



School of Humanities and Social Sciences

HIS 314-AIX 1

France During the Occupation: 1939-1945

202425 Fall

Course Details

Credit Hours: 3

Days: Monday & Wednesday

Time: 2:00pm-3:25pm

Prerequisites: Prerequisites: This course is suitable for an undergraduate student who has successfully completed at least 3 semesters of College-level course work. Successful completion of ENG 101 or equivalent, and 6 credit hours above the 100-level (introductory) in the arts, or the humanities are strongly recommended; or instructor permission.

Instructor Information

Dr. Michel Lantelme

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Course Description

The study of representations of France during World War II in history, literature and media, in both the Occupied and Unoccupied Zones, the German presence, the government in Vichy and the Resistance. The course includes a review of French and European history from World War I until 1940, a detailed look at France's role in World War II, and a survey of French attitudes about the Occupation during the 70 years following Liberation. Typically includes field studies to sites in Provence.

This course will examine the major social, economic, diplomatic, and political challenges that France faced during the 1939-1945 time period. Four major themes will be explored:

1. The Vichy regime & the military, economic, ideological, and political aspects of “Collaboration”
2. How the life of the people in France was affected by the Occupation
3. How the media shape our perception of History, Resistance and Collaboration
4. The role played today by the ‘duty of remembrance’ in the way the French envision WWII

Course Objectives

- The main objective of the course is to acquire detailed knowledge of France during WWII and look closely at historical content in media, including literature and film, to learn how people use media to understand their history. The course explores the relation between history and storytelling, and encourages students to make connections between the two.

Learning Outcomes

Students will:

1. Describe the history of France during the time period, from the fact of displaced persons and emergence of a collaborationist government to the broad spectrum of social forces active in the resistance movement.
2. Analyze media from and about this period of history, including newspapers, propaganda posters, literature, comics, narrative, film, and documentary film.
3. Describe how the experience of France during the Second World War has been represented in French history and media since the War.
4. Articulate and write about the relationship between history and storytelling with particular attention to the period under study.

Instructional Methods and Activities

An interdisciplinary approach will be favored. A study of the context and background will precede a closer focus on selected key issues. In addition to the common curriculum, students will be encouraged to choose, deepen, and share their own personal “take” on the representation of French history. This means that each student, according to his/her persona interest, will focus on a particular issue and a particular dimension (social, economic artistic, cultural or political).

Reading is central to the study of history. It is crucial that you complete all reading assignments on schedule. The class will include:

1. Lectures
2. Presentations, discussions
3. Written archives, visual and audio documents
4. Movies and documentaries

Primary/Required Textbooks and Materials



The Unfree French

ISBN: 9780300121322

Authors: Richard Vinen

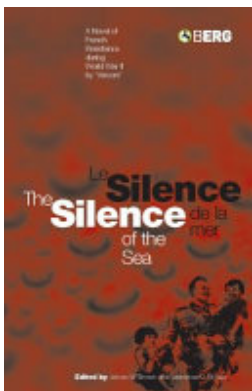
Publisher: Yale University Press

Publication Date: 2006-01-01

Electronic course packet

Additional Information:

Course packet (CP) available on Teams



Silence of the Sea / Le Silence de la Mer

ISBN: 9780854963782

Authors: James W. Brown, Lawrence D. Stokes

Publisher: Berg Publishers

Publication Date: 2002-04-01

Assessment, Evaluation, and Grading

- 20% Mid-term exam (MCQ, fill-in-the-blanks, essay)

- 25% Final exam (MCQ, fill-in-the-blanks, essay)
 - 20% Written assignments
 - 15% Paper #1: 3-page paper (Times, 12, double space, plus bibliography):
analysis of a written, visual, or audio document of the time period and
how it relates to the political, sociological, or economic context
- OR:
- A 3-page detailed account of your visit to Camp des Milles (bus #4)
- 20% Paper #2: comparative analysis of two French movies dealing
with the time period

Grading System/Grade Distribution

Grading System/Grade
Distribution

U.S	ACM	French Equivalent
95-100%	A	17-20
90-94%	A -	16
88-89%	B+	15
84-87%	B	14
80-83%	B-	13
78-79%	C+	12
74-77%	C	11
70-73%	C-	10
68-69%	D+	9
64-67%	D	8
60-63%	D-	7
0-59%	F	0-6

Attendance

One of the primary requirements this semester is that you attend class. This is not a lecture class; it's essential that you come to class on time, be prepared for the lesson, and be ready to participate in discussions and activities. Attendance will be part of your final grade. Any absences can harm your final grade. It will be up to the student to manage and communicate with professors about their absences. For every absence, your final grade may be lowered by one half-letter grade (B+ to become a B, B to become B-, and so on). ACM-IAU professors are empowered to impose academic sanctions (including a lowered grade or even failure) upon students for unexcused absences, frequent tardiness, work submitted late, or any other actions or behaviors that violate ACM's academic standards and policies.

Academic Policies

All students are responsible for reading, knowing, and understanding the information pertinent to their areas of study available in the ACM Catalog. The catalog contains requirements for all degree programs, course descriptions, academic policies, and regulations that govern ACM. All parts of the catalog are subject to annual changes as university rules, policies, and curricula change. It is your responsibility to keep informed of such changes; failure to do so will not exempt you from whatever penalties you may incur. Catalogs are published from August through July.

Review the latest catalog at: <https://www.acmfrance.org/academics/catalog>

Schedule of Classes and Assignments

Week 1 Presentation of the course; methodology

Week 2.1 Background: The Third Republic / France vs. Germany /

Alsace-Lorraine / Antisemitism / The memory of WWI

Week 2.2 Richard Vinen, *The Unfree French*, chapter 1: "Summer 1940"

p. 14-44

Excerpt: Saul Dibb's *Suite française* (2014)

Assignment #1 due

Week 3.1 Vinen, chapter 1: "Summer 1940"

p. 14-44

Week 3.2 Vinen, chapter 3: "Living with the Enemy" **p. 99-132**

Assignment #2 due

Excerpt: Claude Chabrol's *Line of demarcation* (1966)

Week 4.1 Vinen, chapter 2: "Vichy" **p. 45-98**

Assignment #3 due

Excerpt: Jean Mamy's *Occult Forces* (1943)

Week 4.2 Vinen, chapter 2: "Vichy" **p. 45-98**

Excerpt: Marcel Ophüls' *The Sorrow and the Pity* (1971)

Week 5.1 Vinen, chapter 4: "Jews, Germans and French" **p. 133-156**

Assignment #4 due

Week 5.2 Lion Feuchtwanger, *The Devil in France* (2 excerpts) **CP: 1- 17**

Assignment #5 due

Week 6.1 **PAPER #1 due**

Review

Week 6.2 **MIDTERM EXAM**

Week 7.1 & 2 Film: Rose Bosch's *La Rafle* (2010)

Week 8.1 Vercors, *The Silence of the Sea* **The Silence, p. 71-97**

Excerpt: Louis Malle's *Lacombe, Lucien* (1974)

Assignment #6 due

Week 8.2 Vinen, chapter 5: "Frenchwomen and the Germans" **p. 157-182**

Assignment #7 due

.....Fall break.....

Week 9.1 Documentary film: *The Shaved Woman of Chartres. A look behind*

Robert Capa's famous photograph

Week 9.2 The Resistance

Ponge, *The Nature of Things* **CP: 18-20**

Malraux, Speech for the transfer of Jean Moulin's ashes

to the Pantheon **CP: 21-27**

Assignment #8 due

Excerpt: Gérard Oury's *La grande vadrouille* (1966)

Excerpt: Jean-Pierre Melville's *Army of Shadows* (1969)

NOV. 8-9-10 (FRIDAY through SUNDAY): STUDY TRIP to STRASBOURG

Week 10.1 Documentary film excerpt: *Germaine Tillion in Her Own Words*

Aix during WWII: guided tour

Week 10.2 Vinen, chapter 7: "Survival" (optional) **p. 215-246**

Week 11.1 **PAPER #2 DUE**

Vinen, chapter 6: "Captivity - French Prisoners of War" (optional) **p. 183-213**

Vinen, chapter 8: "Stolen Youth - Compulsory labour Service" (optional) **p. 247-279**

Week 11.2 Vinen, chapter 10: "Sunset of blood: The Liberation" **p. 313-366**

Assignment #9 due

Week 12.1 Vinen, chapter 10: "Sunset of blood: The Liberation"

Excerpt: René Clément's *Is Paris Burning?* (1966)

Week 12.2 Vichy, 50 years later:

Jacques Chirac, July 16, 1995 speech **CP: 28-31**

Lydie Salvayre, *The Company of Ghosts* **CP: 32-42**

Assignment #10 due

Week 13.1 Excerpt: Michel Mitrani's *Les guichets du Louvre* (1974)

What is the 'Vichy Syndrome'?

Week 13.2 Review