



## SELF PROGRAM 2021/2022

# FRENCH HISTORY AND POETRY

Michael Fodor

### Course information

**Number of credits:** 6 credits

**Contact hours:** 30 hours

**Hours taught per week:** 2.5 hours

**Teaching period:** fall semester 2021

### Course description:

This course will present eleven major turning-points in French history and the poetry of a poet(s) associated with that period. The classes will consist of lectures by the professor on the history of the period and the life and works of the poet. This will be followed by discussions of the poems that the students will have read for that period. The poems will be read in English translation and will be available on Moodle. For each class, a group of students will be designated as main discussion interlocutors.

The schedule of upheavals and poets is:

15TH CENTURY - 100 YEARS WAR	CHRISTINE DE PISAN
16TH CENTURY - RENAISSANCE	DU BELLAY
17TH CENTURY - LOUIS XIV	LA FONTAINE
18TH CENTURY – THE REVOLUTION	VOLTAIRE
19TH CENTURY – JULY REVOLUTION 1830	LAMARTINE
19TH CENTURY – JUNE DAYS UPRISING 1848	HUGO
19TH CENTURY – COMMUNE OF 1870	RIMBAUD
20TH CENTURY - WW1	APOLLINAIRE
20TH CENTURY - COLONIALISM	SENGHOR
20TH CENTURY - RESISTANCE	CHAR
20TH CENTURY - MAY 1968	MICHAUX

## Prerequisites:

None

## Course objectives:

- 1) to familiarize the students with major upheavals in French history. The hope is that they will gain a better understanding of the sediments on which the French present, that they are discovering during their stay in Lyon, is built.
- 3) to allow those students interested in history to fill out the French history that is covered in an abbreviated fashion in the SELF Introduction to French Culture course
- 3) to introduce students to several of the great poets that have made French literature one of the most influential ones in Western literature
- 4) to improve the students' skills in reading and analyzing poetry

## Assessment:

40%: midterm in class written test (short questions)

60%: final in class written exam (short questions and composition)

## 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:

The poems will be made available on Moodle. The translations will be from the public domain or by the professor.

### On French history

Malcolm Crook (ed.), *Revolutionary France: 1788-1880*, Oxford UP, 2002  
William Doyle (ed.), *Old Regime France: 1648-1788*, Oxford UP, 2001  
Mack P. Holt (ed.), *Renaissance and Reformation France: 1500-1648*, Oxford UP, 2002  
Colin Jones, *The Cambridge Illustrated History of France*, Cambridge, Cambridge UP, 1999  
James McMillan (ed.), *Modern France: 1880-2002*, Oxford UP 2003  
Peter McPhee, *A Social History of France, 1789-1914*, Cambridge UP, Mar. 2004  
David Potter (ed.), *France in the Later Middle Ages 1200-1500*, Oxford UP, 2003  
Roger Price, *A Concise History of France*, Cambridge UP, Cambridge, 2014

### On French poetry

Peter Broome, *The Appreciation of Modern French Poetry*, Cambridge UP, 2008  
Denis Hollier, *A New History of French Literature*, Harvard UP, 1994  
Mary Lewis Shaw, *The Cambridge Introduction to French Poetry*, Cambridge UP 2003