Paris (HSTEU210)

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Course Outline

Week 1  Introduction; Origins and Founding Myths  
“Abelard and Heloise” from Peter Abelard, *Historia Calamitatum* (The Story of My Misfortunes), 12th century.

Week 2  Medieval Paris; Paris/Versailles (Renaissance Paris)  
Jean de la Fosse, “Reactions in Paris to the Peace of Saint-Germain,” 1570-1571  

Week 3  Revolutionary Paris, the Guillotine; the Paris of Napoleon  
An Englishman in Paris - Arthur Young, ~1788.  
Week 4  Paris Penitent, “Gay” Paris; Republican Paris (1848)

Emile Zola, *The Ladies’ Paradise*, 1883. (read through chapter 7)

Week 5  The Rebuilding of Paris; Paris, Capital of Pleasure

Emile Zola, *The Ladies’ Paradise* (finish reading)

Week 6  midterm examination; The Paris Commune;

Léon Gambetta recasts the war as a war of liberation, 1870.
Emile Zola on “Bloody Week” 1871.

Week 7  Paris Capital of Sin; Paris of Spectacle/ Paris of the Belle Èpoque, Anarchism of the Deed

George Orwell, *Down and Out in Paris and London*, 1933. (read chapters 1 through 23)

Week 8  Paris, Capital of Empire; German Paris

Irene Nemirovsky, *Storm in June* in *Suite Française*, (written 1940-1.)

Week 9  Paris ’68; **no meeting on 11/23**

Week 10  Paris Underground; Paris Today, part 1


Week 11  Paris Today, part 2


**Required texts:** All required books are available at the University Bookstore and at the reserve desk of the Odegaard Undergraduate Library.

- Colin Jones, *Paris: The Biography of a City*
- Honoré de Balzac, *The Girl with the Golden Eyes* (in *The History of the Thirteen*)
- Emile Zola, *The Ladies’ Paradise*
- George Orwell, *Down and Out in Paris and London*
- Irene Nemirovsky, *Suite française*
- Faiza Guène, *Kiffe Kiffe Tomorrow*

**Assignments:** section discussion (5%), weekly reading analysis (5%), two papers (20% each), midterm (20%) and final examination (30%). Please complete weekly readings by the beginning of the week they are assigned. The papers are due on 26 October and 23 November. The first examination will be held on 31 October; the second examination will be held on 7 December.

You must complete all assignments to pass the course. Please check your calendar now to assure that you have no conflicts on these dates. A make-up examination will be offered only in the gravest of circumstances, for example, a death in the immediate family.

In the name of fairness, a penalty of 1/2 grade (0.5 grade point) will be assessed on papers not submitted on time. An additional penalty of 0.5 will be assessed the following week and each passing week. Any paper submitted after our final class meeting will receive a grade of 0. Remember that you must complete all assignments in order to pass the course. If you fail to submit your paper by the final class meeting, you will not pass the course.

**Class routine:** On most class days, we will begin with an opportunity for you to ask questions about readings and previous lectures. Lecture follows. Please feel free to interrupt lecture to ask questions.