture and Society*, vol. 23, n°2, Summer 2005, p. 101-125.
- Kiran Grewal, « "Va t'faire intégrer !" : The *Appel des féministes indigènes* and the Challenge to "Republican Values " in Postcolonial France », *Contemporary French Civilization*, vol. 33, n°2, Summer 2009, p. 105-133.

Wednesday, June 4th: Prof. Bishop: Shedding Light on Clandestine Struggles in the work of Marie Ndiaye

Required readings:

- Marie Ndiaye, *Three Strong Women*, Part 2 **[CR]**

Presentations:

- *Three Strong Women*, Part 3