



KIIS Paris I, Summer 2020

PS 460 Topics: Visual Politics in Paris

Instructor: Dr. Guilherme Silva

Email: guilherme_silva@georgetowncollege.edu

Instructor's office hours: on site and by appointment

Syllabus subject to change

1. Course Description:

We will look at France as a case study for the analysis of key concepts in International Relations (IR), such as power politics, economics, cultural identity, immigration, democracy and repression, among others. Politics is everywhere. It is in places of history, museums, and cafés. It is in sport events and in artistic expressions. It is in the subways, in graffiti on the walls, with people on the streets, in daily events, in architecture, and even in cemeteries. Together, in groups and individually, we will explore places and people (even food!), and use imagery (photography and video) as 'visual texts'. These (and other) materials will serve as visual evidences for analytical discussions, presentations, and the writing of analytical journals, with the goal of building together a coherent picture of politics of France.

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 We strive to go beyond generalizing headlines and outdated cultural clichés to help foster a nuanced appreciation of the world in which we live.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:

After completing this course, students should be able to:

- Identify some of the key concepts and theoretical perspectives in the field of International Relations;
- Recognize and interpret the interplay between the international and the local;
- Critically assess political contents as they manifest in everyday life;
- Use visual information as "visual texts" and "visual evidences", as they apply to politics;
- Demonstrate effective presentation skills, particularly as they relate to visual modes of communication;
- Evaluate similarities and differences in political contents from multiple social spaces (i.e., USA vs. France, Your City vs. Paris).

4. Major Topics covered in the Course:

Class Meetings (11)

- Fri 6/5: **Introduction to International Relations**
Key Concepts and Theories in International Relations
- Mon 6/8: **French Culture and & Global Civil Society**
Political Culture in Paris: Broad Overview
- Tue 6/9: Political Culture in Paris: Participation and Representation
- Thu 6/11: Political Culture in Paris: Global & Local Social Forces
Political Governance in Paris
- Mon 6/15: Political Governance: Broad Overview
- Tue 6/16: Political Governance: The State
- Wed 6/17: Political Governance: France in World Politics
French Glocal Capitalism
- Mon 6/22: Glocal Capitalism: Broad Overview
- Wed 6/24: Glocal Capitalism: Tradition Vs. Business Innovation
- Fri 6/26: Glocal Capitalism: Laissez Faire Vs. Economic Policies
- Mon 6/29: Final Video Presentation

Place as Text Activities

Class Excursions (3):

- Sun 6/7: Montmartre District
- Wed 6/10: Visit to a Local Business / Social Enterprise
- Thu 6/25: Visit to French Parliament

Program Excursions (3):

- Tue 6/23: Palace of Versailles avec Grandes Eaux
- Sat 6/27: Loire Valley with stops at Chambord and Chenonceau
- Mon 6/29: Bateaux Mouches Tour

Group City Walk (2):

- Thu 6/4: Informal neighborhood orientation walking tour
- Sat 6/6: Paris City Center Walking

Group Events (5):

- Fri 6/5: Louvre (evening) (optional)
- Sat 6/6: Crêpe Street Food Social in Groups (mandatory)
- Sun 6/7: Musée d'Orsay (mandatory)
- Wed 6/17: Picnic in the Park (evening) (optional)
- Fri 6/26: Louvre (evening) (optional)

Weekends:

- Fri 6/12-Sun 6/14 FREE 3-DAY WEEKEND
- Th 6/18-Sun 6/21 FREE 4-DAY WEEKEND

Chronological Schedule (Subjected to Change)

Wed 6/3 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Group Flight Departure
WEEK 1: INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
Thu 6/4 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Arrival in Paris;• Coach bus transportation to hotel;• Place as Text Activity: Group City Walk #1: Informal neighborhood orientation walking tour
Fri 6/5 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Group Meeting #1• Class Day #1: Topic: Key Concepts and Theories in International Relations Assignment: Visual Texts #1: Sights of Politics in Paris• Place as Text Activity: Group Events #1: Louvre in evening (optional); free admission 6-9:45pm
Sat 6/6 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Place as Text Activity: Group City Walking #2: Paris City Center Walking Group Events #2: Crêpe Street Food Social in Groups (mandatory)
Sun 6/7 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Place as Text Activity: Class Excursion Day #1: Montmartre District Group Events #3: Musée d'Orsay (mandatory); free admission 1st Sunday of the month
WEEK 2: FRENCH CULTURE & GLOBAL CIVIL SOCIETY
Mon 6/8 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Class Day #2: Topic: Political Culture in Paris: Broad Overview Assignments: Visual Texts #2: Visual Evidences from Paris Global Culture Reading Notes #1
Tue 6/9 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Class Day #3: Café Topic: Political Culture in Paris: Participation and Representation Assignment: Place-as-Text Report #1: Montmartre Distric / Musée d'Orsay
Wed 6/10 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Place as Text Activity: Class Excursion Day #2: Visit to a Local Business / Social Enterprise
Thu 6/11 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Group Meeting #2• Class Day #4: Topic: Political Culture in Paris: Global & Local Social Forces

Assignment: Place-as-Text Report #2: Social Enterprise: Local? Global?

Fri 6/12-Sun 6/14 FREE 3-DAY WEEKEND

WEEK 3: POLITICAL GOVERNANCE IN PARIS

Mon 6/15

- **Class day #5:**
Topic: Political Governance: Broad Overview
Assignment: Reading Notes #2

Tue 6/16

- **Class day #6: Café**
Reading: Political Governance: The State
Assignment: Visual Texts #3: Visual Evidences on State Presence in Everyday Life

Wed 6/17

- **Class day #7:**
Reading: Political Governance: France in World Politics
Assignment: Visual Texts #4: Visual Evidences on France as a Global Player
- **Place as Text Activity:**
Group Events #4: Picnic in the Park (evening) (optional)

Th 6/18-Sun 6/21 FREE 4-DAY WEEKEND

WEEK 4: FRENCH GLOBAL CAPITALISM

Mon 6/22

- **Group Meeting #3**
- **Class day #8:**
Reading: Global Capitalism: Broad Overview
Assignments: Visual Texts #5: Visual Evidences about Capitalism in Europe
Reading Notes #3

Tue 6/23

- **Place as Text Activity:**
Group Excursion #1: Palace of Versailles avec Grandes Eaux

Wed 6/24

- **Class Day #9: Café**
Reading: Global Capitalism: Tradition Vs. Business Innovation
Assignment: Place-as-Text Report #2: Palace of Versailles

Thu 6/25

- **Place as Text Activity:**
Class Excursion Day #3: French Parliament (to be confirmed)

Fri 6/26

- **Class day #10:**
Reading: Global Capitalism: Laissez Faire Vs. Economic Policies
Assignment: Place-as-Text Report #3: French Parliament
- **Place as Text Activity:**
Group Events #5: Louvre in evening (optional); free admission 6-9:45pm

Sat 6/27

- **Place as Text Activity:**
Group Excursion #2: Loire Valley Group Excursion with stops at Chambord and Chenonceau

Sun 6/28

- Free day;
- Group Farewell Dinner

Mon 6/29

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group Meeting #4 • Class Day #11 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assignment: Visual Texts #4: Final Video Presentation • Place as Text Activity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group Excursion #3: Bateaux Mouches tour
<p>Tue 6/30</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group Departure (Métro/RER transportation to airport)

5. Fulfillment of General Education Requirement:

Fulfills the "global perspectives" or "world politics perspectives" requirement of the General Education program, depending on the students' host institution.

6. Required Readings and Materials:

1. ROACH, Steven C, GRIFFITHS, Martin, O'CALLAGHAN, Terry. (2014) International Relations: The Key Concepts (Routledge Key Guides), Routledge.
2. Le Monde Diplomatique (English Version) (Apps Store)
3. Paris: The Official Website of the Convention and Visitors Bureau: <http://en.parisinfo.com/>
4. YouTube Videos
5. Podcast Episodes

7. Graded Assignments:

Place-as-Texts Reports (4)	25%
Reading Notes (3 + pre-departure short assignments)	20%
Visual Texts - Photo Analysis (5)	25%
Visual Texts - Final Video Presentation (1)	15%
Active Participation / Engagement	15%

Place-as-Texts Reports: Participation and full engagement in excursions, city walks and events are a central part of study-abroad programs. For such activities, there will be short written assignments (accompanied by at least one, but no more than three, student-taken photograph(s)) in which the students are expected to critically connect their experiences and what they see with political topics and concepts covered with the class materials. Details on these assignments will be provided to the students. Those reports will count for 25% of the final grade for the class.

Reading Notes: Students will provide short analytical notes on the content materials for this class, which includes readings, YouTube Videos, Podcasts, the English version of the news source Le Monde Diplomatique, and any other material that the instructor provides. Details on these assignments will be provided to the students. These reports (which may include pre-department assignments) will count for 20% of the final grade for the class.

Visual Texts - Photo Analysis: Throughout the course, students will explore the city and collect 'visual evidences' of their experiences and their relation to political topics covered in this class. As such, they will make three short presentations about those visual materials, which, together, will count for 25% of their final grade. Details on these assignments will be provided.

Visual Texts - Final Video Presentation: For our final assignment for this class, students will prepare a short video (5-8 minutes long) about their time in Paris. The video may focus on one or more specific political topics covered in the class, or it may be a more personal and yet critical reflection on political topics as they saw them manifest during their stay in Paris. Details on the assignment (including on the technical aspects for the making of the video) will be provided. The final visual presentation will count for 15% of the final grade for the class.

Active Participation / Engagement: In the excitement of being in a new country, exploring a stunning city such as Paris, while making new friends, one may lose sight of the main purpose for such a unique journey: academic learning. Active participation and full critical engagement in excursions, class debates, and political topics covered are central for the success of this class, both to each student and for the group as a whole. Students are expected to be mindful of their analytical responsibilities for this class, which will count for 15% of their final grade.

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.