

University of Wisconsin-Madison  
Department of History  
Semester I, 2005-2006

Laird Boswell  
5127 Humanities  
263-1805  
lboswell@wisc.edu  
Office hours: Tuesday 1:30-2:30; Friday 3:30-4:30.

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. Particular attention will be given to contemporary historiographical debates (on both sides of the Atlantic) on such topics as rural history in the nineteenth century or the Vichy régime.

Requirements: Two short (5-7 pages) review essays and one long paper (15-20 pages) on a topic to be agreed upon with the instructor. Those with an adequate knowledge of French will be required to review French language books. Students will also be responsible for leading at least one discussion in tandem with another student.

Starred books are available for purchase at the University Bookstore. All books are on 3 hour reserve in Helen C. White Library. Most articles can be downloaded as PDF files through Madcat (just look up the name of the periodical and then track down the volume number); articles not available in this format have been placed on Electronic Reserves (EC).

Week 1. September 2. Introduction and Course Requirements

Week 2. September 9. Napoleon

Steven Englund, Napoleon : A Political Life (New York, 2004), 209-251.

\*Isser Woloch, Napoleon and his Collaborators (Norton, 2001), 36-119 ; 157-213.

\* Martyn Lyons, Napoleon Bonaparte and the Legacy of the French Revolution (St-Martin's Press, 1994), 1-4 ; 29-159 ; 294-300

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

Week 3. September 16. 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

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); Roger V. Gould, Insurgent Identities: Class, Community, and Protest in Paris from 1848 to the Commune (Chicago, 1995); Jill Harsin, Barricades: The War of the Streets in Revolutionary Paris, 1830-1848 (New York, 2002)

Week 4. September 23. The Napoleonic Legend,

Sudhir Hazareesingh, The Legend of Napoleon (Granta, 2005), 1-14 ; 40-99; 123-83 ; 209-233 ;260-268

Sudhir Hazareesingh, The Saint-Napoleon (Harvard, 2004), 1-77 ; 220-235

Steven Englund, Napoleon : A Political Life (New York, 2004), 456-67.

Possible books for review : Bernard Ménéger, Les Napoleon du peuple (Paris, 1988) ; Natalie Petiteau, Napoléon, de la mythologie à l'histoire (Paris, 1999)

Week 5. September 30. The Peasantry

\*Eugen Weber, Peasants into Frenchmen : The Modernization of Rural France, 1870-1914 (Stanford, 1976), 3-22 ; 50-114 ; 195-220 ;240-277 ; 292-338 ; 471-496.

Roger Price, People and Politics in France 1848-1870 (Cambridge, 2004), 172-273

Edward Berenson, "Politics and the French Peasantry : The Debate continues," Social History 12 (1987): 213-229 [EC]

Possible books for review: Alain Corbin, The Village of Cannibals [*Le village des cannibales*] (Cambridge, Mass, 1992); Alain Corbin, The Life of an Unknown: The Rediscovered World of a Clog Maker in Nineteenth Century France (Paris, 1998)], prelude, 1-70, 127-162, 179-213; Tony Judt, Socialism in Provence (Cambridge, 1979); Laura Levine Frader, Peasants and Protest. Agricultural Workers, Politics, and Unions in the Aude (Berkeley, 1991); Raymond Jonas, Industry and Politics in Rural France (Ithaca, 1994) ; James R. Lehning, Peasant and French: Cultural Contact in Rural France During the Nineteenth Century (Cambridge, 1995); Peter Sahlins, Forest Rites. The War of the Demoiselles in Nineteenth-Century France (Cambridge, 1994),

Week 6. October 7. Third Republic

**\*\*\* First review essay due Monday October 3 \*\*\***

James Lehning, To be a Citizen : The Political Culture of the Early French Third Republic (Cornell, 2001), 1-34; 58-86; 109-127; 155-186

Philip Nord, The Republican Moment: Struggles for Democracy in Nineteenth-Century France (Cambridge, Mass., 1995), 1-14; 191-254.

Bertrand Taithe, "Should the Third Republic Divide us Least?" French History 18, no. 2 (2004): 222-233.

Possible books for review: Sudhir Hazareesingh, From Subject to Citizen: The Second Empire and the Emergence of Modern French Democracy (Princeton, 1998); Robert Tombs, The Paris Commune, 1871 (Longman's, 1999)

Week 7. October 14. Local and National Identities

Stéphane Gerson, Local Memories and Political Culture in Nineteenth Century France (Cornell, 2003), 1-101; 142-174; 206-230; 256-290.

Kollen Guy, When Champagne became French: Wine and the Making of a National Identity (Baltimore, 2003), 1-39; 118-195

Ernest Renan, "What is a nation?" in Geoff Eley and Ronald Grigor Suny, Becoming National: A Reader (Oxford, 1996), 42-55. [You can also read the French original entitled "*Qu'est-ce qu'une nation?*" available in multiple editions in Memorial Library]

Possible books for review: Caroline Ford, Creating the Nation in Provincial France; Jean-François Chanet, L'école républicaine et les petites patries (Paris, 1996)

#### Week 8. October 21. Fascism

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

Kevin Passmore, From Liberalism to Fascism : The Right in a French Province (Cambridge, 1997), 1-19; 181-310

Possible books for review: Robert O. Paxton, French Peasant Fascism: Henry Dorgères and the Crisis of French Agriculture (Oxford, 1997); 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)

#### Week 9. October 28. Vichy France.

\*Julian Jackson, France : The Dark Years, 1940-44 (Oxford, 2001), 1-20; 139-235; 239-299; 354-81

\*Robert Gildea, Marianne in Chains (NY, 2002), 1-115; 191-290; 403-411.

Lynne Taylor, "Occupied France Remembered," Contemporary European History 13, no. 3 (2004), 357-65

Denis Peschanski, "Legitimacy/Legitimation/Deligitimation: France in the Dark Years, a Textbook Case," Contemporary European History 13, no. 4 (2004): 409-423.

Possible books for review: Philippe Burrin, France under the Germans; 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).

Week 10. November 4. Vichy France : Gender and Masculinity

Fabrice Virgili, Shorn Women. Gender and Punishment in Liberation France (Berg, 2002). [*La France "virile": Des femmes tondues à la Libération* – intro chapters 1, 2, 4, 7, 8], pp. 1-37 ; 75-111 ; 177-252

Luc Capdevila, "The Quest for Masculinity in Defeated France, 1940-45," Contemporary European History 3 (November 2001): 423-45.

Kristen Childers Stromberg, Fathers, Families and the State in France 1914-1945 (Cornell, 2003), 1-11, 112-195

Michael Kelly, The Cultural and Intellectual Rebuilding of France after the Second World War (Palgrave, 2004), 106-126.

Possible books for review: \*Francine Muel-Dreyfus, Vichy and the Eternal Feminine (Duke University Press) [*Vichy et l'éternel féminin*]; 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); Miranda Pollard, Reign of Virtue: Mobilizing Gender in Vichy France (Chicago, 1998)

Week 11. November 11. Foreign Policy

\* William Hitchcock, France Restored: Cold War Diplomacy and the Quest for Leadership in Europe, 1944-1954 (Chapell Hill, 1998), 1-168; 203-09.

Possible books for review: Anthony Adamthwaite, Grandeur and Misery. France's bid for power in Europe 1914-1940 (London, 1995)

Week 12. November 18. 1968

**\*\*\* Second review essay due Monday November 14\*\*\***

Michael Seidman, The imaginary revolution. Parisian Students and Workers in 1968 (Berghahn Books, 2004), 1-12; 53-85; 91-203; 272-282.

Kristin Ross, May '68 and its Afterlives (Chicago, 2002), 1-64; 182-215.

Week 13. Thanksgiving

Week 14. December 2. No class

Week 15. December 9. France and the Environment

Michael Bess, The Light-Green Society : Ecology and Technological Modernity in France, 1960-2000 (Chicago, 2003), 3-56; 76-140; 161-233; 273-283; 291-95.

Caroline Ford, "Nature, Culture and Conservation in France and her Colonies, 1840-1940," Past and Present 183 (2004): 173-198.

Caroline Ford, "Landscape and Environment in French Historical and Geographical Thought: New Directions," French Historical Studies 24, no. 1 (Winter 2001): 125-134.

Sara Pritchard, "Reconstructing the Rhône: The Cultural Politics of Nature and Nation in Contemporary France, 1945-1997," French Historical Studies 27 (2004): 765-799.

Possible books for review: Gabrielle Hecht, The Radiance of France: Nuclear Power and National Identity in France after World War II (Cambridge, 1998); Tamara L. Whited, Forests and Peasant Politics in Modern France (New Haven, 2000).

\*\*\*\* **Make up class. Date to be determined.** Immigration and Race

Gérard Noiriel, The French Melting Pot (Minnesota), xi-xxix; 1-44; 227-278.

Tyler Stovall and Sue Peabody eds., The Color of Liberty. Histories of Race in France (Duke, 2003), 338-350; 351-69; 147-184.

Herrick Chapman and Laura Frader eds, Race in France (New York, 2004), 1-19; 111-140

Possible books for review: Patrick Weil, La France et ses étrangers: l'aventure d'une politique de l'immigration, de 1938 à nos jours (Gallimard, 1995); Vincent Viet, La France immigrée: construction d'une politique, 1914-1997 (Fayard, 1998); Riva Kastoryano, Negotiating Identities: States and Immigrants in France and Germany (Princeton, 2002)

\*\*\* **Final 15 to 20 page Paper due Monday December 19 by 4 pm in my box** \*\*\*

