This course provides an introduction to major political events, cultural expressions, intellectual changes, and social movements of France between the fall of the Ancien Régime and the birth of the Third Republic. Each week’s readings aim at offering both a narrative of events and a deeper understanding of the historiographical challenges of research in the period.

**Sept. 5: INTRODUCTION**

**Sept. 12: THE ANCIEN RÉGIME**
*Readings:*
- Arlette Farge, *Fragile Lives*

**Sept. 19: THE FRENCH REVOLUTION (I)**
*Readings:*
- George Lefebvre, *The Coming of the French Revolution*

**Sept. 26: THE FRENCH REVOLUTION (II)**
*Readings:*

**Oct. 3: THE FRENCH REVOLUTION (III)**
*Readings:*
- Sarah Maza, *The Myth of the French Bourgeoisie*

**Oct. 10: NAPOLEON AND THE BIRTH OF EMPIRE**
*Readings:*
Laurent Dubois, *A Colony of Citizens*  

**Oct. 17: RESTORATION AND REACTION**
*Readings:*
Sheryl Kroen, *Politics and Theater*  
Molière, *Tartuffe*  
Merriman, *Police Stories*, 65-88  

**Oct. 24: JULY MONARCHY**
*Readings:*
Jennifer Pitts, *A Turn to Empire*, 165-239 BLACKBOARD  
Merriman, *Police Stories*, 89-166  
**FIRST PAPER DUE**

**Oct. 31: 1848 AND THE SECOND REPUBLIC**
*Readings:*
Richard D.E. Burton, *Baudelaire and the Second Republic*  
Merriman, *Police Stories*, 167-184

**Nov. 7: IMPERIAL IDEOLOGIES**
*Reading:*
Patricia Lorcin, *Imperial Identities*

**Nov. 14: THE SECOND EMPIRE (I)**
*Readings:*
David P. Jordan, *Transforming Paris*  

**Nov. 28: THE SECOND EMPIRE (II)**
*Readings:*
T.J. Clark, *The Painting of Modern Life*  
Dec. 5: THE SECOND EMPIRE (III)
Readings:
Emile Zola, *Germinal*

Dec. 12: INSURGENT PARIS
Readings:
Roger V. Gould, *Insurgent Identities*, 96-194
Gay Gullickson, *Unruly Women of the Paris Commune*, 74-190 BLACKBOARD

Dec. 17: FINAL PAPER DUE

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

1) CLASS PARTICIPATION AND ATTENDANCE. 25%

a) All students are expected to arrive at seminar prepared to contribute to our conversation about the readings; attendance is required. **EVERY WEEK, BY 9:00 P.M. THE EVENING BEFORE DISCUSSION**, every student must post two discussion questions drawn from the readings to the Blackboard site. Questions should aim at provoking discussion, rather than soliciting answers to factual queries.

b) Every student must present one week’s readings. In a short discussion of no more than five minutes, you should outline salient themes and discontinuities in the text(s) and provide rigorous avenues for inquiry in our discussion.

c) Attendance is required. Unexcused absences will damage your final grade. Note also that perfect attendance without class participation does not constitute a passing grade for this portion of the semester grade.

2) FIRST REVIEW: 25%

Topic to be announced later in the semester. 5-7 pages.

**DUE OCTOBER 24. I DO NOT ACCEPT LATE PAPERS.**

3) PAPER: 50%

As a final exercise, please prepare a historiographic essay on a particular thematic interest in the history of nineteenth century.

Your paper should identify a particular theme and trace its treatment in relevant scholarship across the nineteenth century. How have scholars addressed this particular question? Where are the lacunae in the field, and why? Do texts on the July Monarchy and the Second Republic (to pick but two examples) demonstrate fundamental similarities, or profound discontinuities?
Examples of topics might include gender and labor; censorship; empire and the “Social Question”; "the emergence of imperial ideology"

15-20 pages. DUE DECEMBER 17.

**Book List (for purchase at the NYU bookstore; also on reserve at Bobst Library)**
Clark, T.J. *The Painting of Modern Life.*
Furet, François. *Interpreting the French Revolution.*
Gould, Roger V. *Insurgent Identities: Class, Community, and Protest in Paris from 1848 to the Commune.*
Lefebvre, Georges. *The Coming of the French Revolution.*
Lorcin, Patricia. *Imperial Identities: Stereotyping, Prejudice and Race in Colonial Algeria.*
Molière. *Tartuffe.*
Zola, Emile. *Germinal.*

**Available on Reserve or via Online Retailers**
Jordan, David P. *Transforming Paris: The Life and Labors of Baron Haussmann.*

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