

# FREN 3695 Summer 2026 Syllabus

Sustainability in Paris, 3 Credits

## Instructor Information

**Instructor**  
Dr. Chris Ippolito

**Email**  
cippolito6@gatech.edu

**Sessions**  
**Time and Location** TBA  
Office hours: TBA

Taught in Paris for our “LBAT-France” study abroad program.

## General Information

### Description

This course examines sustainable development and communities in Paris, France. Topics typically include urban planning, environmental sustainability, use of energy, and social issues. Additional topics may include new environmental initiatives; inequalities; diversity; preservation of the pre-21<sup>st</sup> century city; housing; transportation; modernity, modernization and postmodernism; representations of the environment; nature and culture in the city; distinctive ways of life. Taught in French.

Pre- &/or Co-Requisites: NONE

### Course Goals and Learning Outcomes

This course will introduce students to local sustainability practices in Paris. Students will:

- develop their analysis skills related to methodology for social and cultural studies;
- analyze documents and produce content related to sustainable development in Paris;
- improve their oral and written communication skills at the mid-advanced level; and
- understand the importance of sustainability practices in French-speaking cultures today.

**This is a Core IMPACTS course that is part of the Humanities area.**

-Core IMPACTS refers to the core curriculum, which provides students with essential knowledge in foundational academic areas. This course will help students master course content, and support students’ broad academic and career goals.

-This course should direct students toward a broad Orienting Question:

- How do I interpret the human experience through creative, linguistic, & philosophical works?

-Completion of this course should enable students to meet the following Learning Outcome:

- Students will effectively analyze and interpret the meaning, cultural significance, and ethical implications of literary/philosophical texts or of works in the visual/performing arts.

-Course content, activities and exercises in this course should help students develop the following Career-Ready Competencies:

- Ethical Reasoning
- Information Literacy
- Intercultural Competence

## Course Requirements & Grading

Assignment	Date	Weight (Percentage, points, etc)
Participation	See course schedule below	10% includes attendance and activities in class
Daily Postings (blog, pics, videos)	See course schedule below	30%

Assignment	Date	Weight (Percentage, points, etc)
		<p>Comments: post directly on the CANVAS forum, do not attach your posting as a document; may feed your personal or group essay/presentation.</p> <p>You have to attach to each posting a one-minute max video file (or 2) or pic(s) presenting on aspect of your work (no audio file).</p>
One (1) Group Essay with one (1) Mini-Presentation in class from all in the group	See course schedule below	<p>60%</p> <p>Essay: (2 or 3 pp.) x (number of students in group). At least 5 slides in your Pwpt presentation. No Google files.</p>

- **Extra Credit (1) and Grade Dispute Policies and Procedures (2)** (1) NO extra-credit; (2) GT Policies and Procedures apply.

## Description of Graded Components

**20% - Active participation:**

**30% - Daily Postings (blog, pics, videos):** see above and here: include 1 remarks and 1 questions on the material you post on. Write at least 100 words, with complete sentences only. Double-check your French. Your postings may support class discussion. Grading criteria: content, format [1 remark/1question, 100 words minimum, full sentences only], overall presentation of your posting in French and [written] French.

**50% - One (1) Group Essay (30%) with one (1) Mini-Presentation (20%) in class from all in the group:** see above and below

### DETAILS

- **READ** excerpts and documents for the week. Documents available on **CANVAS.**
- **Essay topic for group essay:** Essays on project/topic related to the course and chosen by students with instructor's approval (submit outline for approval). Length: 2 double-spaced pages minimum format/student in group: Use APA style for notes and bibliographical information. Include 3 bibliographical references also included in your text. i Grading criteria: content, overall presentation and quality of [written] French
- **Mini-Presentation in class based on group essay:** Attach your PowerPoint presentation with at least 5 slides. Double-check your French. Grading criteria: content, effective delivery, and quality of [spoken] French. =
- **Visual/Audio Support:** use any props that will make you talk more interesting and easier to follow for the audience: pictures, links, video/audio files (mandatory for any presentation on film/music), maps, statistics, charts, *realia*, etc..
- *While the final grade given for a course will always be A, B, etc., for the following subcategories, scale can be more detailed: A+ (98-100), A (93-97), A- (90-92), B+, B, B-, etc*

ALL POSTINGS ON CANVAS.

## Course Materials

Documents, films, videos on Canvas

Course Website and Other Classroom Management Tools: on Canvas.

## Course Expectations & Guidelines

### Academic Integrity

Georgia Tech aims to cultivate a community based on trust, academic integrity, and honor. Students are expected to act according to the highest ethical standards. For information on Georgia Tech's Academic Honor Code, please visit <http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/policies/honor-code/> or <http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/rules/18/>.

Any student suspected of cheating or plagiarizing on a quiz, exam, or assignment will be reported to the Office of Student Integrity, who will investigate the incident and identify the appropriate penalty for violations.

I am interested in your work, not in that of a friend or material copied from the Internet or any other source. Avoid plagiarism at all costs, and always quote all your sources. Any form of cheating (be it on an essay or a test or any other assignment) is discouraged and will affect your grade. Internet-based tools make it extremely easy today to find out whether somebody pasted material from the Internet or other sources.

### Accommodations for Individuals with Disabilities

If you are a student with learning needs that require special accommodation, contact the Office of Disability Services at (404) 894-2563 or <http://disabilityservices.gatech.edu/>, as soon as possible, to make an appointment to discuss your special needs and to obtain an accommodations letter. Please also e-mail me as soon as possible in order to set up a time to discuss your learning needs.

### Assignment Turn-In

All written assignments (Essays, Weekly Postings, Presentations slides (including all materials used for the Project) have to be posted on **CANVAS** at the dates indicated on this syllabus.

### Student Use of Mobile Devices in the Classroom

Cell phones off in class (and kept in your bag/pocket) except when explicitly allowed by instructor for a class activity. *Cell phones may be used in Paris for various activities outside of the classroom.*

### Attendance and/or Participation

In the event of a medical emergency or an illness that is severe enough to require medical attention, students are responsible for contacting the Office of the Dean of Students as soon as possible to report the medical issue or emergency, providing dated documentation from a medical professional and requesting assistance in notifying their instructors. The medical documentation will be handled confidentially within the Dean of Students Office and will inform a decision as to whether communication with instructional faculty is appropriate. It is the expectation of the Institute that instructional faculty will honor a request from the Office of the Dean of Students to excuse a medical emergency or illness and allow make-up of the work missed, including homework, quizzes, presentations, examinations, or other class assignments.

Students who are absent because of participation in approved Institute activities (such as field trips, professional conferences, and athletic events) will be permitted to make up the work missed during their absences. Approval of such activities will be granted by the Student Academic and Financial Affairs Committee of the Academic Senate, and statements of the approved absence may be obtained from the Office of the Registrar.

### Collaboration & Group Work

Encouraged as long as you respect the rules set by this syllabus and GT policy on the matter

## **Extensions, Late Assignments, & Re-Scheduled/Missed Exams**

No extensions/late assignments/rescheduled exams allowed, except if authorized by instructor in writing, or in case of documented absences (Doctor's letter etc.). Missed exams: F for the exam, except in cases above; however all late exams (if any) will be penalized like late assignments. Late assignments: usually penalized by a grade decrease: A > B for 1 day/week, A > C for 2 weeks, etc.).

Again, all written assignments (Essays, Weekly Postings, Presentations (including all PowerPoint presentations and all materials used for the Final Presentation) have to be posted on **CANVAS** by the dates indicated on this syllabus

## **Student-Faculty Expectations**

At Georgia Tech we believe that it is important to continually strive for an atmosphere of mutual respect, acknowledgement, and responsibility between faculty members and the student body. See <http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/rules/22/> for an articulation of some basic expectations - that you can have of me, and that I have of you. In the end, simple respect for knowledge, hard work, and cordial interactions will help build the environment we seek. Therefore, I encourage you to remain committed to the ideals of Georgia Tech.

Welcome to my office!

Do not hesitate to come and see me as often as you want! You can also take an appointment if office hours are not convenient to you, or just drop by. Especially, come as soon as you feel you have any problem and/or need help with anything. Take at least one appointment with me to discuss honestly your progress and difficulties. I will make sure any question, concern or suggestion gets the attention it deserves. I will be happy to inform you on your grades including in class. You do have a section on your syllabus that is design to help you on calculating it. I will also be happy to help you as much as I can with your homework assignments, your latest essay/project, any issue pertaining to the course, the French program at Georgia Tech, or queries on French and Francophone cultures. *When I am not in my office, the best way to reach me is to email me, rather than leave a message on my office voice mail.* No emails after 8 pm except in some urgent cases (family or personal emergency resulting in your absence on next day of class, for example).

## **Communication Policy**

Please use your GT email only for all email communications with me. I will use CANVAS announcements and GT email for group/individual emails as needed. Link your CANVAS box to your GT email box and turn on notifications. Readings and homework on the syllabus for a session should be done before that session: post in 'Discussions' on CANVAS.

Do not hesitate to email as soon as you feel you have any problem and/or need help with anything. I will also be happy to help you as much as I can with your homework assignments, your latest essay/project, any issue pertaining to the course, the French program at Georgia Tech, or queries on French and Francophone cultures. When I am not in my office, the best way to reach me is to email me, rather than leave a message on my office voice mail. No emails after 8 pm except in some urgent cases (family or personal emergency resulting in your absence on next day of class, for example).

## **Statement on Diversity and Inclusion**

The Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts supports the Georgia Institute of Technology's commitment to creating a campus free of discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, or veteran status. We further affirm the importance of cultivating an intellectual climate that allows us to better understand the similarities and differences of those who constitute the Georgia Tech community, as well as the necessity of working against inequalities that may also manifest here as they do in broader society.

## **Helpful Links**

The School of Modern Languages Website [www.modlangs.gatech.edu](http://www.modlangs.gatech.edu) (Placement test, Registration questions, Student Resources, International Plan, Study abroad, LBAT (Paris, Nice, Dakar), SLS-French in Metz, French Internships.

The French Program website <https://modlangs.gatech.edu/languages/french>

French Program Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/frenchgatech/>

French Program Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/GatechFrench/>

o The French LBAT <https://modlangs.gatech.edu/lbat/france>

o The Senegal LBAT <https://modlangs.gatech.edu/lbat/senegal>

o The Sustainability Program at GTL in Metz website <https://sls-france.gatech.edu/>

The 1-year MS in global Media and Cultures <https://gmc.iac.gatech.edu/ms-gmc>

The 1-year MS in Applied Languages and Intercultural Studies <https://gmc.iac.gatech.edu/ms-alis>

Information for a minor in French (15 credits beyond the 2002 course).

<https://modlangs.gatech.edu/degrees/minors-language-studies>

Minor declaration form: <http://www.registrar.gatech.edu/docs/pdf/MINORCHANGE.pdf>

(Modern Language Advisor for Minors and Majors: Mirla Gonzalez, [mgonzalez96@gatech.edu](mailto:mgonzalez96@gatech.edu))

-Information for a minor in French (15 credits beyond 2002; ALIS Major in French: 4 more courses only).

<https://modlangs.gatech.edu/degrees/minors-language-studies>

Minor declaration form: <http://www.registrar.gatech.edu/docs/pdf/MINORCHANGE.pdf>

(Modern Language Advisor for Minors and Majors: Dr. Mirla Gonzalez, [mgonzalez96@gatech.edu](mailto:mgonzalez96@gatech.edu))

**Course Schedule (format for course in Paris):**

**MORNINGS (9:30 AM-12:30 PM): Mostly in class (Meet at Cocoon Space)**

**AFTERNOONS (1:30 AM-4:30 PM and more): Mostly visits and excursions**

	IN-CLASS DISCUSSION on...	HOMEWORK:	Additional Documents
DAY 1 MON June 15	1. Sustainable development: Nature in Paris. Parks and Gardens in Paris.  Group Essay outline discussed and validated in class  <b>Père-Lachaise visit + Belleville visit</b>	<b>Post Group Essay outline</b> (Outline include title, thesis statement and titles of 2 or 3 sections: 4 lines minimum)  <b>Daily posting</b>	[current news on sustainable environmental development in Paris] [founding texts on ecology: pick one and post on it] [environmental policies in France]
DAY 1 TUE June 16	2. Social Issues and Social justice in Paris; fighting poverty. Relevant Case Studies  [Group Essay workshop in class]  <b>La Villette + Parc des Buttes Chaumont visits</b>	<b>Daily posting</b>	[current news on sustainable social development in Paris] Read "Serve Lean Sustain" (GT resources on ecology) [articles on ecology In Paris : you may pick one and post on it]
DAY 8 WED June 17	3. NGOs in ATL, NGOs in Paris. SDG goals. What is sustainability? How to measure it? Resources. Examples in Paris  [Group Essay workshop in class]	<b>Post near final version of Group Essay</b>  <b>Daily posting</b>	[current news...] [study of a French NGO]

	<b>Paris Noir: Château Rouge visit</b>		
DAY 4 THU June 18	4. People and sustainability in Paris: personal stories, well-being, etc. Sustainable Tourism  [Group Essay correction and workshop in class]  <b>Bois de Boulogne visit</b>	<b>Post 1<sup>st</sup> version of Group Essay</b>  <b>Daily posting</b>	[current news...] [personal stories]
DAY 5 MON June 22	5. Climate change today. Action plans, actions, actors. The Greens in Paris.  [Group Essay correction and workshop in class <u>if needed</u> ]  <b>Parc Montceau visit</b>	<b>Post 2<sup>nd</sup> version of Group Essay <u>if needed</u></b>  <b>Daily posting</b>	[current news...] [environment in French neighborhoods and villages]
DAY 6 TUE June 23	6. Sustainability and politics in Paris. Environment, power and politics.  <b>Saint-Denis visit</b>	<b>PRESENTATIONS POSSIBLE</b>  <b>Daily posting</b>	[current news...] [environment in other French cities]
DAY 7 WED June 25	7. Sustainable development: a global awareness: the last globalization Towards global governance + Concl. Other comparable cities.  <b>Visit TBA (students' choice)</b>	<b>PRESENTATIONS DAY 1</b>  <b>Daily posting</b>	[current news...] [environment in other major cities] [European policies on environment]
DAY 8 THU June 25	8. Presentations. Final discussion  <b>Visit TBA (students' choice)</b> .	<b>PRESENTATIONS DAY 2</b>  Double-Check: are all essays and presentations on Canvas? <b>No daily posting</b>	[current news...]
DAY 9 MON June 29	TBA. Personal time before departure. Instructor available.	TBA	
	<b>DEPARTURE TO ATLANTA</b>		

The above schedule is subject to changes. Any changes will be announced in class, ahead of time. Should you be absent on a day a change is announced, it is your responsibility to remain apprised of that change.

Thematic visits and activities to be informed by the work done in class in the morning.