

French history in film

Lecturer: Georges Fournier

Description:

Film, like written texts, can be considered an interpretation of what life was like, may have been like or is like at a certain point in time. In this course, we will examine the portrayal of France from prehistory through World War II from a variety of well-known European directors. The movies are shown in the chronological order of the historical periods portrayed, not in order of the dates of the films themselves.

Objectives:

- Students will be able to distinguish how the history of France is, or is not, "accurately" represented in film.
- Students will develop analytical skills through the study of French history in film.
- Students will be able to discuss the ways in which films reflect the people who create them.
- Students will be able to discuss the ways in which the history of France is portrayed in film rather than in more traditional historical sources.
- Students will reflect upon the role of film in studying and thinking about history.