

UC Center Program Courses - Fall 2007

PCC 127. Women in 20th Century France

Prof. [Nadia Malinovich](#)

Lecture

Teaching Assistant: _

Friday 11:30am -

[Kristina Valentinova](#)

14:30pm

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 Duchon, *Women's Rights and Women's Lives in France* , 1944-1968, Routledge, 1994
- Course Reader (hereby referred to as **[CR]**)

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students are expected to attend all classes and participate in discussion. The first half of class will generally be devoted to lecture, while the second half will function as a discussion section. We will vary the format of the discussion section of the class to include debates, films, field trips, guest speakers, and an occasional in-class writing assignment. Discussion questions are posted on the online syllabus to guide you through the week's readings, which should be completed before class each week. In addition to a mid-term and a final, students will be required to hand in one 5-7 page paper, to be chosen from a list of topics to be handed out in advance. If you would like to pursue individual research on a particular topic rather than choosing from one of the assigned questions, please speak with me in advance.

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

COURSE SCHEDULE

WEEK 1. Sept. 10

Introduction: The Legacy of the French Revolution

Reading

- 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]
- Olympe de Gouges, [Declaration of the Rights of Women](#)

[☒ Questions for class](#)

WEEK 2. September 24

Education, Religion, and Gender Politics in the Long Nineteenth Century

Reading

- Jeanne Crouzet-Benaben, *Reforming French Secondary Education for Girls (1911)* **[CR]**
- 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 **[CR]**

[☒ Questions for class](#)

WEEK 3. October 1

Feminism, Pro-Natalism and the Politics of the Family

Reading

- Nellie Roussel, "Protesting the Centennial of the Napoleonic Code 1904 and French Medal for Mothers Decree, 1920" **[CR]**
- 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

[☒ Questions for class](#)

WEEK 4. October 8

Women , The Great War and the Question of Suffrage

Reading

- Laura Downs, "Women's Strikes and the Politics of Popular Egalitarianism" in *Rethinking Labor History* , University of Illinois Press, 1993, pp. 114-149 **[CR]**
- H  l  ne Brion, "The Trial of H  l  ne Brion au Premier Conseil de Guerre", statement read by Brion at her own trial for treason (1918) **[CR]**
- "The French Union for Women's Suffrage, The Question of the Vote for Women" **[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]**

▣ [Questions for class](#)

WEEK 5. October 15

A World Turned Upside Down?

Reading

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

▣ [Questions for class](#)

Week 6. October 22

MIDTERM EXAM

FALL BREAK

WEEK 7. November 5

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. 1-20, 65-83 [CR]

☒ [Questions for class](#)

WEEK 8. November 12

Vichy and the Holocaust, 1940-44

Reading

- Odette Meyers, "Doors to Madame Marie", excerpt
- Charlotte Delbo, "Arrivals Departures" in *None of Us Will Return* , Grove Press [CR]
- Lucienne Blondel, "Women and French Fascism" [CR]
- Claire Duchon, Chapter 1 in *Women's Rights and Women's Lives in France* , 1944-1968 , pp. 7-32

☒ [Questions for class](#)

WEEK 9. November 19

Conformity and Rebellion

Reading

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

☒ [Questions for class](#)

WEEK 10. November 26

Gender Politics and the Women's Liberation Movement

Reading

- "The Right to Choose: Abortion on Trial in France " & Simone de Beauvoir, "I am a Feminist" [CR]
- Claire Duchon, Chapters 6 & 7 in *Women's Rights and Women's Lives in France* , 1944-1968 , pp. 165-211
- 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]

▣ [Questions for class](#)

WEEK 11. December 3

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

5-7 Page PAPER due in class

Reading

- 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]**

▣ [Questions for class](#)

WEEK 12. December 10

FINAL EXAM