

UC PAR-LON Global Cities Urban Realities Program – Spring 2016
PCC177. **Documenting the Periphery: Identity and Citizenship in the “Other” Part of Paris**

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Office Hours
by appointment

Lecture

T, W, TH 2:00-4:00 pm

See complete schedule for M, F 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*

Faïza Guène, *Just Like Tomorrow*

Alec Hargreaves, *Multi-Ethnic France*

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:	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.

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 (subject to change at the instructor's discretion)

Week 1

I. The "Other" France in the "Other" Part of Paris: Representation, Identity & Citizenship

Required Reading for Tuesday, March 29th:

- Packer, George, "The Other France: Are the suburbs of Paris incubators of terrorism?" [CR]
- Alec Hargreaves, "A deviant construction: the French media and the 'Banlieues'" [CR]

Tuesday, March 29th:

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 Wednesday, March 30th:

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

Wednesday, March 30th:

Class visit to the Cité Nationale de l'Histoire de l'Immigration (Immigration Museum)

Meet at Metro Station: Porte Dorée (line 8), exit #1 Place Edouard Renaud (follow signs for Parc zoologique, we will meet above ground at the exit to the metro).

Required Reading for Thursday, March 31st:

- François Maspero, selections from *Roissy Express: Journey Through the Paris Suburbs* [CR]

Thursday, March 31st:

Guest speaker: Alessandra Bitumi, Sorbonne Nouvelle, Paris 3

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)

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

Required Reading for Friday, April 1st:

- Mustafa Dikeç, "From 'Neighborhoods in Danger' to 'Dangerous Neighborhoods': The Repressive Turn in Urban Policy" [CR]

Friday, April 1st (10am-1pm):

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

Screening: Mathieu Kassovitz, *La Haine*

Week 2

Required Reading for Tuesday, April 5th:

- Alec Hargreaves, *Multi-Ethnic France*, Ch. 4: "National identity, nationality and citizenship" pp.140-164
- Mehdi Charef, *Tea in the Harem*

Tuesday, April 5th:

Lecture and Discussion: Motley Crews of "Violent" Youth

Oral Presentations:

Group 3: Carrie Tarr, *Reframing Difference: Beur and Banlieue Filmmaking in France* (book chapters)
Ginette Vincendeau, *La Haine* (book chapters)

Required Reading for Wednesday, April 6th:

- Mehdi Charef, *Tea in the Harem*

Wednesday, April 6th:

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

Oral Presentations:

Group 4: Mehdi Charef, *Tea in the Harem* (film)

III. Documenting the Periphery Beyond its Borders: Strangers in Strange Lands

Required Reading for Thursday, April 7th:

- Didier van Cauwelaert, *One-Way* (chapters 1-3, pp.7-77)

Thursday, April 7th:

Lecture and Discussion: The usual suspects? Van Cauwelaert's *One-Way*

Writing Workshop: Argument, Evidence, and Analysis

Week 3

Tuesday, April 12th:

PAPER DUE

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

Meet at ACCENT

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

Required Reading for Wednesday, April 13th:

- Dominic Thomas, "Documenting the Periphery: The Short Films of Faïza Guène" [CR]
- Alec Hargreaves, *Multi-Ethnic France*, Ch. 3: "Minority ethnic identification and mobilization" pp.75-139

Wednesday, April 13th:

Viewing: short documentaries from *Radicalement Votre*. Les Engraineurs, 2006 (translated transcripts of documentaries *Rumeurs*, *Le Bon à rien*, and *Sale Réput* in Course Reader)
Lecture and Discussion: The usual suspects? Diversity and its (dis)contents

Oral Presentations:

Group 5: Julien Abraham, *La Cité Rose* (film)

Required Reading for Thursday, April 14th:

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

Thursday, April 14th:

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

Oral Presentations:

Group 6: Faïza Guène, *Bar Balto*

Group 7: Céline Sciamma, *Girlhood* (film)

Week 4

V. Documenting the Periphery in public and private spheres: Identit(ies), Race and Apparel (with a particular emphasis on Headscarves and Skirts)

Required Reading for Tuesday, April 19th:

- Trica D. Keaton, "Counterforces: Educational Inequality and Relative Resistance" [CR]

Tuesday, April 19th:

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

Oral Presentations:

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

Group 9: Eric Rochant, *L'École pour tous* (film)

Required Reading for Wednesday, April 20th:

- Marina Bain, "Precarious Youths" (unpublished short story) [CR]
- Beth S. Epstein, "The Common Good: Parents, Teachers, and the Public Schools" [CR]

Wednesday, April 20th:

Possible guest speaker: TBA

Group 10: Laurent Cantet, *Entre les murs* (film)

VI. From the Banlieue to the Metropole: When the Periphery / Center Divide Cannot Hold...

Required Reading for Thursday, April 21st:

- Alec Hargreaves, *Multi-Ethnic France*, "Conclusion" pp.204-210
- Mira Kamdar, "The Other Paris, Beyond the Boulevards" [CR]

Thursday, April 21st:

Lecture and Discussion: An “other” Paris: Conclusions and where do we go from here?

Week 5

Required Reading for Monday, April 25th:

- Heidi Ellison, “Dining Well for a Good Cause” [CR]
- Liz Alderman, “In Poor Margins of Paris, New Recipe for Success” [CR]

Monday, April 25th (10am-12pm):

Lecture and Discussion: An “other” Paris: Conclusions and where do we go from here? (cont.)

Possible guest speaker: TBA

Tuesday, April 26th:

Review

Wednesday, April 27th:

Final Exam