SYLLABUS
FRE 352
Spring 2015
Modern French Cultures

This course is called “Modern French Cultures” because there has never been just one French culture in the singular. This fact became especially evident in 1789, when the French Revolution began. Ever since then, French-speaking peoples have contested the norms of a single culture, sometimes through another revolution in the streets (as in 1830, 1848, 1871, or 1968), sometimes through defiance of artistic norms and state censorship, and sometimes through civil disobedience against other laws. In this course, we will study a few of these hotly contested moments of the past two hundred years. We will read some classic nineteenth-century novels as well as some more contemporary works; we’ll also watch the film Le Chagrin et la pitié, Marcel Ophuls’ great documentary about the German Occupation of France (1940-44), which was one of the most divisive periods of French history. And we’ll study other such sharply divisive events—the obscenity trial of Madame Bovary, the Dreyfus Affair, episodes of the Algerian war, May ’68—most often through works of fiction or testimony that transcend their occasion.

Required texts (available at USC Bookstore)
• Alleg, Henri, La Question, ISBN 978-2707320629
• Flaubert, Gustave, Madame Bovary, ISBN 978-2081295278
• Louatah, Sabri, Les Sauvages, ISBN 978-2081274488
• Rotman, Patrick, Mai 68 raconté à ceux qui ne l’ont pas vécu, ISBN 978-2020965965
• Winock, Michel, L’affaire Dreyfus, ISBN 978-2020328487
• Other texts will be available through Blackboard or on ARES (electronic reserves)

Course work
• Three short papers (3-4 pp.) for which you will be given a choice of topics. Papers are to be written in French and will be graded for both language and substance. After meeting with me, you have the option to revise and resubmit two of the three papers within one week after the initial drafts are returned.
• An in-class oral presentation on the background of a reading assignment.
• Occasional unannounced quizzes on the day’s reading assignment.
• A midterm and a final exam.
Grading

- Preparation and participation 10%
- Quizzes 20%
- Short papers 30%
- Midterm exam 20%
- Final exam 20%

Other course policies

- Papers must be submitted to me by email attachment (kamuf@usc.edu) in .doc or .docx format (no .pdfs) before the beginning of class on the due date (see syllabus). Late papers will not be accepted.
- Come to class prepared. If there is a reading assignment, bring the text to class.
- More than two (2) unexcused absences over the course of the semester will lower your final grade, i.e., a B will be lowered to a B-.
- The only electronic devices that may be used in class are readers such as Kindles and only for class materials. Cell phones must be turned off and kept out of sight during class.
- Class will always begin promptly so plan to arrive on time.
- Use email to communicate with me (kamuf@usc.edu) or simply come to my office hours.

Weekly Schedule

Jan. 13: Introduction to the class
Jan. 15: L’arrière-fond de la Révolution française

Jan. 20: Balzac, Colonel Chabert, pp. 1-27 (Blackboard)
Jan. 22: Colonel Chabert, pp. 28-fin

Jan. 27: Delacroix, Liberté guidant le peuple (1830) **First short paper due**
La conquête d’Algérie: http://www.express.fr/actualite/politique/france-algerie-1-la-conquete_492185.html
Jan 29: Flaubert, Madame Bovary, Première partie, chap. I-VII

Feb. 3: Madame Bovary, Première partie, chap. VIII-IX (In-class presentation)
Feb. 5: Madame Bovary, Deuxième partie, chap. I-VIII

Feb. 10: Madame Bovary, Deuxième partie, chap. IX-XV
Feb. 12: Madame Bovary, Troisième partie (In-class presentation)
Feb. 17: Le procès de Madame Bovary (Blackboard)
Feb. 19: Paris insurgé: La Commune de 1871

Feb. 24: Paris insurgé (In-class presentation) **Second short paper due**
Feb. 26: La Belle époque: Expositions universelles 1889, 1900

Mar. 3: Midterm exam
Mar. 5: Winock, L’Affaire Dreyfus

Mar. 10: L’Affaire Dreyfus (In-class presentation)
Mar. 12: L’Affaire Dreyfus

SPRING BREAK

Mar. 24: Le Chagrin et la pitié (film screened in class)
Mar. 26: Le Chagrin et la pitié

Mar. 31: Le Chagrin et la pitié
Apr. 2: Le Chagrin et la pitié (In-class presentation)

Apr. 7: Alleg, La Question
Apr. 9: La Question (In-class presentation)

Apr. 14: Rotman, Mai 68 raconté à ceux qui ne l’ont pas vécu **Third short paper due**
Apr. 16: Mai 68 raconté à ceux qui ne l’ont pas vécu (In-class presentation)

Apr. 21: NO CLASS
Apr. 23: NO CLASS

Apr. 28: Louatah, Les Sauvages (In-class presentation)
Apr. 30: Les Sauvages

May 7, 2:00 PM: Final exam
Statement for Students with Disabilities
Any student requesting academic accommodations based on a disability is required to register with Disability Services and Programs (DSP) each semester. A letter of verification for approved accommodations can be obtained from DSP. Please be sure the letter is delivered to your course instructor (or TA) as early in the semester as possible. DSP is located in STU 301 and is open from 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Website and contact information for DSP
http://sait.usc.edu/academicsupport/centerprograms/dsp/home_index.html
(213) 740-0776 (Phone), (213) 740-6948 (TDD only), (213) 740-8216 (FAX)
ability@usc.edu

Statement on Academic Integrity
USC seeks to maintain an optimal learning environment. General Principles of academic honesty include the concept of respect for the intellectual property of others, the expectation that individual work will be submitted unless otherwise allowed by an instructor, and the obligations both to protect one’s own academic work from misuse by others as well as to avoid using another’s work as one’s own. All students are expected to understand and abide by these principles. Scampus, The Student Guidebook, contains the Student Conduct Code in Section 11.00, while the recommended sanctions are located in Appendix A: http://usc.edu/dept/publications/SCAMPUS/gov/ Students will be referred to the Office of Student Judicial Affairs and Community Standards for further review should there be any suspicion of academic dishonesty. The Review process can be found at: http://usc.edu/student-affaris/SJACS/
Information on intellectual property at USC is available at:
http://usc.edu/academe/acsen/issues/ipr/index.html

Other Information
Are you a French major (or thinking about becoming one)? Do you enjoy independent research? If so, you should consider honors in French. As an honors student, you will have the opportunity to work closely with French faculty on a thesis project related to your research interests. Each student who successfully completes the project receives the designation "B.A. in French with Honors" on her or his transcript (and a prize!). For a summary of the program requirements, please see our webpage:
https://dornsife.usc.edu/fren-ital/the-ba-in-french-with-honors/
Or, for more information, contact the Director of the French Honors Program, Professor Olivia Harrison (oharriso@usc.edu).

Consider participating in one of the following USC study abroad programs:
• June in Dijon. Contact Colin Keaveney mailto:keaveney@usc.edu
• Fall or Spring semester in Paris. Contact Office of Overseas Studies
• Year in Paris program. Contact Office of Overseas Studies
• PWP in Senegal. Contact Julie Nack Ngué mailto:nackngue@usc.edu
• PWP in Louisiana. Contact Jessica Kanoski mailto:jkanoski@usc.edu