

COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE TITLE:	USA-France: Crossroads in Civilization	COURSE CODE:	HIST211
PREREQUISITES:	None	SEMESTER:	SPRING 2017
INSTRUCTOR:	Dr Deborah Jenner	CREDITS:	3
EMAIL:	djenner@groupe-igs.fr	SCHEDULE:	

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is designed for students with little academic background in History to acquire a global view by juxtaposing parallel but often contrasting events that have marked U.S. and French History. (This course can also serve for majors of various disciplines as a case study for different social, economic or cultural issues.)

Avoiding a tedious general survey of history, the course will focus on key moments along a timeline (from Roman Gaul / Native American civilization to the present) when a 'crossroads' determined the complexity of US/French relations whether in partnership or opposition. We will see how Monarchies, Colonization, Revolution, Democracy, Imperialism, Capitalism and Globalization developed in both hemispheres as well as at what point the "Capital of Arts" shifted. Special attention will be made as to what each country has contributed to world civilization and to the particularities of their value systems and attitudes giving insight into how the each of the countries function and what their preoccupations are. We will discuss a series of historical milestones set against various aspects of culture as well as social issues. Briefing lectures, films and discussions will prepare the groundwork. Then, small teams of students will prepare arguments for their elected country's policies in order to enter into a lively debate the following week.

The course's purpose is to introduce students to an innovating, relativist approach situating everything in a context avoiding the normal patriotic dogma of an individual country's history course. This, in turn, prepares students to better understand their own countries' place in today's globalization. Emphasis is on learning to juggle a whole range of political, technological and cultural interactions in order to link their causes and effects and to better evaluate their impact.

In-class debates, films, and other activities will make US France Crossroads a hands-on experience. A walking tour will trace 'Americans in Paris' giving direct access to the places and institutions referred to in class allowing students learn in the field the hot-spots à l'américaine of the city's long history.

Attendance at a couple of evenings at the France-Amériques Association's and other groups' events will be recommended for bonus points and networking.

The course will give you the much-needed background to the daily news you see and follow in both countries. Your own story at ABS will be enriched with cross-references and a truly "French connection". This course will help make American student's stay in the city and French students' experience in a US institution (A.B.S.) much more meaningful. It will add a plus to their C.V. and help them in dealing with the French or the Americans in business throughout their careers.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

It is hoped that the students will:

- Sort out what is unique in U.S. and French civilizations and what they have contributed to world civilization.
- Acquire a certain familiarity with the two countries (their history and contemporary life) across a wide spectrum
- Develop an awareness of the particular ways each epoch created its own approach to life
- See how infrastructures, foundations and mentalities that make these countries what it is today were established and developed.
- Understand how to evaluate and appreciate a people whose values and lifestyle may be quite different from your own.
- Learn to seek out the whole story and not just treat the news as entertaining gossip.

EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES:

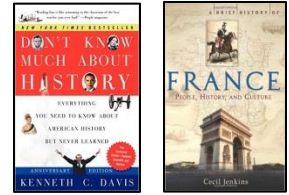
Upon completion of this course students should be able to:

- Work with others to complete group projects and win team competitions
- Apply skills in formal debating and informal discussions
- Cross-reference and research documentation
- Organize thoughts and opinions into well-written essays dealing with rather subjective material.
- Understand the notion of civilization in general and that of the United States and of France in particular.
- Take into consideration social-political issues and their impact on a culture.
- Retain a basic timeline of events, mentalities and changes with which to situate other developments.
- Cultivate "sensibility and appreciation" for "the other"; open to new experiences in everyday life
- Acquire knowledge into the history of US and French commercial activities.
- Learn some everyday terms in English and in French that shed light on hidden connections and meanings behind them

MANDATORY TEXTBOOKS:

A Brief History of France – People, History and Culture, Cecil Jenkins, Running Press 2011. ISBN-13: 978-0762441204

Don't Know Much About History, Kenneth Davis, Harper paperback 2012. ISBN-13: 978-0061960543



Warning: quizzes and essay exams are open-book, however, an electronic copy cannot be consulted during such controls. You MUST bring the textbook and any Xeroxes to class each time. ANY STUDENT WHO DOES NOT SO WILL BE COUNTED AS ABSENT FOR HALF A CLASS.

EVALUATIONS:

1 mid-term of 60 minutes and 1 final exam of 90 minutes each will test the student's ability to select supporting facts from the reading material to justify an opinion in order to develop a critical analysis of the question on a major theme.

The final grade will be determined as follows:

- 3 Team debates 12 points each (36p)
- Mid-term Exam 12 points
- 6 film quizzes 3 points (12p)
- 4 worksheets on lectures 2 points (8p)
- Final Exam 22 points
- Class participation 10 points including critiques of debates.
- Bonus points – 2 per reported activity (Max. 20 applied to boost any grade other than the final) for class and ultra-mural activities showing exceptional participation and effort.

Presence in class is mandatory. More than 2 absences will lead to a failing grade.

COURSE SCHEDULE:

Dates	Reading/Homework	Session Content
<p>Session 1 January 31</p>	<p>DAVIS chap. 1-2, pp.1 - 59 <i>Brave New World</i> JENKINS chap. 1-3 <i>Roman Gaul - Wars of Religion</i></p>	<p>Introduction to civilization and History study BRAVE NEW WORLDS: (Native Americans – Gauls, French Slave Trade, French Indian War, Puritans – Huguenots) Lecture <i>False Starts, Merchants and Colbert</i> Film <i>The Mayflower</i> Debating techniques and theme sign-up</p>
<p>Session 2 February 7</p>	<p>DAVIS chap. 2-3, pp.47 - 144 <i>Say You Want a Revolution,</i> JENKINS chap. 4-6, <i>Sun King, Enlightenment, Revolution to Napoleon</i></p>	<p>REVOLUTIONS AND DEMOCRACIES Lecture <i>Sugar, Slaves and Arms</i> Films: <i>1776, Lincoln</i> <i>Le Roi Danseur – Alvin Ailey’s Revelations</i> Debates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Founding Fathers – The Enlightenment • Checks and Balances – Montesquieu • Bill of Rights – Droits de l’Homme
<p>Session 3 February 14</p>	<p>DAVIS chap. 3-4, pp.144 - 196 <i>Growth of a Nation</i> JENKINS chap. 7, pp. < 136 <i>Revolutionary Aftershocks</i></p>	<p>TRANSCENDENTALISM – ROMANTICISM Lecture <i>Louisiana Purchase – Sublime Wilderness</i> Film: <i>Beautiful Dreamers</i> (Walt Whitman) Debates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tocqueville – Thoreau ‘<i>Civil Disobedience</i>’ • Manifest Destiny – Empirical Wars • Maximilian I – Mexican War • Edgar Allen Poe – Hugo & Baudelaire
<p>Session 4 February 21</p>	<p>DAVIS chap. 4-5 pp. 250 – 303 <i>When Monopoly Wasn’t a Game</i> JENKINS chap. 7 pp. 136 – <i>Another Napoleon</i></p>	<p>INDUSTRIALIZATION & WORKERS CITY GROWTH – COUNTRY GROWTH Lecture <i>Engineering the Earth</i> Film: <i>The Long Journey Home</i> (Immigrants) Debates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homesteading – Haussmann’s Urbanism • Haymarket Square – La Commune • Sweatshops – Zola’s <i>Germinal</i>

<p>Session 5 February 28</p>	<p>DAVIS chap. 5, pp. 304 - 305 JENKINS chap. 8 <i>The 3rd Republic</i> pp. <158</p>	<p>GLOBALIZATION SHIFTING CENTERS ROBBER BARONS Lecture: J P Morgan Film: <i>Paris on Parade, US Museums</i> Debates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Panama Canal – Suez Canal • Expo Universelle 1889 & 1900, Chicago Fair 1893 • French colonies – US expansionism
<p>Session 6 March 7</p>	<p>DAVIS chap. 5-6 pp. 306 – 343 <i>Boom to Bust</i> JENKINS chap.8-9 pp. 159 - 172 <i>Defeat out of Victory</i></p>	<p>WORLD WAR ONE THE LOST GENERATION – THE JAZZ AGE Lectures & Discussions: NYC Dada – Paris Dada/Surrealism Film: <i>When African Americans Came to Paris, Modigliani</i> Reading: <i>The Lost Generation</i> by Hemingway Debates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harlem Renaissance – Jazz in Paris • The Treaty of Versailles (US FR interests)
<p>Session 7 March 14</p>	<p>DAVIS chap. 6-7 pp. 343 – 398, <i>Bust to Big Boom</i> JENKINS chap. 9-10 pp.173-202 <i>Collaboration and Resistance</i></p>	<p>Mid-Term ESSAY in class THE DEPRESSION - WORLD WAR TWO Lectures & Discussions: Film: <i>Hiroshima, Mon Amour</i> Debates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Deal – French Socialism • Normandy Landing – The Resistance
<p>Session 8 March 28</p>	<p>DAVIS chap. 7 pp. <424 pp. 434- 437 <i>Commies, Containment</i> JENKINS chap. 11-12 <i>The 4th Republic in Cold War, De Gaulle's Golden Decade Ends</i></p>	<p>THE COLD WAR Lectures & Discussions: Film: <i>American in Paris, Good Night & Good Luck</i></p>

	<i>pp.<238</i>	<p>Reading: <i>The Red and the Black List</i></p> <p>Debates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hollywood – The Nouvelle Vague/Cannes • Beatniks – Existentialism • Pop Music: Sinatra, Elvis – Johnny Hallyday, etc.
<p>Session 9 April 4</p>	<p>DAVIS chap. 7 pp. 424 -433</p>	<p>THE 1960S & THE 1970S</p> <p>Lectures & Discussions:</p> <p>Film: <i>Forest Gump, Martin Luther King</i></p> <p>Debates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indo China – Viet Nam • Women’s rights USA – France • Civil Rights Movement – May 1968 • US expansionism – French Algeria
<p>Session 10 April 11</p>	<p>DAVIS chap. 7-8 pp. 437 – 510 <i>The Torch is Passed</i></p> <p>JENKINS chap. 12-13 pp. 239 – 252 <i>Mutations of the ‘Republican Monarchy’</i></p>	<p>3-hour WALK in Paris</p> <p>Meeting at Jefferson’s statue on the Quai Anatole France (near Musée d’Orsay) at 8:00 finishing at 11:00 near Montparnasse (including coffee break at La Procope Café).</p>
<p>Session 11 April 18</p>	<p>DAVIS chap. 8-9 pp. 510 – 536, pp. 540 – 597</p> <p><i>From Evil Empire to Axis of Evil</i></p> <p>JENKINS chap. 13-14 pp. 252 -<i>Pompidou to Chirac, The French Exception</i></p>	<p>NEW ENEMIES: OPEC, 9/11, ETC.</p> <p>Lectures & Discussions: Ecology and Petrol Wars</p> <p>Film: <i>Charlie Wilson’s War, Battle in Seattle</i></p> <p>Debates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reganomics – Mitterrand Socialism • Aviation: Boeing – Airbus • The French Exception: For and Against
<p>Session 12 April 25</p>	<p>DAVIS chap. 9 pp. 595 - 628</p> <p>JENKINS chap. 15 pp.284 – 309</p> <p><i>France I the New Global Order</i></p>	<p>EXAM over weeks 8-11</p> <p>BRAVE NEW MILLENNIUM</p> <p>Debates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obama – Sarkozy/Holland • Global payers and ‘peace keepers’ <p>Mini presentations</p>