

University of Wisconsin-Madison
Department of History
Spring 2015

Laird Boswell
5127 Humanities
263-1805
lboswell@wisc.edu
Office hours: Thursday, 1-3

History 868: 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.

Readings and preparation: All books are on reserve at College Library.

Each week (by 9 pm on the evening before class) all students should post two broad "discussion questions" to the Discussion Board on the course pages of the Learn@UW website.

Each week, the designated "discussion leader" will prepare a short (5 minute) introduction to the week's readings and a list of questions and issues for discussion. As part of the introduction, the discussion leader should present an overview of the week's topic, situating it in the broader literature.

If you need to brush up on your French history, scan one or more of the following: Charles Sowerwine, *France since 1870*; D.L.L. Parry and Pierre Girard, *France since 1800*; Rod Kedward, *France and the French: A Modern History*; Robert Gildea, *France since 1945*; Jeremy Popkin, *A History of Modern France*

Papers: Each student will write three papers during the semester (see due dates below). You may write the first two papers in the order you prefer. Those with an adequate knowledge of French will be required to review some French language books.

1. **Historiographical Essay (6-7 pages):** Write a historiographical essay on one of the week's themes—giving careful attention to how a given topic has been treated by scholars writing in different time periods.
2. ***New York Review of Books*-Style Book Review (6-7 pages):** Choose two or three relatively new books on one of the week's themes. Write a *New York Review of Books*-style essay—reviewing the books and also using them to reflect on larger issues.
3. **A longer paper (15 pages) due at the end of the semester on a topic of your choice.** I encourage you to use this paper to begin work on an MA essay, explore a future PhD topic, or (for those doing a French history prelim) prepare for one of your prelim fields.

Week 1. January 23. Introduction and Course Requirements

Week 2. January 30. **Napoleon**

*Isser Woloch, *Napoleon and his Collaborators* (Norton, 2001), 90-119; 157-185.

Martyn Lyons, *Napoleon Bonaparte and the Legacy of the French Revolution* (St-Martin's Press, 1994), 1-4 ; 77-128, 294-300.

David Bell, *The First Total War: Napoleon's Europe and the Birth of Warfare as We Know It* (Houghton Mifflin, 2007), 1-20; 187-317.

Michael Broers et al., *The Napoleonic Empire and the New European Political Culture* (Palgrave, 2012) (available as a digital book on library website), 1-17, 24-37, 38-48, 100-22, 216-26, 313-36.

Possible books for review: Geoffrey Ellis, *Napoleon* (Longman's, 1996); numerous biographies by Jean Tulard including *Napoléon et le mythe du sauveur* (1977); Louis Bergeron, *France under Napoleon [L'épisode napoléonien]* (Princeton); Isser Woloch, *The New Regime: Transformations of the French Civic Order, 1789-1820s* (Norton, 1994); François Furet, *Revolutionary France*; Steven Englund, *Napoleon : A Political Life* (New York, 2004); Sudhir Hazareesingh, *The Legend of Napoleon* (Granta, 2005),

Week 3. February 6. **1848**

*Maurice Agulhon, *The Republican Experiment [1848 ou l'apprentissage de la République]* (Cambridge UP, 1983) (read entire book)

*Karl Marx, *The Eighteenth Brumaire of Louis Bonaparte* (New York, 1963). (parts I and VII are the most important ; read the rest to get the point)

Mark Traugott, *Armies of the Poor : Determinants of Working-Class Participation in the Parisian Insurrection of June 1848* (Transaction publishers, 2002) : intro to new edition, xiii-xxxiv

Roger V. Gould, *Insurgent Identities: Class, Community and Protest in Paris from 1848 to the Commune* (Chicago, 1995), 1-31 (skim to get the point), 32-64.

Johnathan M. House, *Controlling Paris: Armed Forces and Counterrevolution* (New York, 2014), 213-226.

Possible books for review: Ronald Aminzade, *Ballots and Barricades. Class Formation and Republican Politics in France, 1830-1871* (Princeton, 1993); Maurice Agulhon, *The Republic in the Village [La république au village]*

(Cambridge, 1982); Ted Margadant, *French Peasants in Revolt. The Insurrection of 1851* (Princeton, 1979); Peter McPhee, *The Politics of Rural Life. Political Mobilization in the French Countryside 1846-1852* (Oxford, 1992); Mark Traugott, *The Insurgent Barricade* (Berkeley, 2010)

Week 4. February 13. **The French Political Model**

Pierre Rosanvallon, *The Demands of Liberty : Civil Society in France since the Revolution* (Harvard University Press, 2007), 1-62; 94-117; 149-265. French Original: *Le modèle politique français*.

Andrew Jainchill and Samuel Moyn, “French Democracy between Totalitarianism and Solidarity: Pierre Rosanvallon and Revisionist Historiography,” *Journal of Modern History* 76 (March 2004), 107-154.

Possible books for review: Pierre Rosanvallon, *Democracy Past and Future* (Columbia University Press, 2006)

Week 5. February 20 **Paris Commune**

John Merriman, *Massacre: The Life and Death of the Paris Commune* (Basic Books, 2014), pp. 1-102, 139-224, 243-58.

Karl Marx, *The Civil War in France*, (especially part III)

Robert Tombs, *The Paris Commune, 1871* (Longman, 1999), 109-150, 184-216.

Roger V. Gould, *Insurgent Identities: Class, Community and Protest in Paris from 1848 to the Commune* (Chicago, 1995), 153-206.

François Furet, *Revolutionary France*, chapter on the Republic, 1870-80.

Possible books for review: Carolyn Eichner, *Surmounting the Barricades: Women in the Paris Commune* (Indiana, 2004); Gay Gullickson, *Unruly Woman of Paris: Images of the Commune* (Cornell, 1996)

Week 6. February 27. **Imperialism**

J. P. Daughton, *An Empire Divided: Religion, Republicanism, and the Making of French Colonialism, 1880-1914* (Oxford, 2006), 1-120; 227-59 (skim); 260-66.

Alice Conklin, *In the Museum of Man: Race, Anthropology and Empire in France, 1850-1950* (Cornell UP, 2013), 1-99, 189-281, 327-38.

Marie-Paule Ha, *French Women and the Empire: The Case of Indochina* (Oxford, 2014), 1-19, 159-182, 216-50

H-France Forum on Conklin's, *In the Museum of Race*: <http://h-france.net/forum/h-franceforumvol9.html> (read all the contributions and Conklin's response)

Possible books for review: Edward Berenson, *Heroes of Empire: Five Charismatic Men and the Conquest of Africa* (University of California Press, 2011); Mary Lewis, *Divided Rule: Sovereignty and Empire in French Tunisia, 1881-1938* (Berkeley, 2013)

***** First review essay due Monday February 23 *****

Week 7. March 6. **The Great War**

Richard Fogerty, *Race and War in France: Colonial Subjects in the French Army, 1914-1918* (Johns Hopkins UP, 2008), 1-14, 231-69, 270-93.

Stéphane Audoin Rouzeau and Annette Becker, *14-18: Understanding the Great War* (Hill and Wang, 2003), 1-69; 94-174.

Jay Winter and Antoine Prost, *The Great War in History: Debates and Controversies* (Cambridge, 2005), chapter 1 (in French: "Trois configurations historiques")

Leonard Smith, *The 'Culture de guerre' and French Historiography of the Great War of 1914-1918,* *History Compass* 5/6 (2007): 1967-1979.

François Buton, André Loez, Nicolas Mariot, and Philippe Olivera, "1914-1918: Understanding the Controversy," *La vie des idées* (PDF)

Jean-Yves Le Naour, "Le champ de bataille des historiens," *La vie des idées* (PDF)

Week 8. March 13. **Fascism**

* Brian Jenkins ed., *France in the Era of fascism: Essays on the French Authoritarian Right* (New York, 2005), 1-21; 22-64; 65-92; 129-150; 200-218

Kevin Passmore, *The Right in France from the Third Republic to Vichy* (Oxford, 2013), 1-44, 101-126, 234-261, 291-347

Kevin Passmore, "L'historiographie du "fascisme" en France," *French Historical Studies* 37 (2014): 469-499. [if you don't read French...]

Zeev Sternhell, *Neither Right nor Left : Fascist Ideology in France* (Berkeley, 1986) [*Ni droite ni gauche : l'idéologie fasciste en France*], 1-31 ; 266-303.

Comment on Passmore's article in H-France Salon by William Irvine <http://h-france.net/Salon/Salon6Irvine.pdf> and Caroline Campbell <http://h-france.net/Salon/Salon6Irvine.pdf>

Possible books for review: Robert J. Soucy, *French Fascism; the Second Wave 1933-1989* (New Haven, 1995); Pierre Milza, *Fascisme français: Passé et présent*; Zeev Sternhell, *Neither Right nor Left: Fascist Ideology in France* (English translation, 1996); Kevin Passmore, *From Liberalism to Fascism : The Right in a French Province* (Cambridge, 1997).

Week 9. March 20. **Vichy France**

*Philippe Burrin, *France under the Germans: Collaboration and Compromise* (NY, 1998), 1-46, 69-112, 175-261, 291-323, 398-436, 459-67.

Robert Gildea, *Marianne in Chains* (NY, 2002), 1-19; 42-89, 246-70, 403-11

Kevin Passmore, *The Right in France from the Third Republic to Vichy* (Oxford, 2013), 348-68.

Pierre Laborie, "1940-1944: Double Think in France," in Sarah Fishman et al., *France at War: Vichy and the Historians* (Berg, 2000), 181-90.

Robert O. Paxton, "Jews: How Vichy Made it Worse," *New York Review of Books*, March 6 2014

Renée Poznanski, "Rescue of the Jews and the Resistance in France: From History to Historiography," *French Politics, Culture, and Society* 30 (2012): 8-32.

Possible books for review: Julian Jackson, *France : The Dark Years, 1940-44* (Oxford, 2001); H. R. Kedward, *In Search of the Maquis. Rural Resistance in Southern France 1942-1944* (Oxford, 1993); Roderick Kedward, *Resistance in Vichy France* (Oxford, 1982); Pierre Laborie, *L'opinion publique sous Vichy*; John Sweets, *Choices in Vichy France. The French under Nazi Occupation* (Oxford, 1986); Alain Brossat, *Les tondues: un carnaval Moche* (Paris, 1992); Hanna Diamond, *Women and the Second World War in France, 1939-1948 : choices and constraints* (Longman's, 1999); Vicki Caron, *Uneasy Asylum: France and the Jewish Refugee Crisis, 1933-1942* (Stanford, 1999); Alice Kaplan, *The Collaborator: The Trial and Execution of Robert Brasillach* (2000); Oliver

Wieviorka, *Les Orphelins de la République. Destinées des députés et sénateurs français, 1940-45* (Paris, 2001) ; Fabrice Virgili, *Shorn Women. Gender and Punishment in Liberation France* (Berg, 2002); Kristen Childers Stromberg, *Fathers, Families and the State in France 1914-1945* (Cornell, 2003); Daniel Lee, *Pétain's Jewish Children: French Jewish Youth and the Vichy Regime, 1940-42* (Oxford, 2014).

Week 10. March 27. **A New Deal in France?**

***** Second paper due Tuesday April 6 *****

Philip Nord, *France's New Deal: From the Thirties to the Postwar Era* (Princeton University Press, 2010), 1-24, 88-213, 217-20, 254-383.

Week 11. April 3. **Spring Break**

Week 12. April 10. **Rural Society**

Joseph Bohling, "Drink Better, but Less": The Rise of France's Appellation System in the European Community, 1946-1976," *French Historical Studies* 37 (2014): 501-530.

Sarah Farmer, "Memoirs of French Peasant life: Progress and Nostalgia in Postwar France," *French History* 25 (2011): 362-79

Venus Bivar, "Land reform, European integration, and the industrialization of agriculture in postwar France," in Kiran Klaus Patel (ed.), *Fertile Ground for Europe? The History of European Integration and the Common Agricultural Policy since 1945* (Baden-Baden: Nomos 2009).

Sarah Waters, "Globalization, the Confédération Paysanne, and Symbolic Power," *French Politics, Culture and Society* 28 (2010): 96-117.

Robert Gildea and Andrew Tompkins, "The Transnational in the Local: The Larzac Plateau as a Site of Transnational Activism since 1970," *Journal of Contemporary History*, forthcoming

Week 13. April 17. **No Class.**

Week 14. April 24. **Tourism and Sport**

Eric Reed, *Selling the Yellow Jersey: The Tour de France in the Global Era* (Chicago, 2015), 1-22, 54-167.

Christopher Thompson, *Le Tour de France: A Cultural History* (Berkeley, 2006), 1-50, 95-140, 180-214, 256-65.

Laurent Dubois, *Soccer Empire: The World Cup and the Future of France* (Berkeley, 2010), preface, 1-22, 47-71, 97-176, 241-266.

Stephen Harp, *Au naturel: Naturism, Nudism, and Tourism in Twentieth Century France* (LSU press), pp. TBA

Week 15. May 1. **May 1968**

Julian Jackson, Anna-Louise Milne and James S. Williams eds., *May 68: Rethinking France's Last Revolution* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2011), 3-57, 178-187; 231-244

Julian Jackson, "The Mystery of May 1968," *French Historical Studies* 33 (2010): 625-53

Robert Gildea, "Forty Years On: French Writing on May 68 in 2008," *French History* 23 (2009): 108-19.

Michael Seidman, *The Imaginary Revolution: Parisian Students and Workers in 1968* (New York, 2004), 1-12, 91-203, 272-285.

Week 16. May 8. **Jews, Muslims, and the Republic**

Naomi Davidson, *Only Muslim. Embodying Islam in Twentieth Century France* (Cornell, 2012), 1-35, 169-219.

Maud S. Mandel, *Muslims and Jews in France: History of a Conflict* (Princeton University Press, 2014), 1-13; 35-79; 124-156

Ethan Katz "Jews and Muslims in the Shadow of the Republic: A Century of Coexistence and Conflict." in Benjamin Stora and Abdelwahab Meddeb, eds., *A History of Jewish-Muslim Relations: From the Origins to the Present Day* (Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press, 2013).

Possible books for review: Didier Fassin and Eric Fassin eds, *De la question sociale à la question raciale?* (Paris, 2006); Pap Ndiaye, *La condition noire: Essai sur une minorité française* (Paris, 2008); John Bowen, *Why the French don't like Headscarves: Islam, the*

State and Public Space (Princeton, 2007); Trica Keaton, Muslim Girls and the Other France (Indiana, 2006) ; Caitlin Killian, North African Women in France : Gender, Culture and Identity (Stanford, 2006) ; Fadela Amara, Ni Putes, ni soumises (Paris, 2003); Joan Scott, The Politics of the Veil (Princeton, 2007)

***** Final 15 to 20 page Paper due Thursday May 14 *****