



SELF PROGRAM 2023/2024

FRENCH CULTURE

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Course description:

The aim is to provide a panorama of French culture both in its more formal and its more popular aspects. A special effort will be made to link the course content to the students' presence in Lyon/Rhône-Alpes region, thus providing an "applied culture" dimension to the course. To summarize, the goal is to instruct the students in French culture so as to make the stay as enriching and pleasant as possible. The class is a lecture class with frequent use of images and brief video excerpts. The PowerPoint presentations will be available on the electronic classroom site.

The topics are as follows:

SEMESTER 1

Week 1	Gastronomy – drinking and eating
Week 2	History and geography – basic overview
Week 3	Political culture
Week 4	Population, immigration
Week 5	MIDTERM
Week 6	Religion
Week 7	Language, Print culture
Week 8	Women
Week 9	French mores and icons – etiquette, appearance, Hofstede....
Week 10	FINAL

SEMESTER 2

Week 1	Visual culture - Architecture
Week 2	Visual culture – Painting
Week 3	Visual culture – Sculpture
Week 4	Visual culture – Photography and Cinema
Week 5	MIDTERM
Week 6	Musical culture
Week 7	Business
Week 8	Education
Week 9	Leisure
Week 10	FINAL

Prerequisites:

None

Course objectives:

Assessment:

Midterm: 1 hour in-class multiple choice exam, about 50 questions

Final : 1 hour in-class multiple choice exam, about 50 questions

Attendance:

In order to participate, students must be present. Nevertheless, a maximum of 2 (two) unexcused absences will be allowed; otherwise no mark will be given. An unexcused absence at a test (final test or continuous assessment) means no credits for the course.

Bibliography:

There is no mandatory reading for this class.

John Ardaigh, *Cultural Atlas of France*, Facts on File, 1991

Patrick Boucheron, *France in the World: A New Global History*, Other Press, 2019

Roger Price, *A Concise History of France*, Cambridge UP, 2014

Graham Robb, *The Discovery of France*, Picador, 2008

Nick Yapp, *Xenophobe Guide to the French*, Oval Books, 2008

Theodore Zeldin, *The French*, Vintage, 1997