University of Wisconsin-Madison
Department of History
Semester I, 1992-93

History 868

Laird Boswell
5126 Humanities
263-1805

Seminar in Modern French History

This course will focus on key issues in the political, social and cultural history of France in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Particular attention will be given to contemporary historiographical debates (on both sides of the Atlantic) on such topics as working class history in the nineteenth century or the Vichy régime.

Requirements: Two short (5-7 pages) review essays and one long paper (15-17 pages) on a topic to be agreed upon with the instructor. Students will also be responsible for leading at least one discussion.

Starred books are available for purchase at the University Bookstore. All books and articles are on 3 hour reserve in Helen C. White Library.

Week 1. Sept. 4

Introduction

Week 2. Sept. 11

Understanding French Culture


Week 3. Sept. 18

1848


Week 4. Sept. 25

Peasants and Politics


Tony Judt, Socialism in Provence (Cambridge, 1979), pp. ix-xi; 23-52; 100-174; 217-238; 254-280.


Week 5. Oct. 2

Understanding Violence and Rural Politics


Week 6. Oct. 9

Workers


Gérard Noiriel, Workers in French Society in the 19th and 20th Centuries (New York, 1990), 1-32; 73-107.

*** FIRST PAPER DUE FRIDAY OCTOBER 9 ***
Week 7. Oct. 16

Religion


Week 8. Oct. 23

Gender and Society


Week 9. Oct. 30

Labor and Management in the Twentieth Century


Week 10. Nov. 6

The Left


Tony Judt, Socialism in Provence, pp. 281-310.

Michel Hastings, Halluin-la-Rouge 1919-1939 (Lille, 1991), pp. TBA.

Week 11. Nov. 13

The Right and the Problem of "French Fascism"


Zeev Sternhell, Neither Right nor Left (Berkeley, 1986), pp. 1-31; 90-118; 266-303.


Week 12. Nov. 20

Vichy France


Week 13. Nov. 27

*** SECOND PAPER DUE TUESDAY NOVEMBER 24 BY 5:00 PM ***

Thanksgiving

Week 14. Dec. 4

Collective Memory in Post-War France


Denis Peschanski et al., Histoire politique et sciences sociales (Bruxelles, 1991), pp. 243-278.
Week 15. Dec 11

Social Change since 1945


*** FINAL PAPER DUE WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 16 BY 5:00 PM ***