

UC Center Program Courses - Fall 2005

PCC 127. WOMEN IN 20TH CENTURY FRANCE

Lecture

Tue 12:30 - 2 pm


Thu 12:30 - 2 pm

Prof. [Nadia Malinovich](#)

Office Hours TBA

*This course is intended to introduce undergraduate students to the social and political history of women in France from the turn of the twentieth century down to the present-day. Beginning with the political watersheds of the Dreyfus Affair (1898-1906) and the separation of Church and State (1905), the course will examine themes of work, sexuality and politics and explore significant French particularities – notably the struggle between Catholics and republicans over laïcité and the impact of the separation of Church and State, the power of the pro-natalist lobby, the singularly high rate of women's, and particularly married women's labor force participation, the weight of agriculture and small-scale, family enterprise on the economy, and notions of Republican universalism – through locating such particularities in a broader, comparative context. [History, Women's Studies, Sociology, Anthropology], **5.0 quarter credits**.*

COURSE MATERIALS

- Simone de Beauvoir, *Memoirs of a Dutiful Daughter*
- Claire Duchen, *Women's Rights and Women's Lives in France, 1944-1968*, Routledge, 1994
- Course Reader (hereby referred to as **[CR]**)
- Primary Documents (signalled by the  icon and provided in class)

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students are expected to attend all classes and participate in discussion. Occasional in-class writing assignments may be given. I will post think questions weekly to guide you for the week's readings, which should be completed before class on Thursday. Beginning on the week of Sept. 26th, a group of three students will be responsible for leading our Thursday class discussion (except when there is a film or guest lecture). Each student will also hand in a 2-3 page (individually written) reaction paper for the week they have chosen.


- Class Participation, including in-class writing, student-led discussion and reaction paper: 25%
- Mid-term Examination: 20%
- Final Examination: 30%
- Research paper (5-7 pages): 25%

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week 1. September 12-16

Introduction: The Legacy of the French Revolution and Napoleonic Code, Women and Religion in the Nineteenth Century


Reading :

- Declaration of the Rights of Man, [Declaration of the Rights of Women](#), Mary Wolstonecraft 
- Elinor Accampo, "Gender, Social Policy, and the Formation of the Third Republic " in *Gender and the Politics of Social Reform in France 1870-1914*, John Hopkins University Press, 1995, pp. 1-27 [CR]
- James McMillan, "[Clericals, Anticlericals and the Women's Movement in France under the Third Republic](#)" in *Historical Journal*, vol.24, n.1, March 1981, pp. 361-376

Week 2. September 19-23

Universal Primary Education and Gender, the Impact of the Separation of Church and State


Reading :

- Jeanne Crouzet-Benaben, *Reforming French Secondary Education for Girls* (1911) 
- Rebecca Rogers, "[Competing Visions of Girls' Education in Post-Revolutionary France](#)" in *History of Education Quarterly*, Summer 1999, pp. 147-70
- Linda Clark, Introduction, ch. 1 & 3 in *Schooling the Daughters of Marianne: Textbooks and the Socialization of Girls in Modern French Primary Schools*, State University of New York Press, 1984, pp. 1-25 & 60-80

Week 3. September 26-30

Feminism, Pro-Natalism and the Politics of the Family

Reading:

- Simone de Beauvoir, *Memoirs of a Dutiful Daughter*, selections
- Nellie Roussel, "Protesting the Centennial of the Napoleonic Code 1904 and French Medal for Mothers Decree, 1920" 
- Karen Offen, "[Depopulation, Pro-Natalism and the Politics of the Family in Third Republic France](#)" in *American Historical Review*, vol.89, 1984, pp. 648-676
- Jean Elisabeth Pedersen, "[Regulating Abortion and Birth Control: Gender, Medicine and Republican Politics in France, 1870-1920](#)" in *French Historical Studies*, vol.19, n.3, Spring 1996, pp. 673-698

Week 4. October 3-7

Conformity and Rebellion

NO CLASS ON TUESDAY



Reading:

- Simone de Beauvoir, *Memoirs of a Dutiful Daughter*, selections

Week 5. October 10-14

Women and the Great War

Reading :


- “The French Union for Women’s Suffrage, The Question of the Vote for Women” 
- Hélène Brion, “The Trial of Hélène Brion au Premier Conseil de Guerre”, statement read by Brion at her own trial for treason (1918) 
- Laura Downs, “Women’s Strikes and the Politics of Popular Egalitarianism” in *Rethinking Labor History*, University of Illinois Press, 1993, pp. 114-149 [CR]
- Steven C. Hause, “More Miverva than Mars: The French Women’s Rights Campaign and the First World War” in *Behind the Lines: Gender and the Two World Wars*, Yale University Press, 1987, pp. 99-113 [CR]

Thursday Film: *Les Amants* (Louis Malle)

Week 6. October 17-21

A World Turned Upside Down? Daily Life in the Aftermath of WWI

Reading :

- Coco Chanel, “The Chanel Look” 
- Mary-Louise Roberts, Introduction, Ch. 1 & 3 in *Civilization Without Sexes: Reconstructing Gender in Postwar France, 1917-1927*, University of Chicago Press, 1984, pp. 1-45 & 63-87 [CR]

Politics, Women’s Roles, and Women’s Rights: The Impact of the War

Reading :

- Siam Reynolds, ch. 1 & 2 in *France Between the Wars: Gender and Politics*, Routledge, 1996, pp. 18-64 [CR]

Week 7. October 24-28

Midterm

Tuesday: Review

Thursday Exam

FALL BREAK

Week 8. November 7-10

Immigration and Colonialism in the 1920s and 1930s Inter-War Years


Reading :

- Elisa Camiscioli, "[Reproducing Citizens, Reproducing the "French Race": Immigration, Demography, and Pronatalism in Early Twentieth Century France](#)" in *Gender and History*, vol.13, n.3, pp. 594-621
- Frances Gouda & Julia Clancy-Smith, "Introduction" & Alice Cocklin, "Redefining Frenchness: Citizenship, Race, Regeneration and the Imperial Motherhood in France and West Africa, 1914-40" in *Domesticating the Empire: Race, Gender and Family Life in French and Dutch Colonialism*, University of Virginia, 1998, pp. 1-87 [CR]

Week 9. November 14-18

Gender, Politics and everyday life under Vichy, 1940-44

Reading:

- Lucienne Blondel, "Women and French Fascism" 
- Paula Schwartz, "[Partisanes and gender politics in Vichy France](#)" in *French Historical Studies*, vol.16, 1989, pp.127-151
- Claire Duchon, Chapter 1 in *Women's Rights and Women's Lives in France, 1944-1968*, pp. 7-32

5-7 Page Paper DUE IN CLASS

Thursday film: *Une Affaire de Femme*

Week 10. November 21-25

Women's Rights and Reconstruction in the Aftermath of WWII

Reading:

- Simone de Beauvoir, *The Second Sex* 
- Claire Duchon, Chapters 2 & 5 *Women's Rights and Women's Lives in France, 1944-1968*, pp. 33-63, 128-164

Week 11. November 28-December 2

Gender Politics and the Women' Liberation Movement

Reading:

- "The Right to Choose: Abortion on Trial in France" 
- Claire Duchon, Chapters 6 & 7 in *Women's Rights and Women's Lives in France, 1944-1968*, pp. 165-211

Week 12. December 5-9

Comparing French and American Feminism, Gender and Feminist Politics at the Turn of the 21 st-Century

Reading:

- Ruth Rosen, Preface & ch. 1-2 in *The World Split Open: How the Modern Women's Movement Changed America*, Penguin, 2000, pp. xi-xxxvi & 3-59 [CR]
- Geneviève Fraisse, "Exclusive Democracy: A French Paradigm" & F. Gaspard & F. Khosrokhavar, "The Headscarf and the Republic" in Célestin, Dalmolin, *Beyond French Feminism: Debates on Women, Politics and Culture in France, 1981-2001*, Palgrave Macmillan, 2003, pp. 51-67 [CR]

Week 13. December 12-16

FINAL EXAM