



KIIS Paris 1, Summer 2020

FREN 105: Introduction to French Culture

Instructor: Dr. Mich Nyawalo

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Instructor's office hours: on site and by appointment

Syllabus subject to change

1. Course Description: French 105 is a basic survey of French culture and society from the French Revolution to the present. The course highlights selected edifices, artists, writers, and movements in an attempt provide an introduction into the character, society, and history of France in general and Paris in particular. Mandatory excursions complementing class lectures, film screenings, and discussions are scheduled at least once a week. The goal of this course is to guide uninitiated students as they orient themselves in the city's culture and society. French 105 is therefore recommended for students who are interested in France from the point of view of cultural, historical, literary, language, and social studies but who have not benefited from far-reaching instruction and experience in these areas. The course will be taught in English. Students need not have a working knowledge of French and will be introduced to a certain amount of essential vocabulary.

2. Overall KIIS Program Student Learning Outcomes:

KIIS Study Abroad Mission Statement:

KIIS creates and offers high-quality education abroad programs for students from diverse backgrounds that promote deep international learning, are integrated into the curriculum, and encourage critical and creative thinking. Our goal is to help transform students into global citizens who have personal and professional skills for lifelong enrichment. We strive to go beyond generalizing headlines and outdated cultural clichés to help foster a nuanced appreciation of the world in which we live.

Students participating in KIIS Study Abroad programs aim to:

- 1) Articulate the relationship between ideas, experiences, and place;
- 2) Develop tools to engage with diverse people in the local cultures; and,
- 3) Explore other peoples' values and clarify their own.

In the equivalent of one, single-spaced typed page, reflect on:

How has this experience made you think – or act – differently about the world around you? Please consider the 3 SLOs discussed. Please don't consider course content in your response; instead, think beyond it, and be as specific as possible.

3. Course Objectives and Specific Learning Outcomes:

Student Learning Outcomes

This course will provide:

1) Knowledge of French cultural history, art, literature and politics including:

- An informed understanding of the ways in which social and political movements have shaped the country's artistic and cultural landscape
- A historical perspective for understanding connections of past and present

2) Intellectual and practical skills, including:

- Increased proficiency in reading, writing and speaking
- An understanding of society and human behavior
- An awareness of the role of artistic expressions in the development of cultural identity

4. Major Topics covered in the Course:

- The French Revolution
- The Rise and fall of the Third Republic
- Vichy and its Aftermath
- The Fourth Republic
- The Fifth Republic
- Contemporary Issues in France
- Major French poets, novelists, painters, and singers

5. Fulfillment of General Education Requirement: : Fulfills the “global perspectives” or “cultural perspectives” requirement of the General Education program, depending on the students’ host institution.

6. Required Readings and Materials:

The French Revolution

- (Film) The French Revolution (Part 1): Years of Hopes
YouTube link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8A8mGFi7OUA>
- (Film) The French Revolution (Part 2): The Years of Terrors
YouTube link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mWx6Gn3QqoI>

French Culture, Politics, and Society from 1870 to 2018 (**to be purchased by students**)

- (Book) *France Since 1870: Culture, Politics, and Society* (3rd Edition) by Charles Sowerwine

7. Graded Assignments:

GRADE BREAKDOWN

A: 90.00% and up	D: 60.00-69.99%
B: 80.00-89.99%	F: 59.99% and below
C: 70.00-79.99%	

COURSE EXAMINATIONS

- Written assignment #1: 30% of the final grade
- Written assignment #2: 30% of the final grade
- Journals: 30% of the final grade

- Attendance and participation in class activities, discussions and excursions: 10% of the final grade

Written assignments: There will be two written assignments that will take the place of exams. Each will consist of a particular question that will call on your ability to relate the material studied in class to your own observations. More details about each of these assignments will be given to students at the start of the course. Each of these assignments will count for 30% of the final grade.

Journals: You will have to keep a journal that will reflect on the significance of the sites visited during the entire course of the program. There will be three journal entries worth 10% each, for a total of 30% of the grade.

Attendance and participation in class activities, discussions and excursions: This course will follow the KIIS program attendance policy below. Students' participation will be evaluation based on a combination of student's preparedness for each class session, respect for their classmates and professor, and their active participation in class activities, discussions and excursions.

8. Attendance Policy:

KIIS program participants are expected to be punctual to and in attendance at all classes, presentations, meetings and required excursions, and to remain with the program for the full academic period. Unexcused absences from classes and/or mandatory meetings will result in a lowering of the student's final grade, as will excessive tardiness. Multiple unexcused absences could result in expulsion from the program. Any absence from an academic class session must be excused for medical reasons.

9. Disability Accommodation:

KIIS will make every reasonable effort to provide accommodations for program participants with special needs or disabilities, but we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Be aware that many foreign countries do not have comprehensive legislation comparable to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). As a result, businesses and other establishments operating in foreign countries may not be able to provide accommodations.

If you have a disability accommodation need, we recommend you contact your KIIS Campus Representative, <https://www.kiis.org/about-kiis/contact-us/campus-representatives/>, early in your program selection process so that s/he has time to discuss any specific needs, including which KIIS programs may be best suited. You also are welcome to contact KIIS Office Manager, Haley McTaggart, haley.mctaggart@wku.edu, to discuss your disability accommodation needs (e.g. housing, transportation, excursions, class schedule, etc.).

Immediately after acceptance, notify KIIS Office Manager, Haley McTaggart, haley.mctaggart@wku.edu, if you have a special need or disability that might require any form of accommodation abroad. Failure to notify KIIS may prevent you from participating on your KIIS program. If you require any accommodations abroad, you must provide KIIS Office Manager, Haley McTaggart, an accommodation letter from your home campus' disability accommodation office that lists the accommodations you are eligible to receive. Please do not request accommodations directly from your KIIS Program Director or other KIIS Faculty; the KIIS Office will contact your KIIS Program Director and/or Faculty after we have received your above accommodation letter. In some cases, you may need to make arrangements for

a caregiver to join you on your KIIS program, should your physician, campus disability accommodation office, or KIIS make such a recommendation or require it.

10. Title IX / Discrimination & Harassment:

Recent attention to gender discrimination and sexual harassment at colleges and universities reminds us of the importance of adhering to standards of ethical and professional behavior. KIIS Study Abroad is committed to supporting and encouraging safe and equitable educational environments for our students, faculty, and program directors. Students, faculty, and program directors are required to be civil and treat each other with dignity and respect. As such, harassment and/or discrimination of any kind will not be permitted or tolerated.

Sexual misconduct (sexual harassment, sexual assault, and sexual/dating/domestic violence) and sex discrimination are violations of KIIS policies. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to a) KIIS Executive Director, John Dizgun (+1-270-227-2288), b) WKU's Title IX Coordinator, Andrea Anderson (270-745-5398 / andrea.anderson@wku.edu) or WKU's Title IX Investigators, Michael Crowe (270-745-5429 / michael.crowe@wku.edu) or Joshua Hayes (270-745-5121 / joshua.hayes@wku.edu). Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a KIIS program director and/or faculty member, KIIS program directors and faculty are considered "Responsible Employees" of Western Kentucky University and MUST report what you share to WKU's Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator.

If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU's Counseling and Testing Center, <https://www.wku.edu/heretohelp/> at 270-745-3159.

For more information on KIIS Title IX, see <https://www.kiis.org/students/health-safety/title-ix-clery/>; additional Title IX resources can be found here <https://www.wku.edu/eoo/documents/titleix/titleixbrochure.pdf>.

Everyone should be able to participate on a KIIS program, attend a KIIS event, or work in a KIIS environment (e.g. KIIS office) without fear of sexual harassment or discrimination of any kind. Be respectful of each other.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

Wed, June 3: Group Flight Departure

Thu, June 4: Arrival in Paris; coach bus transportation to hotel; informal neighborhood orientation walking tour

Fri, June 5: Class day #1 (2 contact hours);

- **Topic:** Introduction to the Course and class discussion on the French Revolution
- Louvre in evening (mandatory for students taking this class); free admission 6-9:45pm
- Group meeting #1 today

Sat, June 6: Paris City Center Walking Tour in 3 groups (each faculty leading one—this is a suggestion; 4 contact hours); Crêpe Street Food Social in Groups

Sun, June 7: Class Excursion Day #1 (4 contact hours)

- Class excursion to the Musée d'Orsay (mandatory for students taking this class); free admission 1st Sunday of the month)

Mon, June 8: Class day #2 (2 contact hours)

- **Before class, read** France Since 1870 chapters 1 and 2 (book pages 1 to 24)
- **Topic:** Class discussion on the French revolution and the Paris Commune
- The professor will provide you with materials in class (such as poems, songs, paintings, and texts) to analyze in conjunction with the readings.

Tue, June 9: Class day #3 (2 contact hours)

- **Before class, read** France Since 1870 chapters 3, 4 and 5 (book pages 25 to 68)
- **Topic:** Class discussion on the Cultural Bases of Republicanism and the Dreyfus Affair
- The professor will provide you with materials in class (such as poems, songs, paintings, and texts) to analyze in conjunction with the readings.

Wed, June 10: Class Excursion Day #2 (4 contact hours)

- Class excursion to the Chappelle expiatoire in the 8th arrondissement where Marie Antoinette and Louis XVI are memorialized (their last statements, in the form of long letters they wrote, have also been engraved on this site for visitors to read)
- Class excursion to the Picpus Cemetery
- Class excursion to the Murs des Fédérés
- **First journal due**

Thu, June 11: Class day #4 (2 contact hours)

- **Before class, read** France Since 1870 chapters 9, 10 and 11 (book pages 111 to 147)
- **Topic:** Class discussion on class struggles, the election of 1919, gender, race, public space, and diversity in France
- The professor will provide you with materials in class (such as poems, songs, paintings, and texts) to analyze in conjunction with the readings.
- Group meeting #2 today

Fri, June 12-Sun, June 14: FREE 3-DAY WEEKEND

Mon, June 15: Class day #5 (2 contact hours)

- **Before class, read** France Since 1870 chapters 12-17 (book pages 148 to 226)
- **Topic:** Class discussion on culture between the wars, on Vichy and its aftermath, and Existentialism: culture of the resistance
- The professor will provide you with materials in class (such as poems, songs, paintings, and texts) to analyze in conjunction with the readings.

Tue, June 16: Class day #6 (2 contact hours)

- **Before class, read** France Since 1870 chapters 8, 20 and 21 (book pages 227 to 245 and 253 to 272)
- **Topic:** Class discussion on French colonial heritage
- The professor will provide you with materials in class (such as poems, songs, paintings, and texts) to analyze in conjunction with the readings.

Wed, June 17: Class day #7 (2 contact hours):

- **Before class, read** France Since 1870 chapters 22, 24, and 25 (book pages 273 to 291, 305 to 318, and 321 to 336)
- **Topic:** Class discussion on Social explosion, May '68, women's rights, and gay rights in France
- The professor will provide you with materials in class (such as poems, songs, paintings, and texts) to analyze in conjunction with the readings.
- Picnic in the park this evening
- **Second journal due**
- **First Assignment Due**

Th June 18-Sun, June 21: FREE 4-DAY WEEKEND

Mon, June 22: Class day #8 (2 contact hours)

- **Before class, read** France Since 1870 chapters 26-27 (book pages 337 to 388)
- **Topic:** Class discussion on the Beur moment, the foulard crisis, and the banlieue riots
- The professor will provide you with materials in class (such as poems, songs, paintings, and texts) to analyze in conjunction with the readings.
- Group meeting #3 today

Tue, June 23: Group excursion #1: Versailles avec Grandes Eaux

Wed, June 24: Class day #9 (2 contact hours)

- **Before class, read** France Since 1870 chapters 29 and 30 (book pages 389 to 419)
- **Topic:** Class discussion on the Sarkozy, Holland and Macron presidencies
- The professor will provide you with materials in class (such as poems, songs, paintings, and texts) to analyze in conjunction with the readings.

Thu, June 25: Class Excursion Day #3 (4 contact hours)

- Class excursion to Cité nationale de l'histoire de l'immigration

Fri, June 26: Class day #10 (2 contact hours);

- **Before class, read** France Since 1870 chapters 31-32 (book pages 420 to 452)
- **Topic:** Class discussion on the Sarkozy, Holland and Macron presidencies
- The professor will provide you with materials in class (such as poems, songs, paintings, and texts) to analyze in conjunction with the readings.
- Louvre in evening (optional for students taking this class); free admission 6-9:45pm
- **Third Journal Due**

Sat, June 27: Group excursion #2: Loire Valley Group excursion with stops at Chambord and Chenonceau

Sun, June 28: Free day; Group Farewell Dinner

Mon, June 29: (Class day #11; 2 contact hours)

- **Before class, read** France Since 1870 chapter 33 and conclusion (book pages 453 to 472)
- **Topic:** Class discussion on Racism, Pessimism, Despair: A Culture for the 20th Century
- Finals

- The professor will provide you with materials in class (such as poems, songs, paintings, and texts) to analyze in conjunction with the readings.
- Group meeting #4 today
- Bateaux Mouches tour today/this evening
- **Second Assignment Due**

Tue, June 30: Group departure

- Métro/RER transportation to airport