LB-490E (HPS) 3 cr. Summer 2010

Paris: The Intersection of Culture, Religion and Art

Instructor: Kathryn Diller

Meeting Times: Monday 2:30-4pm (Classroom preparation for week’s theme)
Tuesdays 2:30-5:00pm (Field Trips)
Fridays 1:00-2:00pm (Debriefing and presentations on week’s theme)

*Other sites and museums may be suggested for exploration at times arranged by the student.*

Course Description:

Great science flows from passion in the service of reason... Great discoveries, cures, technological breakthroughs are the result of curiosity and questions, reasonable hypotheses and a lot of passion to push through the mistakes, failures, and endless time at the bench.

Great art flows from passion in the service of romance... The Greeks spent countless hours cutting marble to create the romantic ideal of perfect male & female forms. Cathedrals rose over decades and centuries for the romantic glory of Christian faith. The Eiffel Tower was designed and built for the romantic dream of sculpting the tallest building in the world, and mathematics dictated its beauty.

Paris offers a microcosm of both the finest art in the world and the collision of western cultures and religions. Sculptures of Greek gods, secular landmarks recognized worldwide, Christian cathedrals, and Islamic and Jewish museums are but a metro-ride away from one another. Art is the work of passion, and it demands a passionate response. Paris offers an intersection of cultures where Christian and Jewish histories interact in a secular system during a massive influx of Islamic immigrants. This course will examine cultural and political issues in Paris through the lens of religion and art, taking particular interest in issues that affect education, science and health policies.
Objectives:

1. To compare and contrast the U.S. and French political foundations controlling the relationship between religion, politics and social structure.
   a. To identify and explain the constitutional basis of the U.S. separation of church and state and a few of the consequences of this system.
   b. To identify and explain the legal basis of French secularism and a few of the consequences of this system.
2. To briefly outline the histories of significant Western religions in France (Christianity, Judaism and Islam) and their influence on French culture.
3. To explore significant religious landmarks and museums-
   a. To reflect on their significance to members of that religion-
   b. To reflect on their significance for the French public-
   c. To reflect on their significance for the individual student.
   (Reflections may include interviews)
4. To identify and review French policy or media issues pertaining to education, science or healthcare that are in some way influenced by the tension between religion and secularism.
5. To study, compose, create, and present an original work (research paper, art exhibition, film, etc) that reflects an issue or experience examined over the course of the Paris summer program.

Textbook:

Politics and Religion in France and the United States
Edited by Hargreaves, Kelsay, and Twiss, 2007
ISBN-10: 0739119303
Amazon.com price: $27.95 new, from $12 used
Paperback, 218 pages

Course assignments:

Before the Paris program begins, your preparation for the trip will be assessed by:

- **Book on Religious Issue in France** – Choose a book from our list OR propose a text of your choice and begin reading it prior to the trip.
- **3 page paper** – One page on a French religious issue (reflecting your research from the book of your choice), one page on a landmark one page on an art form that the student looks forward to exploring further in Paris, double-spaced, standard font, margins and citations, with bibliography.
- **Brief quiz on reading assignment** - There will be brief quizzes on assigned readings in class.
- **Attendance/Participation** – Participation in a class discussion of the differences between French secularism and U.S. separation of church and state.
Course assignments, ctnd:

In Paris your learning/performance will be assessed by:

• **Three 6 min Oral presentations** – Reading assignment reviews from the history of a religion in France and the U.S. and on a current issue in education, science or healthcare policy and its relation to culture in France.

• **(7) Site Visit Worksheets** – Brief questions on field trips sites to spur reflection

• **(7) Site Visit Reflection Papers (1 page each)** – Reflections and interview remarks from each of seven field trips

• **Quizzes on readings** - There will be brief quizzes on assigned readings in class.

• **Attendance/Participation** – Participation in class, during discussions and in field trips is a significant part of this class.

Upon return to MSU, your learning/performance will be assessed by:

• **10 page Paper and presentation of an original work or research paper** – Student will present a research project or original work via PowerPoint or through other means to the class and instructor. Length of paper or reflection should be at least 10 pages. Complete bibliography and dated notes from field interviews will be required.

**Evaluation and Grading Standards:**

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<th>Evaluation Category</th>
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<tr>
<td>The 3-page Pre-Trip Paper</td>
<td>6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>(7) 1+ page Site-Visit Reflection Journal Entries</td>
<td>7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>(7) Site Visit Worksheets</td>
<td>7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>(3) 6-min Oral Presentations</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>– France Presentation</td>
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<td>– U.S. Presentation</td>
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<td>– News Issue Presentation</td>
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<td>(5) Reading Quizzes</td>
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<tr>
<td>(5 weeks) Participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<td>10-page Final Project or Paper</td>
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**Teaching Plan:**

**Phase I:** On Campus at Michigan State University

Class will meet to review the constitutional and legal foundations of the French and U.S. systems of secularism and separation of church and state from assigned readings. A brief quiz will be given, material discussed, and expectations for the short preparatory paper will be given. This paper will be turned in at least 10 days prior to departure for France.

**Phase II:** Paris

Class will meet three times a week. Each week, students will be chosen to present on the reading assignments. Some students will prepare a review of the material relating to France and the others will prepare a review of the material relating to the United States. Each student will be assigned to present once on France and the U.S. during the summer.

Mondays we will briefly review the history of the week’s religious or cultural theme. This review will include a quiz on the reading assignment for all students, a 6-min student presentation on the religious history of the theme in France, and a 6-min student presentation on the religious history of the theme in the U.S.
Tuesdays we will take a class field trip to a religious or cultural site in Paris. Students will be expected to fill out a worksheet and keep a journal of each field trip, including their own reflections and documenting any onsite interviews. As a class we will take four field trips, but students are expected to visit three more sites of their choosing and fill out similar worksheets and make journal entries. These open field trips can take place in groups or individually, and can be to museums, landmarks, art galleries, or even to the see a movie with relevant religious or cultural implications. A total of seven 1-page reflections from these journal entries will be collected.

Fridays we will meet to debrief on the week’s field trips, discuss interesting French news regarding religion, politics, and in particular education, science, or healthcare issues. Each student will give one 6-min presentation on a related topic of their choosing at some point during the month.

Phase III: On Campus at Michigan State University

Students will complete a research paper or other original project and present it to their classmates upon their return to MSU.

Schedule

• Pre-trip class meeting
  1. Read before class: Hargreaves et al., Introduction & Part I (p. 3-24)
  2. Brief quiz on reading material
  3. Discussion of French secularism and U.S. separation of church and state
  4. Assignment: 3 page paper, one page each on a French religious issue, landmark and art form that the student wishes to explore more during the study abroad experience in Paris. Standard 12 pt font, margins, citations and bibliography.

• Week 1: Christianity in Paris
  Monday (July 5): Read before class: Hargreaves Part III Catholicism (p. 65-91)
  Tuesday (July 6): Field trip to Cathedrale Notre Dame de Paris
  Friday (July 9): Debrief, Presentations

• Week 2: Judaism in Paris
  Monday (July 12): Read before class: Hargreaves Part IV Judaism (p. 97-120)
  Tuesday (July 13): Field Trip to Le Musée d’art et d’histoire du Judaïsme
  Friday (July 16): Debrief, Presentations

• Week 3: Protestantism & Secularism in Paris
  Monday (July 19): Read before class: Hargreaves Part II Protestantism (p. 29-59)
  *All students present their final project topics and 10 item bibliography*
  Tuesday (July 20): Field Trip to Louvre
  Friday (July 23): Debrief, Presentations

• Week 4: Islam in Paris
  Monday (July 26): Read before class: Hargreaves Part V Islam (p. 123-152)
  Tuesday evening (July 27): Field trip to Musée de l’Institut du Monde Arabe
  Friday (July 30): Debrief, Presentations, Final remarks for projects

• Return to MSU
  Papers/project presentations due by beginning of Fall Semester. Note: If you are graduating or do not intend to return to MSU in the Fall, you may be required to finish and present your project to the instructor before the end of the Paris program.
Booklist:

**Book on Religious Issue in France** – Choose a book from our list OR propose a text of your choice and begin reading it prior to the trip.

- Muslim Girls and the Other France: Race, Identity Politics, and Social Exclusion
  Trica Keaton
- The Politics of the Veil
  Joan Scott
- Why the French Don't Like Headscarves: Islam, the State, and Public Space
  John Bowen
- Soccer Empire: The World Cup and the Future of France
  Laurent Dubois
- Mobilizing Youth: Communists and Catholics in Interwar France
  Susan Whitney
- Religion and Revolution in France, 1780-1804
  Nigel Aston
- Religion and the Enlightenment
  James Byrne
- Betrayal: France, Arabs and the Jews
  David Price-Jones
- The Jews of France: A History from Antiquity to the Present
  Esther Benbassa
- The Jews of Modern France
  Paula Hyman
- In the Aftermath of Genocide: Armenians and Jews in Twentieth-Century France
  Maud Mandel
- Political Ecumenism: Catholics, Jews, and Protestants in DeGaulle's Free France, 1940-1945
  Geoffrey Adams
- History of the Protestants of France: From the Commencement of the Reformation to the Present Day
  G. De Felice & Philip Edward Barnes

- Dumas
- Balzac
- Sartre
- Camus