

UC PAR-LON Perspectives on the Global City Program – Spring 2014
PCC177. **Documenting the Periphery: Identity and Citizenship in the “Other” Part of Paris**

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Office Hours
by appointment

Lecture (course times include a 15 min break)

M 1:30 pm – 5:00 pm

W 1:30 pm – 5:00 pm

See complete schedule for special sessions

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This interdisciplinary course will examine the socioeconomic and political disenfranchisement experienced by residents of the "other France" – a France comprised of working-class citizens often of immigrant origin and from France's former colonies. It will introduce students to urban sociology by requiring that they focus on the particular problems experienced by social actors who live in economically and socially disfavored parts of Paris. Topics covered include urban sociological theories, de-facto segregation, poverty, crime, schooling, public policy, national identity, the negotiation of bi-culturality, and the French secularizing mission. Students will investigate these topics from a variety of sources, ranging from documentary film and photojournalism to literary and cinematic expressions. Via these sources, they will become familiar with a vibrant urban "vernacular" culture that contests issues pertaining to citizenship, racialization and representation. **4.0 credits.** Suggested subject areas for this course: *Urban Studies/Sociology/Comparative Literature*

COURSE MATERIALS

Mehdi Charef, *Tea in the Harem*

Faiza Guène, *Just Like Tomorrow & Bar Balto*

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.

Assignments: Deadlines for assignments are to be respected. There will be NO extensions on assignments, nor will there be any additional or make up assignments.

Grade Breakdown:

Participation in class discussion:	15%
Oral Presentation:	15%
Short Paper 1 (4-6 pages):	20%
Short 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 duly citing them, 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 (subject to change at the instructor's discretion)

Week 1: The "Other" France in the "Other" Part of Paris: Representation, Identity & Citizenship

Monday, March 31st: Course time 1:30 – 3:00 pm

Introduction: What is representation? What is the "Other" France? What role does representation play in shaping the identity of the "Other" France? Some attempts at defining urban spatial and sociological concepts

Required Reading for tomorrow's visit:

- Jeffrey H. Jackson, "Forgetting the Past in France's Post-Colonial Museums" [CR]

TUESDAY, April 1st: Class visit to the Cité Nationale de l'Histoire de l'Immigration (Immigration Museum)

Group 1: 1:30-3:00 pm

Group 2: 3:30-5:00 pm

Required Reading for Wednesday:

- Mustafa Dikeç, "Introduction: The Fear of 'the *Banlieue*'" and "State's Statements: Urban Policy as Place-Making" [CR]
- François Maspero, selections from *Roissy Express: Journey Through the Paris Suburbs* [CR]
- Mira Kamdar, "The Other Paris, Beyond the Boulevards" [CR]

Wednesday, April 2nd:

Lecture and Discussion: A Voyage to the "center" of the periphery: Maspero's journey and the immigrant's journey

Oral Presentations:

Group 1: Cédric Klapisch, *Paris* (film)

Group 2: Costa-Gavras, *Eden à l'Ouest* (film)

Week 2: Documenting the Periphery in the works of Charef and Kassovitz: Identity, Bi-culturality, and "Violent" Vernacular Culture in the Banlieue

Required Reading for Monday:

- Alec Hargreaves, "National identity, nationality and citizenship" [CR]
- Mehdi Charef, *Tea in the Harem*

Monday, April 7th:

Lecture and Discussion: Motley Crews of "Violent" Youth

Oral Presentations:

Group 3: Mehdi Charef, *Tea in the Harem* (film)

Guest speaker: Jean-Manuel Simoes, photo-journalist and artist

Required Reading for Wednesday:

- Mustafa Dikeç, "From 'Neighborhoods in Danger' to 'Dangerous Neighborhoods': The Repressive Turn in Urban Policy" [CR]
- Tom Conley, "Cronos, Cosmos, and *Polis: La Haine*" [CR]

Wednesday, April 9th:

Essay 1 Due

Viewing: Mathieu Kassovitz, *La Haine*

Lecture and Discussion: Motley Crews of "Violent" Youth (cont.)

Oral Presentations:

Group 4: Carrie Tarr, *Reframing Difference: Beur and Banlieue Filmmaking in France* (book chapters)

Group 5: Ginette Vincendeau, *La Haine* (book chapters)

TODAY : Class visit to Châtelet-Les Halles – Connecting and controlling the periphery

Group 1: 3:30-5:00 pm

Group 2: 5:30-7:00 pm

Week 3: Documenting the Periphery in the works of Faïza Guène: Identity, Bi-culturality, and a Vernacular Culture of "Contestation" in the Banlieue

Required Reading for Monday:

- Faïza Guène, *Just Like Tomorrow*
- Faïza Guène, "Voice of the People." Interview by Sarah Adams [CR]

Monday, April 14th:

Lecture and Discussion: Angels in handcuffs and other subaltern "speakers"

Oral Presentations:

Group 6: Didier van Cauwelaert, *One-Way* (book)

Required Reading for Wednesday:

- Faïza Guène, *Bar Balto*
- Dominic Thomas, "Documenting the Periphery: The Short Films of Faïza Guène" [CR]

Wednesday, April 16th:

Lecture and Discussion: The usual suspects? Diversity and its (dis)contents

Viewing: short documentaries from *Radicalement Votre*. *Les Engraineurs*, 2006 (translated transcripts of documentaries *Rumeurs*, *Le Bon à rien*, and *Sale Réput* in Course Reader)

Oral Presentations:

Group 7: Julien Abraham, *La Cité Rose* (film)

Week 4: Documenting the Periphery in public and private spheres: Identit(ies), Race and Apparel (with a particular emphasis on Headscarves, Skirts, Suits and Sneakers)

Required Reading for Wednesday:

- Trica D. Keaton, "Counterforces: Educational Inequality and Relative Resistance" [CR]
- Alec Hargreaves, "Minority ethnic identification and mobilization" [CR]

Wednesday, April 23rd:

Viewing: Mathieu Kassovitz, *Métisse*

Lecture and Discussion: Negotiating bi-cultural identities at home and in the public sphere

Oral Presentations:

Group 8: Jean-Paul Lilienfeld, *La Journée de la jupe* (film)

Required Reading for Friday:

- Trica D. Keaton, "Beyond Identity: Muslim Girls and the Politics of Their Existence" [CR]
- Beth S. Epstein, "The Common Good: Parents, Teachers, and the Public Schools" [CR]

Friday, April 25th: Course time 8:30-11:45 am

Essay 2 Due

Lecture and Discussion: Negotiating bi-cultural identities at home and in the public school system

Oral Presentations:

Group 9: Laurent Cantet, *Entre les murs* (film)

Group 10: François Bégaudeau, *Entre les murs* [*The Class*] (book)

Guest speaker: Beth S. Epstein, NYU France, filmmaker and anthropologist

Week 5: From the *Banlieue* to the *Metropole*: When the Periphery / Center Divide Cannot Hold...

Required Reading for Monday:

- Mustafa Dikeç, "Voices into Noises: Revolts as Unarticulated Justice Movements" [CR]
- Heidi Ellison, "Dining Well for a Good Cause" [CR]

Monday, April 28th:

Lecture and Discussion: An "other" Paris

TODAY: Class visit to *Manger* – A socially conscious foodie restaurant employing banlieue youth

Required Reading for Wednesday:

- Alec Hargreaves, "Conclusion" [CR]
- Liz Alderman, "In Poor Margins of Paris, New Recipe for Success" [CR]

Wednesday, April 30th:

Final Paper Due

Lecture and Discussion: Conclusions and where do we go from here?