

2017 Bordeaux Syllabus

IAFS 3500/HIST 4190: France and America: Connections Through Time

IAFS Global Seminar

Science Po Bordeaux

Bordeaux, France

Summer A Term, June 16 (Friday)-July 1 (Saturday)

Professor Tom Zeiler

Phone: TBD

Thomas.Zeiler@Colorado.edu

Office hours: by appointment

This Global Seminar, based in Bordeaux, provides an opportunity to compare France - its history and contemporary culture, economy, and culture – to that of the United States. By exploring Franco-American ties through history and selected topics, *IAFS 3500: France and America: Connections Through Time* offers students in the International Affairs Program (IAFS) and allied departments such as Political Science, History, and Economics, as well as qualified students from the Global Studies Residential Academic Program (G-RAP), a chance to incorporate their coursework and knowledge of international affairs into a study abroad experience.

IAFS 3500 is the only course offered by the Program on International Affairs that meets the Historical Context core, and it is also cross-listed in the Department of History (in the Comparative History category as HIST 4190) and permitted to count for elective credit in the Department of Political Science.

History Made and in the Making

The course will explore history in both a traditional, chronological approach, and by using history to inform the present. We will focus on comparing the systems, thought, policies, and experiences of France and America through the mid-twentieth century (the Second World War). Along the way, students will learn how history is studied (through political figures and institutions, by cultural and social “bottom-up” methods), and develop a solid base of knowledge about the history of America and France. Then, we will draw on this history to show the dynamic and creative ways history can be studied to open a window on the present, and even the future. Thus, topics are embedded in the prior history; students must understand the previous centuries of French and American experiences in a comparative fashion to comprehend these more current topics. As well, the history of each of the topics will be presented in its own right, as a means of reflecting on contemporary times. As you will see, IAFS 3500 is a hybrid: it engages in current affairs based on history.

With Bordeaux as a case study for such shared American and French issues as revolution, democracy, nation-building, war and society, trade and business, education, immigration, security/diplomacy/terrorism, freedom of speech, and regional/global integration, *France*

and America will familiarize students with the history and contemporary relations of two of the world's most influential powers. And, it will provide a look at how they both got along or diverged, as France and America have, at times, embraced and also vilified each other.

We will ask many questions, with France being the medium for answers, such as: how did the legacy of revolutions in both countries shape their political and cultural character? What values do France and America share, and why? Why did both find themselves at war, and what were the effects of war on each? What business practices do both nations share? Why do both the French and Americans view each other as threats and friends, sometimes simultaneously? How do local politics and administration inform policy choices in each nation? What does each country mean by freedom of speech, freedom of religion, and the like? Are there commonalities regarding immigration, sustainability, same-sex marriage, the status of women, and politics? Can we learn the same or different lessons from each nation's experiences with terrorism, education, and economic integration?

Schedule -- ALL SESSIONS ARE MANDATORY: missing one session in Bordeaux will result in failure of the course.

French Connections will begin on the Boulder campus, with an orientation with the Study Abroad Office and then a meeting with Professor Zeiler in April. That second Boulder session will introduce the theme of Franco-American (and Euro-American) ties through time, themes that will be studied more in-depth in Bordeaux, and some of the more distant history and issues.

SCHEDULE

** After each date, the morning lecture/event is listed. Class begins at 10:00 am and goes until noon. Class then moves to excursions in the afternoons.

BORDEAUX

Friday, June 16: arrival, 6 pm, meet on steps of Grand Theatre (Opera House)

Saturday, June 17: free day/shopping

Sunday, June 18: tour

Monday, June 19: Prof Gaillet – Gender/Family/Sexual Orientation

READ: Wente, "French Morals, American Justice"; *NYT*, "Where Having It All Doesn't Mean Having Equality"; Stille, "How American is the French President's Affair?"; Washam, "Valerie Trierweiler"; Kerchick, "Why the French Hostility to Same-Sex Marriage?"; Dennis, "Thoughts of an American Au Pair..."; Trouillard, "France's New Same-Sex Marriage Law...."

LUNCH: La Passerelle /Prof H-M presentation on Sciences Po/education (at lunch)

Afternoon: Synagogue

Tuesday, June 20: Prof Caroline Dufy – Politics/Systems

READ: From Bikinis to Burkinis; As France's Towns Wither; France's Obsession with Decline; The Economy that France's Next President will Inherit; Fractured France.

Afternoon: Musee d'Acquitaine; Musee de la Resistance

Wednesday, June 21: Darbon – Africa/Immigration community

*READ: Allen, "French Burqa Ban"; "Burqini Ban"; Laicite: After the Paris Attacks; Preston, "U.S. Raids 6 Meat Plants in ID Case"; Messina, *Post-WWII Migration to Western Europe*; NYT, "National Front"; Beardsley, "The French Debate"; Darbon readings laicite.*

Afternoon: St. Emilion

Thursday, June 22: Prof Gabaillet – Charlie Hebdo/Anti-Americanism/Francophobia

READ: Giovanni, "The Fall of France"; Gabaillet, "Freedom of Speech and Unconsecrated Mass Media," pp. 77-87; Semplejan, "French in NY Schools"; Adouard, "Behind Enemy Lines."

Afternoon: submarine base

*READ: Farmer, *Martyred Village* (The Massacre), pp. 13-28; Wyman, *The Abandonment of the Jews*, pp. 124-37; "New Monument for Cockleshell Heroes," pp. 1-3.*

Friday, June 23: Prof Delori – War on Terror

READ: https://www.buzzfeed.com/alimwatkins/syria-civilian-casualties-policy?utm_term=.rc0DZKz51#.prLQO9wK6

Afternoon: free

Saturday-Sunday, June 24-25: free

Monday, June 26: Prof Costa – EU and Crisis

READ: White Paper on the Future of Europe

Afternoon: Wine tasting at CIVB

Tuesday, June 27: Prof. Taliano-des-Garest - History/Art

READ: Zaretsky, "A Roller Coaster Ride of an Empire."

Afternoon: American Consulate, Consul Dan Hall

Wednesday, June 28: Prof. Balans – Revolution/Ideas

READ: Paine, *The Rights of Man*; Montesquieu, *Spirit of the Laws*; Cody, *In Bordeaux, A Struggle...*

Afternoon: Arcachon trip

Thursday, June 29: Chateau de la Brede; historic/cultural tour of region

Friday, June 30: Au revoir lunch

Saturday, July 1: DEPARTURE

Grading and Assessment (100 points total)

Three-Part Research Paper Package = 60 pts

1. American Paper = 20 pts

Each student will choose a topic in Boulder, before the trip, based on the topics we will discuss in Bordeaux. This paper examines the American side of the topic. You will research this topic in April and May and hand in a 5-page essay or outline to me upon arrival in Bordeaux.

2. Student "Expert" Presentation/Discussion in Bordeaux = 10 pts

Each student will present the American side of the topic before or during the relevant lecture in Bordeaux. The goal is to give the class comparison and contrast points before or after we hear the French side of the topic. Presentations should be no more than 5 minutes, followed by 10 minutes of discussion.

3. Reflective Comparison Essay = 20 pts

After the lecture and American side presentation/discussion, each student will incorporate the French side into a reflective essay (10 pages) on the topic.

Class Attendance/Participation = 20 pts

Active participation, including active questioning with guest lectures, reflections on readings, and on visits/excursions.

Photo Bordeaux Project = 20 pts

Each student will compile a 10-photo “day in the life” of Bordeaux, along a theme approved by me. These might include youth, food, wine, monuments, families, buildings, transportation, etc. I want to see the theme clearly. I will count short videos as part of this project.

The project should be accompanied by at least a page explanation. BE CREATIVE!

Final Quiz = 10 pts

A short-answer final exam/quiz the last day of the course, on Friday, June 26. This will be easy for those who have been attentive in class and to the readings!

PLEASE NOTE: TWO LETTER GRADES WILL BE DEDUCTED FROM THE FINAL GRADE FOR ANY MISSED ASSIGNMENT, LECTURE, OR EXCURSION LINKED TO THIS COURSE

TOPICS for RESEARCH PAPERS (general categories within which you and I can find a topic)

Revolutions

Democracy/Government: ideas, ideals, and ideology; constitutions, governance – local/state/regional/provincial/national; elections; people – thinkers, politicians; institutions; reforms; protest movements

Economics: crises; banking/money; economic integration and dealing with regionalism/globalization

World War II

Slavery

Art

Gender/Women

Family

Anti-Americanism/Francophobia

Free speech

European Union

Euro Crisis/Great Recession

Immigration: newcomers and national ideals; work; cultural values; religion; gender roles

Terrorism

Same-Sex Marriage