

UC PAR-LON Global Cities Urban Realities Program – Spring 2015
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*
Abdellah Taïa, *An Arab Melancholia*
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, absences and tardies will result in a lowered final grade. Please refer to the UC Global Cities Urban Realities 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%
Weekly Quizzes:	20%
Paper (6-8 pages):	20%
Final Exam (Take-home):	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.

A Note on Electronic Devices: As a courtesy to your instructor and fellow students, please do not use cell phones, laptops, tablets, e-readers, or other electronic devices during class, even to check the time. Make sure phones are turned off. Use of these devices will lower your participation grade. No recording (audio or visual) of class sessions will be permitted.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week 1: The French Model

Monday, March 30th: 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, April 1st: 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, April 6th: Holiday – No class

Wednesday, April 8th: Prof. Dufoix: Immigration in France and Ethnic Neighborhoods in Paris

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.

(Make-up session for April 6th)

Friday, April 10th: Prof. Bishop: Zamel in Paris, Sexual Politics between Morocco and France

Required Readings:

- Abdellah Taïa, *An Arab Melancholia* (Sémiotext(e), 2012)

Presentations:

- Baldwin, "Everybody's Protest Novel," "Many Thousands Gone"

- Baldwin, "Notes of a Native Son"

Week 3: Ethnic Diversity, Laïcité, and Religion Part 1

Monday, April 13th: Prof. Dufoix: On Laïcité in general and Islam in particular

Paper due

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, April 15th: Prof. Bishop: Intercultural contact in Belleville, Part I

Class 9h-10h30

Required Readings:

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

VISIT 11h-12h30 (group 1) 13h-14h30 (group 2)

Week 4: Ethnic Diversity, Laïcité and Religion Part 2

Monday, April 20th: Prof. Dufoix: France and Its Past

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, April 22nd: 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: France Past, Future, and Present

Monday, April 27th: 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

Wednesday, April 29th: Prof. Bishop: Who is Charlie?

Required readings: Articles on-line TBA

Take-home exam due