

University of Wisconsin-Madison
 Department of History
 Semester I, 1993-94

History 348

Laird Boswell
 5126 Humanities
 263-1805

France from the Revolution to the Great War, 1799-1914

This course will examine the political, social, and cultural history of France from the rise of Napoleon in 1799 to the outbreak of the First World War. We will follow France's long and difficult road toward democracy, while paying particular attention to the changing nature of French culture and society.

Requirements: Students are required to do the reading and participate in class discussions. The assigned readings should be completed by each Friday class session. One five page paper, due Monday October 11, which students will have an opportunity to rewrite, one longer essay due Wednesday November 24 (4-6 pages for 3 credit students; 9-11 pages for 4 credit students), and one final examination. Paper topics will be distributed in advance. We will discuss the readings on Fridays during class time (see weeks marked "discussion" below); I will schedule an additional time for discussions which will be announced early on in the semester. Grading will be based on class participation, the papers, and the examination. Books are available for purchase at the University bookstore and are also on 3 hour reserve in Helen C. White library.

Required Books

Gordon Wright, France in Modern Times 4th ed (New York, 1987)

Honoré de Balzac, Père Goriot (Penguin Books)

David Pinkney, Napoleon III and the Rebuilding of Paris
 (Princeton, 1958)

Karl Marx, The Civil War in France (New York, 1988)

Emile Zola, Germinal (Penguin Books)

Charles Rearick, Pleasures of the Belle Epoque (New Haven, 1985)

Mark Traugott, The French Worker. Autobiographies from the Early Industrial Era (Berkeley, 1993).

Emile Guillaumin, The Life of a Simple Man (Hanover, N.H., 1962)

Week 1. Introduction

Week 2. The Heritage of the Revolution

Labor Day

Reading: Gordon Wright, France in Modern Times, pp. 67-82.

Week 3. Napoleon and the Restoration

Reading: Wright, pp. 95-111; begin Honoré de Balzac, Père Goriot

Week 4. The July Monarchy

Discussion: Balzac

Reading: Wright, pp. 111-128; Balzac, Père Goriot

Week 5. Revolution and Coup d'Etat, 1848-1852

Reading: Begin David Pinkney, Napoleon III and the Rebuilding of Paris; Wright, pp. 129-150.

Week 6. The War of 1870 and the Paris Commune

Discussion: Pinkney

Reading: David Pinkney, Napoleon III and the Rebuilding of Paris, pp. 3-74; 105-126; 210-221; Wright, pp. 129-150.

Week 7. Rural Society and a Conservative Republic

Monday October 11. *** 5 page Paper Due in class ***

Discussion: Marx

Reading: Karl Marx, The Civil War in France, pp. 36-85.

Week 8. Politics under the Third Republic

Discussion: Guillaumin

Reading: Emile Guillaumin, The Life of a Simple Man, entire book; Wright, 211-241.

Week 9. Authoritarianism, Anti-semitism, and the Crisis of the Third Republic

Reading: begin Emile Zola, Germinal; Wright, pp. 241-252.

Week 10. Women and Workers

Discussion: Zola

Reading: Zola, Germinal

Week 11. Colonial Expansion and Private Life

Discussion: Traugott

Reading: Mark Traugott, The French Worker. Autobiographies from the Early Industrial Era, pp. 92-115; 116-181; 336-382.

Week 12. The Socialist Movement

Discussion: Traugott

Reading: Traugott, pp. 183-248; 250-308; 309-335; Wright, 253-265.

Week 13. Religion

***** Paper due *** Wednesday November 24 in class *****

Thanksgiving

Week 14. Culture and Class

Discussion: Rearick

Reading: Charles Rearick, Pleasures of the Belle Epoque, pp. 1-52; 83-146; 169-195; 217-221. Wright, pp 274-294.

Week 15. France on the Eve of the War

Reading: Wright, pp. 295-306.

Week 16. Review

Wednesday, December 15: No class -- review on your own for final. I will hold office hours during regular class hours.